

The Centre Democrat.

Vol. 13

BELLEFONTE, PA., THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 1891.

NO. 35

The Centre Democrat.

CHAS. R. KURTZ, EDITOR

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.
Regular Price \$1.50 per year.
When Paid in Advance \$1.00
When subscriptions are not paid inside of three years \$2.00 will be charged.

Editorial.

DEMOCRATIC STATE TICKET.

For Auditor General,
ROBERT E. WRIGHT, of Lehigh Co.
For State Treasurer,
A. L. TILDEN, of Erie County.

DEMOCRATIC COUNTY TICKET.

For Delegate to Constitutional Convention:
ELLIS L. ORVIS,
Subject to action of district conference.
Jury Commissioner—**GEORGE BOWER**.

THE proposed constitutional convention will be defeated in November by at least 200,000 votes. Mark that and see if our estimate is not about correct.

It is said that since Ray and McClure have been in office the boro finances never were in such a deplorable state. There should be an improvement, or a change of officials.

READ the platform adopted by the Democratic State Convention at Harrisburg last Thursday. It is plain and to the point, and is upon state issues alone. It will appeal to the support of every voter, taxpayer and lover of honest government in the keystone state. Reform is an old cry, but it is badly needed.

Is there one republican in Centre co., of the many hundred who voted for Pattison, who to-day regrets the step? The election of a democrat has resulted in much good. The pledges made to the people are being faithfully fulfilled. Now give us a democratic Auditor General and State Treasurer and other reforms will immediately follow.

Boss rule, with a ring of politicians back of it, always results in some form of evil. The loss of the large amount of money in Philadelphia, belonging to the state, is directly due to the ring politicians of this state, who have been manipulating the republican party for the past generation. The defeat of Delamater resulted in the exposure of more than one big steal. Give us a few more democratic officials in the state and everybody will be benefited.

As far as the democrats of Pennsylvania are concerned they will conduct the present campaign upon state issues. The honor of the state has been trampled by the present officials, through whose official negligence and complicity, John Bardsley got away with over one million dollars of public funds. We want a change, democratic officials should be elected as a change would be beneficial. Give the republican party a rest of one term to purge itself.

A. L. TILDEN, the democratic nominee for State Treasurer, is a farmer of Erie county. The democratic party is not playing an "old soldier" racket this year, nor will they ask the people to vote for Tilden for State Treasurer because he is a farmer—instead, he is an honest man and will faithfully discharge his duties. Think what an improvement it would be to have an honest man in that position—there would be no more Bardsley steals—no falsification of the records or squandering of the state's finances.

THE Pennsylvania democrats seize the republican party by the throat, says the New York Sun, and force it to its knees. The issue as presented at Harrisburg can be summed up in five words: "You thief, confess and disgorge!" Nothing like this spirited, direct, and terribly specific arraignment can be found in the political archives of any state. It fixes the issue in Pennsylvania so far as the democrats are concerned. It fixes the republican party, too, unless it can wriggle itself out of the clutch of the accusing hand.

It is not surprising that our esteemed contemporary, the Philad. Press, should criticize the Harrisburg resolutions as "non committal on the controlling issues of the day," or that our neighbor, the New York Tribune, should find a "painful monotony about a platform which arraigns and condemns the republican party ad nauseam through fourteen wearisome planks."

To dodge the issue as presented is to confess the truth of the charges. To accept the issue is to put John Bardsley and the Hon. John Wanamaker on the witness stand.

WRIGHT AND TILDEN

Unanimously Nominated to Lead Keystone Democrats.

CLEVELAND'S NAME APPLAUDED

But the Platform is Confined Strictly to State Issues—Republican Rascalities in Philadelphia Vigorously Assailed, Senator Quay Denounced and a Secret Ballot Favored.

HARRISBURG, Sept. 4.—The Democratic state convention met in the opera house which was tastefully decorated with bunting. Benjamin M. Nead, J. F. Snyder, J. P. J. Sussenderfer, George H. Hoffman, S. B. Keefer, F. E. Bible and J. D. Sell were elected secretaries. An hour was consumed in the calling over and correction of the roll of delegates, the convention being composed of 461, based on the number of votes cast for the Democratic candidate for governor at the last election.

H. Willis Bland, of Reading, was elected temporary chairman without opposition. He said his selection was a compliment to the 18,000 Democrats of Berks county. He said the conditions for Democratic success were never more promising, because of recent revelations of Republican corruption. The campaign, he said, would be conducted on state issues. The party would not deviate from the principles of the national Democracy. They still believed in their great political prophet, Grover Cleveland. Loud and long continued applause followed the announcement of Cleveland's name. Mr. Bland said Cleveland's defeat was more glorious than his election would have been under the circumstances. He had risen above personal ambition and had rightfully retained the confidence of the Democracy by his manly political attitude.

Pennsylvania Republicans Scored. Mr. Bland then turned his speech into a denunciation of the practices of the Republican party in Pennsylvania. The honor of the state, he said, had never been so compromised as in the past twenty-five years. The election of Governor Pattison last fall was a pointed illustration of the sentiment of the people on this subject. But this result was only a skirmish, and the Waterloo would come in the wrestling of every state office from the Republicans. It was a shame that the auditor general, state treasurer, city treasurer of Philadelphia, and prominent newspapers in that city should be engaged in a conspiracy to plunder the commonwealth. It was impossible for the Democrats to lose under such circumstances.

Governor Pattison weighed upon us peerless among the governors of the state for the last thirty years, and his name was applauded as enthusiastically as that of Cleveland.

Mr. Bland was honored with a round of applause at the conclusion of his speech. The rest of the morning session was devoted to the appointment of committees to select delegates to the constitutional convention on permanent organization and a platform.

Skinner for Permanent Chairman.

The afternoon session of the convention began at 2 o'clock. The committee on permanent organization reported in favor of Hon. George W. Skinner, of Fulton county, for permanent chairman, and a vice president from each senatorial district. The temporary minor officials were retained permanently. Mr. Skinner vigorously assailed Republican misrule, complimented the old soldiers, and ridiculed "the light, evasive and deceitful manner which characterized the utterances of those who assembled here in a like capacity with us two weeks ago."

Congressman Metchler, chairman of the committee on resolutions, reported the platform. Each plank was cheered as it was read, and its adoption by the convention was heartily unanimous.

The Platform.

We, the representatives of the Democracy of Pennsylvania, in convention assembled, renew our pledges of devotion to the principles of our party in the country at large, as declared in the platforms of the national conventions of 1884 and 1888, and approved in the elections of those years by a majority of the American people. We are, as we have always been, in favor of honest and economical administration of public affairs; of limiting expenses and reducing taxation to meet the actual necessities of government; of a sound and stable currency, based on gold and silver, coined and circulated in such proportions as will keep them on a parity; of a reform and revision of the tariff; of liberal but just pension laws, and of all well considered legislation tending to increase the reward and lighten the burdens of labor.

We realize and affirm that the state election of 1891 in Pennsylvania involves no issue of Federal politics. We appeal to honest and patriotic citizens, regardless of past party affiliations to unite in vindicating the honor of the commonwealth and reforming the fiscal and auditing departments of the government from official abuses and corrupt practices.

We arraign and condemn the Republican legislature for having failed to pass honest and equitable apportionment bills, for having ignored the demands of labor for relief by law, and for having denied the righteous popular demand for such laws as would distribute the burdens of public taxation equally upon all classes.

A Stinging Arraignment. We arraign and condemn the Republican party of Pennsylvania for electing men to state and municipal offices, by whose neg-

lect of duty, complicity in fraud and plunder of the public treasury a million and a half dollars of the people's money has been stolen and squandered. We arraign and condemn the Republican auditor general for having permitted John Bardsley, the Republican treasurer of Philadelphia city and county, to embezzle more than \$500,000 of state license money; for having conspired with John Bardsley, the Republican treasurer of Philadelphia, to appoint and retain corrupt mercantile appraisers, and demand dismissal of the mercantile appraisers; for permitting John Bardsley, the Republican treasurer of Philadelphia city and county, to embezzle half a million dollars of state tax.

We arraign and condemn the Republican state treasurer for willfully and knowingly permitting John Bardsley to retain in his possession over a million dollars of money collected for and owing to the commonwealth of Pennsylvania, by reason of which dereliction a large portion of the money has been lost to the people; for having conspired with John Bardsley to secure to him the payment of \$425,000 of the public school funds, long in advance of the usual time, which sum was by him embezzled, to the loss of Philadelphia and the shame and scandal of the state.

Pattison Indorsed. We arraign and condemn the Republican party of Pennsylvania for having fostered, encouraged, protected and continued a reckless system of official speculation with public moneys, whereby state and city treasurers have enriched themselves, corrupted the public morals and robbed the taxpayer. The practice of using public funds for private gain and political advantage is to be condemned, and should be completely and thoroughly eradicated.

We arraign and condemn the Republican state convention, recently assembled, for its condemnation and defense of faithless Republican state officials guilty of these derelictions, some of whom sat in its councils, influenced its action and dictated and controlled its utterances.

We heartily indorse the wise, statesmanlike and patriotic administration of Governor Pattison. We applaud and approve his fearless vetoes of partisan, vicious and ill considered legislation; his recommendations of salutary laws; his vigorous investigation and wholesome correction of public abuses, and his determination to enforce the constitution, punish offenders and secure public reform.

We favor the abolition of the office of mercantile appraiser and the substitution of some certain, economical and efficient method of assessing and collecting the taxes and the securing of costs of collection where there can be no recovery.

Quay Denounced. We approve all legislation looking to an honest registry of voters, to the end that every qualified voter may be secured the exercise of his franchise, and that the lists may be purged of all names not rightly thereon in registration. To this end, and for these purposes only, we favor the assembling of a constitutional convention.

We pledge the candidates to be nominated to correct these abuses, to reform these practices, to make such investigation and give such information as will warrant the law department of the commonwealth to bring a punishment to those guilty of them. And we pledge our support to the state administration to accomplish these ends.

Wright and Tilden Nominated. The nomination of candidates for auditor general and state treasurer was next begun. Hon. Walter E. Ritter, of Lycoming, presented the name of Robert E. Wright, of Allentown. The nomination was seconded by Frank Fitzsimmons, of Lackawanna.

George Tille, of Lancaster, nominated James G. McSparran, of Lancaster, who, he said, as a member of the state senate, would give strength to the ticket. D. C. Dewitt, of Bradford, seconded the nomination.

The vote resulted: Wright, 572; McSparran, 59. Wright's nomination was then made unanimous.

At 3:45 A. L. Tilden, of Erie, was put in nomination by Arbuckle, of Erie, Dunbar, of Crawford, seconded the nomination.

The name of Charles W. Raymond, of Dauphin county, was presented by Rewalt, of Dauphin, and seconded in a vigorous speech by Rush Gillian.

When the votes were counted they showed a total of 394 for Tilden and 55 for Raymond, and Tilden's nomination was made unanimous.

Constitutional Convention Delegates. The following were reported as delegates at large to the constitutional convention and the convention ratified the action of the committee: Charles R. Buckalew, of Columbia; Chauncey F. Black, York; Samuel Gustine Thompson, George M. Dallas and David W. Sells, Philadelphia; George A. Jenks, Jefferson; W. C. Scott, Northampton; R. E. Monaghan, Chester; W. S. McLaine, Luzerne; Frank M. Vandling, Lackawanna; John Latta, Westmoreland; Roger Sherman, Crawford; William Weite and Thomas P. Lazare, Allegheny; Samuel Griffith, Mercer; Grant Weidman, Lebanon; George W. Zeigle, Bucks; H. Morgan Root, Montgomery.

A committee was appointed to wait upon candidates and escort them to the hall, and it succeeded in finding Mr. Wright, who arraigned the Republican party for its alleged corrupt practices and admonished the Democratic party to stick to state issues. Mr. Tilden appeared subsequently and made a short speech. Chairman Kerr, of the state committee, also made a few remarks, when the convention adjourned.

How He Got Left.

How the suckers do bite! A young man in a neighboring town read an advertisement in one of the city papers of the day. "Detectives wanted. Information free." He lost no time in getting a letter to headquarters as soon as possible. In due time an answer came to him stating that his appointment, with badge and full instructions would be sent him on receipt of \$5. This was good enough. The y. m. forwarded the money as soon as possible and in return received his badge—a tin one—and instructions to arrest all suspicious characters and catch all the suckers like himself he could.

The Centre Democrat and the Philad. Weekly Times one year for \$1.45.

SOURD SWEETNESS.

Major McKinley asked an Ohio audience the other day, says the Pittsburgh Post, justifying the sugar bounty, if it wasn't better to pay \$11,000,000 bounty to get rid of an annual burden of \$44,000,000 customs tax on sugar, "since sugar couldn't be raised here in sufficient quantities for home consumption." But an experience of many years of high protection shows wool cannot be raised in the United States "in sufficient quantities for home consumption." We consume 600,000,000 pounds of wool annually and only produce 500,000,000. Should there not be a bounty on wool on this logic? It is as great a necessity of life as sugar.

There is one thing Major McKinley doesn't explain. The revenue from sugar and molasses in 1890 was \$61,383,000. If to these we add \$11,000,000 for the sugar bounty, we find the treasury will be out \$72,000,000 by the sugar legislation of the McKinley bill. That is a pretty big hole in Uncle Sam's bank account. The Billion Congress has seen to it that the public expenditures are equal to the public revenues.

Can Major McKinley suggest any method by which the treasury can be recompensed for the \$72,000,000 sugar duties repealed by the McKinley bill other than by taxing the people? The sugar tax was a revenue tax. It cost little to collect. The burden it imposed on the people went almost entirely into the public treasury. We consume 3,000,000,000 pounds of sugar annually, and only produce 300,000. The total repeal of the sugar tax was a great mistake in a revenue point of view, and the treasury doctors will find it one when brought face to face with a deficit.

Conference Notice.

The Allegheny Conference of the United Brethren church will meet in its fifty-third annual session in the U. B. church, of this place, Wednesday the 16th inst., at 2 p. m. with the following programme.

Organization—Bishop E. B. Kephart, D. D.

Wednesday Evening, 7:30—"Conference Sermon" by Rev. W. R. Funk.

Thursday evening—Anniversary of the Young Peoples Christian Union, addresses by Rev. H. F. Shupe, W. H. Mingle and H. T. Denlinger. Also annual business meeting of the Allegheny Branch of the Y. P. C. U.

Friday evening—Sermon by Prof. G. A. Funkhouser, D. D., of Union Biblical Seminary.

Saturday, 3 p. m.—"Memoirs," to time of adjournment. Papers by Revs. L. W. Stahl, J. H. Pershing, H. F. Shupe, to J. Zuke and D. Shearer.

Saturday evening—"Missions" conducted by Rev. J. I. G. Resler.

Sabbath morning—Sermon by Bishop E. B. Kephart.

Sabbath evening—church extension, conducted by Rev. W. R. Funk and other competent speakers.

All are cordially invited to be present at each and all meetings as well as the daily business sessions of the conference.

A Good Company.

In another column will be found an elaborate statement of the financial standing and summary of the Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance company. It will give the reader an idea of the importance of this company in the insurance world and the claims it has for being in the foremost rank. Our friend W. C. Heinle, Esq., has been appointed district agent for the same and will pay his entire time and attention to it. Everybody should carry insurance and it is well to consult with Mr. Heinle as he can point out to you the special claims and superior advantages of this organization.

Death of Rev. Lambert.

Last Tuesday, Sept. 1, Rev. A. R. Lambert, formerly pastor of the Methodist church, at Pleasant Gap, died at his present appointment, Muncy, Pa., from an attack of pneumonia. Rev. Lambert was a young man and his parents reside in Boggs twp., Clearfield co. About one year ago he had his life insured for \$5,000 in the New York Mutual Life Insurance Company which will be a source of support for his wife and children.

—Rob. Hunter, while riding his bicycle near Curtin's works, last Sunday, struck a dog as he was crossing a bridge. Bob, turned a flipper in the air and landed on his feet, the bicycle went in the race along with his glasses and the dog will never tackle another wheel. By drawing the gates the glasses and bicycle were obtained.

—The Centre Democrat and Philad. Weekly Times will be mailed to any address for \$1.45 a year.

JUDGE FURST'S POSITION.

THE INDICTMENT FOR POLITICAL EFFECT.

Who is at Fault in the Matter—Uncalled for Censure of the County Commissioners—That "New Court House."

The last two issues of the Gazette, the organ of the Republican Ring of Bellefonte, were literally packed with misrepresentations respecting the present board of county commissioners. In the first issue, that of Friday, August 28th, the facts relating to the indictment against the commissioners were so distorted that there was not even a semblance of truth left. The entire responsibility was thrown upon District Attorney Meyer and D. F. Fortney, Esq., counsel to the commissioners, and Judge Furst was not even mentioned in connection with the case. In the issue of September 4th this is reversed, and Judge Furst is given the credit for the entire proceeding, but he is placed in the light of a champion of the rights of the citizens and tax payers of the county. Both articles are false, and were prepared solely for political effect. Judge Furst, as the President Judge of the county, has a right to look after the interests of the county, in fact it is his duty to do so, but when his personal organ and mouth piece misrepresents and distorts the facts, as was done in this case, for the purpose of furthering party ends, it is time that the truth should be known. We do not say that Judge Furst sanctions the course of the Gazette, but the articles referred to are written, and his conduct put to use for party purposes; consequently it becomes necessary to refer to what he has done in this behalf, in order that honest and competent officials may not suffer by means of these misrepresentations.

Prior to Judge Furst's candidacy for the Judgeship, nothing was heard about a new court house. During that campaign it was frequently alleged that he was in favor of building one. This was denied stoutly by both himself and his friends. He was elected, and immediately upon his advent the new court house movement sprang into being. The grand jury was instructed to inquire into the matter and given to understand very plainly that the Court and the attorneys would be pleased to have them report favorably. The desired report was made and the jury discharged with the special thanks of the Court. The succeeding grand jury failed to follow the example of its immediate predecessors, and the movement fell through. Since then the subject has been left alive, and at the last term of court a still hunt was inaugurated, and came very near being successful, the report in favor of a new court house being lost by only two votes. As a compromise, the report reshaped the regulation clause against the water closets, with a little extra spice put in to alleviate the disappointments of the new court house advocates. Immediately after the report was read, Judge Furst directed the District Attorney to prepare an indictment against the commissioners, and instead of discharging the grand jury asked them to meet again in the afternoon, and act upon the indictment he had ordered to be sent in against the commissioners. He gave as his reasons that he wanted this prosecution instituted in order to compel these officials to obey the wishes of the Court. All this was done in the presence of the members of the grand jury, and when they met in the afternoon they very promptly returned a "true bill." Judge Furst has a perfect right to do all this, and no doubt he felt it his duty to do just what was done; but what we complain of is that the republican papers are trying to put the responsibility on some one else, and that they are willfully and maliciously misrepresenting, for the purpose of prejudicing the minds of the people for political effect. Judge Furst's sincerity is not in question at all. He wants a new court house, or the old one extensively repaired. He is not afraid to say so. But his offense consists in not taking his party organ in hand, and compelling it to tell the truth. So long as he fails to do this, he must share a part of the responsibility for the distortions and misrepresentations.

The unexplained part of this whole affair, is to know why, just at this time, such radical action was necessary when it is admitted that this water closet is no worse than it has been for several years. And particularly when it was well known to everybody that the commissioners were preparing to make a decided change. Is it possible after all that the Court had more compassion on the former republican officials, than on the present democratic board? This

possibility becomes stronger when it is remembered that the republican board had made such a miserable record, and the new board were careful of the peoples money, and likely to reduce the current expenses to such an extent that a comparison would place the old board in an unenviable position before the people. Judge Furst may not have seen the matter in this light but the action of the Gazette certainly places him in this position.

He is in bad company and his surroundings are anything but non-political. By these surroundings he is to be judged. He has a right to his opinions. He has a right to be in favor of a new court house. Yes, we are willing to go further, he has a perfect right to advocate a new court house. But he should be careful not to do things that create the impression that he is using this right to further the interests of his party, and injure the character of honest men. He is now standing in this position before the people of this county, and his pet party organ has placed him in that position.

If the present board of commissioners are guilty of the charge prepared, then the former board were equally guilty. Why were they not indicted? and why the members of this board, when they were making preparations to remedy the nuisance complained of? These are pertinent questions, and need to be answered.

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A Lengthy Legal Document.

On the first of September there was entered for record in the Recorder's office of Centre county one of the longest, if not the largest legal documents ever recorded in this county. It is a mortgage given by the Clearfield Bituminous Coal Corporation to the Knickerbocker Trust Company, of New York, trustee, to secure \$25,000 of four per cent bonds on the coal lands in Centre and Clearfield counties. The mortgage covers 138 pages of printed matter and when recorded will be spread over about ninety pages on the mortgage record book. The fees for recording the same will be anywhere from seventy-five to one hundred dollars.—News

Nittany and Vicinity.

Our celebrated marksman, Messrs. W. E. Shaffer, Rev. Deibel, Will Zimmerman and Alfred Robb, did justice to the first day of squirrel season by bagging 16 of those frisky little animals. The same day Messrs. Blackford and Gross, of Bellefonte, were hunting on the same ground and succeeded in getting two large bags full—not of squirrels but of pure nothing, with no sugar in it at all.

"Chuck" you have our heart-felt sympathy. "Steel" on the brain must be a very sad affliction.

The latest—wheel of poverty on mens' hats.

Nittany cornet band is booming and the festival and oyster supper Saturday evening will be the event of the season. Elwood and Alfred took a certain family by storm on Sunday evening.

And still they come, and the longer they come, the handsomer they are. Thats what Beaver thought on Sunday evening.

Wanted, 5,000 people to attend the festival on Saturday evening, 12th inst. Try again, Irvin; you are doing fine.

Nelson Robb and A. A. Pletcher were squirrel hunting last Saturday. They report them so plenty that they were afraid to shoot for fear of hurting some of them. Fetch your muskets around gents, we'll give you a few lessons.

Charley says his arms were very lame on Monday morning. No wonder—two is one too many.

Our intelligent drum major, Mr. Laubach, says his hearts-desire is living at Hublersburg. We congratulate that place; it always did seem to be lucky.

An elopement is one of our recent specialties. Nittany Hall is never behind the times it seems, even if it does take the sacrifice of a mother's heart to keep up.

Quite a number of our Sir Knights attended the K. G. E. festival at Millheim on last Saturday.

The Misses Laura Johnston and Alma Zimmerman, of Walker, were among our last weeks visitors.

Grandmother Snaveley is on the sick list.

How did you happen to break that spring-wagon seat, boys?

JUNEHAWKER.

Died in Elliptic.

Mr. William Strunk, of Nittany Valley, and his sister, Mrs. Isaac Reish, have but recently returned from attending the funeral of their brother, John F. Strunk, whose death occurred August 5th, at Wadams Grove, Illinois. The deceased was aged 39 years, and had many friends and acquaintances in Clinton and Centre counties.