

The Centre Democrat.



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

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FRANK E. BIDDLE, Editor.

1888. Democratic County Committee.

- List of names for Democratic County Committee, including N. W. Magee, R. M. Magee, S. W. Magee, etc.

DEMOCRATIC NATIONAL TICKET.

- FOR PRESIDENT GROVER CLEVELAND. FOR VICE PRESIDENT ALLEN G. THURMAN.

DEMOCRATIC STATE TICKET.

- FOR JUDGE OF THE SUPREME COURT. HON. JAMES B. McCOLLUM, OF SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY. AUDITOR GENERAL HENRY MEYER, OF ALLEGHENY COUNTY. ELECTORAL TICKET.

- ELECTORS AT LARGE. R. Milton Speer, A. F. Keatinge. DISTRICT ELECTORS. List of names for district electors.

COUNTY TICKET.

- CONGRESS. JAMES KERR, OF CLEARFIELD. ASSEMBLY. J. H. HOLT. J. T. McCORMICK, Coroner. Dr. JAS. NEFF. Jury Commissioner GEORGE BOWER.

Politics will creep into the business of the Grand Army as witness the action of General Wagner at Columbus, but that is because certain politicians use the G. A. R. for their own selfish purposes...

JAMES KERR, ESQ., of Clearfield, the Democratic nominee for Congress in the 28th Congressional District, composed of the counties of Centre, Clarion, Clearfield, Elk and Forest, is a comparatively young man. He was born in Mifflin county, Pa., October 2nd, 1851, and is therefore not yet thirty-seven years old. Having been left an orphan, without any patrimony, he was dependent upon the common schools of Blair county for his education, having been taken to that county and raised by the father of Dr. D. R. Good, now of Osceola, Pa. While still a boy he was taken by Dr. Good to Clearfield county and spent several years at Osceola, Powelton and Philipburg. In order to find employment and better his condition, he came to Clearfield in 1867 and after various appointments and trials found employment as clerk in the general store of Joseph Shaw & Son, where he remained for three or four years and until he learned the details of the mercantile business. Mr. Kerr then went into the law and insurance office of John H. Fulford, Esq., of Clearfield, for the purpose of qualifying himself for the legal profession. Having studied the musty legal lore for some months, owing to the failing health of Mr. Fulford, Mr. Kerr was induced to take charge of the insurance branch of the business, and thus abandon his legal studies. He soon made so great a success of the insurance business as to drive out of existence three or four other agencies in Clearfield. He established the well-known insurance house of Kerr & Biddle, which still continues under the name of Biddle & Helmbold. In February, 1878, Mr. Kerr was elected to the office of Justice of the Peace for the Borough of Clearfield, and entered upon the duties of the office soon after, and which office he filled acceptably until he resigned it in January, 1881, to enter upon the duties of the office of Prothonotary, of Clearfield county, to which office he had been elected in November, 1880. In 1883 he was re-elected Prothonotary, and served two full terms. His administration of this important county office was characterized by intelligence, care, accuracy and fidelity. On his retirement from the office of Prothonotary in January, 1887, Mr. Kerr became interested in the lumber business, and also quite largely in the coal business in connection with Messrs. Weaver & Betts and other leading citizens. He is at present the General Manager of the Cuba and O'Shanter Mines, and also interested in the Woodland Kennel Coal operation. The companies under the management of Mr. Kerr are mining and shipping from eight hundred to one thousand tons per day. Mr. Kerr is a man of unusual energy and much more than ordinary intelligence. He is well versed in the history of political parties and political questions, and discusses them with clearness and force. While interested in two of the protected industries he is opposed to taxing the many for the benefit of the few. He is a man of good address and makes an interesting and instructive public speech. If elected to Congress, of which there can be no doubt, he will make an active, energetic and efficient member of that body. He is a very genial gentleman, and very popular in Clearfield county and wherever he is known and will run a very large vote. He should receive the vote of every Democrat in Centre county.

representative of the Valley Spirit the other day. "I do not intend to vote for John Stewart for Judge and many of my Republican neighbors feel as I do. You may couple my name with my declaration now or reserve it until another time as you may see proper." "Do I understand that you authorize me to make public use of your statement?" "Undoubtedly," was the answer. "I want it known that I am against Mr. Stewart, because I believe those of his party who are opposed to him should speak with the same boldness used by him six years ago when he defiantly antagonized the regularly nominated Republican candidate for Governor and by the votes he secured for himself defeated one of the bravest Republican soldiers in the State." "Six years ago," the gentleman continued, "Mr. Stewart left the Republican party. He then spoke openly in every part of the State against its candidate and its platform. I have never heard that he has taken back a single word then uttered. He has, therefore, no claims upon the Republican party." "I am aware," said the gentleman when further interrogated, "that this is not a political office and that Mr. Stewart's Independent friends so insist very well, then; so much the better reason R-publicans have for voting for Judge Kimmell. Judge Kimmell has shown himself in every way qualified for the place. He has shown a continuance in political principles these many years which becomes a considerable, determined man. He has not vacillated, he has not been intolerant, he has not been denunciatory. Can this be said of the so-called Republican candidate? If this is not a political office then let Republicans vote the more freely for the man who by age, experience, coolness of judgment, freedom from prejudice, evenness of temper, and constancy of political faith he believes best fitted for the place." "Do not misunderstand me, continued the gentleman. When I speak of what others should do and what should control them I do not say that like considerations move me. I am against Mr. Stewart for political reasons. I would have most gladly voted for Judge Rowe, Mr. Mahon, or any other competent Republican. But I believe Mr. Stewart's election would effectually demoralize the Republican party in this county. It would set a premium on vicious political kicking that would never be, that ought never to be overlooked. Mr. Stewart has a right, it is his duty, to fall into line and work for Republican success if he will but it is not his right to claim at the hands of the Republicans of the county elevation to the highest office within their gift and demand this with an imperiousness exceeding that ever displayed by the most faithful and continuous worker. I am against Mr. Stewart, in short, because he beat Beaver; I am against him because I am a better Republican than he is. I do not say that Mr. Stewart will not be elected, added the gentleman when asked what he thought of the outlook, for I do not pretend to know anything about the probable result. I am simply determined to do my whole duty in the matter and let the result take care of itself. I am fully aware of the purposes of his friends and managers to win success for him at great labor and cost rather than lose it all. I have seen some of their work in my own neighborhood. It is of a character, to put it mildly, not calculated to excite any new respect for an aspirant for a Judicial office. It is not the kind of 'electioneering' that Judge Kimmell's friends are conducting, I am glad to say. I will talk to you later, said the gentleman as he was leaving, and whenever you choose to make use of my name you may do so. And as we go along it may be well for the SPEAKER to state if there is any local Republican paper that doubts

the genuineness of the Republican who has here spoken and will agree to make public the interview as above recorded and in the manner we shall suggest the name of the speaker is at the service of that journal. Organize Clubs. The most potential factor in the Presidential contest this year in Pennsylvania will be Democratic societies. Chauncey F. Black, President of the State Society, has issued a circular urging upon Democrats the importance of organizing such societies of clubs, in every quarter of the State. The work has already taken firm root in Bucks county. The number of clubs in the county is now gratifyingly large. But there should be a Democratic society in every hamlet. In towns and large villages, flourishing and well-equipped marching clubs are easily maintained, but in the smaller villages, where there are fewer voters, big marching clubs are not practicable for obvious reasons. In such cases we would suggest that the Democrats meet at any convenient place and organize a society with president, vice president, secretary and treasurer. If it is not desirable, they need not hold big formal meetings. Subscribe for a good magazine, like Belford's, and a few Democratic daily and weekly papers. Many a pleasant and profitable evening could be spent reading and discussing the political news, and studying the important and interesting question of tariff reform. No matter where the locality, there will nearly always be a few Republicans who agree with the Democrats on the tariff question; invite these in and extend to them the courtesies of the society. Let the best readers in your society occasionally read aloud the Mills bill, Mr. Cleveland's message or letter of acceptance, or a speech such as Carlisle's, Mills', McMillin's or Scott's. These meetings would be productive of great good to the party and members. Next Thursday afternoon and evening, September 27th, it is proposed to hold, simultaneously, a meeting by every Democratic club or society in the State. Every club in the county, we have heard from has signified its intention of meeting on that evening. In districts where there are no clubs, this would be a very favorable opportunity to form one. Then let there be at least one club or society in every election district in the county. Let Democrats enter into this matter with earnestness and they will contribute much thereby to a grand and glorious triumph of Democratic men and principles in November. Farmers, Look at This Two Prices. Whenever protected manufacturers in this country sell their products abroad at prices much lower than those exacted from buyers in the home market it may fairly be inferred that a large part of the duty is not required for protection, but is used as an instrument for extorting unjust profits from home consumers. It may also be inferred that prices in the home market are fixed by a combination or an agreement that prevents competition. There was published some days ago in the Mail of Hagerstown, Md., the following interesting letter from the firm of LANDER & BROTHER, which has two stores, one at Eagle Pass, Texas, and the other immediately across the Rio Grande, at Piedras Negras, in Mexico: PIEDRAS NEGRAS, Mex. Aug. 9, 1888. Mr. Walter Negley, Hagerstown, Md. DEAR SIR: YOURS of the 2d at hand. In reply take pleasure in giving you the figures asked for as nearly as possible. First, in regard to shovels. Our shovels bought for our Eagle Pass store cost us about \$6 per dozen, exclusive of freight. Our shovels of the same class and material cost us laid down in Piedras [just across the river] \$2.91 per dozen. Another item: Agate iron-ware cannot be bought for delivery

anywhere in the United States at better than 35 per cent. discount. In Piedras Negras we can buy the same articles from the same houses at 60 per cent. discount. The list is the same in both cases. These are not the only articles. DISSTON's saws can be bought with an additional 20 per cent. discount, showing that the manufacturers could sell in home markets in competition with the outside producers. These figures are only a partial list. Every article known to the hardware trade can be bought from American manufacturers for export cheaper than they can for home consumption. Hoping that this will answer your purpose, we remain, very truly yours, A. J. LANDER & BRO. The Mail says that the shovels referred to are the Ames shovels, manufactured in New England. This letter shows that the Mexican laborer or employer of labor can buy American shovels for less than half the price which the American laborer or employer on the other side of the river must pay, and that similar discrimination is shown with regard to other articles. Now, if the protected manufacturer can afford to sell shovels in Mexico for \$2.91, he can afford to sell them for much less than \$6 to buyers in the home market and still make a large profit. Why is he able to exact \$6 from the home buyer? The tariff duty raises a barrier that shuts out foreign competition, and by means of a compact of some kind with other manufacturers of similar goods he is enabled to prevent competition at home, so that he can safely demand in the home market a price much higher than the price for which he sells in Mexico or some other foreign country. Investigation would show a similar discrimination against home buyers and in favor of buyers in foreign countries with respect to many other protected products. Before the French syndicate obtained control of the world's copper the great copper mining companies of this country sold their copper abroad at prices much lower than those which the consumers in the United States were compelled to pay for it. They could not have done this if a tariff duty of more than 40 per cent. had not prevented the importation of copper to be sold in competition with their own. They were enabled by this duty to rob the very people who had yielded to their appeal for protection and had caused the duty to be imposed for the protection of the mines. The price is now fixed by the syndicate. The formation of ring combinations to extort high prices in the home market, and the sale of the products of rings in foreign markets at prices much lower than those demanded and obtained at home, show how grateful some of the protected manufacturers are for the protection which has been given to them by the votes of the people. TAXATION is a necessary evil, incident to all forms of government. Such being the case, to render the evil less burdensome it is the duty of governments to practice rigid economy. No more taxes should be collected than absolutely necessary to carry on the business of the government. A tariff is a tax. The higher the tariff (tax) the greater the burden. The consumer pays the tariff (tax) on every article dutiable. Taxation adds to no mans wealth unless he is benefited by the increased price of his manufactured product, and that increased price comes off the consumer. A reduction from 47 per cent to 42 per cent can not be called free trade. -The work of moving the old depot has begun and is progressing as rapidly as can be expected. The building is very large and will be difficult to move.

CHARITY. A beggar died last night, his soul Went up to God, and said: "I come uncalled; forgive it, Lord; I died for want of bread." Then answered him the Lord of Heaven: "Son, how can this thing be? Are not my saints on earth? and they Had surely succored thee." "Thy saints, O Lord," the beggar said, "Live holy lives of prayer; How shall they know of such as we! We perish unaware. They strive to save our wicked souls, And fit them for the sky; Meanwhile, not having bread to eat, (Forgive!) our bodies die." Then the Lord God spake out of heaven: "In wrath and angry pain: "O men, for whom My Son hath died, My Son hath lived in vain!" - Arthur Symonds.

A Big Corruption Fund. The announcement made in the Record on Saturday that half a million dollars had been assessed upon the manufacturers of Philadelphia and Pittsburgh; to be used in securing the election of Harrison and Morton, showed like a flash of light the desperate energy and the dangerous quality of Republican leadership. This money is not asked for, nor paid, out of any sentimental regard for the Republican candidates. Except to the extent of the magnetism to be extracted from Mr. Morton's plethoric purse there is no spontaneity in the popular regard for the Chicago ticket. The struggle has settled down into a determined effort, on the one side, to reduce burdensome taxation where it bears with most grievous weight, and, on the other side, to prevent such reduction as shall curb or modify the taxes imposed solely for the benefit of favored interests. The people of the United States are slowly opening their eyes and beginning to understand the real nature of the contest. The evident drift of opinion is in favor of Tax Reduction on the lines indicated by President Cleveland's Message. The confidence of the astute Republican leaders in the stolid assent of workmen to the idea that high taxes insure high wages has been rudely disturbed. They dare not trust an unbiased decision. They are now gathering money together to buy with cash the votes which they can no longer hold by sophistical persuasion. The vast sums of money gathered into the hands of expert and daring political brokers will be expended in the effort to carry New York, Indiana, New Jersey and Connecticut—Democratic States that are necessary to Republican success.

This thing is not done in a corner. It is an open, systematic, shameless, cold-blooded assault upon the purity of the elective franchise in the critical exercise of its highest function. No patriot, no lover of his country or of his kind can regard such a proceeding without alarm and indignation. There is not a subscriber to this fund in Philadelphia or Pittsburg who has not made his money out of the system of favoritism in taxation which he seeks to perpetuate. There is not one of them that does not know the improper uses to which money in the hands of Chairman Quay will certainly be put. They are, therefore, in the attitude of taking money which they have been enabled by indirection to gather out of the pockets of the people at the ballotbox and to defeat a fair expression of the popular will. The conscience of men has become so deadened by a long indulgence in legalized leeching of the product of labor, and by patient acquiescence on the part of the masses, that a political levy of vast sums of money is treated as a matter of course. The shadow of commercial disaster impends over the country, through taxation in excess even of the extravagant expenditures, and opposition to moderate and careful reduction would seem to be nothing less than partisan madness. Unjust taxation for needful purposes is bad enough; but when money is unjustly taken in excess of the need of the taker the wantonness of power can go no further. The "Trusts," and combinations, and monopolies that are trying to save themselves from the popular wrath by pushing their checks into the hands where they think they will do the most good, are perhaps building better than they know. If their bol game shall set the American people to thinking there may be some amazing work done in November.

-A German band, composed of seven members, is in town to-day furnishing music to the inhabitants.