

# The Centre Democrat.

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## The Centre Democrat.

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### Editorial.

LAWRENCE BROWN has not been to Snow Shoe lately.

WHAT was the matter with the south-side this year? Nothing.

MEYER's big vote in Philipsburg was a rebuke to Feidler's lies.

"BILL" HEINLE has little to say since the election, but a very significant smile crops out.

We have been putting three and four new subscribers on our list every day for some time past. The DEMOCRAT is booming.

THE report that Henderson and Decker would resign, we are sorry to say, is a mistake. Gov. Beaver has just signed a bill making their salary \$4.50 per day.

WE hear of a large number of persons being after Sheriff Cooke to have him refund his illegal fees. This can be done by instituting civil proceedings before any Justice of the Peace.

AL DALE is not feeling badly over the results in the county. He no doubt expected it; like other sensible members of the party does not believe in "Bossism" or "Ring-rule."

THE Democratic papers of this county do not claim the credit for the great Democratic victory—they don't have that much "gall." While they helped to mould public sentiment the people settled the matter by their ballots.

WILL the Democrats receive any more Prohibition tracts from Lawrence Brown? Be consistent, Lawrence, and keep us on your Prohibition list as we might celebrate a little too much over the recent elections.

HAD the Republican party of Centre county been placed in the management of a few capable fellows like "Col." Thomas, of the Huntingdon Reformatory, success would certainly have followed. We suggest his name for chairman next fall.

THE results in the county do not encourage Jim Feidler's boom for the Bellefonte post office appointment. He got a rebuke from the people and Hastings is afraid to give him the appointment. It would be bad politics for the General.

THE Democrats in New York this year declared for tariff reform and got 23,000 plurality. They did so in New Jersey and got 12,000 majority. Likewise in Ohio, where Foraker is laid to rest. In Iowa the same rule holds good. Massachusetts must be included, for there the Democratic gain is nearly 18,000. If straws show which way the wind blows, what do cyclones show?—Exchange.

Under a law, signed by Governor Beaver in May of this year, county commissioners elected in the future will receive \$4.50 instead of \$5.00 per day. This pay is allowed only for the time in which they are actually in the discharge of their duties. It is also provided that the commissioners "shall annually submit to the board of county auditors a full itemized account, under oath, of the days and nature of business in which they were employed during the year." Their traveling expenses are to be out of the county treasury.

Ex-President Cleveland was interviewed on the election results. "It is evident," said Mr. Cleveland, "that the leaven of tariff reform has at last leavened the whole lump. The west, which has suffered the most from the unjust burden of tariff taxation, has awakened. The state platforms of both Iowa and Ohio were abreast of the St. Louis platform on the subject of tariff reform. The people have considered and passed judgment. It was for the people to decide. They are now deciding. It was enough for me to say that I am satisfied at the indication and results of Tuesday's election. The verdict in Virginia indicates that the south is still faithful to the democracy of Jefferson and Jackson."

## DIRTY POLITICS REBUKED.

### THE MEANS EMPLOYED BY THE RING ORGAN.

Private Citizens Slandered.—And Candidates Abused and Misrepresented Because they were Democrats.—Who Sanctions these Methods.

The election is over and while the result is exceedingly gratifying to the Democratic party, not only in the county, but in the whole country, it is not amiss to review the campaign in the county.

Until the last three or four years, and for a great while before, most of the political campaigns in the county were in a great degree conducted decently, with fair moderation and due regard for the private character and integrity not only of the candidates but of all who were more or less prominently engaged in the contests. To beastly abuse the opposing candidates and vulgarly attack private citizens who took part in the campaign was not thought a necessity or considered a virtue. To uphold the candidates, keep their virtues and the work they had done, with their ability to fill the places for which they had been nominated and strongly advocate the principles of the respective parties was, by good men of both parties, considered all that was required on the part of the respective party papers. The better nature, and the sterling qualities of men in both parties were appealed to and aroused in the interest and rallied to the support of the party standards, and it was not thought necessary, indeed it was deemed in bad taste, if not considered exceedingly vulgar, to wantonly abuse or vilify either candidates or party workers. Our people were all the better for this kind of politics, they began to better understand each other as Democrats and Republicans. But this kind of politics in Centre county was broken in upon in 1885. The Democrats have been slow to realize that men like Governor Beaver, Judge Furst, Col. D. S. Keller, with others, contributed largely to establish a new Republican paper (now the ring organ) in the county and put at its head a man of mean principles and low instincts. Then began an inquisition into the private life of every man in the Democratic party and whether private citizen or public officer and however pure in his character, simply because they were Democrats, must be abused, maligned, stamped as liars and thieves, their every motive and act, however lofty, misrepresented. Public officers who had proven themselves faithful, and whose integrity was unpurchasable must be caricatured, their good names traduced and their records perverted.

This kind of journalism of course captured the vulgar, and for a time in a measure seemed to destroy the ascendancy of the Democratic party in the county. To lie and misrepresent by this new journal was considered a virtue. To say that it had received hundreds of letters from Democrats who were dissatisfied with their party nominations, when they were all written in the office by the editor, was considered good politics; to publish remarks, made by Democrats on the street or in their offices to their neighbor and friends, was supposed to be smart. To inhumanly assault men in their private characters, because they choose to take part in the campaigns on behalf of the Democratic party was the occasion of a louder guffan from Beaver, a more sanctimonious look from Furst and a milder whisper of extreme satisfaction from Keller, while the other contributors to the establishment of the ring organ more gleefully than ever rubbed their hands at the success of their enterprise. Because Democratic election officers saw fit to do their whole duty under their oaths they were stigmatized as ballot box stuffers and drunkards, when no liquor had at any time passed between their teeth. Persons who under the direction of the officer who administered the oath to the elector, were stigmatized as forgers, when their act was perfectly pure and in strict accord with the law. Local officers, because they had been honest and faithful in the discharge of their duties, rendering a full account of every transaction, were branded as bootleggers and embezzlers. The assaults made on the candidates of the Democratic party were as unholly as they were uncalled for. The District Attorney was ruthlessly assailed because he sent the only person, beside the prosecutor, who saw the occurrence before the grand jury. It was asserted in the most solemn manner that for so doing he could be prosecuted for perjury.

ONE of the lessons to be drawn from the recent election is that bossism is played out in Centre county and will not be tolerated by any party.

their private and professional life is misrepresented with all the bitterness, brutality and vulgarity that the ring organ could command. Because during the summer, in the exercise of his judgment as a good citizen, Mr. Fortney saw fit to advocate the adoption of the Prohibitory Amendment, and more, in the exercise of his judgment he saw fit to do, as he always has done, support and advocate the election of the Democratic feoffee in office, and the people were urged not to vote for Mr. Meyer's reelection. All this was done in the face of the fact that the truth in each case was within the reach of the depraved wretch who edits the ring organ. This years campaign has been no exception to the manner in which the pious leaders of the "God and morality" party in town have permitted their henchmen to carry on campaigns in other respects. Because Orvis, Bower & Orvis, C. M. Bower, J. L. Spangler and D. F. Fortney saw proper in the interest of their party and in commendation of its candidates, to address personal letters to a large number of intelligent and faithful Democrats throughout the county, ticket, he is singled out and attacked with extraordinary malignity. It was all right for Col. Keller, Judge Furst, W. F. Reeder, J. L. Hamill and all Republicans who supported the Amendment, more zealously than Fortney, to give their hearty aid, support and prayer to the Republican party, even to the advocating of the election of their candidate for Associate Judge. In them it was no crime to support the regular party ticket. But for a Democrat who supported the Amendment to again turn to the support of his party was a crime and to destroy his influence and power he must be assailed, denounced as a hypocrite, his life, private and professional, distorted and misrepresented.

All this is called politics by the Republican leaders of Centre county. For a time campaigns conducted in this way seemed to succeed. The more boorish and brutal the ring organ could be, to ward Democrats, the more the eminently pious (?) gentlemen who were instrumental in bringing it into existence rejoiced.

This kind of politics could not go on forever unrebuked. The Democratic papers never did and never should return this kind of brutality and blackguardism in kind. They have waited and even suffered defeat in the hope that Republicans, who claimed to be honest and were regarded as respectable citizens in the community would call a halt on their offspring and do what they could to instill a little decency in the editor of their organ. We had waited long enough, the Republicans believing that there was success in that kind of politics of course continued it. It was for the Democratic papers to compel better treatment of their candidates and party workers. The remedy is the same relied upon so much by those who believe in ho-mos-op-a-ty, "like is cured by like." In a dignified manly way we tried a little of the remedy this fall. We could not remain silent no longer. We had treated the Republican party office holders, candidates and party workers, with fair consideration, and were disposed to do so but their misdeeds and malfeasance in office became so great that we were bound to let the public know what was being done. When we assaulted office holders, candidates and party workers, it was done without malice, and with such an array of facts and figures, the exposure of open violation of the law and such bold corruption that the ring organ, candidates, office holders, and party workers, went down on the first round under an average majority of 1,083.

What we said about Republican office holders during the campaign was true. We gave such abundant proof of the charges made that the people believed them, and already the Sheriff has been made to disgorge some of the illegal fees heretofore taken, and in cases referred to in the DEMOCRAT.

As a journalist we mean to treat every body decently. We will continue to advocate the principles of the Democratic party and support its candidates, as well as expose the corruption, immorality, and misdeeds of Republican office holders. All this is our plain duty. We have no desire to attack, ridicule or vilify private citizens or Republicans who may be asking for office. But when it becomes necessary for the public good to know the exact qualities of a candidate, the DEMOCRAT will be the fearless advocate for the people.

ONE of the lessons to be drawn from the recent election is that bossism is played out in Centre county and will not be tolerated by any party.

### A POLITICAL SIGN OF THE TIMES.

Time was when the intelligence and conscience of the Northern States were largely, if not chiefly enlisted in the ranks of the Republican party. Preachers, teachers, college presidents and professors were very generally Republicans, and nearly every pulp, academy and college was an educational centre from which the youth of the land were sent out trained and inspired to make war against the institution of slavery and in favor of maintaining the integrity of the national government. While this condition of things lasted the supremacy of the party was inevitable. The sneer so often aimed at preachers and teachers as impracticable theorists is a harmless one always, for the simple truth about the matter is that the preachers and teachers of one generation mould and control the political and social forces of the next. These leaders of the thought of a generation ago created the Republican party and were primarily the source of all its real achievements. This being the case it would naturally follow that if the party continued to be led by its intellect and conscience its ascendancy would be permanent.

But what is the present tendency? Do the intellect and conscience of the North continue to lead the party and furnish its issues? Which way are these elements gravitating now, towards the party or away from it? A careful survey of the political field leads to the conclusion that, while the party still retains a large following of cultivated and thoroughly upright citizens, the leaders in thought and morals are gravitating away from it. The recent declaration of President Elliot, of Harvard, in favor of the Democratic candidate for Governor of Massachusetts, is a conspicuous illustration of this tendency. The election of Seth Low as president of Columbia College is another. The adhesion of so many clergymen to the Prohibition cause and the severe but just criticism of the Republican party by the leading civil service reformers are all straws that show that the intellectual and moral currents are away from the Republican party at this time.

There are various reasons for this. The enriching of the few at the expense of the many by the maintenance of custom duties higher than are necessary to furnish the revenue required to support an economically administered government, or even to afford due protection to labor, has doubtless influenced some to abandon the party responsible for this unnecessary taxation. The insincerity of its professions on the subject of an honest civil service and the fact that its present leaders are the Platts, Dudleys, Clarksons and their fellow spoilsmen are also leading causes of this very apparent drift. While the rank and file of the party remain honest they accept the leadership of these men without serious protest. These spoilsmen make platform promises to the ear that are broken to the hope and select candidates for the offices from the Presidency down who are silently if not openly in accord with themselves. Despairing, therefore, of reform within the party the Elliotts, Lows, Curtises and other educators and leaders of thought are drifting into the Democratic party.

The present significance of these prominent secessions from Republicanism has rather in their revelation of a tendency than otherwise. They reveal the fact that the men of this type are dissatisfied with the present management and attitude of the party. The few that have gone are but the pioneers of a larger number who will follow. There are thousands of Republicans who are Republicans now under protest. They will cease to protest much longer if the present leadership of the party is continued and follow the few bold spirits into the other party. But the future effect of this changed attitude on the part of the leading educators of the country is likely to be very great. With Harvard, Yale, Columbia and other educational centres led and moulded by men who have sadly arrived at the conclusion that the Republican party has outlived its usefulness the time is not far distant when the young and aggressive conscience and intellect of the country will be arrayed in the opposing ranks. If the Republican party shall not depose its Platts, Dudleys and Clarksons pretty soon the coming generation of voters will depose the party without fail.—Times.

The above is an editorial from the Philadelphia Times some months ago. The results of the past election verify the prediction. Tariff reform is a growing sentiment with the people and will be the great issue of 1892.

—Don't forget the "Racket" when in town.

## HAUNTED BY A WITCH.

### HARD LUCK OF A FARMER UP IN THE MUNCY HILLS.

He and His Wife are Both Religious and Industrious—They Bought a Splendid Farm Kept It Most Handsomely, Wrote Away to Nothing.

Up on the Muncy Hills, of Montour county, Pennsylvania, George Moser purchased a fine farm of 200 acres of arable land. He bought it with the hard-earned wealth of northern Berks and invested it in the soil of these hills, where all the farmers are nabobs, living off the fat of the land. Any one who is disposed to be industrious will thrive there and grow rich. Mr. Moser was all this. He had no mortgage on his property, he had stocked his barns with the finest horses and best bred cattle, he was industrious and toiled early and late. Yet Farmer Moser is to-day entirely impoverished.

Since Mr. Moser has taken hold of the farm no living appurtenance of it has flourished; but, on the other hand, every horse, cow, pig or chickens has wasted into the merest skeleton and it has been so ever since Mr. Moser's possession of it. He has struggled hard against fate, and at first disposed of his stock at a sacrifice, with the impression that it was simply good for nothing. But it turned out that his neighbors, who purchased the cattle, in a very short time had them fattened and flourishing, while the new-bought stock of Moser were as reduced as Pharaoh's seven lean kine. The five horses that he had put into his stalls rounded with flesh and sinew can be seen to-day.

MERE WALKING SKELETONS, unfit to plough or do any work. His cattle are all good feeders, but they are hide and bones. At first he attempted to fatten a stablefull of steers. He fed them and increased their portion to satisfy the most voracious appetite of beast, and instead of selling them in the market, he again sacrificed them to his neighbors, and they flourished. Eight cows stood in the barnyard at evening. They were bred out of the best of stock, but they looked like the evening shadows playing by their side. Mrs. Moser, at one time a hearty woman, but now much fallen away and dejected through their reverse, recently remarked as she went out for the milk: "I do not know whether to take one or three buckets. Some evenings the cows give less than one-half of a bucket and sometimes they give three even full." The pig stalls had nine large porkers penned up for fattening. They fared as ill as the rest. The calves are all legs and ears, and the poultry is like a flock of starved crows in midwinter. The hens pillage the wheat fields, and are fed like any other flock of country poultry, but they are not worth the space they take up, either in the laying of eggs or for use upon the table. The farmer has not killed chickens for visitors during many years. The fame of

### THIS REMARKABLE INSTANCE

of long-continued ill-luck with the farmer has been spread far and wide. Among the people up among the hills this is the all absorbing topic. It is no unusual thing to see lines of carriages visiting the place and much sympathy is expressed for Farmer Moser. Various theories are advanced to account for the long continued evil. No blame is laid at the door of the Moser household, who are a church-going people, pious at home and altogether honest in their dealings. The neighbors have, therefore, come to the conclusion that it is the diabolical persecution of some one in league with the devil. Superstition is strife there, and the credulousness of the people is unbounded. There are some old hags in the neighborhood who are placed under the ban. They have been discovered in their practice of the black arts. An old witch infests the immediate vicinity, who at one time became offended at the Mosers, and left their barnyard gate, lifting her gaunt and ominous forefinger in threats of a dire visitation. Witches are much feared in that region, and in the face of their belief fully avoid incurring their displeasure. All the prescriptions of witch doctors, near and far, have failed to bring cure to this farm. The cows have frequently given bloody milk. It might have been

### THE BITE OF A SNAKE,

or an injured milk artery through the horning of other cattle, but to these people it is the work of a witch. The bloody milk brought to a boil on the stove, and cut and pierced with knives and forks, to drive the witch out of it, was of no avail. The last stage of the visitation was the peculiar sickness of Farmer Moser himself. He pined away and no doctor could properly diagnose

his disease, nor render him any cure. It was no spell of despondency over his waning wealth and ruined hopes; it was a slow-wasting sickness. The opinion prevailed that he had fallen into the curse that raged among his stock. After all known cures had been exhausted, the family pastor volunteered to find a source of relief. He forthwith went to Philadelphia and brought back to the farm a clairvoyant, who at once put Mr. Moser under the mesmerizing influence, and in his trance asked him various questions. A sick man was brought to his notice in that clairvoyant condition and a picture of a cure effected to his vision. The expert left varied compounds of prescriptions, and since that visit Farmer Moser is rapidly recovering. But the farm stock is yet under its bewitched curse. The evil has destroyed the prosperity, usefulness and happiness of one bright home on the Muncy hills, and very much unsettled the confidence of the flourishing and peaceful community. This phenomenon is open to public inspection, and may go to witness it.—Breakfast Table.

THAT "17 year locust" was a mighty poor campaign dodge and the author has discovered that Centre county voters can not be duped.

WHO stole Chairman Bill's whiskey?—News. Why Feidler.

JIM COBURN has stopped talking since the election.

—45¢ plush takes the lead, at Meyer's Bazaar.

—For cheap prices, Mingle's Shoe store can beat all others.

—Presents given away at Camp & Naginey's furniture store—see advertisement.

—Heavy shoes, light shoes, plain shoes, fine shoes and anything in the shoe line can be found at Mingle's Shoe store. If they can't fit you they have experienced workmen who will take your order and furnish you with a good article.

### The cost of Feeding a Boy.

Dr. McKinnon, the Superintendent of the Mimico Industrial School, in Canada, has furnished the Toronto Mail with an interesting statement on the subject. There are 108 boys in the school, who are kept in good bodily health, and whose subsistence is bought in a wholesale way that would somewhat cheapen the cost as compared with ordinary household expenditure. The boys have all they wish to eat; and the Superintendent's accounts, not being complicated by expenses for sustenance for other persons, furnish valuable data not otherwise readily obtainable. The following statement shows the average weekly expenditure per boy:

	cents.
Flour	5
Oatmeal and other meal	5
Barley and beans	5
Rice, sage, etc.	10
Coffe, cocoa and tea	25
Sugar and sirup	25
Salt, pepper and other condiments	75
Fresh fruits	1
Do, preserved and dried	1
Fresh meat and fish	125
Do, cured	25
Butter and cheese	125
Other provisions	25
Vegetables	25
Milk	25
Total	250

The cost of food, as above given, does not include the expense of preparing it, or incidental expenditures for superintendence, etc. But the average disbursement is astonishingly small. So far as subsistence goes, to raise a boy is not much more costly than to raise a pig. If a healthy boy can be properly fed for \$56 a year, there is less discouragement in the task of increasing the male population of the country than pessimist observers are wont to insist upon.

L. W. Noyes, of Chicago, the maker of Dictionary Holders, sends upon receipt of a two-cent stamp to pay postage, a series of very pretty booklets of most excellent quality. One has a cut of a little drum-major cupid at the head of two long columns of Dictionary Holders, and this is his speech: "I am a quiet little drummer for the Noyes Holders. It is my mission to call attention to the fact that these are the only Holders that have strong springs to hug the book firmly together, thus keeping the dust out of the upturned edges. The possession of Noyes's Dictionary Holders has made about 12,000 families happy and accurate in the use of words. Buy a Noyes Dictionary Holder from your bookseller and see how much more frequently you will refer to the dictionary."

A Lady's Pez et Companion. Painless Childbirth, a new book by Dr. J. M. H. Dye, one of New York's most skillful physicians, shows that pain is not necessary in childbirth, but results from causes easily understood and overcome. It clearly proves that any woman may become a mother without suffering any pain whatever. It also tells how to overcome and prevent morning sickness, swollen limbs, and all other evils attending pregnancy. It is reliable and highly endorsed by physicians everywhere as the wife's true private companion. Cut this out: it will save you great pain, and possibly your life. Send two-cent stamp for descriptive circular, testimonials, and confidential letter sent in sealed envelope. Address: Frank Thomas & Co. Publishers, Baltimore, Md. Feb. 7th.