

## The Centre Democrat.

CHAS. R. KURTZ, - - - EDITOR

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### Editorial.

New York is solid for '92.

Bardsley and Quay have been vindicated by their party in this state.

A democratic sheriff was elected in Blair county which usually gives over 1,000 republican majority.

MATT Quay is playing a great card to save his reputation if possible, by a series of libel suits.

A rainy day on Tuesday would have brought several hundred more democratic farmers to the polls.

The thieves who stole the public funds at Harrisburg have been vindicated by the republican party—to do it again.

The constitutional convention was snuffed under badly in Centre county. It met the same fate in other parts of the state.

The republicans lost two of their most important states this year—New York and Massachusetts. Why should their roosters crow?

ONE year ago the papers made a great exposure of Matt Quay. The New York World led the attack and invited Quay to sue, but he never said a word. He was mum.

THE republican majority in Bellefonte was only 65 this year. Notwithstanding that all the clerks from Washington and Harrisburg came home to vote, and could shove out the boodle to help things along, the republicans did not hold their own.

THE defeat of Judge Bucher in Union, Snyder and Mifflin counties, by McClure, of Sunbury, was a great mistake on the part of the citizens of that district. They will discover that fact later in their courts. Such are the results of politics. The people often vote against their interests.

THERE is trouble brewing between the United States and Chili. A mob recently attacked American sailors of the man of war, "Baltimore," who had gone ashore and several were killed and others injured. This insult to the stars and stripes will not be tolerated and unless they make proper amends for the wrong bloody war may follow.

LAST week the Gazette went to considerable trouble to inform its readers that M. S. Quay was not guilty (?) of the charges recently preferred against him and that the democratic papers of Centre county would be arrested for libel also. That was a great card, indeed. The Gazette and Quay will have all the sport they want and more too when they commence, for you know every democratic publisher would look up his print shop and skip to Canada—yes they would—would not.

An exchange has called attention to the fact that the area of the United States is very nearly equal to that of all Europe, which has a population of 357,000,000. The State of Texas alone has a greater area than either Germany or Austria, whose populations are respectively 49,000,000 and 41,000,000. If that State were as densely settled as Massachusetts it would hold nearly 70,000,000, as much as France and Great Britain together. The area of the middle Atlantic States is a little in excess of that of Italy, and with a population as dense as that of Massachusetts could find room for all the Italian people.

If the keen, shrewd and common-sense American purchased a suit of clothes, the price of which was \$10 and an officer of the government should stop him as he was leaving the store and demand from him \$6, he would knock the officer down and call a patrol wagon and bundle him off to a station. But so long as the government officials is a thousand miles away and collects his \$6 by proxy, the keen, shrewd, common-sense American pays \$16 for the clothes and walks out satisfied that he worked a pretty close bargain. In some things the keen, shrewd, common-sense American is the biggest and most successful fool on the face of this green earth.—Chicago Globe.

## WE CAN REJOICE.

### Many Democratic Victories on Tuesday.



New York 40,000 Democratic. Flower elected.



Massachusetts Elects Russell by 12,000 Majority.

Elections were held in eleven states of the Union on Tuesday, and while each party won victories, the Democracy comes off the field with a glorious record. The states that held elections were Colorado, Iowa, Maryland, Massachusetts, Mississippi, Nebraska, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania and Virginia. The most important elections were in Ohio, New York, Pennsylvania, Iowa and Massachusetts.

#### PENNSYLVANIA.

The result in the Keystone state is the election of the republican state ticket, Gregg and Morrison by about 40,000—the usual plurality given for the republican ticket. Philadelphia gave Gregg a plurality of 28,000 and also elected their city ticket by 20,000. Gains and losses were made by each party in the different counties owing to local tickets being in the field.

The election of Gregg shows that the republicans will vote that ticket, no matter how infamous their record has been, or how many millions are annually stolen from the people by the men they place in power. They are willing to submit and wear the Quay collar and will vote the way he tells them. That is the reason Wright and Tilden were defeated; and the democratic ticket went down knowing that it fought nobly for honest government and clean officials.

The Democracy has no apologies to make and there is nothing of which it need hide, smother up or be ashamed. Pennsylvania is a republican state and they managed to poll their usual majority. That is all.

#### MASSACHUSETTS.

This is a republican stronghold but on Tuesday it was again swung into the democratic ranks by the re-election of Gov. Russell by a majority of at least 10,000. This is a notable victory for the Democracy and is an indication that it will be in line in '92 for Cleveland.

#### NEW YORK IN LINE.

In the Empire state a bitter contest was waged, as the result would affect the vote in '92. The latest dispatches indicate that Flower the democratic nominee has defeated Fasset, republican, for governor by over 43,000. This is a significant victory for the Democracy throughout the land and shows that New York, although it voted for Harrison in '88, will be in the democratic ranks in '92. The great democratic victory in New York state is the greatest of the year. We can truly rejoice.

#### OHIO ELECTS M'KINLEY.

Ohio it is said, never re-elects a governor and, as usual, on Tuesday, Gov. Campbell was defeated for a re-election by McKinley, republican, by about 18,000. That is about the usual republican majority of that state and the republicans merely held their own in the election on Tuesday. They flooded the state with boodle from all parts of the country; there was dissatisfaction in the democratic party in Hamilton county and the fight was from the start in McKinley's favor. With all, they only polled their usual vote. Ohio always votes republican on national issues and in presidential years, so the republicans have gained practically nothing.

#### IOWA DEMOCRATIC.

This is another republican stronghold but the latest returns are that Governor Boies, the democrat, is re-elected. Both parties are claiming it.

#### OTHER STATES.

In Virginia the republican and independent tickets were defeated by large democratic majorities.

In Maryland Frank Brown, democratic nominee for governor was elected by about 20,000 majority. The republicans were no where.

In the local elections in Illinois the democrats made large gains everywhere. New Jersey made heavy democratic gains in the state legislature and senate. No important changes occurred in the other states.

#### IN CENTRE COUNTY.

The vote polled this year is unusually small. This is due to two causes. There was no local ticket of importance in the field and both republican and democratic tickets were entitled to electing their nominees for jury coms. For that reason no interest could be awakened. The democratic vote is in the country districts and as the farmers are unusually busy getting in their corn crop, many stayed from the polls. For that reason the majority was not as large as was desired. 663 majority for Wright is good.

#### An Explanation.

Editor Centre Democrat: I see a report going the rounds of the county papers, of last week, stating that "Squire Rankin, of Karthaus, had committed several forgeries and skipped the country. Not liking to see a man belied and abused I concluded to give to the public, through the columns of the DEMOCRAT, a more correct version of the case.

"Squire Rankin has not committed any forgeries whatever, neither has he skipped the country. He has been a trustworthy citizen of Karthaus twp., for the past twenty-six years, and justice of the peace for fifteen years, and always proved faithful and honest. He was armed with a State's warrant, and probably went on the hunt for Livsey, and will return in a very few days and settle up his accounts and gladden the hearts of his many inquiring friends and conduct his business as usual.

Howard, Pa. "W. L."

The democratic majority in Centre county is 663 this year according to the last computation made on the returns. That is good considering everything being unfavorable to get out the vote.

#### Makes Them Swear.

Some of the concrete pavements in this city are punctuated with depressions that in rainy weather are filled with water. Such places are bad for men with irritable tempers and when the fluid splashes up their pant legs they are just as liable to yell "damn it" as not. For the sake of repressing profanity, if for no other reason, these places ought to be fixed.—L. H. Democrat.

—A problem which no county editor has been able to solve. People will take a city daily right along for which they pay cash in advance, but when the country editor calls around with his little bill for four or five years back subscription he is put off with the excuse—"I'll settle that in a few days," which runs into years.

—The Blair county almshouse, located near Hollidaysburg, was destroyed by fire on Saturday afternoon, incurring a loss of \$30,000, on which there is an insurance of \$16,000. All the inmates with the probable exception of one were saved. The fire originated from a defective flue.

—The latest heard from Mr. H. G. DeSylvia, who had been traveling through this part of the state in the interest of a Philadelphia grocery firm, was that he changed jobs. He is engaged in the theatrical business and is manager for the "Kindergarten" company which was here recently.

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

#### A GOOD STORY.

How Judge Orvis Changed a Speech for Hastings to One for Wallace.

A good story is told of Judge Orvis, who is engaged as counsel in the Boyer and McCamant cases. The judge was sick at his Centre county home last year and was confined to his bed for several weeks. Just before the Republican State Convention the judge was called upon by General Hastings, who was then a candidate for Governor.

"Reach me that portfolio," said the judge, indicating from his sick bed an old geography filled with papers.

The General did as he was requested. "I have been amusing myself getting up a speech for you, and the man who places your name in nomination must use it in the convention," said the judge, opening the book and selecting a page or two of letter paper, closely written.

"All right, judge, let's hear it," said Hastings, and the judge began to read as follows:

"Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Convention: I am not imbued with any supernatural powers and capacities. I can not scent the violet, paint the lily nor gild refined gold. I cannot eulogize a man, the mention of whose name," etc., and then followed a glowing eulogy of Hastings.

Nothing more was said of the speech. Hastings was placed in nomination, but the judges address was not on hand at the convention. Shortly afterwards the democrats had their gathering at Scranton, and the contestants were Wallace and Pattison. Hastings was in New York at the time, and the morning after the convention he picked up a paper and read the account of the proceedings. When nominations were called for, a gentleman arose, walked down the aisle and mounted the platform. It was Judge Orvis. He turned to the president, and, bowing, said:

"Mr. President and Gentlemen of the Convention: I am not imbued with any supernatural powers and capacities. I cannot scent the violet, paint the lily nor gild refined gold. I cannot eulogize a man, the mention of whose name, etc."

The perusal of the address rather took Hastings' breath away. Meeting Judge Orvis a few days later, Hastings remarked upon the similarity of the speeches.

"Yes," said the judge. "It was too good a one to lose, so I just scratched the name of Hastings and inserted that of Wallace and wherever there was mention of republicanism I placed democracy and let her go."

#### FARM TAXATION.

Statistics Collected by the State Board of Agriculture.

The State Board of Agriculture has concluded its collection of statistics relating to farm taxation for the present year, and Secretary Edge has arranged the data already collected into a table which will show the number of farms returned from each county, the total estimated value of the farms, total amount of tax paid on each, the ratio of the assessed to the real value of farms in each county, and the average rate of farm taxation in each county of the state.

Thus far 7,566 farms have been returned. Their estimated actual value is \$50,171,194, and the total amount of tax paid upon them is \$421,090.80; this indicates an average rate of 8.3 mills. The taxes are all based upon the rates for the year 1890, and show a variation from 6.1 mills in Dauphin to 18.62 mills in Susquehanna.

The table shows that in five counties the assessed value is one-fourth of the real value; in fifteen counties the assessed value is one-third of the real value; in five counties the assessed value is one-half of the estimated real value. That is to say that properties are valued at their actual or real value and one-fourth, one-third or one-half of this amount taken for the assessed value upon which the tax rate is levied. Twenty-five counties appear to use the estimated real value as a basis for taxation, and Secretary Edge reports that there is a growing tendency on the part of county commissioners to use full value as the basis for taxation.

The more stealing done by republican state officials the better that party prospers—that is the lesson of the campaign in this state.

—It is very foolish for people to send communications, of a questionable order, to this office and expect to see them published. In the first place, the writer should not be ashamed to sign his name to his article. Newspapers are not run for the purpose of slandering any and everybody.

#### "QUAY BOSSSED THE JOB."

#### MORE LIGHT THROWN ON THE TREASURY LOOTING.

Blake Walters, the Dead Cashier of the Treasury, Wrote Just Before his Death a Letter Appealing to a Friend for Financial Help, Which Illuminates Matt Quay's "Explanation" Made in the United States Senate.

From the N. Y. World.

On the 16th of February last Senator Matthew Stanley Quay rose in the Senate Chamber at Washington for the purpose of making a personal explanation. In the course of his intended reply to the serious allegations made against his official integrity, Senator Quay used the following language:

In some transactions I was associated and jointly interested with the gentleman who was at that time the cashier of the State Treasury. These transactions proved seriously disastrous and I was compelled to pay a portion of his loss as well as my own. In doing this it became necessary to supply an alleged deficiency he caused in the Treasury.

The "gentleman" was J. Blake Walters. On this man, who died at Harrisburg on June 30, 1884, Senator Quay placed the responsibility of that looting of the State Treasury of which Senator Quay has been specifically charged as being a promoter. In the World of Feb. 10, 1890, in chapter VI. of the story of the corrupt career of Matthew Stanley Quay, the part Blake Walters played in the now famous episode was briefly related.

The Senator received the "explanation" in silence. Not a sympathetic word was uttered to cheer the speaker, not a hand was outstretched in friendly grasp nor an indication of any kind whatsoever was there that a single Senator credited the denial, for nearly every senator present was in the possession of reliable information as to the exact facts in the case.

A few minutes after the junior Pennsylvania Senator sat down, a republican Senator standing in the lobby remarked to another: "De mortuis nil nisi bonum."

#### BLAKE WALTERS' VERSION.

A letter written by Blake Walters has been read by a number of people in Pennsylvania. At least three copies are held by other persons than the man to whom the original was addressed. It was sent by Blake Walters to an acquaintance with whom he had talked freely on the subject of the Treasury business. It is as follows:

PHILADELPHIA, May 28, 1884.

MY DEAR — I am in the devil's own way, and I hope you will answer the letter I wrote to you. Everything is miserably and I have no home. I feel like I would jump off top of Pike's Peak if I got a chance. I got on a spree in Philadelphia and Camden, and the first thing I knew my wife and the mother came down and had me arrested. I don't blame him, for I tied up \* \* \* and there who would go bail. I had to part with my watch, etc., to get the bail.

Harrity did things up for me well and I am trying to brace up. A man without money hasn't much show nowadays. You know how I feel over old "Square Timber." I am thinking of what I told you. He was under no obligation and he didn't want me, but that don't make me feel any better for getting him in a hole. \* \* \* Quay bossed the Treasury job. — is naturally a honest man, but run the business for him and me. He was like a baby in Quay's hands when he was full, and then he is a old coward besides. I have had more than one set-to with him. I used to get worked up like the d—, and I told Quay I would kill myself sure, and if I don't feel better than I do now I will do myself up. You know how — crooks his fingers. Well, I worse than he.

I used to think Quay saved something out of the Treasury deal, and I never trusted him a —. I sold my mining property gone to h— and I a pauper because of Matt Quay. \* \* \* I will stronger than mine own led me on. I was a pretty decent fellow when I went to that h—hole, Harrisburg, and fell in with Quay and lost my property. Quay is a d—, and don't you forget it. I to him and that's all. Now do answer that letter. I am a work-to-day and I must know.

Your sick and miserable friend,  
(Signed) J. BLAKE WALTERS.

There are many allusions and obscure expressions in the letter which friends and acquaintances of Blake Walters explain.

#### RUIN MADE HIM DESPERATE.

After the Treasury embezzlement was settled through the intervention of Senator Cameron, Senator Wallace and the bondsman of Treasurer Amos C. Noyes, Walters was bankrupt. His timber and coal lands in Clearfield county had been taken by Judge Leonard, a creditor, and Walters's habits of dissipation, which became confirmed after he went to Harrisburg, as cashier of the Treasury, increased until he had grovelled in the muck and mire of debauchery.

Walters was liberated and was taken in charge by an old friend, who acted nobly and disinterestedly towards him. He was broken down mentally and physically, and never recovered from the effects of the dissipation. He died a few weeks later.

#### "OLD SQUARE TIMBER."

"Old Square Timber," is a popular sobriquet applied to Treasurer Noyes on account of his upright sterling character. He was a timber merchant at Lock Haven. The appointment of Blake Walters as Cashier of the Treasury was one he did not seek. Personal-

ly, he had another preference. There was then no taint on Walter's character. He was selected by Senator Wallace and was an esteemed and active business man at Clearfield. Some of the bondsmen of Noyes objected to the appointment of Walters to the cashiership, not on the ground of personal disqualifications, but they wished to choose the man who would virtually conduct the office. Before the new Treasurer assumed office there was a serious disagreement and the signatures to the bond required by law were not complete. It was over the cashiership, and Senator Wallace, who was at Washington, was sent for. An adjustment was made through his mediation.

When Blake Walters went into the Treasury "Square timber" Noyes required no bond of him. Therefore the deficiency in the Treasury after Quay and Walters and another had been unfortunate in their speculations was subject to recoupment through the bond of the Treasurer. Old Noyes knew no more of the transaction than an unborn babe. His enlightenment occurred when the deficiency was in such a shape that exposure appeared inevitable. It almost broke the old man's heart, and the indirect disgrace hastened "Square Timber's" death.

The blank which follows the reference to Quay represents the name of the third of the little group of speculators. Good will not be accomplished by mentioning that name. No less distinguished a citizen than Wayne MacVeagh deprecated the introduction of this name on the ground that it would cause "worthy people pain." Mr. MacVeagh's motives cannot be questioned, and, then, other prominent people have expressed similar views. Therefore, the subject will be pursued no further.

When Blake Walters began his letter he was in a mood of self depreciation, but as he progressed his feelings against the man whom he regarded as his evil genius apparently swelled apace and he uttered the terrible denunciations against him which appear. The two indulged in recriminations over the deficiency. Walters told Quay he wanted to kill himself. Quay's remarks during the memorable interview at the Lochiel Hotel at Harrisburg are already a matter of history. His mind varied between throat cutting and "jumping into the Susquehanna river."

#### TRIED TO MAKE HIM A SCAPEGOAT.

A resident of Harrisburg, who is familiar with the details of the Treasury job, informed the writer that an attempt was made to saddle the loss on Walters. He was urged to assume the deficiency on his own broad shoulders. He was assured of a pardon in due time—just as Bill Kemble was pardoned out of the Penitentiary by a complaisant Pardoning Board and by Quay's direction. John Bardsley, in deference to a somewhat similar case arrangement, holds his tongue and suffers in silence in his prison cell.

Blake Walters was not that kind of a man. Big, bluff, hearty, reckless when charged with liquor, he did not purpose to be a scapegoat. Walking up and down the room, with heavy tread, a minute, he stopped and said, impressively: "Well, boys, if there are to be any striped suits, we will all wear them together."

Walters says in the letter that he was "a pretty decent fellow" until he went to Harrisburg. An intimate friend of the dead cashier says that the words are true. Walters was very well liked at Clearfield, and "while not a saint he was honest and trustworthy up to the time he fell into bad habits and got under adverse influences while Cashier of the Treasury."

The place is one which exposes the incumbent to the approaches of the ring of corrupt politicians who ruled the state government. It was necessary to have the cashier as an actual partner in the various deals which involved the people's money. "Bill" Livsey, the fugitive ex-cashier, for whom Attorney-General Hensel caused a search last week, understood the opportunities of the office better than any other person who ever held it.

As the letter reaches the close the nervous tension of the writer caused him to become incoherent. He omits words and one sentence seemingly has no meaning whatever. His property was all gone and he threw the onus on Quay. Hence he uses the strong words which a man who is angry and excited will throw off, and he calls his old associate an approbrious name.

Poor Blake Walters, truly, as he signs himself, "sick and miserable."

—Mr. Lewin, the proprietor of the Philad. Branch, returned this week from the eastern cities with a fine line of overcoats and winter clothing.