The Centre Democrat.

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

TERMS: $1.00 Per Annum.

VOL 10. BELLEFONTE, PA., THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 22 1888. NO. 46

The Centre Democrat.

TERMS, $1.00 Per Annum in Advance.

1888.
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A CHANGE OF BASE.

During the recent campaign few intelligent men believed that the Republicans were sincere in their stand on the tariff. The *Patriot* hits the nail on the head when it says: "By reading the organs of the Republican party since the election one would think that that political organization had elected General Harrison on the issue that the present tariff system needs revision.

These monopolistic newspapers are now telling the people that the Republican congress, acting upon the suggestion of President Harrison, will, in its eagerness to adjust the tariff inequalities, hold an extra session.

This is certainly a surprising] announcement in view of the fact that but a few weeks ago the people were informed that the tariff is all right; that it affords ample protection to the 'American workingman' and that its revision would undoubtedly flood the country with goods of foreign manufacture.

The attitude of the Republicans since the election is easily explained. On the 6th of November the intelligent workingmen who refused to be guided by prejudice or swayed by false alarms voted against the candidates of the high tariff party as the returns from the labor districts throughout the country show. These men cast their ballots for freedom from monopolistic slavery and the 'grand old party' sees the handwriting on the wall.

But the Republicans will not revise the tariff so as to benefit the great mass of people, for they dare not. The contributions of monopolists to the amount of three millions of dollars defeated Grover Cleveland and tariff reform and the men who gave the Republican national committee this money will see to it that no tariff bill passes congress that would take one penny from their colossal profits."

It is foolish for the Democratic party to make a fight for doubtful congressional districts even if they might be secured and thereby hold the balance of power for the party in that branch of legislation. In the Virginias several districts will be contested and Matt. Quay is looking after things. We would say, give the Repubs. full sway, from the little post-offices in the rural districts up to the Presidency, and by all means a working majority in congress. Let them have the power and bear the responsibility, and if their administration will be a wise one, so much the better for the people. The New York *Sun* takes a sensible view of the situation when it says: Patriotic and farsighted Democrats will not despond even if it shall prove that the Republicans have secured the House of Representatives together with a preponderance in the Senate. Such a situation has its drawbacks and advantages. It deprives the party in power of any excuse for postponing positive action on the pressing questions of the hour, and fixes upon them undivided responsibility for federal legislation. The Democrats know by experience the temptations and the perils incident to unlimited control of the national government. Such control was theirs when they returned to office in 1852. The result was the passage of the Nebraska bill, from whose disastrous consequences it took them a generation to recover.

BLAINE FOR THE CABINET.

A New York special to the *Press* says that "the news comes to this city in a semi-official way that General Harrison has determined to invite Mr. Blaine to a place in his Cabinet, and that the Maine statesman will accept."

If this announcement shall prove to be correct, it will be a sore disappointment to many scores of thousands of sincere Republicans who gave a positive support to General Harrison. The one thing that hung like a cloud over Harrison in the contest and made many hesitate in the early part of the campaign, was the apprehension that Mr. Blaine would be returned to the State Department to dominate the administration as he did Garfield's when he disrupted the party in the brief period of three months.

Mr. Blaine is a leader; not a follower. He is nothing if not master, and his return to the State portifolio under Harrison would at once create wide distrust not only in the Senate and House, but throughout the country. It was the distrust of Blaine as the party ruler that lost the battle of 1884, and he would rule more wisely as President with his responsibility clearly defined, than as Premier with the responsibility upon President.

Clay could never accept a Cabinet position under a successful rival. He knew that he could not be subordinate and he never thought of it. He could have been in the Cabinet of Harrison or of Taylor, but he was then "leader of leaders," as Blaine is now, and the man who is greeted as master by the multitude cannot be servant in the party household.

There is an irresistible logic of events that must follow a master leader like Blaine. If he goes into the administration, he will dissever the party power; if he stays out of the administration, he will become its antagonist. It was Clay's imperious assertion of his leadership that drove Tyler into apostacy; that antagonized Taylor and that drifted Fillmore into absolute estrangement from those who had elected him. Blaine is only human, as was Clay, and in the Cabinet he would be master or retire.

Clay was defeated by the people in 1844; was again defeated for the nomination in 1848, and he returned to the Senate, where he ended his life. Blaine was defeated by the people in 1884; was again defeated for the nomination in 1888, and the one position that he could accept with dignity is a seat in the Senate, where, like Clay, remain for life. It is not likely that he would be much of an administration Senator, but he would be the first Senator of the Republic, and that is the honor that would best crown the public career of the Plumed Knight of Maine.—*Phila. Times.*

THE BUSINESS OUTLOOK.

Commerce, industry and trade have their own laws, and they advance or halt only in obedience to them, whether logical or illogical. They always do more or less waiting on the result of a Presidential contest, and when the battle is over the hesitation ends, as a rule and business takes a fresh start, no matter how the election is decided. Had Cleveland been re-elected, there would not have been a ripple on the surface of business; the country would have speedily adjusted itself to the new revenue policy, and industry would have quickened under the inspiration of cheapened raw material, cheapened products, and an increased demand for labor? With Harrison elected, there is special confidence in the continuance of protection to employers, and industrial enterprise will quicken on the old lines.

There is one great source of confidence in all business circles, and that is the general solvency of the people throughout the whole country. The crops have been abundant in every general division of the Union. Here and there partial failures have been suffered, as in portions of Kansas, where there is absolute want for food among the farmers because of the sweeping destruction of crops, but taking the crops of the country North and South they are abundant and we will have our millions of wheat to export with our millions of cotton. There is everything, therefore to justify the assumption that the country has another year of substantial prosperity before it, with every prospect of the steady growth of wealth.

The only serious menance to continued prosperity of the Union is in the rapid tendency to combine capital for the purpose of increasing the cost of necessaries to consumers. It is assumed that the veridict of the election warrants the continuance and enlargement of this obvious danger to the common prosperity of the people. This is a grave peril to the substantial success of both capital and consumers, and if it shall become an accepted or tolerated policy of the new administration, nothing in the future could be more certain than the early reversal of that policy by political revolution. The late contest long trembled in the balance on that single issue, and but for the sectional distrust that entered into the conflict, there would have been a popular admonition on the question that none would dare to disobey. No greater error could be committed than to assume that because the people voted against the tariff policy of the present administration, they will tolerate the indefinite continuance of extortionate exactions upon consumers.

The consumers of the country are the people; the whole people. Those who by concentrated capital have been oppressing consumers, are the very few who oppress the many; and it is unwise as it is unjust to assume that the consumers of this free land are the mere hewers of wood and drawers of water for centralized wealth. The power of the nation is not in its capital but in its people; and every consideration of business expendiency as well as every consideration of common justice, demands that capital shall not impair the consuming power of consumers arbitrary cost of the necessaries of life. The country can be wholesome and substantial in prosperity only when its consumers are cheaply supplied. They then enlarge their consumdtion, quicken trade and multiply industry; and if centralized wealth shall not appreciate this fact it will soon go into history as a colossal suicide.

The country has every thing to make its commerce, industry and trade prosperous with the single exception of the one grave menace of centralized wealth to the consumers of the land; and the natural and the simple remedy for that in the hands of capitalists. If they shall liberalize the policy of capital, they will have greater profits in the end and the certainty of continued prosperity; if they shall seek to multiply oppresssion upon consumers, the inalienable right of revolution will surely come, and like all revolution, it will sweep beyond the lines of justice in its retaliative strike. Let justice to consumers become a visible element in the employment of capital, and the future prosperity of the Union must grandly surpass its greatest prosperity of history.—*Phila. Times.*

KEELY, the inventor of the mysterious motor which has been for years the wonder of experts and scientists, was committed to jail on Saturday, at Philadelphia for contempt of court. He was ordered by court to reveal his invention to his stock holders but refused to proceed.

THE ELECTION AS TO WOOL.

The largest wool growing States in the Union are Texas, Ohio, and California. These are the States in which, if anywhere, we ought to look for Republican gains by reason of the Democratic demand for free wool. But what is the complexion of the returns from these States? The returns from Texas are unimportant in any case, the Democratic majority being so large, and at present insufficient to base a comparrison upon; but in Ohio and California, strange as it must appear to the high-tariff mind, the Democrats have actually gained votes. In Ohio Mr. Blaine's plurality four years ago was 31,802. This year Mr. Harrison's plurality is less than 22,000. In California Blaine had 13,128 plurality, but Harrison's plurality is so small that at this moment the State is claimed by both sides. So much for the wool growing States. Let us now glance at the cities and states where wool manufacturing is an important branch of industry. Probably Rhode Island is the most important centre of this industry. What do we find here? In the city of Providence Blaine had 1,864 plurality; Harrison has now only 488. In Pantucket Blaine had 451; Harrison has 266. In the whole State Blaine had 6,639; Harrison has 4,427.

New Hampshire is also extensively engaged in wool manufacturing. In Manchester the largest manufacturing town, Blaine had 587 plurality; Harrison now has 391. In the whole state Blaine had 4,066; Harrison has 2,748.

The city of Philadelphia is probably the largest wool manufacturing centre in the whole country. Here Mr. Blaine had 30,000 plurality four years ago; now Mr. Harrison has 18,065. Norwich, Connecticut is another important wool manufacturing point. In that city Blaine had 431 plurality; Harrison has 99. In Waterbury Cleveland had 491 in 1884; his plurality is now increased to 749. In Bridgeport his plurality of 576 is increased to 678. In Meriden his plurality of 51 increased to 341. Throughout Connecticut, as a general rule, the Democrats have gained in the manufacturing towns and lost in the rural districts. They have gained where there was opportunity for discussion and the mingling together of people and comparison of views.

Now, these results cannot be due to chance. They show incontestably that instead of being injured by the demand for free wool, the Democrats gained in both directions; they gained alike in the wool growing and in the wool manufacturing districts. The Proof stands before us clear and distinct that wool in national politics has been all these years—ever since the scandalous tariff of 1867 was passed, in a false light, a jack-o-lantern frightening both parties without rhyme or reason. We said at the beginning of the contest that the national wool growers association was a shell and a myth so far as votes were concerned. We quoted as evidence of this fact testimony of Mr. John Q. Smith, of Oakland, Ohio. himself one of the large wool growers of the state, but a man of enlightenment, who knows that tariffs do not benefit wool-growers. Testimony to show that wool tariffs are harmful to manufacturers and operatives was produced abundantly in the campaign, and now the returns prove that both manufacturers and operatives knows this to be true.

What will be the effect of these unexpected disclosures on the Republican party? In the first place, the Senate Tariff Bill, which puts an additional tax of one cent per pound on wool costing less than thirty cents per pound—that is, the bulk of imported wool—will be modified, and probably a reduction of duty all around will be made. Mr. J. S. Clarkson, the Republican committeeman for Iowa, is quoted in a morning paper as saying;

"The northern States are in favor of a revision and reduction of the tariff, but they have shown by their votes that they wish to intrust the matter to the friends of protection. If, as the present returns would seem to indicate, we have elected a majority in the lower House of Congress, we will pass a tariff bill in the fifty-first Congress maternally reducing the taxes."

We judge that Iowa will be quite ready to begin by reducing duties on wool, seeing that her flocks have declined, since the tariff of 1867 was passed from 2,399,425 to 425,498.—*N. Y Weekly Post.*

CHIEF JUSTICE FULLER proves to be well fitted for his position.

A Washington Letter.

From our Regular Correspondent.

WASHINGTON, NOV. 16, 1888.

Now is the winter of Democratic discontent, and the few, very few that President Cleveland has appointed to office here in Washington, are gloomily awaiting the fourth of March and the official axe. Four years ago, when it became evident that the Democratic president would not turn the rascals out, I wrote these words: "The general who makes battle with an army composed of traitors will be shot in the back, and he deserves his fate." Now this is precisely what has happened to Mr. Cleveland. This is one of the causes of his taking off. If it were only the taking off of an individual it would not matter so much, but the Democratic party, through no fault of its own, is doomed to four years of dirty eclipse.

It was amusing to go through the Government offices here immediately after the election, and study the faces of the many republican clerks in contrast with the faces of the sprinkling of democrats who have in some mysterious way gotten into office. The former were trying to look lugubrious at the defeat of their friends, the enemy, while the latter were smiling desperately at their own grief. High comedy has furnished few things better to the indifferent onlooker, but behind it all was that terriblest of tragedies, the battle of life, in which not the fit, but only the fittest survive.

Among democratic politicians here and elsewhere, the cursing is both loud and deep Mr. Cleveland has received something like a ton of mail denouncing him for his lack of political common sense, for his obstinacy against advice, in short for his failure to 'hold the fort.' Those who sent and are sending these letters may as well know that the President never sees them. He has several clerks whose business is to select and burn all such letters.

The Republicans held what was intended to be a grand parade and celebration this week, but from inherent reasons it was a poor and almost disgraceful affair, participated in mostly by a rabble of negroes and negro boys. Nearly every Republican family in the city have husbands, brothers, sons, daughters, cousins, and aunts who have been retained in office by the present administration. They know who feeds them, and they looked on in silence as the dirty coons, to the number of three thousand, passed along with their Chinese lanterns and transparencies, indecent with such inscriptions as "Grover, your day is over": "Benedict & Co. have gone out": "Hurrah once more Grover's been kicked out the White House door.

It is too early to talk about 1892, but many democrats here, in and out of office, are talking about it, and the thrift of their talk, or I might say their feeling is, that while Mugwumpry is dead, Democracy is immortal, and that no temporary defeat, much less a betrayal, can smother its eternal fire, or derasinate its love from the human heart. It lived through eight years of the despotism of Grant; four years of the usurpation of Hayes with its sequelae of Garfield, and four years more of victory without its fruits. It can certainly survive this galvanization of republicans.

It seems to be accepted as a fact among Mr. Blaine's friends here, that he should be made either Secretary of State or Minister to England. No one doubts that he could have either position but it is a mooted question whether he would accept. No credence is given to the report that he would like to succeed Senator Frye. There is an impression here that Mr. Blaine would prefer to remain out of the Cabinet, but as the leader of his party, having a potent voice in making up the Cabinet and distributing the offices. It is understood here that Mr. Blaine will live in Washington next winter.

It is believed that Senator Stanford of California will have a Cabinet nomination. His subscription to the Republican campaign fund was enormous, stupendous, big. The President-elect and Standford were personal friends, when in the Senate together. It is not thought the California Senator wants anything for himself, but his friends of the Pacific Slope want all they can get.

I may say, however, that Cabinet making at this early day by even the best posted, is premature. American slate makers cannot make the Cabinet of the incoming president. He is reputed to have a little mind of his own, and some diminutive minds have a great deal of obstinacy and self-assertion. It is probable that somebody will be surprised when on the afternoon of March 4, 1889, the Cabinet of President Harrison is announced.

HANGED AT LEBANON.

William Showers Pays the Penalty for the Murder of his Grandsons.

Wednesday last William Showers, a German aged sixty years, was hanged at Lebanon for the murder of his two little grandsons near Annville on the night of May 16, 1887. The readers of the DEMOCRAT are, no doubt, familiar with the history of the crime. He killed them by taking them out of bed and choking them to death with a strong cord. Then he beat out their brains and buried the bodies in the garden. They were illegitimate children of a deceased daughter, and lived with him. He put them to death so that he could marry a woman named Betsy Sargent, and they would not be in the way. He was arrested May 30th, and on a search being made the bodies were found. Showers made a confession, detailing the method of murder and implicating Betsy Sargent, but the woman plainly showed that she was innocent and knew nothing whatever of the crime. On December 18th, Showers was convicted of murder in the first degree, and on January 14th, 1888, he was sentenced to be hanged. Both the Supreme Court and Board of Pardons declined to interfere, and the Governor fixed Wednesday last for his execution. In the beginning of last May Showers escaped by digging through the wall, but he did not go far. He was captured within a week near Annville, and after he returned a watch was kept on him up to the moment he left his cell to expiate his crime.

A CLAMOROUS CROWD

of several hundred surged from one side of the street to another on the morning of the execution and pushed against the jail door in their vain efforts to get in. Those who had business inside almost had their clothing torn off in reaching the door. Inside the jail were the jury, a number of attorneys and the reporters. About the scaffold hung a small knot of men who conversed in whispers and called one another's attention to the fact that just nine years ago to date old man Drews and Charlie Stichler, two of the Blue-Eyed Six, were hanged on the same gallows for the murder of old man Raber, in Indian Gap. Several reporters were admitted to Showers' cell, and found him still reading his Bible.

"What parts of the Bible are your favorites?" one asked Showers.

"The thirty-fifth Psalm and that part of Kings that refers to Joseph being persecuted by his brethren," answered theold man, and the look on his face betokened that he, too, thought himself the victim of persecution.

THE DOORS OPENED.

At 10:30 the doors were thrown open and the clamorous crowd was admitted. They flocked into the jail yard with jest and laugh and seemed to think it a holiday. Many of them were old-time Annville friends of Showers, one of them Seibert, the man to whom he confessed the awful crime. They had been with him in life and they came to see him off. The crowd stood around the scaffold and chatted and laughed and smoked cheap cigars, and with big eyes watched the adjusting of the rope and the soaping of the noose that it might slip easier.

Meanwhile Showers had put on the clothes in which he was to be hanged. They were of black cloth, and as he donned them he talked with his attorney Colonel A. Frank Seltzer, and told him he had done his duty. He left a letter to Colonel Seltzer to his (Showers') sons, in which he instructed them to bury him beside his wife in the graveyard at Annville. As Showers put on his coat Colonel Seltzer pinned a white chrysanthemum in the button hole, when the old man remarked: "This coat is rather dusty. Where has it been hanging?"

MARCH TO THE GALLOWS.

At 11 o'clock exactly Colonel Seltzer opened the door and asked, "are you ready?" The answer "Yes" came back, and Sheriff Yordy was informed. With Deputy Gerberich the Sheriff went to the cell and soon appeared at the head of the stairs the trio, Sheriff, Showers leaning on the arm of Rev. Heil, and Colonel Seltzer. As the old man passed down the steps he shook hands with the reporters and bade them good-bye, in a cool, nonchalant way. At the foot of the stairs four more deputies fell in and then the reporters two by two. Then they marched to the gallows. The jurors and physicians were already there. Supported by the minister the doomed man ascended the steps, followed by Colonel Seltzer, who shook hands with him and retired. Then the minister prayed fervently, and while his voice was lifted Showers stood complacently, his hands crossed, his right hand holding his black slouch hat.

UNDER THE NOOSE.

The noose dangled above him and swung against his right arm, but he never heeded it. He never trembled, and never moved beyond the swaying motion of a man physically weak left standing alone. When the prayer was over the young minister shook him by the hand, said good-bye and descended the steps Showers stood alone on the scaffold. He looked as if he wanted to talk, but his tongue refused to move. He looked up at the bright, blue heavens, glanced at the crowds on the house top opposite, and it may be he noticed the photographer who "took" him on the spot. For only a few moments did he thus stand alone. As he replaced his hat on his head four men quickly mounted the steps and while Messrs. Adams and Earnest adjusted the straps about his arms, knees and feet, Messrs. Yordy and Gerberich handcuffed him. Then Major Earnest put the rope around his neck, slipping the knot well under the left ear. The crowd shuddered. Sheriff Yordy, turning to the old man, said:

"Have you anything to say?"

"Not a word, thank you," came clear and distinct from Showers.

GAME TO THE LAST.

Sheriff Yordy placed the white cap over Snowers' head, said good-bye to him and left the scaffold. There was a sound of falling props during which the old man's legs were observed to tremble violently. There was a sharp snap of the spring, the doors of the platform parted and at 11:08 William Showers had paid the death penalty. In the drop the knot of the noose slipped up under the left ear, pulling with it the white cap and exposing the neck and ear. The crowd was silent as death as the body spun around a couple of times and then was still, and then a cry from a hoodlum on the housetop broke the stillness by an announcement to the crowd below of "The drop's fell! He's gone." There was a pressure toward the scaffold as curious men sought to get a better view of the lifeless figure. A woman on the housetop leveled her opera glass at the inanimate form of the little old man, and the photographer near her "took" another picture. Fifty watches were out to note the time of the cessation of the heart beats, which did not occur until the expiration of seventeen minutes, according to half a dozen physicians who alternately felt his pulse or laid their ears to the old man's heart.