

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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FRANK E. BIBLE, Editor

ANOTHER white lady assaulted by a negro in Maryland. Judge Lynch's officers are after the criminal, footed.

If Logan can digest the gushing resolutions of the so called legislature of Pennsylvania, his stomach is capable of an immense amount of hard labor yet.

CENTRE COUNTY, has been put where she can do no harm to Republican aspirants for senatorial honors. We are with the dog-in-the-manger-Huntingdon county.

TRAVEL on the Bald Eagle Valley and Snow Shoe roads to Snow Shoe, Philipsburg and Clearfield, is falling off very much. The Beech Creek, Clearfield and South western road is taking the cake.

VICTOR HUGO the most brilliant of modern French writers, died in Paris last week. Hugo was born in 1802, and from childhood had devoted his life to literature. On his death bed he refused the ministrations of a Priest which had been tendered him by the Bishop of Paris.

JUSTUS SCHWAB the German socialist escaped the penitentiary through the disagreement of a jury. Justus dishes out beer to thirsty communists and relates his experience in court to an admiring crowd. Justus believes in the communistic theory, but in practice he never "divvs."

WE ARE in receipt of a copy of that highly moral journal the *Police Gazette* with the proposition to "exchange" in consideration of advertising its aesthetic features. The publisher promises to send it "securely wrapped," etc. We must politely refuse to exchange with that sheet as its gravings are too fine for our eyes.

SECRETARY WHITNEY is grumbling because Wm. E. Chandler his worthy predecessor expended nine hundred thousand dollars in repairing an old wooden vessel that could have been built new for three hundred thousand dollars. Whitney has no more idea of republican economy than a dog has of theology. He has also had the impudence to ask John Roach to make the Dolphin seaworthy.

FIRST ASSISTANT POST MASTER GENERAL HAY has so far recovered his health as to go to work. Mr. Hay is said to be capable of doing an immense amount of work and changes may be looked for in the future. He proposes to divide the post-masters, subject to removal, into two classes. Those who are offensive partisans and those neglecting to give their attention to business, these officials will be speedily removed.

PETER RITNER, the only surviving son of Ex-Governor Ritner has written to the *Newville Enterprise*, denying that his father ever said, in appointing notaries public, that Centre county would be reached "way down among the Zets." He says the many stories of his father's illiteracy were untrue and uncalled for. His election as Governor, his long service in the Legislature, and his election to the speakership of that body ought alone to be sufficient to refute all such charges.

THE *New York Tribune*, founded by Horace Greeley, and, which under the management of Whitelaw Reid, has sunk to a fourth rate libel sheet, made a bitter attack on the personal character of Hon. G. V. N. Lothrop, of Michigan, minister to Russia. The Legislature of Michigan by a rising vote adopted unanimously a resolution offered by a Republican member, condemning and contradicting the aspersion sought to be cast on the character of Mr. Lothrop, by "Outlaw Reid's" paper. The *Tribune* man should paste those resolutions in his hat.

THE DEMOCRATIC SOLDIER.

SECRETARY MANNING, gave the Committee of Veterans which called upon him last week in the interest of retaining all ex-soldiers in positions, to understand that there were plenty of good Democratic soldiers in the late war, and that there were thousands of good soldiers out of positions who deserved to be taken care of.

This gentle intimation of Secretary Manning to those who called in the interests of the soldiers now in positions under the government, that there were Democratic soldiers who could and should fill positions of profit and trust is well timed. Ninety per cent of the veterans holding office are Republicans. Thousands of poor but deserving Democratic veterans have never held official positions nor could they get it because of their political affiliations. The request of the committee while on its face looks fair, is a matter of great injustice to Democratic soldiers, as at least nine Republicans would be retained in office to one Democrat, and they are men who have been in office for years. It is but fair to pass the good things around among those who have not been served. If the present Republican incumbents were the best qualified there might be some excuse for their retention, but it would require a great stretch of credulity on the part of any one to believe that. We are earnestly and honestly in favor of giving to the soldier his just proportion of government positions, but we want to see the Democratic soldier have a chance. He fought through the war shoulder to shoulder with his Republican brother and for over 20 years he has been earning his bread by the sweat of his brow, the door to official position has been closed to him, by the partisanship of Republican administrations. Let the present administration do justice to Democratic veterans. Our Republican friends are asking Mr. Cleveland to shut the doors to Democratic soldiers as they have done for years. Is it not a little cheeky?

THAT INTERVIEW.

Gov. Curtin has been interviewed on the question that has given local statesmen a great deal of worry—the post-office. He pays a deserved compliment to Mr. Johnston, endorses Cleveland's reform policy, speaks of the importance of the money-order business, gives cold shoulder to the democratic applicants, says he will make no recommendation until he comes home, and as a lawyer would say, leaves the matter *in statu quo*. The report of the interview as given in the *Times*, grates harshly on democratic ears and has afforded our republican friends a great deal of quiet satisfaction. The inference drawn is that the democratic applicants are not up to the standard of the present incumbent and that possibly Mr. Johnston "would be the better man for the place." The gentlemen who are applicants for the position are all well known in town, and their qualifications have been thoroughly canvassed, although very often not in a spirit of christian charity. Mr. Johnston's term has expired, he simply holds until his successor is duly qualified. He does not, and could not expect a re-appointment. The office will be filled by a democrat, it may be a "dark horse," as it is often the best way out of a difficulty; but the next postmaster will be a democrat. Mr. Curtin knows the qualifications of those applying for the position. He is expected to select the man best qualified, if that man is not found in the "list," he can go outside. Had President Cleveland confined himself in the selection of his cabinet officers to those "boomed" by faction, he would have made a serious mistake. Perhaps Mr. Curtin is taking the same view.

ANNIE E. BUTLER, (colored,) who shot and killed her lover recent lover, has been convicted of murder in the first degree.

THE 20th DISTRICT.

The geographical monstrosity called the 20th Congressional District, extends from the Allegheny river on the west in a semi-circle running up to the northern tier of counties; then south east until its extreme eastern limit is found east of the Allegheny mountains. It is neither contiguous or compact. Jefferson county breaks into it separating Clarion and Clearfield counties. The District is Democratic by from five to seven thousand, and its "geographical distribution" was made with an eye single to uniting as many big Democratic counties in this District as possible and relieve doubtful contiguous districts of all elements of uncertainty and insure Republican districts to aspiring statesmen. The only redeeming feature about the district is its immense Democratic majority. Out of twenty-eight Districts in the State, there are seven sure Democratic Districts; two doubtful with Republican inclinations, and nineteen sure Republican Districts. This is the fair and just apportionment that Democrats receive at the hands of their political opponents, and yet some of these fellows hold on to positions under the new administration. We believe in about the same apportionment of offices to Republicans that they have given us Districts in this State, and that would be on the principle that where you can't fill an office with a Democrat, a mugwump or a woman, give it to a Republican.

THE CAPITOL BUILDING.

Under ordinary conditions a proposition to make expensive improvements on the old capitol buildings would meet with little public favor. Sooner or later state pride will assert itself through the legislature and the result will be new buildings of style and proportions commensurate with the importance of the state. In the face of this fact a simple movement looking toward the expenditure of money for improvements would deserve to be defeated.

But the bill pending in the legislature on the object now is so drawn as to exempt it from the objection. It was presented in pursuance of the recommendations of a commission appointed by the governor. It provides for another commission, so constituted as to guarantee wise discretion, and the expenditure will be contingent upon the deliberate judgement of the gentlemen composing the commission. The board thus vested with the power to determine will represent the legislative and executive departments of the government, and both political parties. This method will be a safe guard against either extravagance or political trickery.

The most important as well as the most commendable feature of the bill is the proviso which authorizes the commission if they deem further repairs on the old building inexpedient to procure plans and specifications for a new building. That is to say if the old buildings are not worth fixing up the steps toward new ones are to be taken at once. This must meet the approval of every one. The present buildings are inadequate and unfit. If they can't be repaired they ought to be removed, and the sooner the conclusion is reached the better.—*Patriot*.

MRS. O'KEEFE who is suing Ross Winans, the Baltimore millionaire, for divorce seems to have been a little too fast in her statements, and one of her counsel has withdrawn from the suit because she did not inform him of a certain contract which was produced by Winans. A minister or justice of the peace are the best hands to tie the nuptial knot.

TIONESTA, Forest county, has no licensed hotel. We'll skip that town when in Forest county. Wonder how brother Kepler, of the *Democrat* gets along?

Congressional Apportionment.

The Congressional Apportionment bill reported yesterday by the Conference Committee, and passed by both branches of the Legislature, gives the Democrats eighteen, or in the proportion of one Democratic Congressman for every 40,742 Democratic votes in the state, and one Republican Congressman for every 24,700 votes. That tells the story of disfranchisement. The Western part of the state is carved up in the most grotesque way, although it seems the idea of depriving the Western Democrats of any representation was abandoned. The Democratic districts will consist of Fayette, Greene and Washington, while Westmoreland is thrown with Armstrong, Indiana and Jefferson, with 2,000 Republican majority. Erie and Crawford are put together, and Mercer Lawrence, Butler and Beaver. Allegheny is made into two districts, but the south side wards are taken from the Pittsburgh district and added to the Allegheny, in order to retire the frisky Colonel Bayne. This is his ring payment for helping to send McNeill back to the state senate in 1882, while laboring under lunacy the Senatorial lightning might strike under his bonnet.

Philadelphia is given six Congressmen, and Randall's Democratic district not disturbed, for the good reason a district could not be made that would refuse to return him. Lancaster, Berks, Luzerne and Schuylkill are each given a Congressman. The crowning bit of knavery in the list is the Eighteenth district, running from the Maryland line up to and including Union county, in the northern half of the state. It stretches two-thirds of the way across the state from north to south.—*Ex.*

THE "White Cross Army" is a new and peculiar organization among young men for the protection of the purity of women. There are no branches of it in this neighborhood, but we hope they may be soon. It is a revival of the old Knights of Chivalry. The following is the pledge required to be taken by those joining the order:

"I promise by the help of God, to treat all women with respect and to endeavor to protect them from wrong and degradation; to endeavor to put down all indecent language and coarse jests; to maintain the law of purity as equally binding upon men and women to endeavor to spread these principles among my companions, and to try and help my younger brothers; to use every possible means to fulfill the command, "keep thyself pure."

The object of this organization is noble. In the purity of our wives, daughters, and sisters will be found the happiness vouchsafed man on earth. But the organization had better take in some of the "old" men just to give it character you know.

TAMMANY HALL has endorsed Civil Service Reform and addressed a communication to that effect to the president. There is a colored gentleman in the New York wood-pile and Tammany knows where he is, but the uninitiated are in the dark. This remarkable change in the great heart of Tammany will send a thrill of joy throughout the whole country. Tammany voted all her heels, bummers and political prostitutes for Mr. Blaine; but she now sees the error of her ways and confesses her sin of last fall, but her repentance is not full and complete until she asks forgiveness for her attempt to defeat Tilden in 1876; her defeat of Robinson in 1878, and of Hancock in 1880; these atoned for, the uncovering of the darkey in her wood-pile, will be next in order. Of course, Tammany has sold the Democratic party out time and again, but in this year of grace the party can afford to be magnanimous.

POTTSVILLE, May 25.—Considerable feeling has been excited here to-day by a disagreement between Post 23, G. A. R., and Father Longinus, of the German Catholic church. A Catholic member of the Post having died, the Priest refused to permit the Post to enter the church or cemetery upon the occasion of the funeral unless the members first removed the Grand Army badges. The Post indignantly refused to attend the funeral and this morning passed resolutions sharply criticizing the action of Father Longinus.

Mr. Randall's Views.

CLEVELAND THE MAN TO RENOMINATE IN 1888.

It will be observed that Mr. Randall speaks with entire freedom and frankly of the political situation, of the President and the administration, and of what, in his judgement, lies in the future as to parties and politics.

Your correspondent asked "what do you think of the new administration?"

Mr. Randall replied: "in my judgement it is going on as well as possible, and I am certain that it is making a good impression on the people. I notice some fault finding here and there, but I notice also that no one pretends to doubt the sincerity and honesty of the President's intentions. When so great a change comes about as a change of parties after a quarter of a century, it is impossible but that some minor errors should be made. But the people do not deal harshly with a public man for small mistakes in judgment, if only they see him to be honest and sincerely desirous to serve the general interest. I don't believe that any one of either party doubts the President's honest and patriotic purposes nor his ability and determination to serve not merely his party but the whole country."

"You think well of the President, then?"

"Yes, and the more I see of him and the better I get to know him the more I perceive the sturdy honesty of his mind, and the single hearted conscientiousness with which he acts. Some of our men say he moves too slowly. That is true, but he has an immense work and responsibility upon him. Of all reforms administrative reform is the most difficult. To ascertain where in the immense Government establishment bad methods prevail and incompetent or unfit persons are employed, and to improve the methods and substitute faithful and competent men to do the work, is a huge task, for which even a single Presidential term is scarcely adequate. What has been accomplished in the two months and a half since the 4th of March is necessarily only the beginning. The President and the cabinet have not had time to look closely into the machinery of the Government. They are at work, and reports from different and numerous points and places are coming in and will be intelligently acted upon as received. All his public experience as Mayor and Governor has fitted Mr. Cleveland in a very special manner for his present task."

"You believe, then, that with sufficient time the President will secure the confidence and approval of his party and of the people at large?"

"I believe he has these already; and I feel certain that he will gain more and more entirely their undoubting trust. I will go further and say to you that if he goes on as he has gone, in his own way, following his own ideas of his duty to the public, he will be in the end one of the most acceptable Presidents we have ever had. He will through his success, by the year 1888, as the public administrator of a great trust, be renominated and re-elected, and I am satisfied that the party can do no better than faithfully stand by him and co-operate with him. The work of reform confided to him can hardly be completed in a single term. The country will re-elect him to secure the completion of that work and give it the permanence which it ought to have for the general good."

"Do you mean that the true policy of your party is to give the administration a united and cordial support with the distinct object of renominating Mr. Cleveland in 1888?"

"That is my view of the political situation. On general principles it must be plain to anyone that we can more easily re-elect Mr. Cleveland than elect a new man. Or, to put this in a different shape, if we cannot re-elect Mr. Cleveland, he having accomplished in part or in whole the reforms desired by the people then we cannot elect anyone. We must cluster around him and his administration, and thus keep our party together, strengthen it and enable it to meet its opponents in 1888 with a solid front."

"What do you say about the tariff?"

"As to the tariff, the administration should be guided by the spirit and letter of the utterances of our platform on this subject, and a faithful execution of those declarations, without cavil, will

unite our party everywhere and accomplish the tariff reform which both platforms asserted to be necessary. Changes occur in the conditions existing in our country and the countries with which we exchange productions more rapidly than is supposed. These changes must be provided for through modifications in our tariff laws, and the best time to make these alterations is immediately following the information and results shown by our system of census returns."

This was the end of the conversation.

About ten years ago B. Frank Hall, brother of J. K. P. Hall, went from St. Marys to Arizona. He was not there long until he had developed into a bloated slyer king and acquired the empty title of lieutenant. The silver was a tangible matter but the lieutenantcy was naught but a self assumed title the Halls are as lucky as they are cheeky and the family kismet followed Frank to the mountains of Arizona. He was lucky in his ventures and grew rich. From late gossip at Washington we see that he has also grown ambitious and desires nothing more nor less than the governorship of Arizona. A slight chunk of the loaf surely. As a business man this young man may be a success, but it is scarcely probable that president Cleveland will allow himself to be so imposed upon as to listen to the appeal of the Halls and their followers and appoint B. Frank to a position he is totally unfit to fill.—*Ex.*

An investigation of the books of the American Bell Telephone Company discloses that the company pays the manufacturers \$3.42 for each ordinary telephone, while the average rental charged the sub-companies for the same is \$14 a year—each bringing to the Bell company an annual rental more than four times the original cost. The net earning of that company for the past year were nearly two millions of dollars. The original movers in this telephone monopoly have made about sixty millions of dollars out of it. They have succeeded in the courts in driving out all competition. They will not sell instruments, but always rent them, retaining the ownership. It is this heavy tax on local companies that makes telephone rates so high to subscribers. Could our local telephone company buy the instruments at about the cost of manufacture, they could furnish them at half the rate now charged, would make more money, and the instruments would be far more valuable to subscribers, because double the number at least would be in use. A law to protect inventors is well enough, but there is something radically wrong when a monopoly is thus permitted to practice a grinding imposition on the people.—*Levi's Town Democrat and Sentinel*.

Terrible Fire.

CINCINNATI, May 21.—At half past one o'clock this afternoon a fire, occurred in Sullivan's printing establishment, on Sixth street, in which thirteen girls and one man are known to have perished. The second floor is occupied by presses and machinery, on the third floor is the composing room, and the fourth and fifth floors are occupied by the folding and binding department, in which were employed fifteen or twenty young girls. The fire cut off all escape, and those who were not killed in jumping were suffocated by the smoke. The fire was confined to the third and fourth floors, but on the fifth floor ten girls were found lying dead in all positions, just as they had fallen while groping blindly for escape. One man named Sullivan, a nephew of the proprietor, was killed while descending a rope from the fifth floor. He had saved two girls and then tried to descend himself when the rope was burned above him. The fire was caused by the explosion of a can of benzine.

—The *New York Sun* republishes the formula of its "Cholera Mixture," and in view of the fact that it is not improbable that dread disease may visit this country the coming summer, we advise our readers to cut it out and have it in the house when needed. Take equal parts of tincture of cayenne, tincture of opium, tincture of rhubarb, essence of peppermint and spirits of camphor. Mix well. Dose fifteen to thirty drops in a wine glass of water, according to age or violence of the attack. Repeat every fifteen or twenty minutes until relief is obtained.