

The Centre Democrat.

Vol. 13

BELLEVILLE, PA., THURSDAY, JANUARY 29, 1891.

NO. 4

The Centre Democrat.

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Regular Price \$1.50 per year.
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Editorial.

ALL the works about Bellefonte are expected to be in operation in a short time.

CENTRE county has no need for a \$240 ornament in the shape of a detective. Let it be abolished.

THE county treasury is overdrawn \$7,664 and there are other liabilities outstanding which will raise the indebtedness to at least \$12,000.

WHILE John D. Decker was in the commissioner's office he had to take a back seat but he was a big man the last three days of his term.

A piteous appeal is made in the Bellefonte Republican in behalf of Capt. Mullen, who wants to play detective for Centre county at the rate of \$240 a year.

THE latest intelligence from Meadville is to the effect that Delamater & Co. will reach a settlement with their many creditors by paying 50 cents on the dollar.

HENDERSON charged the county for 268 days service for last year. He is at the head of the list and what did he do in that time—the surplus is expended and the county is heavily in debt.

SENATOR Ingalls, the big mouthed blatherskite from Kansas, tried to obtain his re-election to the U. S. Senate from that state by playing upon the feelings of the old soldiers. That is an old racket played by many a political scalawag.

THE county commissioners were compelled to borrow \$1100 to conduct the present term of court and pay incidental expenses. This is exactly what was predicted by us during the past two years and every word has come true.

THE county commissioners don't believe in paying \$240 annual for the maintenance of a county detective. Whenever that officer does any work he gets a special fee and whenever any real detective work is necessary, expenses must be paid him. Now if any one can see the benefit of such an officer we would like to see it explained.

THE county pays a man \$240 per year for "keeping ready" to serve papers and do other work for which he receives a special fee. Better abolish the office and put that \$240 in the school fund where it will do ten times as much good. Let all such useless offices be abolished. We need practical economy in the affairs of Centre Co.

WE are told that Capt. Mullen defines his duties of County Detective in "keeping himself ready" to serve warrants for which he receives a special fee. \$240 a year is a nice sum for keeping ready. The work he does can be performed by one constable at the same cost and the county will save \$240. The only use he is to the county is that of an ornament—slightly expensive.

JUDGE W. A. Keffer, the Alliance candidate, of Kansas, will succeed Senator Ingalls. No one will shed a tear for the retirement of this man who in all his brilliancy of oratory and ability never rose to the plane of true manhood and statesmanship—he was only a bitter unscrupulous partisan, and never was in sympathy with any measure to better the condition of the constituency he represented. As a blackguard and foul mouthed villifier he was a success. His disgraceful utterances toward President Cleveland and his estimable wife are among his infamous deeds.

THE demand for that popular book, "Birds of Pennsylvania," is greater than ever and the legislature will likely be asked to furnish another lot for distribution. Such works are worth ten times as much as the useless compilations sent out each year by the state and we would favor a bill that would go further. Let us have a volume on the "Bugs of Penn'a.," another on "Reptiles and Fishes of Penn'a.," also "Wild Animals of Penn'a." Let the publication of that old blotch sheet, the "Legislative Record," be restricted and these books of the natural history of the state be published instead. Everybody would say, amen.

THE COUNTY'S FINANCES.

THE AUDITORS REPORT NOT QUITE FINISHED.

But Shows that the County Treasurer Paid Out \$7,664 more than He Received—Other Liabilities.

The county auditors completed their work last Saturday of examining the various accounts of the county and the papers are in the commissioner's office. There is some difference of opinion in regard to the manner the standing of the county is represented. The old officials want things covered up and smuggled, but the new board want it clear and plain. The statement of the county treasurer shows that \$7,664 were paid out of moneys that did not belong to the county and must be returned to the treasury. Then the commissioners have borrowed some \$1100 to conduct the present term of court and that will soon be exhausted. And taking into it will a number of unpaid accounts will raise the indebtedness to at least \$12,000.

DECEIVED THE PEOPLE.

When last year's statement was made the commissioners claimed a bogus balance of \$23,000; as a campaign dodge to help that party re-elect their ticket they reduced the tax to 2 mills. There never was such a balance at their disposal. They had in their office bills for bridge building which they knew were liabilities, but did not put them in the statement, so as to raise a surplus on paper, to deceive the people. The Karthaus bridge account rendered them Dec. 4, 1889, for \$6,802, was entered on the statement at \$400; another account for \$598 was not in the list, while the Milesburg bridge was entered for \$1,055, when the actual bill rendered was \$1,991.94. Dozens of small accounts ranging from \$50 to \$400 that were contracted for, and rendered them in 1889 were kept out of the list of liabilities. Then they took as assets all money due from tax collectors and included the state's share as available county funds. As an instance, they credited some \$300 to the county from Phillipsburg which belonged to the state.

In this way the bulk of the \$23,000 was made up. Now if they had a balance in favor of the county last January of \$23,000, and at the close of the year the county is \$12,000 in debt, how then was all this money expended? The answer is that they either deceived the people last year or there was the most profligate extravagance in the county commissioner's office the past year that was ever known. And we believe they are guilty of both charges. The people are anxious to know how the money was spent.

SINCE the passage of the McKinley bill the protection organs have been giving glowing accounts of the large tin-plate manufactories that were to be started all over the country, giving employment to large number of men. Lately they have been pointing exultingly to the fact that the manufacture of tin-plate has already been begun in Chicago. The Chicago Tribune, however, gives an account of the industry which puts an entirely different face upon the matter. The Tribune says:

"We do not see that there is need for our mill-boss contemporaries to waste sympathy on Norton Bros., the tin can makers of Chicago. They took imported Welsh ironplate and caused it to be dipped into pots of melted tin (also imported) by Welsh workmen (recently imported), and when the plates so made were exposed in the windows of a mill-boss organ under the American flag bearing the legend:

THE FIRST SHEET OF AMERICAN TINPLATE MADE IN CHICAGO BY NORTON BROS.

they accepted the dubious honors of the misleading statement without a protest. As yet the Norton Brothers have made no tin plate for the market, and it is yet a question whether they will ever be able to make any at lower rates than those now paid. If they do, they frankly avow that they will use imported tin; and while the experiment is going on the American people will be taxed something like \$15,000,000 a year to sustain it and others like it."

SENATOR Cameron was re-elected to the U. S. Senate last week and as an act of gratitude he voted with the democrats to shelve the infamous force bill. In this case Senator Cameron, for once, rose above the level of the average partisan Senator and like a man boldly voted as he thought was right. For once we arise and congratulate Cameron, as his vote carried the day.

WHAT IT WOULD COST.

There are said to be 67,000 voting precincts in the United States. In the event of the passage of the Force bill and the execution of its provisions in all of these precincts it will cost \$17,210,000.

If this infamous measure become a law the people will hold the republican party to responsibility for its enactment. The better element of that organization may be opposed to the measure but in the event of the success of the infamous scheme the right minded republican will be compelled to suffer for the sins of the unscrupulous partisans within their party who are willing to resort to the most despicable means in order that they may float on the crest of the political wave. The tax payers of the county are not willing to have \$17,000,000 taken from them to keep a band of political foot pads in office; therefore the right minded republican should protest against the passage of the bill in the strongest sort of a way, if they do not want their party wiped from existence before a few years shall have come and gone.

A PREGNANT TRUTH.

From the New York World.

No more striking utterance has been made in any State paper this year than Governor Pattison's epigrammatic saying: "When money shall be king at the American polls, money will be king at American capitals."

Money was king at the polls in the general election of 1888, and money has been king at the capital since that time.

On the day that Harrison and Morton were inaugurated as the result of Dudley's buying of votes in 'blocks of five' in Indiana, and Quay's purchase of the electoral vote of New York, with money contributed for that purpose by Wanamaker and other pharisees, the World arrested the attention of the country by its editorial on "Triumph of Plutocracy" declaring that 'to-day, at the capital of the Republic, money seals and celebrates its triumph in the election.'

As a result of that triumph a monopoly tariff law was enacted at the behest and under the personal direction of the men who contributed the money to buy the election. The surplus was squandered in order to render more difficult any reduction of bounty-creating taxation in the future. Money ruled at the Capitol.

In further illustration of the sordid nature of the plutocrat in politics, witness the spectacle of a Senator from that seat of monopoly, Pennsylvania, voting for the free coinage of silver as an aid to his miserable speculations!

Witness a Vice President nominated and elected as a reward for and a stimulant to enormous contributions to his party's campaign funds ruling and giving casting votes in favor of gag rules and force laws to perpetuate the reign on the money power in the government! It is time for the American people to consider more seriously than they have ever done before whether men or money shall rule in this Republic.

Chastised Royalty.

There is now living in Pittsburg a man who once slapped the face of the Prince of Wales. "In my early life," he said, "I was a soldier in the British Army, and once my regiment was reviewed by Queen Victoria, who held by the hand the youthful Prince of Wales. When the mother's back was turned the boy playfully expectorated on my rpd coat, and I resented the insult to the British flag by slapping him in the face with my open palm. He told his mother, and very soon the colonel heard of it and came dancing along to wreak vengeance on the man who dare lift his hand to a son of the Queen sought me out and rebuked me, but Her Majesty commended my sense of propriety in administering a timely rebuke to the heir apparent of the English throne and recommended me for promotion which never came."

Tail Fellow.

At the inauguration of Gov. Pattison, last week, the Scranton club had for its standard bearer James Gilbert, who is seven feet and six inches high. According to that Bellefonte's tallest man, J. S. McCarger, would be over a foot shorter than this man. We would like to have a man of about that size connected with this office in the capacity of "fighting editor." We frequently have demand for such work, but can't accommodate all.

OUR commissioners had to borrow over a thousand dollars this week to pay court expenses. They will have to secure additional money later as the treasury was looted by the former board.

THE INDIAN WAR.

Some of the Causes of the Recent Indian disturbances in the West.

There are many reasons assigned for the Indian outbreak, and the war which followed.

The *Altoona Tribune* carefully sums up the situation as follows: "We have read carefully nearly all that has been written about the recent outbreak among the Sioux Indians at Pine Ridge agency in the hope of arriving at some clear conclusion as to the causes and have arrived at the following conclusions, which our readers are at liberty to accept or reject.

1. There are two elements among the Indians, just as there are among the people of any considerable community in Pennsylvania, one disposed to obey the laws and earn a living, the other willing to prey upon others and with a contempt for law. The savage nature of the Indian makes him somewhat more ferocious than the white desperado of the east. At Pine Ridge agency there was a Christian element the members of which had pretty generally taken farms, erected dwellings and attempted to practice the arts of civilization. Few of these, perhaps none of them, were of the company of ghost dancers who precipitated the trouble. The other element was composed of Indians who preferred a savage life. They resented the advance of civilization and did all in their power to throw barriers in its way. Sitting Bull, who was not a warrior but a medicine man, was one of the leaders of the savages.

2. For more than two years there had been considerable distress among the Indians, caused by the decrease in the amount of rations issued by the government, by the action of the commissioners who were sent out to negotiate for the cession of a part of their reservation in withdrawing them from their farms for a month or two, and by the failure of the crops in 1890. The red men are not the only sufferers from the latter cause, as numerous reports from the west show.

3. There was an unusual amount of sickness among the Indians. First the grip carried off many of the adults and then measles and diphtheria broke out among the children. Their state was wretched in the extreme.

4. To those starving, suffering, dying people, came the tale of the appearance of the Indian Messiah. At first his gospel was one of peace. The whites were to be destroyed, but not by the red men. But the ghost dances and the cunning of the medicine men stirred the fanaticism of the victims of this strange superstition. Those who participated in the ghost dance wore a shirt which, they were assured by their medicine men, was impervious to the white man's bullet. That was the secret of the bloody tragedy at Wounded Knee Creek. The Indians, although outnumbered three to one, attacked the troops because they believed their magic shirts would protect them. The result broke the power of the medicine men. It is related that one dying warrior begged the soldier who was trying to minister to him to carry him to the side of the medicine man that he might die with his knife in the false prophet's heart. With that massacre the ghost dances ceased and the Indians were willing to surrender as soon as they had some assurance that their lives would be spared.

It is well to remember that not more than one-fourth of the Indians connected with the Pine Ridge agency had anything to do with the ghost dances or with the outrages that were committed. The vast majority were peaceful. Many of them are earnest Christians and on the very day that the tragedy of Wounded Knee Creek took place, were engaged in holding Christmas services in the church at Pine Ridge. Afterward they converted their church into a hospital and patiently and lovingly ministered to the wounded.

It is to be hoped that the government at Washington will see the absolute necessity of keeping all its promises to its wards and of putting the Indian service out of the hands of practical politicians. The president can do this if he will. Will he?

JUDGE Furst will try to put a stop to the L. & B. cases, which occupy so much of the time of every court by sending each offender under 25 years of age to the Huntingdon reformatory. This will be a good move, and if it don't have a tendency to diminish crime it will keep many cases from coming before court.

THE republican Force bill is crushed again in the Senate. Should this measure ever become a law it would take the control of elections from the people and would be placed in the hands of unscrupulous politicians.

AMONG OUR INDUSTRIES.

THE CENTRE IRON FURNACE WILL SOON START.

The Bondholders to meet February 6th—The Nail Works Expected to Resume—Plenty of Work and Better Times Looked For.

Last Friday, Jan. 23rd, was the day set for the sale of the Centre Iron Company's works, but owing to certain legal complications that arose, it was postponed and will take place to-day the 29th. The plant will be purchased for the bond holders and the deed for same will be confirmed before Court on Monday.

Friday Feb. 6th, a meeting of the bond holders will take place in Philadelphia and then it will be definitely settled as to what will be done with the plant.

There are a number of parties anxious to lease and operate it and are negotiating to that end. One party is composed of the Valentine Bros., of this place. It is likely that the bond holders will undertake to operate it themselves. There seems to be little doubt that this valuable plant, with an inexhaustible supply of rich ore fields and the best quality of lime stone at hand, will shut down. The fires are still kept up in the furnace and it would take but a short time to resume operations.

As there are hundreds of men about this town sorely in need of employment it is to be hoped that the hum of new life and increased industry will soon pervade our community.

AT THE NAIL WORKS.

The Bellefonte Nail Works have been idle for many months. The puddling mill of that establishment started last Monday and, it is to be hoped, will keep going. Owing to the recent depression in trade there may be a slight reduction in wages which is a necessary consequence. The men should look at this in a practical light and be willing to work for a season at such a rate.

Mr. Munson is making an effort to have the nail men accept a like proposition and is anxious to see them at work. Should they come to an agreement the employment will put a large sum of money in the hands of men who have families to support and are in great need.

Mann's axe factory resumed operation on Monday and is in full blast. This establishment gives employment to a large number of men and will give a new impetus to trade in this community.

On the whole the indications are that there soon will be employment for all who desire work. In every line business is improving and confidence in trade has been restored. The late stringency of the money market is over and better times are ahead.

Curing a Sore Throat.

Sore throat is a frequent accompaniment of cold, but it also often arises from some derangement of the digestive function. Attention to the diet is always important in the management of this affection, says a trained nurse in the *Ladies' Home Journal*. If the throat is merely red and inflamed, with no spots on its surface, a single gargle of salt water, or chlorate of potash one tablespoon in a glass of water, will probably relieve it. Use the gargle frequently. A cloth dipped in cold water squeezed until it ceases to drip, wrapped around the throat and covered with a bandage of flannel will assist in reducing the inflammation. It should be changed when it becomes dry. Meat should be avoided for a few days—first, gruels, beef tea and light articles of diet being substituted for it.

When there are small white or yellowish ulcers in the throat there is probably constipation as well, and a laxative is needed. Two teaspoonfuls of compound liquorice powder, or two pills of aloin, strychnia and belladonna, taken at night, will relieve it. The diet should be light and easily digested, a raw egg beaten with milk and sugar and flavored with vanilla, or one lightly salted, can be given instead of meat.

Wedding Announcement.

Cards are out for the wedding of Miss Carrie M. Quigley, of Blanchard, and Mr. Wm. Dodge Home, which will occur at Beech Creek, February 10, at 12:30 o'clock. The reception will be at the residence of the bride's father, Capt. J. A. Quigley.

THE Indian war is near at an end, but the Indian question—how to handle these troublesome people—is more complex than ever. The Indian agencies have been robbing them of government supplies and it is no wonder that they resort to arms for better treatment.

Poor Blind Tom.

"Poor Blind Tom," the erratic musical genius of a decade ago, is driving away the remaining months of an eventful life at a private hospital in St. Mark's place, New York. He has been for some time an idiot, and now consumption has set its iron grasp upon his once tough frame and his days are numbered.

"Blind Tom" earned in his day something like \$500,000. To-day he is comparatively a pauper, and the wonder is what has become of the fortune he made, as he was always in charge of a guardian and was never allowed to spend it.

All last summer Tom had delighted audiences in the house adjacent to his retreat in St. Marks place. He played incessantly upon the piano, guitar and other melodious instruments. Now he can play no more. His frame has shrunk to a mere shadow, his fingers have become palsied and he cannot evolve the sweet strains which have enchanted thousands.

The wonder is what has become of the money which Col. Bethune was obliged, by mandate of the court, to deposit for Tom's maintenance. It was supposed to be 25 per cent. of the net proceeds of the entertainment given. That would give Tom at least \$125,000 in his own right. There is now, it is authoritatively stated, less than \$5,000 in the exchequer. The \$3,000 judgment entered will make an awful gash in the fund.

Present indications are that Blind Tom, who earned over half a million of dollars, will die in the poor house and be buried in the potter's field.

Spare the Dudes.

The county commissioners should erect an awning over the walks about the court house yard to keep the sparrows from soiling the dudes hats as they pass by.

Snow is Going.

On Tuesday a great many of our merchants abandoned sleds and hooked up in wagons to deliver goods about town. In many places the snow has entirely disappeared.

—W. E. Gheen's grocery store is now located in the McClain block, opposite the Bush Houe.

—A musical convention under the direction of Prof. P. H. Meyer, is in progress at Zion this week.

—"Rip Van Winkle" will be the next attraction at the opera house, Wednesday evening February 4th.

—It is estimated that over 54 inches of snow has fallen in this section, this winter. That is far beyond the average and much more will follow.

—Keichline's store in the Brockenhoff block, will occupy an adjoining room for a few days, until his old room undergoes repairs and has a new plate glass front put in.

—Ex-recorder John F. Harter, of Millheim, was in town on Tuesday for the first time since he retired from office. He says he is putting in the time at his profession—pulling teeth and plugging old ones.

—Jolly Jack Ewing, druggist, of Snow Shoe, was around to see us on Monday. He wears a nobby hat, and has a nice little sum of the "filthy lucre" that was presented him by some of his enthusiastic republican friends over Delamater's defeat.

—Mann's axe factory resumed operations on Monday of this week with a full force of employees at work. This establishment was idle a little over a month and threw many men out of employment at a season of the year when they need work the most.

—Mr. J. B. Gentzle left on Tuesday for Illinois and other parts of the West to buy another lot of horses. This lot will consist mostly of large draught horses and persons desiring such an animal should not fail to see the lot when it arrives. They always purchase the best to be had.

—A pastor in Prohibition Maine has resigned. He publishes a statement to the effect that ill-health was not the cause of his resignation, but he says he boarded himself, swept the church, made the fires and rung the bell. The people swore at him, whittled and ate peanuts in meeting time, fired pistols and threw stones at his house, came to church any time before the benediction, laughed loud during the services, etc. He says rum is sold openly in the town, and no one tries to enforce the law.

COUNTY Chairman I. A. Shaeffer, has about completed his list of district committeemen for the year 1891 and the same will be published in our next issue. The effect of good, active men in every section is what tells.