

The Centre Democrat.



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The Centre Democrat.

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Editorial.

Democratic County Committee, 1891.

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The Houtzdale Bank, considered in a bad shape, was purchased by William H. Dill, of Clearfield, and John B. McGratt, of Houtzdale. The new institution has a capital stock of \$50,000.

Old Windy Blair, the Senator from New Hampshire, who was noted for his long speeches and foolish ideas has been appointed Envoy Extraordinary to China. Harrison must have a grudge at those people.

By a recent decision of the Supreme Court it is not enough that the one who sells liquor to persons of known intemperate habits can plead that he did not know that he was of known intemperate habits. It is his business to know whether the person he sells to is the kind and if he does not convince himself he must refuse him. Otherwise he is liable.

For downright cussed meanness three farmers residing near Norris-town carry off the bread basket. Notwithstanding the fact that each of them possesses a valuable and productive farm, they declined to support their poor old father, and to save the aged parent from the poor house the Judge of the Court was obliged to issue an order compelling the close fist sons to take care of him.

Gov. Pattison will no doubt make it very interesting for the managers of the Soldier Orphan schools throughout this State. This system has been a blot and disgrace upon the good name of Pennsylvania. The state has been generous in appropriating money for the support of such deserving children, but the money never was honestly expended. There will be an investigation later and it is to be hoped that justice will be meted out.

On Tuesday Senator Meek, of this district, introduced in the State Senate a congressional apportionment bill. It provides for ten democratic districts, sixteen certain republican districts, and four doubtful. Our adjoining counties are placed in the following districts by the bill: Huntingdon, Blair, Bedford and Somerset the twentieth; Cambria, Indiana, Armstrong and Clarion twenty-second; Jefferson, Clearfield, Centre and Elk the twenty-sixth; Tioga, Potter, McKean, Forest and Cameron the twenty-seventh.

Out of the sixty-seven counties in Pennsylvania, twelve show an actual loss in population during the period between 1880 and 1890. The greatest loss is in Clarion county, 3,526, and the smallest in Fulton, 12. Crawford lost 2,285. The losses are not easily understood in every case. Clarion is, or rather was, a great lumbering county, but her lumber is about exhausted and some of her lumbering population has gone elsewhere. The decline in the oil industry in Crawford is alleged as the reason for the break in her population. But some of the counties where losses are reported are purely agricultural districts and here explanations are not so readily made.

LARGE-HANDED PLUNDERERS.

We know in gross the acknowledged extravagance of the Reed Congress—it was a thousand million dollars, all told. The detail of the wickedness is a long story which it would take years to tell. Swarms of new officials have been brought into being to make places for hangers-on and excuses for appropriations. All the Departments swarm with snug sinecures. The shamelessness of profligacy never put on a more brazen front.

But below all this villainy there is still a deeper villainy. At the bottom of the grand scatterment of the money in the Treasury was the determination of the Protectionist schemers to make economical government impossible, and to make high tariff taxes a continuing necessity. The indirect tax which goes into the pockets of protected interests is no doubt equal to the sum total of money collected on imports. Experts insist that it is much greater. In order to keep up this two-edged system it was necessary to spend the surplus, to loot the Treasury, and to cripple future administration by deficits and by the authorization of vast uncompleted schemes of expenditure.

It is not too much to say that the \$1,000,000 of acknowledged appropriation that must be paid out of the Treasury, coming directly from customs and internal taxes, vast as the sum is, only partly declares the measure of Republican rapacity. At the same time that the Treasury is scooped dry of treasure, half as much more is taken indirectly from the pockets of taxpayers; and the larger robbery is made to cover up the lesser one.

Not Unlucky.
A correspondent says: "The Governor of a Southern State is in correspondence with the Governors of all hanging States, hoping to make an arrangement by which no one shall be hung on Friday. If other days shall be selected the superstition which generally attaches to Friday will soon pass away."

Pool! Governor Curtin or Geary broke up that practice, so far as Pennsylvania is concerned, many years ago, and now it is very seldom that anybody is hung on Friday in this State. What does the superstition amount to, anyhow? It doesn't make Friday an unlucky day as some seem to imagine. Remember Columbus discovered America on a Friday. That should make the day lucky no matter how many hangings there are on it.

New Stenographer.
This week a special session of argument court was held before His Honor A. O. Furst. The principal case heard on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday morning was Kurtz & Son vs. Philip S. Meyer. In the absence of the regular stenographer, W. F. Reeber, the court appointed Mr. Newton Spangler, law student in Orvis, Bower & Orvis' office and he took down the testimony with the ease and rapidity of a professional. Mr. Spangler is a bright young man and will "get there."

The Pastor was Wrong.
The case of Rev. D. H. Shields, of Lewisburg, charged by William J. Bell with unlawfully putting his wife out of the Beaver Memorial church, in that place was tried last week at the Central Pennsylvania conference held at Sunbury, and Rev. Shields was compelled to place his signature to a document now in the possession of Mr. Bell stating that he (Shields) was to reinstate Bell's wife in the same manner that he had put her out—in open meeting. This is a complete victory for Mr. Bell and places Rev. Shields in anything but a creditable position.—Phillipsburg Ledger.

Don't Want Them in Huntingdon.
In the senate at Harrisburg on Wednesday, Senator Williamson, of Huntingdon, presented a petition from citizens of Huntingdon protesting against the liberating of inmates of the Reformatory of that place to work out their six months parole at about half pay, to the detriment of honest labor and suggested that the prisoners should be sent to their homes to work out their parole and not ruin honest labor at Huntingdon by competition with cheap convict labor.

Somerset Goes Dry.
Judge Baer on Saturday refused all applications for liquor license in Somerset, and the town will go dry after April 1st. Licenses were granted to applicants in every town in the county applying excepting the county seat. When his honor handed down the papers refusing applicants from Somerset he significantly remarked "jug line."

SIX LICENSES GRANTED

In Huntingdon County by Judge Furst—Three refused.

Last week license court was held in Huntingdon county, by Judge Furst. A bitter fight was made by the license and anti-license people but the court, with the sanction of Associate Judge Watson, granted five.

Judge Furst, although in his personal views is opposed to the liquor business and is himself an ardent prohibitionist, always considered it his duty to grant licenses but was heretofore over-ruled by the former Associates.

Among the hotels licensed to sell spirituous and malt liquors are the Leister House, Franklin House, Grube's distillery and Reyer's bottling works. The Mobus House and Hayes, of Mill Creek were both refused, while the case of the Washington House in Huntingdon was held over for a further hearing.

During the hearing Judge Furst created a sensation by stating that he understood there was quite a number of speak-easies flourishing in Huntingdon, and he proposed to learn something about them then and there. The court house was filled with spectators and the Court created dismay in their ranks by calling a number to the witness stand where they were abruptly asked to tell all they knew about the drinking clubs. Their evidence showed that there were fifteen to twenty speak easies in this place, with a membership of from thirty-five to 200 each. It was also proven that 106 kegs and thirty-two cases of beer were unloaded in this city one day recently.

Judge Furst intimated that this was a bad showing for a temperance town and told the anti-license people that they should spend some of their surplus energies in hunting down the drinking clubs which the evidence showed did not exist when the city had license.

It will be remembered that at last Fall's election William Watson was elected as the new associate judge of that county in place of Judge McCarthy. The latter fought all licenses while Watson is for license out and out. It is five years since any licenses had been granted in Huntingdon county.

Co. B. Inspection.
On Monday evening the annual inspection of Company B., of this place, occurred at the Armory. Major Patterson was the visiting officer and he was pleased with the fine appearance of our boys. Fifty-two members of the company were in line. Capt. W. F. Reeber could not be present as he was not enjoying the best of health. Among the additions in the ranks were Wm. T. Royer, who has enlisted as musician for the 5th Regiment, and at camp his bugle tones will reverberate from hill to hill.

Major Patterson complimented the company on the perfect condition of uniforms and guns and other equipments.

New P. M. Appointed.
We are informed that Mr. John Griff has been appointed post master at Pleasant Gap and will take charge of the office which for so many years was located in Noll's store. It is only a matter of a short time until the mails will be distributed at the same old place. This arrangement is only temporary—the democrats will manage such things later on.

The Wrong Wilson.
Last week District Attorney J. C. Meyer noticed that a certain John Wilson had been arrested at Allentown, Pa., and sent a description of our escaped John Wilson. This week a picture was received from Allentown which clearly proves that that John Wilson is not the man Centre county officials are anxious to capture.

County Treasurer Moving.
To-day Treasurer Gramley will move from Miles township to Bellefonte and will occupy one of James McClures' residences on East Bishop street. There will be a big time and plenty of good things to eat on this occasion.

—Everybody stops to admire the handsome furniture on exhibition in Naginey's store, on Bishop street.

—Naginey, the furniture dealer, on Bishop street, keeps a large and complete stock and invites all to come and see his new line of parlor suits, bed room suits, centre tables, couches, etc., just received. It will do you good to see his stock.

—Col. Teller, formerly proprietor of the Bush House, was in town this week making preparations for his sale of household goods which occurred on Tuesday last. He is connected with a coal office in Philad., in which Senator Peal, of Lock Haven, is largely interested. He is enjoying good health and is in the best of spirits.

WHAT DOES THIS MEAN?

A Report of the Mismanagement of the Soldiers Orphan Schools.

The Philadelphia Record of Thursday contains a lengthy article in which it is said that recent revelations at Mercer, this State, disclose the fact that Pennsylvania's Treasury has been robbed of over one million dollars in the management of the soldiers' orphans' schools. It is said that the illegal profits of one of ten big schools amounted to \$170,000, and that this school was one of three that were controlled by a syndicate, headed by ex-State Senator George W. Wright, of Mercer. According to the Record the fortunes accumulated by eight men through "pinching the orphans and fleeing the State," aggregate \$1,095,000 divided among these people: George W. Wright, \$65,000; James L. Paul, \$60,000; Major Moore, White Hall, \$125,000; Prof. Sweet, Harford, \$85,000, and Prof. Watres, Uniontown, \$80,000.

The Record declares that "while the State officials are largely to blame for the wholesale raids on the Treasury, the Grand Army of the Republic is primarily responsible for much of the suffering and neglect which the orphans endured," in that they were not only responsible for the management of all the institutions, but for the honest disbursement of the moneys that were taken from the State Treasury.

The Record says the question of recovering the illegal profits of the Soldiers' Orphan School managers has been submitted to a number of lawyers, all of whom are concerned in the opinion that the State has a complete case.

Four Hundred Applicants for Passes.

The Somerset Standard says: Sheriff Good has 100 letters on the file asking for passes to witness the execution of the Nicelys, and altogether the requests for admission number fully 400. The space in the jail where the executions are to take place is very limited, and can at best accommodate no more than thirty-five persons. No scaffold will be erected. The inside of the jail is entirely of iron and double iron trap doors in the hallway of the upper floor will constitute the drop and two iron rings fastened in an iron joist of the ceiling of the second story will serve to secure the ropes. The executions will take place in an upper corridor of the building, where the witnesses will be stationed. The bodies will drop through the trap door and hang partly in the lower corridor.

Robbed of \$650.

Abbot B. Garth, of Mill Hall, was robbed of a large amount of money on last Thursday evening, the particulars of which seem to be as follows: Mr. Garth on Thursday afternoon received \$650 from the Safe Deposit company of Lock Haven, which he intended to use on Friday to pay off the employees of the axe factory. He placed the money underneath the bed clothing in his room thinking it would be safe there until the time to use it. He then went to supper and afterwards to his store, leaving in the house only his two children, a little boy and girl, Mrs. Garth being absent. About half-past 7 o'clock the idea struck the little boy that it would be just a jolly thing to have a game of checkers with his grandpa, so off he went to the old gentleman's house to invite him to come over to the family mansion to have a good time. While he was gone the little girl heard a noise up stairs and directly afterwards heard a sound as of a jump upon the back kitchen roof as if from an upper window, which sounds were confirmed by seeing a man in the act of descending to the ground and running off. When Mr. Garth reached home to his great chagrin and disappointment he found that his \$650 had disappeared. His feelings may be imagined, but we would not undertake to describe them for half the amount lost.

Off for Seattle.

Next Monday morning Mr. A. Sternberg and family, and Mr. Harvey Shaeffer, of Zion, will take the early train at this place for a long journey across the continent to Seattle, Washington state, where they expect to make their future home. That they may meet with success and prosper abundantly in their western home is the wish of the DEMOCRAT.

Fire at Unionville.

On Sunday evening a dwelling house, on a farm located on the mountains back of Unionville, was destroyed by fire. It was the property of W. F. Reeder, Esq., of Bellefonte, and was not occupied at the time. The cause of the fire is unknown, supposed to be the work of an incendiary.

A DILATORY POLICY.

The legislature drags its slow length along. Nearly three months of the session are gone and not a single important measure has become a law. The apportionment committees give no sign. It is apparent that the political majority in the legislature has determined to pass no congressional apportionment bill and that it has held back other important legislation in order to use it for the purpose of obstructing the passage of apportionment bills.

It is equally plain that no bill providing for the calling of a constitutional convention is to be permitted to pass. The Robison bill is the merest evasion of the subject. Its passage is intended simply to procrastinate. The Brown bill cannot pass because the republican majority in both houses has set its face against it on party grounds. The Wherry bill cannot be objectionable to republicans for it would give them control of the convention, but they don't want a convention. But in order that the honest constitutional convention bills may be antagonized by appropriation bills and other necessary legislation the republican majority has deliberately held back such legislation to the last moment. Presently they will fix an early date for final adjournment and then all the reform bills will be doomed.

The policy of delay pursued by the republicans of the legislature is a shrewd one, indeed, but nobody will be fooled by the chicanery. The people are watching the conduct of their representatives and will hold the party which controls their actions to a strict responsibility. Mark that meanwhile the democrats of the legislature should in no wise assist the republicans in their scheme of procrastination. They should push the legislative work of the session and not permit themselves to be drawn into any side issues of any kind. Let them insist upon an early consideration of the genuine reform bills before the two houses and subrogate everything to the advancement of those measures. If they will do this they will dig the grave of the republican party of Pennsylvania.—Patriot.

A Small Affair.

On March 13th a wedding occurred at the residence of David Solt, of Zion, in which his daughter Miss Gertie and Mr. Lincoln Musser were the contracting parties. According to the common custom of the race, the boys and young men in a friendly way tendered them a royal serenade by blowing sea shells, hammering tin cans and such like. In doing this they broke some boards loose on an old dilapidated porch, and other trifling damage was done. On last Thursday Mr. Solt had three little boys, Dr. Fisher's two sons and Harry Hockman, and also Herbert Showers, William Weaver, and Harvey Royer arrested and brought before Justice Foster. The evidence against all was insignificant, yet for some reason the three latter gentlemen were bound over for court.

Mr. Solt certainly made a mistake by bringing such a prosecution, and sentiment in that community will be of more injury to him hereafter than all the verdicts he may obtain in court. The whole business is small, and should never be allowed to go further than before the grand jury.

—R. M. Magee and family, of Philadelphia, arrived in town on Saturday and will remain for a visit of a few days.

—This week is known as Holy Week among our churches. Services are held daily by many congregations until Easter Sunday.

—Beautiful palms were distributed among members of the Episcopal and Catholic churches.

—Mr. Frank S. Graw has accepted a position with the Centre Lime Co., whose operations are located in Snyder county. Their main office is located at Harrisburg.

—Last Saturday evening some sneak thieves paid the residence of Editor E. T. Tuten, on Linn street, a professional visit. They found a nice, large, fat turkey and had a big feast. Linn street people like the Chambers and Tuten must live on the fat of the land on Sundays.

—Hon. John H. Orvis is expected home from Pottsville this week where he has been engaged the past two months upon an important election case.

—The playing of Mr. Geo. Brandon upon the piano in the opera house on Monday evening, was so well done that it received more hearty applause than any portion of the performance that followed. The young man is deserving of much praise for his accomplishment in that line, which always is improving.

A DISGRACE TO AMERICA.

The statement that the funeral of the late Senator Hearst will cost the government \$100,000, and that the funeral train of nine Pullman cars which was rolling Westward to the Golden Gate was filled with card parties composed of the friends of Congressmen and Senators, is a scandal which is a disgrace to the American people.

It is time for Congress to put a stop to the outrageous junkets, which mark the conveyance of the remains of a deceased statesman to their final resting place. A funeral train, heavily laden with liquors and cigars and filled with men bent on getting as much pleasure as possible out of the excursion, is an insult to the memory of the dead, an outrage on the taxpayers and an offence to the entire civilized world.

The ridiculous and extravagant manner in which the body of the late California Senator was being borne to his former home is not the first of these casket following junkets. The Garfield funeral train, it was claimed, left a line of empty bottles from the East to the West, and the outcry at that time against these outrageous displays was deep and bitter. But the rebuke seems to have been forgotten, and it is now time for the American people to demand the passage of a law which will make similar scandals impossible.

THE MARRIAGE A FARCE.

Unfortunate Plight of a Shamokin Young Woman.

A woman arrived in Shamokin Sunday from Streeter, Ill., and tells a strange story of her experience with a man to whom she thought she had been legally married.

Thirteen months ago, Noah Long, a miner living in Shamokin, met and wooed a young girl named Mary Martin. He took her to the house of a friend, where one of Long's chums performed a mock marriage. The girl insisted on having a certificate of marriage, but Long told her that a lawyer would give them a certificate in the morning.

A week later the couple left for Illinois where her husband got work in the mines. Ten happy months passed, when the neglected woman asked Long for the long-promised certificate. He told her it was in the hands of Lawyer Ryan, of Shamokin, and whenever she would speak to Long about the matter he would fly into a passion and beat her unmercifully.

At last she wrote to her father, who interviewed Mr. Ryan and found that no such document had been left with him. The wife learned from Long's own lips that she was no wife, but she kept her shame a secret and concluded to come east as soon as an opportunity presented itself.

Assisted by a neighbor, on one occasion she made her way to the depot, but was discovered by Long, who forced her to return home. On her arrival there he told her that she must enter the mines with him as a laborer, so that he could always be with her. The husband also told his wife that should she try to reveal her identity he would kill her.

Walter Martin, a brother of the wronged woman, learned of his sister's plight, and together with Harvey Albright went to her assistance and brought her home Sunday.

Chief of Police Reppard, of Shamokin received a letter from Long stating that his wife had deserted him, and on going to the house of the girl's parents he learned the story of Long's inhuman treatment of his wife.

—Trout fishermen are getting their tackle in trim to start out early Wednesday morning April 15th.

—One of our papers says a speak easy is in operation at Spring Mills. That is a foolish order of things as long as the genuine, good old stuff can be had in a legitimate way at Davy Rhule's counter. They say he keeps the best; that is what we are told, you know.

—Mr. Wistar Norris, a gentleman who with his family frequently visited Bellefonte and was related to Mrs. Evan Blanchard, died at his home in Overbrook, on Monday. Mr. Norris held large interests in the Penna. R. R. and was an influential member of the company.

—Constantin Comandery Knights Templar, of this place, will observe Good Friday this week by attending services in the Episcopal church that morning. They will wear the fatigue uniform and go in a body.

—M. I. Gardner, the insurance agent, is smiling all over his establishment has added another member by his wife presenting him with a bouncing boy, who will grow up to increase Centre county's democratic majorities one more.