

# The Centre Democrat.



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

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

TERMS: \$1.50 per Annum in Advance

VOL. 8.

BELLEFONTE, PA., THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 1886.

NO. 8

## The Centre Democrat.

Terms \$1.50 per Annum in Advance  
FRANK E. BIBLE, Editor.

HIGBEE is still there.

THREE cents a meal is what it costs to feed a soldier's orphan, and still Higbee is State Superintendent of Schools.

The tendency of the fair sex to get back to the original fig leaf costume of mother Eve is most manifest in what is known as "society." Decollete is the word which describes the nudity of fashionable ladies. For instance a broad belt of ribbon with shoulder straps and a neck-lace of diamonds is *decollete*. This costume which gets as near to the undress uniform of Adam's better half as "society" will allow at present, will we hope be reformed. The shoulder straps are an incubation and of no use, as the belt will stay up without them, the diamonds of course are ornamental. We are in favor of the greatest liberty in female costume consistent with comfort and decency and while we would like to see the shoulder straps abolished we enter our emphatic protest against "society" doing away with its diamonds. The old rakes and libertines of "society" complain that the present costumes are shocking even to them. This should not deter "society" from abolishing the shoulder straps. The opposition of male "society" comes from the fact that the *decollete* costume leaves nothing for the imagination. The most vivid imagination will soon tire, and turn away with disgust from the contemplation of the female figure under a neck-lace of diamonds. But what of that, society was not made for rakes and libertines alone. If that class becomes disgusted with society's fig-leaf and diamond costume let it exert its imagination on the ballet girls of the opera, they are certainly better and more chastely dressed than the belle's of society. Nor should the press of the country complain of the "minimum" dresses of society when husbands and fathers sanction the new departure. The word "decency" used some years ago is now obsolete and banished from "society's" dictionary. If "society" is determined to hide nature under a fig-leaf and diamonds, society should be confined to a certain class of houses, and not obtrude itself on the great mass of people who are not "in society."

### The Rule of Syndicates.

In this era of Syndicate rule and corporate robbery when Legislatures, Courts and the press are but the instruments of oppression, new developments of syndicate outrage appears each day, and each more startling and outrageous than those that have preceded. If Pennsylvania has been outraged and plundered, her laws set at naught, and her courts made a mockery, the crowning infamy is reached in the developments of the Philadelphia Record. The systematic plunder of the State by the heartless soulless syndicate controlling her orphan schools is the most cruel blow that has ever been struck at her honor and the welfare of her wards. The grand object of the State in educating the soldier's orphans to become useful sons and daughters of a grand Commonwealth was long ago forgotten and plunder substituted.

Every attempt at investigation has been frustrated until a fearless newspaper took the matter in hand, and now the inner workings of an infamous band of public thieves is laid open to the light of day. Prof. Higbee stands in an unenviable light and common decency would seem to dictate to him the propriety of a resignation of his high office. Every man connected with this great scandal should be brought to speedy punishment. When Superintendent Higbee's attention was called to the fact that the children were ill fed, clothed and housed, he remarked: "I guess they get more than they would have received at home." Just think of such cattle as Higbee at the head of the orphan schools of the great state of Pennsylvania.

### "Isms."

A petition was not long ago presented to congress for the abolition of the office of President on the grounds that our government was tending to monarchy. The petition was not largely signed. Nor was it remarkable for the prominence of its signers. The remarkable feature about it is that the petitioners were all foreigners. This fact alone is a refutation of the charge. Had our foreign friends presented their petition to the German or English parliaments or to any legislative body of Europe for the abolition of the Kingly office they would doubtless ere now be languishing in durance vile." Just here another fact will strike the average American citizen, and that is that so many foreigners are unable to distinguish between the liberty guaranteed to every person who seeks the protection of our flag, and the license to commit outrage, which is prohibited by our beneficent laws.

The Nihilist, Socialist, Communist and Dynamiter, while the natural outgrowth of Tyranny in Europe are the natural enemies of law and order in America. Nine out of ten of these classes are foreigners, with no more love for our form of government than for the depotisms that have driven them to our shores. The demand for the abolition of the presidential office while absurd in itself simply shows the tendency of the different foreign "isms" in the country to anarchy. Cruel as is the government of a single despot the rule of a mob is infinitely worse. The unwholesome leaven of "isms" which permeates our foreign population is cured by the liberty which they exercise of doing and saying about what they please so long as they commit no outrage against law and order. This is the safety valve for the unruly element. The abolition of the office of President is about as far from the mind of the American people as would be the anarchy of communism. The Socialist, Communist, Nihilist and Dynamiter, is a loafer whose superabundance of time is devoted to agitation. He lives by his wits, or runs a saloon. He wants to be a martyr, but runs away at the first opportunity. He is opposed to law and order, and desires an equal division of the wealth in the creation of which he had no part. Altogether he is an unique character to whom all "isms" are alike. The one object of his life is discord. The oppressions of despotism are less disgusting to him than honest toil. The bread he eats is earned by the sweat of another man's brow. Left severely alone he is harmless, confronted with the majesty of the law he is a coward.

### The Sunday Paper.

The Sunday paper is exciting considerable comment and the pulpit has taken up the question. There is a wide difference between "Sunday" papers just as there is between daily papers. Some are commendable and others are to be condemned. The Sunday paper which is filled with Saturday's news and with pure wholesome reading matter supplies a want and is a welcome visitor in every well regulated household. The Sunday paper which has gathered up the crimes and scandals of the week, and presents them to its readers in the warm glowing colors of the newspaper scavenger is a moral leper and no more fit for the perusal of a family than a lewd woman would be for the guardian of a family's morals. Unfortunately the latter class of Sunday papers has sprung up all over the country and is found in the hands of our boys and girls. The social vices and scandals, the crimes and gossip, real and imaginary are minutely reported by local correspondents, and gaudily dressed up by a corps of lascivious writers whose object is to get as far beyond the confines of literary decency as the reading public will tolerate. Each

issue is anxiously scanned for a local sensation or crime. From the lies and innuendos of this class of journals the purest and most chaste of a community are unprotected. They have become the vehicle of personal abuse and slander, the gutters of filth and immorality, panders to the vicious passions of the young and teachers in the great school of vice and crime. Against this class of papers all the railing of the pulpit are unavailing. The remedy seems to be only in their suppression. Sunday journalism of this class offers a wide field for the literary efforts of the scandal monger and black-mailer. Our societies for the suppression of vice and immorality seems to have overlooked this class of literature entirely. The local paper of a community is a safe guard, and its efforts are always directed towards the suppression of anything injurious to the public morals.

There are numbers of families into which a local paper never goes where the vilest of vile Sunday papers are to be found. The efforts of a local paper in behalf of its community are seldom appreciated. The editorial prophet is without honor in his own country. If the local papers were patronized more by parents the Sunday paper would be found in fewer households.

"I guess they get more than they would have received at home."

HIGBEE.

### Some Reasons For It

Mr. Wm. H. Vanderbilt bequeathed to the New York City Y. M. C. A. the sum of \$100,000. Mr. Niblo, a few years since, gave to the library of the same Association, \$150,000. Other gifts of large amounts have from time to time been made so that the Association is in receipt of an income from nearly \$300,000. We rejoice with and congratulate our fellow workers in New York, and hope that their efforts, so wisely directed in the past may continue to be the means of saving and helping many more young men. \$300,000 in a large city, with five or six branches to support, is not a large sum, and from what we know of the practical character of the work done in the past, other munificent gifts will soon be forthcoming. It may be asked, possibly, why the New York Association is so often remembered in the will of wealthy men. The reason is not difficult to find.

1. The Association has been peculiarly faithful to its mission. All irrelevant work has been resolutely set aside and nothing but work for young men has been undertaken. This is not true only of the past two or three years, but it is the history of the Association from the date of its organization until now.

2. The members of the Board of Directors have had the matter of bequests constantly on their minds and no opportunity has been allowed to pass unimproved. The lawyers in the Board have thought of the Association and urged the claims, and the result is now being reaped.

3. The work has been growing year by year. New branches of work have been undertaken and the war has been carried into the enemy's country. The progressive idea commands itself to thoughtful business men, and to him that both is given, so that the work aggressive may continue.

There is a lesson in all this for every Association. We cannot all expect \$100,000 legacies, but by faithful, definite aggressive work, we can so commend our cause to thoughtful capitalists that they will come to recognize our Associations as immense-promising channels through which they may spend the riches entrusted to their keeping.—*Baltimore Bulletin*.

SOLDIER'S orphans are starved in Pennsylvania while a syndicate pockets \$90,000 each year.

TURN Higbee out.

### What Ex-Clerk Paul Says.

"I acknowledge that I went into the business originally to make money," said James L. Paul on the 19th instant, in an interview with a *Record* reporter at the Chester Springs Soldier's Orphanage. "It was a business venture with me, and I admit that I have made money with the schools." Then he continued: "I became connected with the Mount Joy school in 1877. George W. Wright and John I. Gordon, of Mercer county, and I bought the property for \$10,000. I held a third interest in the place, and do yet. The deed as recorded in Lancaster does not contain my name as one of the purchasers of the property. It was thought best by my partners and myself that my name should not appear in connection with the management because I was then holding the position of Chief Clerk at the Department of Soldiers' Orphans at Harrisburg. I entered the Department in 1868, and remained there until January, 1886, a period of seventeen years. By direction of my partners I informed Superintendent Higbee, my superior, of my interest in the Mount Joy school and that official did not raise any objection, and so I continued to hold my clerkship and interest in the school without being molested. We did not consider it necessary to make public the fact of my partnership, and thought that so long as Superintendent Higbee was satisfied nothing further was required in that direction. I hold a one-fourth interest in the Chester Springs School. The other partners are Chief Clerk George Peirson, of the House of Representatives at Harrisburg, and George W. Wright, one of my partners in the Mount Joy School. I became connected with the Chester Springs Schools in June last, seven months before resigning my position at Harrisburg. I want to say that during the nine years I was Chief Clerk at the Soldiers' Orphans' Department and a part owner of the Mount Joy School I never took advantage of my position to obtain favors for that institution. I have not wronged the State out of one penny, and I have looked after the welfare of the children as well as any man could do, and much better than some others would do were they in my position. If I received more money for the care of the orphans than should have been paid that is not my fault. If the per capita appropriation of \$115 for children under 10 years and \$150 for over 10 years of age is too large, then the Legislature should inquire into the matter and set it straight. If the *Record* thinks that money is being wasted and extravagantly expended in the maintenance of these schools, I do not think any good purpose will be gained by publishing it to the entire world. Let the *Record* go to Harrisburg and quietly have the matter adjusted to the satisfaction of all concerned. By publishing articles on the subject a great injury will be done to the schools. I will not suffer because I will be vindicated when an investigation is held. But a blow will be struck at the schools; people will think that they are nothing but money making concerns, and the orphans will suffer in consequence of the small appropriations. I cannot recall having received \$5000 in 1880 from the Mount Joy School. It is true I received dividends from time to time, but I cannot now tell the amount; but I do not think that they amounted to \$5000. If any checks were made out to me and marked 'to loan' they must have been in the nature of advances, such as any business man requires at times when he gets strapped for funds."

### Dead Candidates.

Within four months death has removed a name from every Democratic presidential ticket since 1864—McClelland of 1864, Seymour of 1868, Brown of 1872, Hendricks of 1876 and 1884, and Hancock of 1880. There are only three left, and the old man of Greystone, who was set aside five years ago on account of his years and failing health, has lived to write telegrams of condolence for all of these, and is to day perhaps in better health than he has been for years. The Republican candidates have shown more vitality. General Fremont still mingles in society and attends to a little business, Hannibal

Hannibal is older than Mr. Tilden but a great deal stronger. Mr. Hayes continues to take interest in the farm and his yard, and makes better speeches than he did while he was president. Wheeler who was on the same ticket is living quietly at Malone, and President Arthur is often seen in New York. As for Blaine and Logan nobody is liable to look upon them as dead for some years to come.—*Ex.*

The Soldier's Orphans' Schools of Pennsylvania were once the pride of our people. Under the inspiration of a noble sentiment the State undertook to care for and to educate those little ones who had been made fatherless by the war of the rebellion. But what was once Pennsylvania's glory is now its shame. Patriotism and generosity have been imposed upon, and the grand purpose under which these schools were founded has been prostituted in a manner that "shocks our humanity and staggers our belief."

Though the war ended twenty-one years ago, and though all the children whose fathers died on the field of battle have long since passed their majority, the Soldier's Orphans' Schools are still maintained by the annual appropriations from the Legislature mainly for the enrichment of a few men whose faces are well known in the lobby at Harrisburg. Strange as it may seem, yet nevertheless it is true, a syndicate headed by ex-Senator George Wright, of Mercer, Pa., profits at the rate of about \$50,000 a year upon the management of four schools, located at Mount Joy, Mercer, McAllisterville and Chester Springs.

Official discrimination, neglect and corruption have prevailed in that branch of the State Government known as the Department of Soldier's Orphans. The express requirements of law have been literally disregarded the State Inspectors have permitted flagrant abuses to creep in, so that the children have not received that treatment which the State contemplated and for which it roundly paid. When the fact was called to the attention of the State Superintendent of Soldier's Orphans, Rev. E. E. Higbee, he turned abruptly on his heel and exclaimed: "I guess they get more than they would have received at home."

The following letter is from George Wright, the chief of the syndicate of plunderers:

MERCER, Pa., January 30, 1884.—  
"I find that the last coffee bought very poor, and have this day ordered other to Mount Joy. While I do not want the poor thrown out I do not want you to use it next week. See that it is put out of the way sure. It is not a fair sample of what we usually use by any means. You will likely have some visitors from the G. A. R. encampment, which meets at Lancaster City next Wednesday, February 6. You need not be surprised if members drop in on their way to or from the encampment. I need not say more only see the cook and all other departments, and have no mistakes anywhere. I much fear trouble from this encampment for Mount Joy. If frozen feet, toe-nails dropping off, itch, etc., do not warm up our G. A. R. friends I shall feel that I am no prophet. All these matters are sure to be investigated and brought up at the encampment; so get in shape to meet charges and receive visitors. I forgot to caution Sherbin in whitening yesterday about next week. Talk it over with him and matron, and get to work and in shape."

### Will starvation Higbee resign?

Sir Charles Dilk has notified his constituents of his determination to ask their suffrages and that he proposes to live down popular clamor against him. This is noble in Sir Charles he only blighted the home of a common fellow, Crawford by name and made an out-cast of Crawford's wife, why shouldn't he "live down popular clamor."

DE BOIS, Pa., Feb. 20.—Joseph Johnston, one of the men implicated in the robberies here, has been caught, and in default of \$800 bail went to jail. Part of the stolen goods were recovered.

### Condensed News.

MILTON, Feb. 20.—The engineers on the proposed Milton & North Mountain railway have completed their survey to town and effect a junction with the two great trunk lines below Centre street. They are also industriously at work securing the right of way for the road, and thus far have succeeded very well. Fully one-half of the right of way has been secured between this place and Millville, and the prospects for securing the balance grow brighter every day. Already much of the distance between this place and Limestoneville has been secured.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 20.—The Pennsylvania members of both political parties will oppose measure on tariff if the committee of ways and means report it in the same shape as it was presented in the house. Mr. Morrison says the bill will effect an estimate reduction of \$20,000,000 in the revenues of last year.

CUMBERLAND, Md., Feb. 20.—A joint convention of the miners' representatives of Pocahontas, Va., Elk Garden, W. Va., Mayersdale and Clearfield, Pa., and George's Creek, Md., is in progress here.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 20.—Mr. Gowen is still in New York endeavoring to raise money for the prosecution of his plan of reorganization of the Reading Railroad company.

PITTSBURG, Feb. 20.—The United States grand jury have indicated Senator James Sill and his brother Joseph Sill for making false entries in a bank book.

ERIE, Pa., Feb. 20.—The strike in the coke regions is having a serious effect upon the iron interests here. In the first place it has stopped the shipments of iron ore from Erie, and the eighty thousand tons of ore which yet remains in the docks, and which it is expected would have been shipped by the opening of navigation, will probably remain here for some time.

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 20.—Counsel for the Pennsylvania Railroad company state to-day that the appeal which will be made from the decision of the supreme court, which makes that company amenable to the provisions of the new constitution, will delay the enforcement of the new constitution in the matter for at least two years.

NEW YORK, Feb. 20.—Yesselt Dudley, who shot O'Donovan Rossa a year ago, and who was committed to the Middletown insane asylum, is greatly improved, and will soon be released.

WILMINGTON, DEL., Feb. 20.—A careful survey of the peach orchards of the peninsula for a week after the cold snap of the fifth and sixth instant has convinced the most experienced growers that the crop of 1886 is about dead.

READING, Pa., Feb. 20.—Owing to the prevalence of diphtheria and scarlet fever in the northern portion of this county, a number of the public schools have been compelled to close.

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn., February 23.—Early this morning the second section of a freight train on the Western and Atlantic railroad ran into the rear of the first section causing a serious wreck. A train hand named Barnell was killed and two others were injured.

FRANKFORD, Ont., February 23.—Mrs. Gallavan, an old lady, aged 70 years, living near here, was burned to death to-day while endeavoring to light a fire.

NEW YORK, February 23.—Fire this morning in a tenement house at No. 174 Division street, caused the death of Minnie Rosenberg by suffocation. The damage to the building is slight.

WASHINGTON, February 23.—After the passage of the bill appropriating \$250,000 for the monument to Gen. Grant, the Senate resumed the discussion of the educational bill but without action adjourned.

PHILADELPHIA, February 23.—The hearing of the petition of Hugh Penny to prevent Franklin B. Gowen from obtaining possession of the Reading second series consolidated five, was to-day at the request of Mr. Gowen, postponed. In the meantime the court has ordered that the bonds should remain in the hands of the receiver.

RICHMOND, Va., 23.—Notices are posted in the several mines company, at Richmond and Camden, to the effect that on and after the 1st of March the pay for mining coal will be reduced from 4 cents to 3 1/2 cents per bushel. The miners have as yet taken no definite action in the matter, but it is understood that the rates will not be accepted.