

The Centre Democrat.

VOL. II.

BELLEFONTE, PA., THURSDAY, MARCH 21, 1889.

NO. 12.

The Centre Democrat.

CHAS. R. KURTZ, - - - EDITOR.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

Regular Price \$1.00 per year.
When Paid in Advance \$1.00 " "
When subscriptions are not paid inside of three years \$2.00 will be charged.
These terms will be strictly adhered to in every case.

Democratic County Committee, 1889.

- Bellefonte, N. W. C. M. Bower
 - " " S. W. Patrick Garrety
 - " " W. W. Joseph W. Gross
 - Centre Hall Borough J. W. McCormick
 - Howard Borough M. I. Gardiner
 - Millsburg Borough J. Willis Weaver
 - Milheim Borough C. W. Hartman
 - Phillipsburg, 1st W. J. D. Ritter
 - " " 2d W. J. H. Hilley
 - " " 3d W. Jackson Gordon
 - Unionville Borough L. J. Bing
 - Benner John Mechtley
 - Boggs, N. P. Philip Confer
 - " " W. P. T. F. Adams
 - " " E. P. H. L. Barnhart
 - College Daniel Grove
 - Curtin T. S. DeLong
 - Ferguson, E. P. John T. McCormick
 - " " W. P. Samuel Harper Jr.
 - Gregg, S. P. Geo. B. Crawford
 - " " N. P. Hugh McCann
 - Haines, E. P. C. A. Bowersox
 - " " W. P. C. A. Weaver
 - Haltmoon Wm. Bailey
 - Harris C. F. Meyer
 - Howard Franklin Dietz
 - Huston John Q. Miles
 - Liberty D. W. Herring
 - Marion Harry McDowell
 - Miles J. J. Gramley
 - Patton W. L. Mees
 - Penn. W. F. Smith
 - Potter, N. P. R. F. Arney
 - " " S. P. G. L. Goodheart
 - Rush, S. P. Hugh McCann
 - " " S. P. R. C. Wilcox
 - Snow Shoe, W. P. Patrick Kelly
 - " " E. P. R. J. Hayes, Jr.
 - Spring J. N. Brooks
 - Taylor Wm. T. Hoover
 - Union Aaron Fahr
 - Walker J. H. McCanley
 - Worth Levi Reese
- WM. C. HEINLE, Chairman.

CONGRESSMEN want their salary increased from \$5,000 to \$10,000 per year. A natural course of events, that.

Who will get the Bellefonte post office? Is the question that has not been settled for the public. Gen. Hastings likely knows all about it.

ALTHOUGH the stories of extraordinary discoveries of gold in Lower California have been denied categorically by well-informed persons who have traversed the field, the rush of Californians across the frontier continues with scarcely any abatement. It is fortunate for adventurous people in the East, who might otherwise have set out for the vaunted El Dorado, that contradiction followed so promptly and so completely after the glowing tales of fabulous wealth to be washed from the placer diggings of that desolate region.

WHAT the Pennsylvania iron manufacturers call overproduction is merely under-consumption, due to the artificial prices which have been extracted ever since the control of the country's iron works became a motive for seeking Government bounties in the way of restrictive duties upon competing products. There can never be in reality an oversupply of iron so long as buildings and bridges, ships and machinery and the thousand utensils of the home and workshop remain to be furnished for mankind. The iron king should take a leaf from the experience of the Standard Oil Trust—the only monopoly with brains in this country. The Standard managers popularized oil by cheapening it and extending the market for it.

WE endorse the following, from the Altoona Tribune: The electoral franchise is not a natural right, but a privilege conferred by Government upon certain conditions. In this Commonwealth the ballot is practically free to all native or naturalized citizens. When a native reaches the age of 21 he becomes a citizen and is given a vote without regard to his intelligence, his knowledge or his moral character. Thereafter so long as he complies with the conditions of residence and pays a small county tax every two years, he has the privilege of helping to choose our officers from President to Constable. In this country the tax on non-property holders is about 40 cents, and he who pays this sum in two years may vote. Surely the man who cannot contribute twenty-five cents a year toward the maintenance of the county Government is poor indeed. We hold that a man who gives nothing towards the support of the state, ordinarily, is not interested in the prosperity of the state and has but little appreciation of the necessity for good and honest officials. Of course there are some good citizens who have been unfortunate; prison could be made for these. But there are many who have regularly looked to have their taxes paid who add nothing to the dignity of citizenship or the security of the state and whose disfranchisement would not be followed by disastrous results.

ARE WE GROWING BETTER.

A NEW YORK DIVINE ANSWERS THE QUESTION.

Great Improvement in All Departments of Society—Crime Decreasing, and Morals Better.

The New York Independent asks the question of prominent writers, in answer Rev. Crosby of that city, has the following to say on the subject:

Is New York growing better? I can compare New York to-day with New York fifty years ago from my personal observation. I was then preparing to enter college, which I entered the ensuing year.

At that time the city did not extend beyond Union Square, and it contained only 200,000 inhabitants. There were no street cars, and omnibuses had been running but a few years. The streets were lighted with whale-oil lamps, and we had but lately laid aside the flint and tinder for lucifer matches. There was no Croton; but we pumped our water from wells. Gas had been introduced into stores, but not into private houses. There was no police force. A few constables, not marked by any uniform, took care of the public peace, and at night a few watchmen slept in favorable corners. Hogs roamed *ad libitum* through the streets, the filth and stench of which were a permanent abomination. The streets were paved with cobblestones, and carriages were jolted through hollows and over humps, while deep gutters at the street-crossings were formidable *saides* to pass over.

Elections were always seasons of disturbance. There was but one polling place in each ward, and the election lasted three days. Hence the roughs had it their own way, and a decent hat or coat was a signal for assault. The fire engines were managed by private companies and riotous fighting between rival engine companies was common. There were no electric telegraph to summon immediate help, and so fires made great headway before they could be reached, and public wrongs were wrought by the criminal class without fear of detection and arrest. The contrast between New York fifty years ago and New York to-day as regards the general order and decency of the city is therefore, marvelously in favor of the present time. Of course, with the growth of the city from 200,000 of population to 1,500,000, there has been a great increase of vicious elements, but there has been a still greater increase of restrictive and restraining powers in the government, partly by reason of modern inventions and partly by reason of a higher public sentiment. There is a far larger preparation to meet poverty, sickness and other appropriate remedies. System is introduced. Homes, hospitals and disciplinary institutions have multiplied, and an enlightened public opinion has been formed on these practical questions wholly unknown fifty years ago. The people are more religious than they were. In this statement I do not include the foreign element, a large part of which is wholly irreligious, but I mean the citizens born and those who have been naturalized for twenty years. These are they who rightfully represent the city. I say they are more religious than they were. I mean that they consider practical life more from the religious standpoint. The tone of morals is higher. Drinking to excess used to prevail among all classes. Now it is mostly confined to the lower classes. Brandy is not found now, as then, on every sidewalk. The open haunts of shame do not now appear. Such places are obliged now to hide.

While I mark these improvements, I am well aware of prevailing evils, gross ones too, and do not consider New York a Utopia.

A strange accident recently happened in King township, Bedford county, Issac King bought some oats at a public sale. A boy who was present at the sale picked up an empty bottle and threw it against the wall. It was broken into fragments and the pieces fell into the oats. Mr. King did not know this, and he took the oats home and fed part of it to one of his horses. The animal died and an investigation showed that the glass had cut a hole through its stomach.

—Sam Jones, the revivalist, has been attracting large audiences in San Francisco since Sunday. The other night in his address he said: "Look here! When I was a boy, a little feller, I used to play town ball. But I never got so low down as to play base ball. Why, if I had a yeller dorg that went over and saw one of your Sunday base ball games I'd kill it just as soon as it got back."

There are twenty-six prisoners in the Huntingdon reformatory.

THE TAX QUALIFICATION.

The proposition to amend the constitution of the state so as to eliminate the tax qualification of the voter will be submitted to the people at the same time that the prohibition amendment is to be voted upon. When the convention which framed the present constitution was in session the Patriot opposed the adoption of the clause which makes the payment of a state or county tax a prerequisite to the right of suffrage.

Every one ought to pay his just share toward the maintenance of government, but the taxation of voters is utterly unequal in its effect. At least one-sixth of the voters of the state refuse to pay a state or county tax and political committees pay it for them. Instead of compelling all voters to pay a tax the constitution merely opens a way for the corruption of the ballot-box by making it possible for politicians to control the voter through the payment of his tax. Every voter ought to be a taxpayer, it is true; but one voter in every six will evade the payment of his tax unless summary process be granted to the collector to enforce payment. The tax, however, can be collected just as readily when it is not a qualification of the voter as when it is.

For the reason above given and for other reasons which might be added, it is to be hoped that the amendment abolishing the "voting tax" may be adopted. There should be no question about it.—*Ex.*

THE NEGRO.

Every sensible colored man who is not blinded by partisanship surely ought to see that the grand old republican party has deceived his race once more. Before the election of November last the black man was petted and fondled and the monopolistic organs and stump speakers told him that in the event of the election of General Harrison he would be "taken care of," or words to that effect.

Benjamin Harrison sits in the presidential chair, but what of the colored people? The cabinet has been formed and they are not represented in it. The republican newspapers never suggested one of their number for any position of prominence and in short they will virtually forget that the negro exists until another election comes around. Then there will be more false promises.

The state of Texas is strongly democratic and malignant journals frequently allude to the political outrages which claim are perpetrated there. The county of Brazos in Texas, however, is represented in the state legislature by a colored republican although the democrats are in the majority. The fact suggests the query: How many colored men are in the legislature in the republican state of Pennsylvania?

CONSTABLES' FEES.

The Supreme Court has reversed the decision of Judge Albright in reference to the payment of Constables for their monthly inspection among liquor dealers. Under the Brooks High License law of 1887 the Constables are required to visit every hotel in their several bailiwicks at least once a month, but by a singular oversight no compensation was provided for. The Constables of Lehigh county formed a league about a year ago, and Reuben Semmel, the Constable of North Whitehall brought a suit against the County Commissioners for mileage which he claimed for making his monthly inspection. He alleged that he traveled twenty-five miles each time he made the trip. Judge Albright decided the case in favor of Mr. Semmel, and the County Commissioners appealed to the Supreme Court, which last week reversed the decision of the lower court. The decision was watched with great interest, as it effects every Constable in the State, since these officers are under the decision required to make these inspections without receiving pay therefor. In the Senate of Pennsylvania, Mr. Henninger, of Lehigh county, last week introduced a bill providing for a fee of 50 cents and mileage to Constables for the extra work imposed upon them by the high license law.

—At a meeting of minors and operators in the Clearfield region last Saturday a remonstrance against the Shaw bill was adopted and a committee was appointed to present it to the Legislature. It was estimated that the cost of putting in the apparatus, its maintenance and the extra expense of royalty of two cents per ton on all coal mined would aggregate \$1,900,000 annually.

Our first invoice of Boy's and Childs dress clothing from Jacob Reed & Son will be opened on Saturday, March 16th Montgomery & Co.

SOCIALISM AND PROTECTION.

Their Relations Pointed out by Judge Grinnell of Chicago.

CHICAGO, March 17.—A large audience at the Kenwood Club listened to a paper on "Socialism in America," by Judge Grinnell, who was the states Attorney in the Anarchist trial. Judge Grinnell said:

"The eager desire of party leaders to obtain and retain office keeps socialism and its attendant evils alive. In Chicago Anarchism is exaggerated out of all proportion to its power for no good purpose, and some members of both political parties seem inclined to act so as to catch this element. In my opinion the talk about the Anarchist during the last winter has been a wilful, wicked exaggeration of their power, an injury to the fair name of Chicago, a serious detriment to its business interest, and I confidently believe the purpose of such exaggeration was purely political. Anarchy as an organization is dead in America. Its advocates have resolved themselves back into their former state or parentage, namely, Socialism. The Yankee law has terrified them, but we cannot with the same ease brush aside Socialism. That is not to be snuffed out. It can only be evaded by the fundamental principles of our Government eschewing paternalism and class legislation. My conscientious, firm conviction is that protection, so called, is wrong in principle, fosters and encourages Socialism; is in fact Socialism, and that with its absolute abolishment and a return to a tariff for revenues the Socialist will die and his pernicious doctrines disappear."

—A business firm in Philadelphia, in need of a clerk, advertised for one a few days ago, and received upwards of 300 applications, one of which was from a man over fifty years old, with a family, who was willing to work for six dollars a week. The firm preferred a younger man as they did not want an elderly one. This only shows the glut there is in the market for clerks, and yet thousands of parents prefer to bring their sons up in this way, as they think it more genteel than having them work at some good mechanical trade.

—Sanitary people are excited over a strong picture which has appeared in an article in the parlor of Mrs. Charles Lester. In the upper-left hand corner the smooth surface of the glass has changed and there is to be seen a perfect picture of a cross, below which is an anchor and on the left is the form of a woman in long white garments with her hands raised as if in prayer. The glass was examined and found to be perfectly smooth. The picture was apparently made by the disturbance of the mercury on the back of the glass.—*Ex.*

—Last Friday night a freight train with two engines crushed into the rear of another freight train on the Sunbury and Lewistown railroad, about two miles west of Middleburg. Six coal cars and the caboose and the two engines were all piled upon each other, making a total wreck. George Williams of Lewis town was buried in the wreck and instantly killed, having his legs and body badly mangled. Engineers Al. Rarick and John Hopple jumped from their engines after reversing them and received painful and serious cuts and bruises.

It is told in Boston that a party of Harvard students, anxious to get even with the Boston police for some undoubtedly good reason, bought a barber's pole got a receipt, and started through the street, bearing their property. Of course they were soon stopped by a policeman. "Hello, there, what yer doing?" "It's that pole?" "That's our business." "Oh, is it? Well, you come along 'ith me." So he marched them to the police station.

"What's the trouble, officer?" asked the sergeant. "Stealin' a barber's pole." Then the policeman gave a detailed account of the crime and the arrest of the criminals, who were about to be sent to their dungeon cells, when one of them handed the Sergeant the receipt. "Officer, you may return to your beat," said the Sergeant, and the students filed out, bearing the pole proudly. Two blocks away another policeman stopped them. Then followed the same dialogue, another arrest, and the same scene at the station. And so it went on until the young men had been arrested six times. They might have been arrested twelve times had not a general notice been sent out to the police not to molest the party of young men parading about Boston bearing the barber's pole.

—Our first invoice of Boy's and Childs dress clothing from Jacob Reed & Son will be opened on Saturday, March 16th Montgomery & Co.

TIRED OF PROHIBITION.

THREE YEARS OF IT ENOUGH FOR RHODE ISLAND.

It Has Increased Drunkenness and Taxation and Demoralized Politics—Seeking to Repeal the Law.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., March 15.—The decision of the General Assembly to re-submit to the people of Rhode Island the Constitutional Prohibition Amendment is the first necessary step in a determined effort to repeal that measure. Another Legislature must approve that move, and then the people will have a chance to vote on the question of Prohibition again in 1890. From present indications they will reject it very decisively, but it is too early yet to prophesy the event.

DEMAND FOR SUBMISSION.

Prohibition has been a failure in Rhode Island, and in voting for re-submission the General Assembly has only carried out the wishes of the people. Scores of petitions have been presented to the legislators urging that course. One from the city was signed by 600 gentlemen representing a capital of \$200,000,000, and from all parts of the State hundreds and thousands of persons have petitioned the Assembly to take the step it has just decided on. Numerous hearings have been given to both the advocates and the opponents of Prohibition, and the whole ground has been very thoroughly gone over. The determination to re-submit the question to the people is therefore very significant.

THE FIRST VOTE A SURPRISE.

Rhode Island voted on a Constitutional Prohibition amendment in June, 1886, and adopted it by a vote of 15,113 to 9,290. A three-fifths vote was required for the adoption, and to the surprise of everybody the amendment slipped through by the narrow margin of about 500 ballots. Nobody had expected it to pass, and many of those who were opposed to the idea of Prohibition failed to vote against it. The total vote was a small one, less than 25,000. Since then the Constitution has been amended by the removal of the restriction on the elective franchise, and it is estimated that there are now 50,000 voters in the State. A three-fifths vote will be required for the repeal of the Prohibition amendment, just as for its adoption, and this will make the issue of another election doubtful. If the Prohibitionists can hold their 15,000 votes they can probably keep Prohibition in the Constitution, but it is believed that they have been greatly weakened by the lessons of the past three years.

COMPARE THESE FIGURES.

Prohibitionists as a class urge in behalf of their peculiar views that Prohibition decreases drunkenness and crime, and that, in consequence, it is of great moral value. It is also claimed that by this diminution of crime the burdens of taxation are lessened and the people relieved of great loads. This is beautiful in theory, but how does it work in practice? For present purposes the results in Providence may be taken as being for the whole of Rhode Island, for Providence county contains more than two-thirds of the population of the State. Take some figures relating to arrests growing out of drinking. They begin with the year 1885, when license prevailed, and come down to the present time. The year 1886 was half license and half Prohibition, but 1887 and 1888 were distinctly Prohibition years. They show an almost uniform increase in the number of arrests.

Year	Drunkenness	Disorderly	Revolving	Common
1885	2457	22	129	60
1886	3076	32	129	82
1887	3025	33	114	105
1888	4005	33	110	135

THE NUMBER OF DRUNKARDS INCREASE.

In 1885 there were 103 arrests of "brawlers, revelers and disorderly persons," which number, it will be noticed, is less than the figures for the succeeding years. The most interesting point about the table is that it shows a big increase in the number of arrests for drunkenness from 2457 in 1885 to 4005 in 1888, which is much more than could have been expected from the increase in population, and also that it shows that the common drunkards have more than doubled during the past three years under the peculiar operation of Prohibition.

WITNESS THE POLICE OFFICIALS.

Chief of Police Benjamin H. Child, of this city, is authority for the statement that Prohibition is a failure in Providence, and Chief of State Police Edward H. Curtis makes the same remark about the State as a whole. "The Prohibition law is almost perfect as aimed against the liquor," Mr. Curtis said to the writer, "but it is al-

most impossible under it to secure the conviction of illegal sellers. We can seize the liquor, but that is about all we can do."

A QUEER SPECTACLE.

As a result of this very peculiar law the spectacle is sometimes witnessed in Providence of the police carrying out contraband liquors from the front door of a saloon while the dealer is laying in a fresh supply from a wagon at the back door. The confiscated liquor is destroyed or thrown away, but the saloon-keeper goes scot free, and the only effect of the raid is to make him keep a small stock of his stuff. Such sights, of course, bring utter contempt upon the law, and they incite others to violate its provisions.

EFFECT OF PROHIBITION ON POLITICS.

There is another element of demoralization introduced by Prohibition, and that is the political. When the Republicans agreed to submit the question to the people a disgraceful deal was made, by which General Charles R. Brantley was made Chief of the State Police upon the adoption of the amendment. Brantley was formerly Postmaster of Providence. He is the Republican boss of Rhode Island, and at once proceeded to enforce Prohibition by the most approved machine methods. The scandals growing out of his administration of the law were such that in the spring of 1887 his party was thrown from power and the Democrats elected a Governor and Legislature for the first time in a generation. The Republicans regained their old places in 1888, and now they are diligently striving to fortify themselves by courtship of the liquor vote. This explains in great part why the law is not enforced. Another reason is that a considerable portion of the newly enfranchised voters are foreigners, and the Republicans are anxious not to drive them all over to the Democracy by seeming to favor Prohibition. The effect of all this pulling and hauling, which is primarily due to the Prohibition amendment, is that the law itself is treated with the utmost disregard and indifference.

A DEMAND FOR REPEAL.

A word or two as to the financial workings of Prohibition. In former years the State Government derived the greater part of its revenue from the liquor license, and its maintenance was thus but a slight expense to the taxpayer. Since the adoption of Prohibition, under which no money at all is derived from the sale of liquor, though it is freer than ever, both State and city have been obliged to increase their tax rates. The added burden falls, as usual, upon those who are least able to bear it. If Prohibition has accomplished any good at all in Rhode Island it would like to see it. The whole question was well summed up the other day by the Providence Journal, which, at the conclusion of a well-considered article urging re-submission of the Prohibition amendment to the people, stated these plain facts:

The Prohibition law in Rhode Island is a failure. There is no need of prolonging an experiment whose evil effects are great and multiplying. The officers simply represent the people in their failure to execute it. It is founded on a wrong principle of legislation. It ought to be repealed in the interest of temperance and morality.—*Record*

A STORY OF CHIEF JUSTICE FULLER.

Chief Justice Fuller, when a boy, belonged to a debating club in Oldtown, Maine, and an Oldtown man tells a new story about him. One evening capital punishment was debated. The debate was for hanging. Young Fuller was opposed. Said the deacon, quoting from the Mosaic law: "Whoso sheddeth man's blood, by man his blood shall be shed." Thinking this to be a bombshell to his opponents he dwelt upon it until his time had expired, when the boy sprang to his feet and said: "Supposing we take the law which the gentleman has quoted and see what the logical deduction would come to. For an example, one man kills another; another man kills him, and so on until we come to the last man on earth. Who's going to kill him? He dare not commit suicide, for that same law forbids it. Now, deacon," continued the boy, "what are you going to do with that last man?" The boy's logic called out rounds of applause and vanquished the deacon.

John and Mike Ivan and George Murin the Hungarians charged with the murder of Joseph Loka, at Houtdale, some four weeks ago, were taken out on a writ of habeas corpus on last Friday afternoon and given a hearing, and in default were recommitted to jail. The bail for Mike and John Ivan was fixed at \$3,000 each, while \$200 was thought sufficient for Murin.