

# The Centre Democrat.

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## The Centre Democrat.

CHAS. R. KURTZ, EDITOR

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### Editorial.

#### BANNER CONTEST.

To the Democrats of Centre County:

The democratic county committee, of Centre county, offer a handsome banner costing about fifty dollars to the election district of the county polling the largest percentage of the vote cast last year.

The basis of calculation will be the vote cast for W. H. Barclay, candidate for Secretary of Internal affairs. The comparison will be made between that vote and the vote cast this year for Robert E. Wright, candidate for Auditor General.

The banner shall belong to the winning district so long as it shall continue to poll the largest percentage of its vote at subsequent fall elections; the basis of calculation to be determined each year by the county committee, and to become the permanent property of the election district polling the highest percentage of votes according to the above plan for three consecutive years.

L. A. SCHAEFFER,  
Chairman.

No farmer in Centre county should hesitate to vote for Robert E. Wright this year. He is able, honest, and, above all, is eminently qualified for the position of Auditor General. Not a word can be said against his character.

Just as we said to our readers for years, Quay is at last proven guilty of obtaining some of the public funds. The article in another column shows that Bardsley sent him an eight thousand dollar slice. Defeat Quay's ticket this year.

The republicans claim that Wright should not be elected Auditor General because as an attorney at his home in Allentown he has been retained in the past as counsel for railroad companies. That is proof of his ability in the first place and is no reflection upon his character or integrity. The best and most reliable attorneys of this county are always retained in such cases.

There is no contest in Centre county this year. The candidates for Jury commissioner and constitutional delegates nominated by both parties will all be elected. Then while local issues may dwindle into insignificance do not let your patriotism lag for we have a most important state election. The republican party is in bad shape. Many of them will refuse to go to the polls—they are disgusted. The opportunity never was better for electing a state ticket. Turn out and help to redeem the Keystone State.

The Taggart Tax Bill never became a law, as the Grangers demanded, and who is to blame? The republican party is strong in the majority at Harrisburg and they either pass or condemn whatever suits. They alone are responsible for its defeat, yet the Hon. (?) Leonard Rhone is supporting the republican ticket on the pretext that Robert E. Wright killed that bill. This is a fair sample of Mr. Rhone's inconsistency—for which he has established a record.

A. L. TILDEN, of Erie county, is the democratic nominee for State Treasurer. For years certain grangers have been clamoring for recognition—Tilden, at last, is a granger. The nominations made, do not suit certain grangers, who profess to be democrats, because the political lightning did not strike in the vicinity of Centre county and place Mr. Rhone on the ticket. His opposition, along with that of Granger McSparren, of Chester county, is the old song of the disappointed applicant for office.

The people who have been voting the republican ticket for years may not be in sympathy with the Quay ring that has disgraced their party. The only way for them to dispose of Quay rule is to defeat his ticket and in that manner they will eventually drive him into obscurity. Quay and his political methods defeated the republican party last year and the same gang have humbled the old Keystone State before the eyes of the entire nation. Will you endorse this great shame by voting Quay's ticket this year?

## A LIE NAILED.

### RHONE AND THOMAS DON'T TELL THE TRUTH.

The Following Remarks were Made by Robert E. Wright, the Democratic Candidate for Auditor General, in his speech at Williamsport, Tuesday evening, Oct. 30.

"I regret to feel that I ought to turn aside for a moment from the discussion of the vital questions of the canvass to notice a few misstatements made by certain opposition journals about me. I have in my hand a copy of the *Farmers' Friend*, a journal published by one R. H. Thomas, a republican politician. In it I find a letter from Leonard Rhone, advising farmers to vote against me because, as he declares, my 'record shows me to be opposed to the farmers' demand for an equal distribution of the necessary burdens of government.' In an editorial on this letter the editor declares that I appeared before the house and senate committees as counsel for the Pennsylvania Railroad company and other corporations, and that I was perhaps the ablest of the opponents of and did more than any other man to defeat the 'Taggart bill.' It is a remarkable coincidence that these articles appeared in the *Farmers' Friend* within a week after Quay's boast that so far as these so-called leaders of the grange were able to control it, the farmer vote should be cast against me. I want to say to these two gentlemen that every important assertion or insinuation in this statement is untrue.

I did appear before the committees named on behalf of one client, the Lehigh Valley R. R. Co., to present an argument against certain provisions of the bill as unwise and unconstitutional. I did not appear for the Pennsylvania Railroad company, for I have never been counsel for it in any matter. That company was represented before the committee by republican ex-Attorney General Palmer, while another railroad company was represented by republican ex-Attorney General Kirkpatrick. It is not true, as declared by Messrs. Rhone and Thomas, that I argued against tax equalization.

Before I appeared before the committee I frankly declared to my client that my investigations had satisfied me that the owners of real estate, especially the farmers, were bearing more than their share of the burdens of taxation and that as compared with real estate owners, the corporations were paying too little; that I had confirmed this opinion by statistics collected by myself and that I must so state in my plea I might make for the amendment of the Taggart bill.

Before the committee I emphasized these views. I gave my reasons for believing that the tax equalization demanded by the farmers was just and ought to be conceded. When my argument was interrupted by a representative asking whether I thought that corporations were paying their fair share of taxation. I answered that in my judgment, as compared with farmers, they were not. I outlined the principles of a bill, which, if adopted, would have given to the farmers and to all people of Pennsylvania tax equalization. When I had concluded my argument I was congratulated on my views by the true tax reformers on the committee; I mean by those members of the committee who stood for tax equalization even after professional Farmer Taggart had bowed to the order of the bosses and deserted his own bill.

Tax equalization was defeated, not because I argued for the amendment of the Taggart bill, but because the republican bosses applied the whip and by an almost strictly party vote set it aside. The charge of these men that I opposed tax equalization is contradicted and refuted by every private and public utterance I have ever made on the subject.

I say to Mr. Thomas that if he will print in the next issue of the *Farmers' Friend* my entire, ungarbled argument before the senate or house committee I will be glad to pay for such insertion at the usual advertising rates.

It is also charged that I am a corporation lawyer. I happen in my own county to be the local counsel for the few railroads that pass through it. I represent their cases there as do other lawyers in other counties. I endeavor in these cases to give them honest service for honest compensation, as I do to any other client I may have. They have never asked more, and I assume they never will. The auditor general's office has charge of the settlement of accounts against corporations. I desire now to give notice to all corporations that if I am chosen to that office I will expect every one of them to make prompt settlement and payment of all their taxes,

but at the same time I assure them that the office shall not be used as the hatching place for bogus claims and suits devised for levying tribute upon them for personal or political use."

GEN. Gregg, the republican nominee for Auditor General, is an unfit man for that most important office. He was educated for a soldier and his record on the field of battle is brilliant. He today is a man well advanced in years and has reached that period of life when energy and mental activity is on the decline. The office of Auditor General requires an active, energetic, strong, honest, clean man. A man with a mind that has had a most careful legal training, as the office implies the auditing of accounts which are settled upon the legal questions involved. It takes a wide-awake, energetic man, in the prime of life, to look after the interests of the state and for that reason we feel justified in saying that Mr. Wright is the most eminently qualified to fill that position. Mr. Gregg may successfully plan and lead a body of men into an engagement and come out victorious but that is no guarantee that he can fill the position of Auditor General.

Let us give due credit to the old soldiers; but at the same time we should be patriotic enough not to let the interests of the state be slighted.

No more chance for Rhone in the democratic party and he knows it. He is by degrees going over to his original nest.

## AND QUAY, TOO, WAS IN IT.

Bardsley sent Quay a nice slice of \$8,877.

Bardsley's Two-million-dollar Steal—Generosity of the Convict Treasurer—\$8,000 Due Bill sent to Quay—Endorser of the Certificate in Jail and the Drawer a Fugitive from Justice—Dividing the Spoils.

The story of the broken Keystone National Bank in Philadelphia is a tale of crime and robbery rarely equaled in the criminal annals. It involved men of high and low degree.

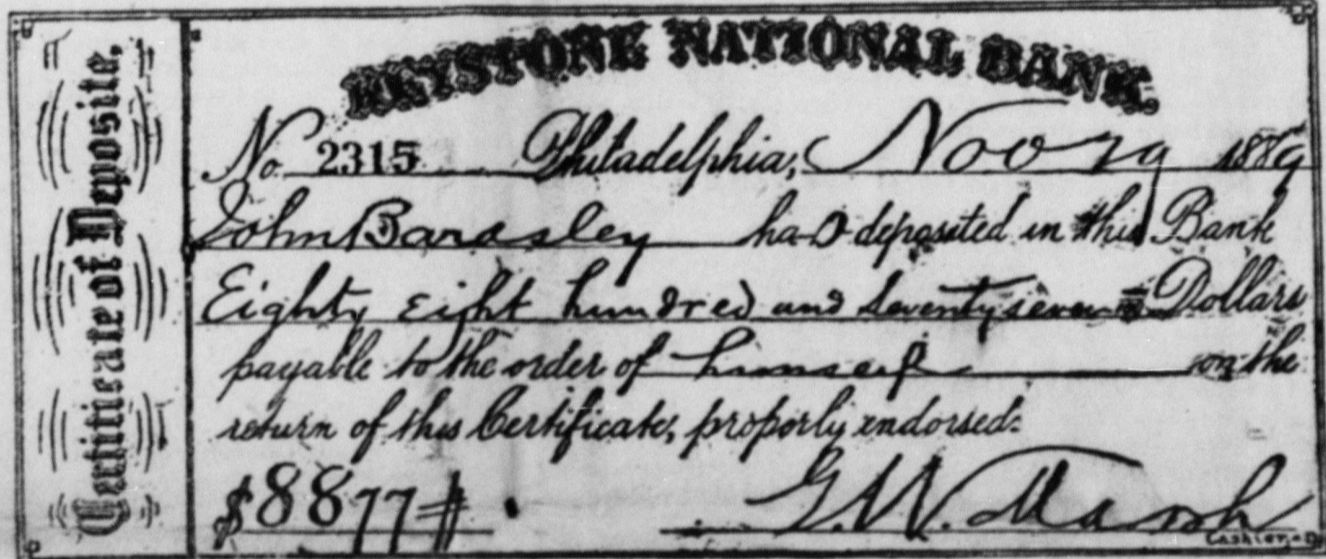
Its whole story has not yet been written. What we know is terrible; yet where some of the public money went has been disclosed. John Bardsley divided it with politicians, corrupt officials and women of loose habits. He speculated with some. He wasted some.

Bardsley was a generous man. He gave the Auditor General of the state beautiful neckties, volumes of Tolstoi's works and charming onyx clocks.

He gave money to the cashier of the state treasury for being "personally kind" to him. He gave to H. N. Graffen, a clerk in the office of the Auditor General, in one little chunk \$1,575. He gave—but stop! What is this?

(Fac-simile of a Due Bill found among the papers of the broken Keystone National bank, and now in the possession of Robert M. Yardley, receiver.)

(FACE OF DRAFT.)



#### How You'll Vote.

The ticket to be voted for at the coming election is as follows:

One headed State, with the names of the candidates for Auditor General and State Treasurer, to be deposited in a box to be provided for that purpose. One headed Delegates at Large, with the names of the persons nominated for a Constitutional Convention, should one be held, to be deposited in a separate box. One headed County, with the names of the candidates to be voted for, to be deposited in a separate box. One headed District Delegates, with the names of the candidates for the Constitutional Convention, if any is held, for this county, to be deposited in a separate box.

A separate box is required for the ballots on the question of holding a Constitutional Convention. Get out the vote.

THREE years ago Leonard Rhone was an aspirant for the nomination of State Treasurer on the democratic ticket. He recently asked the nomination for State Senator, from this district and was badly disappointed. As an applicant for an appointment under Pattison he likewise was disappointed. Now posing as the Master of the State Grange—while in fact a disgruntled, defeated office seeker—he is opposing the democratic ticket and calls upon the grangers of the state to defeat Wright. It looks to much like a threat for revenge.

If the people of Pennsylvania will again endorse the republican officials in this state, after all the robbery and theft by these officials has been exposed, we might as well do away with our system of ballots and declare popular government a complete failure. We still have confidence in the manhood and integrity of our people and believe they will carefully think and conscientiously vote on Tuesday.

AFTER all the stealing and plundering that has been done for years by the republican ring at Harrisburg, is clearly brought to light, can any self respecting citizen go to the polls next Tuesday and conscientiously cast a vote for the ring candidates, Morrison and Gregg? Remember their election means the vindication of McCamant, Boyer, Livsey and Quay.

—The new stock of overcoats and heavy clothing recently unpacked at the Philad. Branch beats the record.

When John Bardsley went to jail, he had collected the following moneys for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, which he had not paid over:

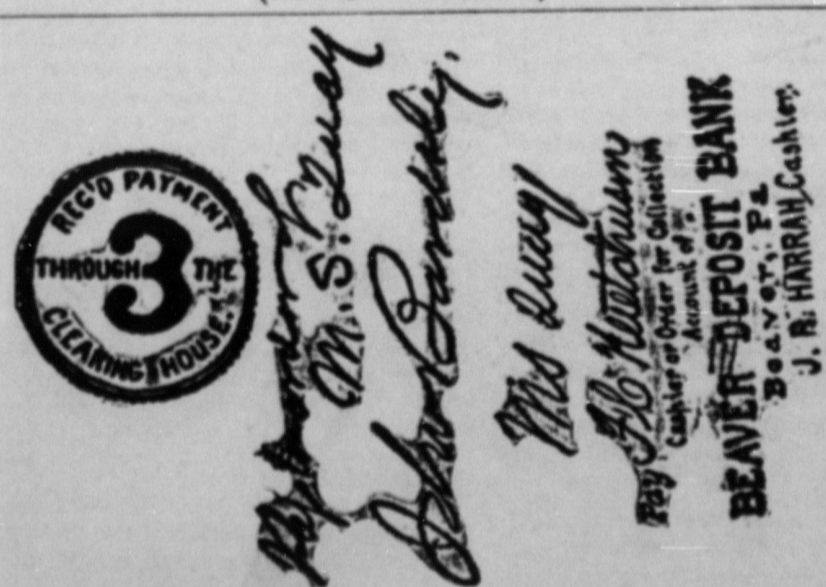
Personal property tax, (1890).....	\$622,013.11
" " " (1891).....	289,232.96
License tax (1890).....	367,604.18
" " (1891).....	1,497.54
Municipal loans tax, (1890).....	86,030.80
Total.....	\$1,366,378.59

About \$1,000,000.00 of this had been in his hand since August 1st, 1890, and the Auditor General and State Treasurer had taken no legal steps to collect it, although it was their duty to do so on October 1st, 1890. Most of the above money John Bardsley had in the Keystone Bank. The City of Philadelphia has also lost about \$600,000.00 in the same institution.

None of the experts have yet been able to discover and report where this money went.

The due bill, above, shows that Bardsley got \$8,877 from the bank on November 29th, 1890, and sent it to Quay. Quay collected the money through his bank at Beaver; and when the certificate was sent on, the Keystone Bank paid it.

#### (ENDORSEMENTS.)



Where did this money come from? Why did Bardsley send it to Quay?

On 2d November, 1889, Auditor General McCamant sent the money for the Magistrate's costs in Philadelphia to Bardsley—over \$30,000. Bardsley deposited it in the Keystone bank, and on the 29th November, 1889, he (Bardsley) paid \$1,575 to H. N. Graffen, a clerk to Auditor General McCamant.

On the same day he sent this \$8,877 to Quay!!! Of the persons whose names appear on above certificate as drawer, payee and endorser, G. W. MARSH is a FUGITIVE.

JOHN BARDSLEY is in JAIL. M. S. QUAY is in charge of the REPUBLICAN STATE COMMITTEE, trying to elect Gregg and Morrison to succeed McCamant and Boyer, and preserve the "methods" and "customs" that started Marsh running for safety and put Bardsley behind prison bars.

Is this not enough to condemn Quay and the republican ring? Down with Quay and Quayism in this State. Get out the vote.

#### THE GOVERNOR'S MESSAGE.

The Philadelphia Ledger, edited by George W. Childs, the leading and old reliable republican paper of Philadelphia, as well as a very able one editorially, has this to say:

"The message which Governor Pattison sent to the state senate, convened in extraordinary session, is remarkable, most of all, for the grave matters which are the subject of it, remarkable for the circumstances which demanded it, and remarkable for the clearness, directness and forcibleness with which it presents the evidence which has been with such careful, sagacious judgment and judicial skill gathered and compressed into an indictment as notable for its comprehensiveness as for its overwhelming array of incriminating facts, circumstances and documents. It should have been, under our laws, impossible for the chief magistrate of the state to frame such an indictment; the circumstances demanding it should have been similarly impossible of realization, and it should have been impossible for the Governor, or for any one, to arraign with such conciseness and directness any public servants who were elected to high position of trust and responsibility by the deliberately exercised will of the people. But the indictment has been—had to be—framed, as the circumstances fully warranted it, and the arraignment of the Auditor General and State Treasurer had to be made, in view of the mass of testimony produced which rendered the making of it an imperative duty.

There is little in the matter of Governor Pattison's message which is absolutely new; it is the masterful, honest, fearless manner of the reformulation, the grouping, the placing in natural sequence, the binding together as a whole of old matters, unfortunately familiar enough to the public through the published proceedings of investigating bodies, which makes it of such great and common interest, and which gives it character, dignity and impressiveness. Through every paragraph of it there shines clearly as truth itself the light of a high official duty done, of public spirited purpose fulfilled.

If this message served no other purpose than that, which it so admirably serves, of carrying conviction to every intelligent, unprejudiced reader of it of the unquestionable propriety, of the imperative obligation which Governor Pattison owed to himself, his fellow citizens and the law to call the senate to meet in extraordinary session to inquire into the "grave charges" so commonly made against the Auditor General and the State Treasurer, to the end that their innocence or guilt might be established, its author would still be more than justified in formulating and presenting it to the public through the senate.

"Whether or not it is conclusive of the guilt, incompetency or errors of any one is for the senate alone, to which body it is addressed, to declare, but that it gives 'reasonable cause' for an exhaustive inquiry of the subject-matter of it may be authoritatively declared by any one who has eyes to read and mind to form a just opinion. The message cuts the last bit of stable ground from under the feet of those who stated or insinuated that Governor Pattison had been actuated by the basest partisan motive in calling the senate to meet in extraordinary session; it not only does that, but it covers with shame those who so impugned his purposes. Governor Pattison needs no testimonials to sustain his character for invincible personal or official integrity, for purity of motive in his public or private acts, for high courage and fidelity to duty. If he did need them, they would be found in his call to the senate and in the message which he sent to it. It is a message which concerns the whole body of the people of this Commonwealth and city not less than the senate that is to pass upon it.

EVERY district chairman in Centre county should make an attempt to get out the full party vote this year as an important election is on hand. Another reason is you may be successful in winning the banner offered by the County Chairman.

ELLIS L. ORVIS, one of the district nominees as delegate to the constitutional convention, is a good name on the ticket. Should the people vote for a convention Mr. Orvis would ably represent them.

If you believe in rotten politics and plundering the people's money vote for Gregg and Morrison.

—Pap. Dunham, correspondent to the Gazette and Bulletin, sent in a very rank political contribution from here. Don't repeat the offence.