

The Centre Democrat.

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

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

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FRANK E. BIBLE, Editor.

Democratic State Convention.

PHILADELPHIA, June 30, 1886.

The Democratic State Convention of Pennsylvania will assemble at the Opera House, in the city of Harrisburg, at 10 a. m., on Wednesday, August 18th, to nominate candidates for GOVERNOR, LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR, AUDITOR GENERAL, SECY OF INTERNAL AFFAIRS, CONGRE-SMAN-AT-LARGE. The Convention will consist of 355 Representative Delegates, selected under the rules of the party from the respective Assembly Districts of the State, one for each 1,000 Democratic votes cast for Governor at the last preceding gubernatorial election, or for a fraction of 1,000 such votes, amounting to 500 or more, in the respective representative districts, provided that each representative district shall have at least one delegate.

W. U. HENSEL,
Chairman Dem. State Committee.
J. B. LICHTY,
Secretary.

DEMOCRATIC COUNTY TICKET.

For Congress.

A. G. CURTIN,

Subject to the decision of the congressional conference.

For State Senate.

P. GRAY MEEK,

Subject to the decision of the senatorial conference.

Assembly.

JOHN A. WOODWARD,
LEONARD RHONE,

For Prothonotary.

L. A. SCHAEFFER,

District Attorney.

J. CALVIN MEYER,

For County Chairman.

JAMES A. McCLAIN.

The Ticket.

The county Convention has met performed its work and adjourned. The heat and contention of battle for delegates is over and nothing now remains but to close up the ranks and push on to victory. The ticket is exceptionally strong and should bring out every democratic vote in the county. This could have been said, had any of the gentlemen who contested for the nominations been successful. For

CONGRESS.

Gov. Curtin has received the unanimous endorsement of his county. In view of his emphatic declaration and his expressed determination his candidacy cannot be seriously considered. His friends simply asked a complimentary nomination for him and Mr. Spangler withdrew from the field. The Congressional conferees are instructed for Mr. Spangler after Gov. Curtin's formal withdrawal.

SENATOR.

Hon. P. Gray Meek of Bellefonte has again carried off the Senatorial honors of his county. In this we extend our hearty congratulations to our editorial brother and hope he may secure the nomination in the district. Mr. Meek has had experience as a legislator in the house and as chief clerk. That he would make an able and efficient Senator is not doubted. Mr. Meek has for twenty five years fought the battles of democracy in this county and his democracy can not be questioned. In the present condition of affairs in this district, Mr. Meek stands the best show of any man in it. Should Caldwell carry Clinton county the nomination would naturally tumble into Centre's lap. Clearfield has the Senator at present and will not seriously ask it again. The feeling raised by the Senatorial bribery business would make it impolitic to place the nomination where such serious objections could be raised besides it would array a very large element of the party both in Centre and Clearfield against such a nomination. These are facts which are known to the public generally and which the

conferees will have to face. We can give our fellow editor the heartiest support if nominated as then he will not have the "office holder" howl on us. We hope the Senatorial toga will fall on his graceful shoulders, and that his pleasant face may be lit up with the bright smiles of political victory.

ASSEMBLY.

Hons. Jno. A. Woodward and Leonard Rhone, the old members, have been again nominated, these gentlemen had no opposition and were nominated by acclamation. They were both faithful hard-working members, and far above the average legislator. Both are intelligent farmers, and will look after the interests of their constituents with fidelity. They have already made for themselves a record as consistent Democrats and level headed members.

PROTHONOTARY.

L. A. Schaeffer who drew the lucky number in the contest for the Prothonotaryship is a young man well and most favorably known to the people of the county, as was attested by the hearty support he received from all sections of the county. Mr. Schaeffer will enter the Prothonotary office with a thorough and practical knowledge of its business details possessed only by those who have either held the office or been in it as clerks. To a thorough knowledge of the business Mr. Schaeffer will add a genial disposition and a determination to accommodate all who have any business with his office. This we know because of our own relations with him while he was clerk under the late Robt. Brett, and still in closer personal relations, while working together during the past winter. He will certainly be a pains taking accommodating and efficient officer and one in whom the people will have entire confidence.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY.

J. C. Meyer like Mr. Schaeffer has never held office and is a young attorney exceptionally bright, and well in the mysteries of Blackstone with a future before him big with possibilities. He was born and raised in Aaronsburg this county, and has been the architect of his own fortune. He educated himself and stood among the first in his class in Franklin and Marshall College. There is not much money in the District Attorneys office but what ever honor there is in it Mr. Meyer will get. We predict a proud record for our young friend and a large majority.

COUNTY SURVEYOR.

This important position was given to J. H. Reifsnnyder, in fact the honor was thrust on him, he is a practical surveyor and will attend to the business of the county in that line faithfully.

CHAIRMAN McCLAIN.

The Democratic county Convention rounded up its work well when it selected Jas. A. McClain as chairman for 1887. No better guarantee of a lively campaign could have been given than by the selection of this gentleman for that responsible position, always active in the interests of his party he will bring to the work of next year a knowledge of the practical details of political warfare passed by few. He is in every sense of the word an "organizer" and the party will feel the benefit of his untiring energies and his brilliant leadership. He will put life into the next campaign and every young democrat in the county will rally to the support of the young chairman. It was a wise thing to do, and the party will realize it.

LANCASTER, Pa., Aug. 6th, 1886.

There will be a meeting of the Democratic State Central Committee, and also of the Executive Committee, in the city of Harrisburg immediately after the adjournment of the State Convention, at an hour and place to be announced hereafter.

W. U. HENSEL,
Chairman Dem. State Central Comt.
J. B. LICHTY,
Secretary.

Death of a Great Man.

HON. S. J. TILDEN PEACEFULLY PASSES AWAY.

Hon. S. J. Tilden died at his home at Greystone, N. Y. Wednesday morning. Mr. Tilden had been in feeble health for some time, yet his sudden demise was entirely unexpected. The end was peaceful and quiet. The immediate cause of Mr. Tilden's death was the failure of the heart, following an acute attack of diarrhea and nausea. There were present at the time, Mr. Tilden's niece, Miss Gould, and Drs. Charles E. Simonds and Samuel Swift. Paralysis and bodily infirmities, incident to old age, had reduced Mr. Tilden to a mere skeleton, and his last days were marked by extreme feebleness.

The illustrious Samuel J. Tilden was born at New Lebanon County, N. Y., in the year 1814, the year which ruined the great Napoleon. Mr. Tilden had a long line of ancestry, one of them Nathaniel Tilden having been mayor of the city of Kent, England, in 1863. Governor Tilden's father was a farmer and merchant of New Lebanon, was a man of notable judgment and practical sense and the accepted oracle of the county on matters of public concern, while his opinion was so largely sought and justly valued by all his neighbors, but by none more than the late President Van Buren, who, till his death, was one of Father Tilden's most cherished, intimate and personal friends. Young Tilden entered college in his eighteenth year and in the fall of 1832 his first public labor was done. Samuel J. Tilden won his highest honors as a reformer by hurling from power the infamous Tweed ring that had cursed the Empire state for years and plunged the metropolis into the abyss of almost overwhelming debt and corruption.

Mr. Tilden having made himself prominent in the work of reform, was subsequently tendered the nomination for Governor, which he accepted, and was triumphantly elected over General John A. Dix by a rousing majority. Then he commenced a systematic warfare on the canal jobbers. The results of his investigation arrested completely the list of fraudulent expenditure on the canals. But the highest proof of his patriotism was given during the bitter presidential contest of 1876. Nominated in St. Louis in June, he made one of the most brilliant political campaigns upon record. When satisfied of his election, when assured that he was to be counted out, when certain that any overt act of his would result in civil war between the two great parties, he modestly refrained and thereby was elevated by all true patriots to the highest pinnacle of love. Mr. Tilden's love of country was again displayed at the opening of this session of congress, when he advocated the most liberal appropriation for putting our navy in a formidable condition and fortifying our sea coast cities. Mr. Tilden had attained the patriarchal age of 72 years. He was five feet ten inches in height, spare in figure, of a nervous temperament and chestnut hair, silvered by age, and his eyes were blue. Singularly as it may appear, he never married. He was a man of indomitable force of character yet gentle in his disposition. He had the most admirable control of his temper, to the extent that even the expression of his countenance in moments of trial was unchangeable. His private character was spotless. In every position of life, in the family circle, in the arena of politics, among his neighbors, to his friends, to strangers, professionally, he was ever the model citizen.

It is understood that James A. L. Wilson, the defuncting Treasurer of the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal Company, has informed President Gilligan, of that company, that he will come back to Philadelphia and surrender himself and make full confession of the scheme by which the co-operation was robbed and the over-issues of bonds was consummated. It is stated that Wilson has also intimated that he would place the officers upon the track of his cousin Henry V. Lesile, and cause him to be delivered up. In consideration for his services in the matter, showing who had the money and where it could be traced to, Wilson demands immunity from punishment.

Col. D. G. Bush and wife attended camp meeting at Pine Station this week.

Wallace's Candidacy.

BEDFORD SPRINGS Pa., August 8.—Ex-United States Senator William A. Wallace, who has been spending the week at the Springs, left for his home at Clearfield last evening. As he was leaving your correspondent asked him: "Are you a candidate for Governor at the approaching Democratic Convention?"

"Until within three weeks I was not within that time earnest desires of partial friends like Senator Cox, Judge Yerkes, Mr. Mutchler and other have made me see that it is my duty to my friends and the organization to accept a nomination if it should seem to the Convention that I am the man to unite the Democracy and bring its whole vote to the polls. I have made no bargains, sought no alliances, written no letter asking for delegates, and shall not go to the Convention to attempt to shape its results. I have a record as a Democratic Senator and a Democrat, and I have positive opinions upon current governmental topics. If the Convention wishes me as its candidate it must take me with that record and the enunciation of those opinions."

"Well, what is that record, and what are those opinions as you see them that would be objectionable or otherwise?"

"I entered the State Senate in January, 1863, and my record during all of that period and since has been that of a pronounced Democrat. I voted against the amendment to the Constitution giving the soldier the right to vote in the field, because I did not believe they could vote their opinions as freemen, and that giving the negroes the right of suffrage. I voted against the Calamity bill, and at every stage of legislation affecting labor I was active and earnest in voting to ameliorate the conditions of workingmen in the mines and elsewhere but I would not vote for what seemed to me to be unreasonable propositions in that direction. I voted for the Nine Million bill, because it benefited the locality I represented, and was a direct appropriation of State funds to help develop that locality. But I believe no man ever charged me with corrupt practices, either in legislation or in buying votes for a seat either in the Legislature or in Congress."

"Will you state what opinions you entertain in regard to current governmental questions?"

"One of the most important of those now agitating the people of the State is the question of railroad control and those affecting discrimination by them. In the sessions of the State Legislature of 1883 and 1885 I made an unequivocal record upon the subject of enforcing by appropriate legislation the provisions of Article XVII of the Constitution, by introducing bills affecting them and speaking and voting in their favor. The Democracy should boldly assert its defense of these provisions, and charge the Republican party with the neglect of its plain duty on that subject."

"What about Prohibition?"

"I believe the Republican party is going to pieces on that question, and we should make a bold and wise declaration of our opinions looking to the future as well as the present. The masses of the people are not for free whiskey, nor for a remedy worse than the disease. Wise legislation recognized the habits and customs of the people to be governed, and reformation can better be effected by that recognition than by an enactment that will become a dead letter. Men cannot be made moral or pure by statute. I do not believe that Prohibition will prohibit, and I think that the Democracy should declare against sumptuary laws and for a license system of universal application under the control of the judiciary and without discretion, save as to the fitness of the applicant, but with the rigid enforcement of the penalties now in existence and such additional legislation as will

aid in controlling the evils of intemperance, including High License, but not so high as to forbid licensing. The proceeds of the licenses should be sent to the Treasury of the county in which they are granted, in case of taxation there."

"But, Senator, didn't you at the session of 1885 vote in favor of submitting to the people an amendment to the Constitution prohibiting the liquor tariff?"

"Yes, I did so, and as a Democrat I thought I could do nothing else, for whenever a portion of the voters of a free State, respectable in numbers and character, ask their representatives to submit to them any question purely administrative, for adoption or rejection as a part of the organic law, it is their representatives to give them the right to vote upon it. At the polls, however, as an individual citizen I would have voted No, for as I have already said, I do not believe in sumptuary laws."

"What have you to say as to labor legislation?"

"It would be folly not to recognize the existence of difficulties between employers and employed, and we should declare for such legislation as will ameliorate the condition of the latter, whilst we do not interfere with the just rights of the former. Boycotts, strikes and lockouts are methods of violence and not of peace, and payment of wages in any but cash is a weapon of oppression. No man nor set of men ought to be permitted to dictate the control of another's business. I endeavored to inculcate the theory of concession and forbearance in the enactment of the arbitration statute in 1883, for I believed that when employers and employed were brought together as equals to discuss their difficulties the contest was half settled. This statute was but the reassertion of Penn's old theory of peace, and the point I sought to attain was not arbitration under that special statute, but the reaffirmance of the doctrines contained in the ancient laws of the Commonwealth. Recognition by law of such methods teaches men the underlying principles of the law, and form becomes of no sort of moment if the great end—Peace—be attained."

"Didn't you prosecute and procure the punishment of men engaged in a strike in your own country?"

"I did. As an advocate in the Courts at my home I was called upon to prosecute men who had been engaged in conspiracy and riot. As a result of a strike and of an effort on the part of my clients, and operators, to put other men to work in their room, a riot of great violence was precipitated. Men were taken out of the mines at the point of the pistol and driven out of the county. I was the counsel of the Sheriff, also, and did my utmost to aid him in preserving law and order. The case was hotly contested, and the issue I made was whether one man should have the right to work without the control of another. The late Senator Carpenter of Wisconsin, Linn Bartholomew, F. W. Huges and other eminent counsel were for the defendants. The men who had been guilty of violence in the riot were convicted. My effort was to demonstrate the power of law, and I asked the Court not to punish the defendants severely, but to plainly define to them their rights and duties in imposing his sentence. The result of that conviction is found in the fact that although we have had many strikes since none of them have been with violence. I tried to avoid the introduction of troops and to prove to the people there that an executive officer armed with the power of the law was equal to a regiment, and I think I succeeded. Certainty in the administration of the law when masses of men are excited by real or fancied grievances is of the last importance and the cool and calm judgment of an efficient executive officer in the per-

formance of his duty compels obedience from all who have intelligence enough to recognize the fact that they themselves are a part of the Government they are defying. In that case I simply did my duty."

"They say you are a monopolist. What about that?"

"I have been and am a railroad President, and since my return from the United States Senate have been aiding in the development of my own real estate and of the locality in which I live. I had lands containing coal, and I wanted transportation for it, and I and other gentlemen purchased other lands and coal in quantity sufficient to induce capital to aid us. The railroad to those properties is an accomplished fact, and the locality in which I live has twice the opportunity for transportation that it had when we began the movement. I have never attempted to interfere with the details of railroad management and know nothing of them. Instead of being a monopolist my aim has been to give additional means of transportation."

"Have you anything to say about the tariff?"

"As this campaign involves the election of members of Congress and of the Legislature who will elect a United States Senator that question is incidentally before the people, although a campaign for State officials has nothing to do with it. I do not believe the Democracy of Pennsylvania are for protection for the sake of protection, nor are they for free trade. But they believe in the ancient theory which, under a strict construction of a Federal Constitution, imposes taxes from a revenue standpoint, and the latest utterances of the party at Chicago formulate their ideas upon that subject. If I had been in Congress I would have voted to consider a bill to revise the tariff, and when it was before the body would have endeavored to care for the interests of the people I represented. During my term at Washington I tried to be faithful to the best interests of the people of the State. I think our Convention should declare for a revision of the tariff and against a repeal of the taxes on whiskey and tobacco, for those taxes are taxes on luxuries, and are pledged for the payment of pensions."

DEMOCRATS all over the county begin to wonder whether the President's order to federal officials meant anything or not. The open and flagrant violation of that order by federal officials in this county and particularly in Bellefonte and Spring township cannot be passed over in silence. It was charged by Republicans that the order was not made in good faith by the President, and when they saw the collector of this district and the store keeper at the distilleries pulling and hauling at Democratic voters they laughed at the reform efforts of Mr. Cleveland. They found democratic federal officials doing just what they were commanded not to do and what the democratic party had protested against for twenty five years, nor was this the worse feature in the thing, these officials were banded together in the interests of certain candidates and worked as though life depended on their success. In one instance a party was telephoned to "carry" his ward "if it took ten dollars to do it." This is little short of bribery. The democrats of this county must either stand by President Cleveland's order against the interference of federal officials in primary elections or they must denounce the action of these men. There is no middle ground, either the President is right or the officials are right. The right of democrats to vote for whom they please uncontrolled by federal influence is a right that must be repeated. The welfare of the party demands this. We hope that those who have been ever zealous in this matter will see that they have made a mistake and that it will not occur again.