

The Centre Democrat.

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The Centre Democrat.

CHAS. R. KURTZ, - - - EDITOR

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.

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Editorial.

PHILADELPHIA is afflicted again; this time it is an epidemic similar to the grip and has claimed many victims.

As the story now goes, Matt Quay has selected Major Montooth for the next republican nominee for Governor. That would mean a cold day for Gen. Hastings, who has been so frequently mentioned as the probable successor of Gov. Pattison.

JIM. SCHOFIELD has a bee buzzing in his hat that means business. A trip to Harrisburg as a member of the next Legislature will only cure the trouble. Jim is a self-made man and is well informed on the leading issues of the day. The Hon. James Schofield—that sounds well, now, don't it?

The demand for the best in literary thought and style is well filled in the weekly issues of that peerless family paper, *The Youth's Companion*. It needs but a glance at such a number as the Christmas Double Number, just received, to see what progress has been made in the development of literature and art, and at a price within the reach of all.

CANDIDATES for the republican nomination for supreme justice to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Judge Clark, of Indiana, are already coming to the front. Among those mentioned are Judge Dean, of Blair county; Judge Furst, of the Huntingdon-Centre district; Judge Taylor, of Venango; Judge Henderson, of Crawford; Judge Stone and Ewing, of Allegheny, and Judge Gunnison, of Erie county.

PRESIDENT HARRISON's message to congress has riled the blood of the Chilean government. Talk of war ships and future troubles is rife. Let no such occasion arise. The administration at Washington should have enough diplomacy and common-sense in it to avoid a useless and expensive engagement. Chile is entirely too small a nation for this country to worry about.

MILWAUKEE is making an organized effort to secure the next National Democratic Convention to meet in that city. They have a guarantee fund of \$100,000 subscribed to pay all the expenses of the convention, and have opened up headquarters in Washington city for this purpose. As an additional inducement, a large Milwaukee brewery will send a car load of their finest beer to Washington city to be used for special purposes. St. Paul is making a fight also for the same convention.

CRISP may have been born on English soil but that is no reason why he can not be a true American citizen. The *Gazette* tries to make capital of the fact. An argument like that is exceedingly silly and not worthy of consideration. Let the *Gazette* explain why President Harrison appointed Robt. Porter the head of the census department, who has been in this country but a short time when other and more desirable men were anxious for the position. Let them explain that fact and then talk about Crisp.

THE jury commissioners filled the jury wheel for 1892 upon what they considered a fair representation. Of course the *Gazette* kicks out behind like a jackass when ever things are done in that style. That feeble editorial of over a column in last week issue was amusing to read; it hurt no one. Mr. Aley, of Marion twp., the republican jury commissioner, is a man of considerable independence and practical common sense. As he does not feel disposed to consult Feidler for every move, the *Gazette* cries misrepresentation and fraud. Let the jackass kick, it furnishes amusement for the people.

CLERK of the Horse James Kerr has decided to appoint Walter H. French, of Massachusetts, file clerk, vice Ferris Finch, of Illinois, resigned. This place is worth \$3,500 a year. Frank H. Hosford, of the *Detroit Free Press* and secretary of the Michigan state democratic committee, will be tally clerk, and J. Frank Snyder, of Clearfield, disbursing and confidential clerk. Ex-Chief Clerk Sowles, of Missouri, will get his old position. Mr. Kerr has only about thirty-five places at his disposal, while the number of applicants is not less than 1,000.

NAMING THE ELECTORS.

MANY LEADERS FAVOR THE MICHIGAN PLAN.

President Harrison's Position Not sustained By Prominent Western Republicans—The Present Method Disfranchises the Minority.

President Harrison's uncompromising position with reference to the "Michiganizing" of States has called attention afresh to the important question of choosing electors to elect a President and Vice President of the United States. The President boldly opposes any change in the present system, and declares that the Michigan method of selecting Presidential electors by Congress districts is dangerous.

Notwithstanding Harrison's unmitigated stand on the question, republican as well as democratic leaders of the West and the Northwest take a far different view of it. They generally favor the abolition of the system of choosing Presidential electors by States, and the substitution of the Congress district plan.

In New England the people also favor a change, but the leaders are yet too timid to declare opposition to the old way. Some striking opinions of men of national reputation are given below, which clearly indicate which way the great wind blows.

NEW ENGLAND FOR IT.

The result of a comprehensive series of inquiries among well posted men of all the New England states regarding the feeling toward any change in the method of selecting Presidential electors leads to but one conclusion. Republicans and democrats both condemn any attempt at change, while they admit the imperfection of the present system.

One of the brightest of the young democrats elected to the next Congress from Massachusetts proposed to present and had prepared a bill providing for the election of electors by Congress districts in all the States of the Union. He thought he had made a discovery that would inevitably and every time land a democrat in the White House, but he has been persuaded that it would be unwise. "If any proposition of this kind comes before Congress," he said, "it must be by some man who is independent enough to defy party ties or by some one who has no party ties to bind him."

The general public, or so many of them as have considered the subject at all, with but few exceptions, favor a unit of representation which will come more nearly representing the will of the individual. The Congress district seems to be the favorite division, and the people seem to feel that such a division would secure the popular preference without the intervention of the State further than by the perfunctory certification of election.

There is no doubt that on a popular vote in New England such a proposition would be carried in every State. But the proposition will not be made, or if made will be defeated by the men who rule the great parties; by one side because they are afraid of the results, the other because their traditions are opposed to it.

THE WEST WANTS A CHANGE.

There is a diversity of opinion among the leading men of the West as to whether a change in the laws regulating the selection of Presidential electors is desirable. A few look with favor upon the Michigan idea; some cling to the present system, and others hope to see the electoral system entirely abolished. Appended are the opinions of a number of men well known throughout the West:

United States Senator Wm. B. Allison, of Iowa: "I will admit that the present method of electing a President is not perfect. I am not ready to say that I am opposed to the selection of electors by Congress districts if the change is made in every State."

Senator Peffer, of Kansas: "The present method of selecting electors is full of flaws, and I am ready for any change that promises to rid us of it."

Congressman Thomas R. Lynch, of Wisconsin: "I see no reason why 40 per cent. of the voters of every State should be disfranchised. I favor the selection of electors by Congress districts."

Congressman Jerry Simpson, of Kansas: "The present method disfranchises a minority in every State, and, in consequence, I am in favor of selecting Presidential electors by Congress districts."

Wm. H. Cloggett, of Idaho: "The method of selecting electors by Congress districts is a fair one and should be generally adopted."

NEW DISCOVERIES.

'Junehawker' Gives the result of his Observations upon the Moon.

MR. EDITOR: A diffidence, which is natural to me, would forever close my lips as to the discoveries I have made, were it not that some other Prof. is about to impose on the world things which are neither new or strange. Prof. Brown, of London, aided by quick sight and a pretty good telescope, has seen in the moon "a fortress, a great many nicely made roads, alterations made by art in natural walls and the clearest traces of civilization," and is this all? Poor man! One might have supposed he could have seen all these things without any quick sight, and aided only with his grandmother's spectacles. These, sir, are things that any ordinary man can see with the naked eye if he sets properly about it. Without boasting (a thing I abhor) I have, for some time past, observed with secret satisfaction, the improvements which have taken place in the moon. When I was a young man, an educated man might have looked at the "lunar orb" for a week and seen nothing but a few mountains and one man. Things have undergone a change since that time. I noted the other day (and my sight is not as good as it used to be and my telescope but a small one), I noted, I say, not only the roads seen by Prof. Brown, which, indeed, any one might see, but observed that they were admirably well macadamized and I could clearly distinguish by the road side a notice signed by a learned Moonshoe, that "No drifts can be taken from the road without leave of the surveyor." The footpaths across the fields were as plain as turnpikes, and a great many new fences were distinguishable. The fences are made higher in the moon than on this earth, and the consequence is, that women, in crossing, cause me in my lunar observations, no small trouble, confusion and embarrassment; but poor things—they do not know they are looked at.

As for the London Prof's. fortress, he is entirely mistaken. That building is a lunatic asylum. These, however, are broad marks which any one can see, but I have observed some oddities of peculiar construction not unworthy of note. In most of the gardens I discover a small wooden temple, about the size and fashion of a watchman's box. As the door is kept closed and the window is rather small I have not yet discovered the use of this machine, but by the aid of a large glass, I shall soon be able to inform the world what manner of business is done in these little bureaux and a full account of their interior arrangements. Prof. Brown has discovered "alterations made by art in natural walls." For my part I wish the moonshoes would turn their attention to their walls which are, at present, a scandal and a shame to look upon. The Prof. talks of "traces of civilization." Can it be that he could not distinguish the thriving condition of the young wheat, which is, on my honor, as fine as any I ever beheld at this season of the year. As I wish to continue my astronomical observations, I beg to remain, sir, your obedient servant,

Nittany, Pa. JUNEHAWKER.

Salem, Mass., 1892.

The "Witch," which comes to the opera House next Thursday, is founded on the Salem, Mass., witchcraft illusion. The play was recently seen in that city and thus commented on by the Salem News:

"Anticipating and expecting much as Salem theatre-goers had of the 'Witch,' there was no disappointment manifested among those who filled Mechanic hall last night to see the first presentation of the play in the city to which it owes its existence. It was a grand raking up of Salem's past, the unsavory past, the plot of which will never be effaced from the annals of the town. For it was the imaginary life and troubles, trials and condemnation of one of the persecuted beings which furnished text for the piece."

Miss Marie Hubert Frohman, in the title role, is entitled to all praises for her masterly impersonation. There was a depth of feeling and pathos in her sweet voice, a grace and fearlessness in her mien, and such true artistic ability in her rendition of her very difficult part, that won the hearts of the audience at once, holding them spell bound in her more tender moods, rousing them to enthusiasm loudly expressed, when her passion burst its bounds.

Visit Nagney's furniture rooms on Bishop street if you are trying to find a handsome Xmas present.

—Our line of overcoats is the finest to be found anywhere in Bellefonte. The prices are so low as to astonish you—Philad. Branch.

—Fine lounges, large easy chairs, rocking chairs of every description, handsome book cases and many other articles suitable for Xmas presents, can be found at Nagney's furniture store on Birch street.

SHIP SUBSIDIES.

At the last session of congress the republican party passed the ship subsidy bill. It was put through both houses in spite of the exceedingly earnest opposition of the democrats. Its supporters alleged that the granting of subsidies would lead to the construction of American steamships, and would establish new ocean mail routes. That was the only excuse for placing this new tax on the people.

What is the result? A new line of second class ships has been established, to run to Buenos Ayres, for which the people will pay \$2 for every outward-going mile sailed. The other subsidies go to lines already established, and it is therefore equal to the government throwing that much money into the sea. The Pacific Mail company has been able to carry the mails at a profit, without subsidies; but though the generosity of congress it is now to receive one dollar a mile for its third class ships now sailing between San Francisco and Hong Kong; one dollar a mile for its third class ships on the existing route between New York and Colon, and 60 2-3 cents a mile for its fourth class ships now plying between Panama and San Francisco.

This is virtually making a present of an enormous sum of money to the Pacific company, without a penny of return to the government. The company simply carries the mails as before, and the government presents it with a princely gift. A very suspicious circumstance connected with the letting of the contracts is that there was no competition, and that the figures named by the Pacific were the highest allowed by the law. This can mean nothing except that the steamship companies had an understanding, and that the "swag" is to be divided among them.

Here is another load fastened upon the tax-payers by the republican party. And it can't be shaken off for ten years.

It will Cost Money to Vote.

The commission, consisting of the secretary of internal affairs, secretary of state and auditor general, whose duty it is to select a style of polling booth and ballot box for use in this state, has not yet arrived at a conclusion, and will hardly do so before next week.

Auditor General McCamant said Friday that the first cost of the polling booths, which will be borne by the state, may reach 200,000, if a style is chosen in which iron and steel enter largely into its construction. There are others, however, built of wood and canvas, which would cost less. Another large item of expense under the new law will be the polling places. These must be fifty by thirty-five feet, and the interior arrangements must be in accordance with certain specifications. This will in many instances, perhaps in nearly every case, necessitate the renting by the year of suitable rooms, or the purchase of movable polling places that may be taken to pieces and stored away between elections. This means a large expense to county commissioners.

The commission will suggest a style ballot box to be adopted, but this expense, which may reach another \$200,000 or more, will fall directly upon the counties. The box meeting with the greatest favor is the "Safety," the invention of a Pittsburg man. It is of glass and registers each vote. It is claimed for it that it is impossible to tamper with the vote except by the connivance of the entire election board, each member having the key to a separate lock, and furthermore that it does not wear out. The boxes in use in New Jersey and Massachusetts, somewhat similar in character to this, costs thirty-three per cent. of their first cost for repairs after each election. The commission has some doubt to how far its recommendations goes, and it is thought that the county commissioners of the state will have to pass finally upon the selection.

To the Public.

We have a large assortment on hand of dry goods, in the shape of blankets, haps, overalls, pants, shirts, underwear, etc., and we are determined to dispose of them during the holidays. Therefore, if you are on the lookout for bargains, now is the time to call as we propose from now to the first of January, 1892, to sell all of our Dry Goods at greatly reduced prices. Our line of groceries cannot be beaten, and everybody who deals with us are satisfied that they cannot better themselves anywhere else. Call and see us.

Yours Respectfully
Bellevonte, Pa. NOLAN BROS.

—Unclaimed letters: Joseph Barvitch, Katie Barner, Frank W. Gibbons and Charles Rock. When called for say advertised.

TRUE STRENGTH.

OUR NEW NAVY AND ITS USEFULNESS.

The United States is a strong and Peaceable Nation—There should be no Occasion for Future Wars.

Americans are naturally proud of the magnificent growth of their defensive fleet, and are just now more than usually jubilant because of the successful launching of "the Queen of the Seas, the incomparable New York." This pride is perfectly natural, even if it is one born of hope rather than of realization, and while pardonable, is rather like a sorry admission that we are years behind third class European powers in defensive armaments and only in the infancy of naval construction, while they are steaming along under unlimited experience and almost unlimited loads of debt. It is also rather painfully suggestive of the idea that, soothed by the mendacious music of native-industry attuned protection organs, we have been indulging in a "Rip Van Winkle" sleep, while our possible enemies have been progressing toward the security which springs from the possession of well-guarded coasts and of heavy and fast cruisers.

It is surely nothing singular or self-complimentary that a great and free nation of 60,000,000 brave patriotic and intelligent people should have done nearly as well as the impoverished and oppressed people of King-ridden and pauper-crowded Europe. The surprise should come in when we endeavor to understand why we have not done better than they, and why the United States are not as far ahead in maritime affairs as they are in everything else that helps to build up the power and influence of a nation. We have as good men, more national wealth, wider resources, larger inventive skill and brighter creative talent than they possess, and we have the benefit of their costly experience, and can avoid their treasury-draining blunders in the construction of impracticable ships, bursting guns and penetrable plates. Then, why is it that we only follow where they lead? Can too much protection have coddled us into the rear guard of progress?

But while the people of this country are glad to have made such a creditable, if rather late, display of its naval strength, and to be able to indicate how they propose to still further augment it, it is not wise for them to be over boastful. Nor is it dignified to be always climbing up upon our own fence rail and announcing our ability to whip all all creation and the other fellows. Dignity is not gained by a nation trailing its coat in the dust of self-complacency and inviting somebody to tread upon it.

Conscious strength has no need of boasting; the determination which is backed by ability, justice and honor, asks no self-advertising. Uncle Sam is a very respectable, dignified and sedate old gentleman, who can afford to do right, and is strong enough to insist upon being treated fairly and courteously. There should be nothing Sullivanesque in his conduct. He need not go around with a chip on his shoulder. He has no more occasion to bully a weak power than he has to cawfish to a strong one, and he is too much a gentleman to do either. It is only his boys who get a little bit ebullient and demonstrative. They are so very proud of their new ships, of their big guns, of their proposed forts, and of the very late in the day determination of the old gentleman to put locks, bolts and bars upon his front doors, and to have the biggest kind of watch dogs guarding his premises, that they are apt to forget the proprietaries, and, in announcing their naval progress to the world, to whoop it up rather too much, and to become too demonstrative about these watch dogs and seem to be over anxious for a chance to see how quick they can chew up the sea dogs of the people on other side of the fence.

Our motto is "defense, not defiance," and we can afford to get along without advertising that we are anxious to know just how effective we are by practical comparison with some foolish disrespectful or insolently offensive neighbor. The United States form a nation which is big enough to avoid even the appearance of seeking to quarrel, quite as much as it should insist upon being treated with the courtesy due a great and proud people. The tone of bravado which tells of a braggart going around "ready to make a match with all comers, at any weight, for stakes or gate, and under any rules," may suit cheap and pretentious powers which have everything to bluffing policy, but it is not in our style. The United States should no

more stoop to indulge in vulgar and offensive boasting than it would be likely to lack dignity and firmness when the real necessity shall arise.

The wise banker, whose safes and strong boxes have every appliance that science and experience can give to preserve and guard his treasures, does not make these things an excuse for throwing out a defiance to burglars and safe-breakers to come and try them. He does not invite attack because he feels able to repel it. He says as little as he can; still adds to his defence as his responsibilities increase and, satisfied that his treasures are safe, does not care to talk about them. He leaves it to the hour of necessity to show his friends the vast power of his hidden resources of defence and the means of reprisal and punishment which he has hidden away under the calm and placid appearance of self-assured indifference.—Times.

Words of Warning.

In the anxiety to secure industrial works, many of the boroughs and towns throughout this state have been very free and liberal in their offers to parties who propose to locate such industries in their midst. It would be well enough if all such transactions were bona fide and honest, but the truth is too many of these offers are rarely speculative on the part of the parties proposing to locate. Long ago we pointed out that this was being overdone. Now comes the Harrisburg Independent with similar words of caution. It says:

"People in small town and villages in Pennsylvania cannot be too careful of a class of men who are in the 'business' of removing 'industrial works' from the New England States to localities in this state, where the citizens can be induced to give them ground and buildings for their accommodation, and subscribe goodly amounts of stock. In two out of every three of these transactions the people who buy such industries as a means of profiting their localities in securing employment for idle men and women, are defrauded. The system has been carried on to disgraceful extremes in many parts of Pennsylvania, so that it is now time to warn people against the imposition. Never pay men to remove an industry from a locality outside of the state to one within its limits, with the idea that it will be profitable, because men never sell such works or remove them from one locality to another if they are paying them in that where they are in operation."

The "Yard of Roses," the *Youth's Companion's* autumn gift to both old and new subscribers, has been so greatly admired that four editions, more than 750,000 copies, have already been published. It is a pleasure to think that this choice bit of nature is not for one man to hide away, but belongs to all the people.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.

Letters of Administration on the estate of Jacob Deitz, dec'd., late of Howard borough having been granted to the undersigned, they request all persons knowing themselves indebted to said estate to make immediate payment, and those having claims, to present them duly authenticated for settlement.

E. C. DEITZ, Administrator.

(Jan. 23.)

—Uncle Tom's Cabin with Evas, Topics, bloodhounds and lawyers are coming—at the opera house Friday evening, Dec. 18.

Joyous Christmas Time.

Christmas and New Year will soon be upon us, and "peace on earth good will to men" will be the prevailing sentiment. Those who want to thoroughly enjoy themselves on this occasion, should not fail to lay in a supply of choice old whiskies, Apple Jack, Peach Brand, or any imported and domestic wine should not fail to send their orders to Max Klein, Allegheny, Pa. He wishes the public to know that for the next thirty days he will sell an absolutely pure Pennsylvania Rye Whiskey, seven years old, at \$1 per quart, or six quarts for \$5. All kinds of native wines at reduced prices, ranging from 50c to \$1 per quart, or from \$5 to \$10 per dozen. Goods neatly packed and shipped by express or freight upon receipt of registered letter, P. O. note, express order or certified check. No goods sent C. O. D.

Here are a few hands to select from: Silver Age, \$1.25 per full quart; Guckenheimer, Finch, Gibson, Overholt, or Bear Creek, \$1 per quart or six quarts for \$5; Anchor Rye, 50 cents per quart; Sherry wine, Angolia, Madeira, Port or any other California wines 50 cents per quart, \$5 per dozen. Send for catalogue and price list to MAX KLEIN, Pa. 58 Federal street.

Bellefonte Grain Market.

Corrected weekly by Geo. W. Jackson & Co.

White wheat, per bushel	35
Red wheat, per bushel	30
Rye, per bushel	25
Corn, ears per bushel	20
Corn, shelled per bushel	25
Oats—new per bushel	20
Barley, per bushel	30
Buckwheat, per bushel	20
Cloverseed, per bushel	\$4.00 to \$5.00
Ground plaster, per ton	5.00

PROVISIONS, GROCERIES &c. (as corrected weekly by Bower & Co.)

Apples, dried, per pound	10
Cherries dried per pound, seeded	10
Beans per quart	10
Oatmeal, per bushel	25
Butter, per pound	30
Tallow, per pound	15
Country Shoulders	20
Hides	20
Hams	20
Hams sugar cured	20
Breakfast Bacon	20
Lard, per pound	20
Eggs per dozen	20
Peas, per bushel	20
Dried Sweet Corn per pound	5