

# 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.

1887.

Democratic County Committee.

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The Legislature has passed a bill providing for the acquisition of turnpikes and highways and assessing damages suffered by companies operating the same upon the county. We have not seen the text of the bill, but we hope it will reach the case. The turnpike is not a "relic of barbarism" but it is a not ungentle reminder of an age which should only live in tradition. The turnpike in its day, was to the country what the canal was thirty years ago and what the railroad is now. Now they are simply a burden on the people, they are no better kept than the ordinary township road. At the entrance to Bellefonte from the Bald Eagle Valley and on the south from Penns Valley and the western end of Nittany Valley, stand two "toll gates" like highwaymen, and for the privilege of driving over bad roads, demand tribute. A tariff is laid on every vehicle coming into town from Penns Valley from the upper end of Nittany and from Bald Eagle. Is it not about time that these barriers to trade were broken down. What excuse is there for two toll gates within three miles of each other, on a highway which should be public? The turnpikes of the county have been abandoned by the companies except in the immediate vicinity of towns and where people were forced by necessity to use them. Where it would have been beneficial to the traveling public, it has been abandoned because of its being expensive. If the legislature has provided a means of ridding the State of these excrescences, it has done a wise thing. When the turnpike was an institution the country was sparsely settled and stage coaches were the only means of public conveyance. With the advent of railroads the necessity for the turnpike ceased to exist, and the turnpike should have reverted to the people as indeed it did every place that it did not pay the company. In some of the eastern counties, notably, Lancaster, Chester and Delaware, the public highways are in better condition now than ever they were in the palmy days of turnpikes. Supervisors now build and repair roads with the idea of making them permanent. Improved road machinery has come into use, and road making is done scientifically.

When the Pennsylvania Railroad some years ago began the system of landscape gardening that has made travel over its main line during the spring, summer and autumn months a series of delightful surprises, many wise acres shook their heads at the "useless," nay "reckless" expenditure of the stockholder's money, in sodding, tracing, grading and the planting of flowers. The lover of the beautiful

in nature rejoiced over the embellishments of art, and the combined efforts of nature and art wrought "a thing of beauty" which was to be "a joy forever." The practical hard horse sense of the management which graded and sodded the steep slopes of the "cut" which put a terrace here and a stone wall there, saw a saving of thousands of dollars each year to the company. "Slides" from the melting of winter snows or the violence of spring rains would be a thing of the past and so they were. No stockholder grumbles now at the flower beds, the terraces, the stone walls and all the little extra touches put on for beauty. The system adopted by the great railroad has instilled a love of the beautiful in the people living along its line and flower beds, lawns, terraces and grass plots are the rule. It is a wise system and one that has paid large interest on the money expended. It might even be followed by Supervisors of roads in many places where there is a yearly "wash-out" or "slide." Yet tax-payers would brand a man as a lunatic who would attempt such a thing. Between the ornamental and the useful there is entire harmony, it is only man who is out of tune and nothing but stubborn facts, knocked into him by experience, will convince him that the beautiful and useful may be united.

In the great hurry which has always characterized Americans and everything American, may be found the cause of many of the defects of our civilization, certainly much of our dyspepsia and "night mare." Just why we can't live slow instead of "fast" is hard to determine. We have no peculiarities of climate, not possessed by our own English, Irish, or German ancestors. We cannot lay it to our superior intelligence or education because both teach us that we live too fast and per consequence die too early. This "fast" living has given a fleeting or temporary character to much of our literature and art, and has caused hundreds to die at the top who otherwise would have worn out at a ripe old age. In every business trade and profession are to be seen the victims of nervous prostration. "Twenty minutes for dinner" at a railroad station means not only a dinner but the after-dinner cigar half smoked. Twenty minutes is ample time for a meal, but twenty hours in a day is hardly enough time in which to transact the ordinary business of the day. Six per cent. is a snail's pace in the accumulation of wealth. Sixty, one hundred and one thousand are moderate. The hope of a competence animates no man, it is the amassing of millions that urges him on. Not satisfied with burning the candle at both ends he melts it away in the middle. Into twenty years is crowded the trials, the pleasures and the work of fifty years. When he dies he dies fast, but hard. We need an air brake on all the time.

### The Chicago Strike.

CHICAGO, May 13.—Fifteen hundred bricklayers and almost as many carpenters, hod carriers and other workmen employed on buildings were reported idle this morning, with fresh accessions hourly. To-morrow, it is said, the Bricklayers Union will go through the formality of ordering a strike and will call off the few men at work at present. Thirty-six men at work for Joseph Downey at a depot at Indianapolis have been called in and are expected in town to-morrow. The architects and real estate dealers have called meetings, at which committees will be appointed to confer and co-operate with a committee to be appointed by the builder to-morrow morning for the purpose of inducing any action taken by the members of the Builders and Traders Exchange.

Dr. McGLYNN and Robert G. Ingersoll are announced to speak at a mass meeting in Cooper Institute, to-night. A queer combination.

### Caring for Pennsylvania

Randolph Keim, the correspondent of the Philadelphia Times, has just got through with his semi-monthly interview with Hon. Samuel J. Randall. The public will be rejoiced to know that Samuel's big toe is in a healthy condition and that the caudle appendage of the Democratic party of Pennsylvania is able to wag itself. Mr. Randall has "found that the interstate commerce act is hurting shippers more than the railroads" which is doubtless a matter of gratulation to him as well as the railroads. What will bring joy to the hearts of the broken, defeated and crushed Democrats of the State is the fact that Mr. Randall has said to the friends of the President that he will take the party under his sheltering wing in Pennsylvania. All the administration has to do is to look after New York. Our Sam is good at "taking care of matters in Pennsylvania. With the aid of Senator Cameron he has "taken care" of a congressional district for himself, which in late years has been the rock on which the party ship has annually been wrecked.

"I have said to the friends of the President that they should look after New York; that we can take care of our matters in Pennsylvania."

What comfort in those words! how rejoiced the President must feel! Since Mr. Randall and his friends have given their entire attention to "taking care of" Pennsylvania, there have been three elections. Blaine carried the State by 81,000. Quay by 40,000 and Beaver by about the same majority. The last Democratic ticket nominated, was dictated by Mr. Randall, and was put up to be knocked down, and the price so far as Samuel was concerned was his congressional district. The night before the Democratic convention Mr. Randall is said to have been closeted with Matt Quay, Tom Cooper, D. H. Hastings and W. U. Hensel, and the little conference did not break up until the "wee sma hours." The result of that conference was the defeat of Senator Wallace in the Democratic Convention the next day. It was an open secret that Quay, Cooper and Hastings feared Wallace. And the batteries of the Press were early opened on him. Randolph Keim was sent for and ordered to interview Scott who was still smarting over his defeat at the Pittsburgh Convention. The interview appeared in the Times and with a majestic wave of the hand Col. McClure laid Wallace on the shelf as not being available. The work was finished at the conference at Harrisburg and Mr. Randall again "took care of Pennsylvania." He has been taking care of her ever since. Twice has Mr. Randall's district been saved to him by the Republicans. Why? not because he was a Democrat, but because as a breeder of strife in Congress he is of more use to them than a Republican would be. And because in State politics he is powerful for evil as he was at the last election and because his cohorts in Philadelphia can always be counted on to throttle any independent move in local affairs. Yes, Randall, will "take care of matters in Pennsylvania."

DEAR SIR:—The granting of a \$500,000 patch, on our outgrown capitol building, now disadvantageously located, would be creditable to our state as foreseen by a multitude of thoughtful people waiting for each other to lead and enter a public protest against the adverse use of the people's money and ignoring business methods that govern unincumbered selection of capital and labor investments and the abandonment of old establishments, for a more suitable locality to conform with the advance of trade, etc.

The above is taken from the Lock Haven Express and is actually the brain product of a Lock Haven man. He has doubtless regained his equilibrium if not his sense. We never could understand why Lock Haven men always seemed "top heavy" to us but it is all clear now. The magnificent swagger of some, the picturesque

gyrations, the wirm fence ambulations, the graceful swan-like curves of the neck and the all-doubled-up appearance of others we attributed to an excessive indulgence in the "ardent." But after reading the above we have concluded that the peculiarities just mentioned are due to a plethora of ideas, and a habit they have of "ignoring business methods that govern unincumbered selection of capital and labor investments." Selah!!! Second instalment next week.

### Mrs. Grant Ill.

NEW YORK, May 13.—The friends of Mrs. U. S. Grant will be much surprised to learn that the widow of the great General has been near death's door for some days. Her ailment was of such a malignant character as to necessitate the immediate removal from her house on Sixty-sixth street of all her grandchildren, who were with her at the time.

Mrs. Grant was out riding on Thursday week and prolonged her ride longer than usual. When she complained of feeling cold. Nothing serious was thought of the matter until next day, when her symptoms became so alarming that Dr. Castle, the family physician of Mrs. U. S. Grant, Jr., was called.

Mrs. Grant's symptoms became so marked that on Sunday the doctor pronounced her suffering from a severe attack of diphtheria. Mrs. Fred Grant was at home at the time with her children. Colonel Grant immediately sent them to Morrissett N. J. Jesse Grant and his family are visiting his brother "Buck," in Westchester county. Mrs. Dent has been in constant attendance upon her sister and has not left her since her illness. Colonel Grant has also remained with his mother. This afternoon Mrs. Grant was pronounced out of danger and on the fair road to recovery. Her week's illness has weakened her very much and reduced her in flesh. Dr. Castle was seen by a reporter as he was leaving the house. He declined to discuss Mrs. Grant's condition, but said that the crisis had been passed and that the lady was now convalescent. She will not, however, be able to leave her room for some time.

Rev. Dr. J. P. Newman, Mrs. Grant's former pastor, is in town staying at the Murray Hill Hotel. Mrs. Sartoris—Nelle Grant—is in London with her husband and family, but is expected to return to this country in August.

SCANTON, Pa., May 16.—There will be nine hundred delegates at the annual session of the Grand Lodge of Odd Fellows of Pennsylvania in the Academy of Music in this city to-morrow morning. A special train of four cars containing the delegates from Pittsburgh and other places arrived at 9:20 this evening. To-morrow afternoon there will be a parade in which several thousands Odd Fellows of this region will be in line.

The annual session of the Encampment was held to-day. The officers reported that the encampments are in a flourishing condition and laid stress on attractions which the Patriarchs Militants' auxiliary held out to young men desiring to join a semi-military organization. The new grand officers of the encampment were installed as follows: Patriarch, John Levergood, of Lancaster; High Priest, Ruben Shedman, of Philadelphia; Senior Warden, M. D. Wiley, Allegheny; Scribe, J. B. Nichols, Philadelphia; Treasurer, John S. Heis, Philadelphia; Junior Warden, Amos H. Hall, Philadelphia; Representative to Grand Lodge, M. R. Muckle Philadelphia.

The Republicans are just now casting an anchor to the "windward" for a candidate for President. The men from Maine won't suit the bosses as there seems to be an odor of defeat about him that cannot be disguised.

Eight tramps were sent to jail at Lancaster on Saturday for burning fences and committing other depredations near Mount Joy.

### The High License Bill.

HARRISBURG, May 12.—The high license bill has passed both houses.

The first section prohibits the sale of intoxicating liquors at retail without license.

The second section requires applicants to be of temperate habits and citizens of the United States, the sale of a greater quantity than a quart.

The third section provides that only courts shall grant licenses, and requires them to fix a time when the applications shall be heard, with a proviso that license under previous laws shall not be granted later than June 30 of this year.

The fourth section requires applications to be filed three weeks before the hearing that applicants pay the clerks of courts \$5 for publishing the list of applicants and that no licenses shall be granted to sell in grocery stores. The same section provides that mercantile appraisers in cities of first class in January of each year return under oath, together with the list of mercantile taxes, all licensed and unlicensed houses to the clerks of the courts, who shall have the list printed, the mercantile appraiser to receive \$2.50 for every license granted, to be paid by the applicant.

Section five requires to give the name and resident of the applicant, the place desired to be licensed, the place of birth: if naturalized, when naturalized, name of the owner of the premises, and must show that the place is necessary for the accommodation of the public; that the applicant is not in any manner peculiarly interested in the profit of business conducted in any other licensed place in the county; that the applicant is the only person peculiarly interested in the business so asked to be licensed. The applicant must also state whether the license has been revoked during the past year.

Two bondsmen must be reputable freeholders and give security in \$2,000 each and shall not be engaged in the manufacture of intoxicating liquor. The petitioner must verify the petition by affidavit.

Section six requires twelve signers of the proper ward, borough or township. Section seven requires the court to refuse a license if it is shown that the license is not necessary for the accommodation of the public and entertainment of strangers or travelers, or that the applicant is not a fit subject to have license. The court is also empowered to revoke the license if the holder violates any law.

Section eight fixes the rate of license as follows: Cities of first, second and third classes, \$500; other cities \$300; boroughs \$150, and townships \$75. In cities of the first class four-fifths of the money shall be paid for the use of the city and county and one-fifth for the use of the commonwealth; in cities of second and third classes two-fifths shall go to the city, two-fifths to the county and one-fifth to the state; in all other cities and in boroughs, three-fifths to the city or borough, one-fifth to the county and one-fifth to the state; in townships one-fourth to the county, one-fourth to the state and one-half to the townships, the same to be applied to keeping up roads in repair; places receiving parts of licenses shall bear their proportionate share of the expenses attending the collection of the same.

Section nine provides that license be lifted within ten days.

Section ten provides that license shall be issued until the applicant executes a bond to the commonwealth and a warrant of attorney to confess judgment in the penal sum of \$2,000.

Section eleven requires constables the first week in each term of court to report licensed and unlicensed drinking places, wilful disobedience to be followed by suspension from office, the imposition of a fine not exceeding \$500 or imprisonment not exceeding two years.

Section twelve requires that constables to pay monthly visits to places where intoxicating liquors are sold to ascertain if the law is violated, and if so, return the law breakers into court.

Section thirteen requires licenses to be framed under a glass.

Section fourteen provides that if a licensee shall trust or give credit for drinks no action shall be maintained or recovery had in any case for the value of the liquor sold.

Section fifteen imposes a fine of not less than \$500 nor more than \$5,000 and imprisonment of not less than three months nor more than twelve months

for the sale of intoxicating liquors without a license. Persons having a license convicted of violating the license laws shall be fined not less than \$100 nor more than \$500 for the first offense, and not less than \$300 nor more than \$1,000 for the second offense and not exceeding \$5,000 for the third offense or imprisonment not exceeding twelve months. Any person convicted of more than one offense shall not again be licensed and the license of any person permitting the customary visitation of disreputable persons or keeping a disorderly place may upon proof be revoked and the same party shall not again be licensed.

Section sixteen prohibits druggists and apothecaries from selling intoxicating liquors except upon the written prescriptions containing the same may be sold for scientific, mechanical or medicinal purposes.

Section seventeen prohibits sales on election days, on Sunday, to any minor or person of known intemperate habits, or a person visibly affected by intoxicating drinks or on any pass book or order on a store or to receive from any person goods, wares, merchandise or provisions in exchange for liquors.

Section eighteen declares places where liquors are dispensed in violation of law nuisances.

The nineteenth and last section repeals all local laws fixing a license rate less than provided in this bill and provides that none of the provisions of this act shall be held to authorize the sale of intoxicating liquors in places having special prohibitory laws.

### Allentown Chosen.

HARRISBURG, May 11.—The Democratic State Committee met here to-day. Chairman Sanders announced that the first business of the committee was the selection of a date for the State Convention. Several dates were suggested, the 21st of September being mentioned by a number of members. P. Gray Meek thought this date would not allow of sufficient time to transact the business of registration. There was considerable discussion, in which the sentiment appeared to be in favor of an early convention. One member said he believed the strength of the Democratic party in the coming contest depended largely upon the weakness of the Republican candidates. The present Legislature was making a record which would elect the Democratic ticket. He believed in a late date so that the enthusiasm would not evaporate before the time came for casting the ballots. A half dozen speakers ridiculed the suggestion of Mr. Meek that registration had anything to do with the fixing a date. That was a matter to be attended to in the several election districts.

The committee finally got down to a vote upon the date for the convention, the ballot standing as follows: August 17th—August 31, 16; September 7th—September 21, 16. The date of August 31st was fixed unanimously.

The time having been settled, the report of the committee appointed to consider and suggest a plan to secure a more uniform system of Congressional and Senatorial nominations was read by Murray Rute, of Delaware county.

Mr. Uttley, of Mifflin, desired to know what power this committee had to make changes of this sort. It might be a mistake to tinker with the old customs of the party. He thought the report should be admitted as a recommendation only and not adopted until after careful consideration.

After further debate the report was referred back to the committee, with the request that they communicate with the various county chairmen and submit another report at the coming State convention.

The question then came up as to the place for holding the state convention. Mr. Wright asked for the vote by which Harrisburg was selected. It was Harrisburg, 28; Pittsburg, 22; Allentown, 6. He then made a strong plea in favor of Allentown, presenting its hotel, railroad and other advantages, taking occasion to give Harrisburg a slap in the face that was undeserved. Mr. Forie, of Bradford, said of all the places in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for the Democratic State Convention to meet Allentown was the very worst. He related the hard experiences of the last Democratic Convention in that place, much to the amusement of the committee. He concluded with the remark that Allentown did not impress him favorably.

Mr. Stahl said he was rather in favor of giving Allentown a chance, and he thought it would be best to go there this fall, intimating that there would be the least risk to the delegates in the size of the coming convention.

Upon the question of reconsidering the vote by which Harrisburg was selected, the vote was: ayes, 29; nays, 21. The motion being agreed to, Allentown, Harrisburg, Philadelphia and Pittsburg were named as places for holding the next convention. The vote required—Allentown 25, Harrisburg 25. Chairman Sanders then cast his vote in favor of Allentown and the next convention will be held in that city.