

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.

The Supreme courts have declared free lunch counters illegal and hotel keepers have been advised accordingly. It won't annoy Bellefonte very much.

In the state senate and legislature this season there have been 1343 bills introduced, only seven of which have reached the governor thus far. Pennsylvania has a great body of law makers each of whom is anxious to have his name perpetuated on the statute books.

Another move is on foot to improve and repair the state capitol building at Harrisburg. It is claimed that a new library should be erected at once to preserve many of the valuable documents and records filed away and in danger of destruction in the present buildings.

The appointment of Hon. Thos. F. Bayard as Ambassador to England, by Cleveland, meets with universal favor. His preeminent fitness for the position will reflect credit also to this country. This appointment was one of the most desirable in the command of the administration and no one was more deserving.

According to the trade reports of R. G. Dun & Co., business is generally improving throughout the country. There is not the customary stringency in the money markets, and the iron and steel business is firmer and improving. These are gratifying reports to all business men and indicates that Cleveland's administration has given the utmost confidence in all circles.

WHAT do the 13 superstitionists say to this? The columbian liberty bell is to weigh 13,000 pounds; its height is 6 feet 6 inches, (one-half of 13), and the measure across its mouth is 7 feet and 6 inches, (once more seven plus six equals 13). And, by the way, when our own liberty bell rolled out its great message there were just 13 states in the union.—Philadelphia Record.

Judge Furst Makes a Decision.

According to the Huntingdon News: A contested constable election case from Henderson township was decided by Judge Furst at the session of argument court this week. Snyder Miller was elected constable last year to fill a vacancy, and Frank Foust was elected constable this year. The question was whether Mr. Miller was to serve three years or until the next election. Judge Furst decided that whenever a constable is elected he is elected to serve for three years, and Mr. Miller has therefore two more years to serve. The decision affects several other cases in this county.

They are whooping up things out at the big fair. Over nine hundred car loads of exhibits arrived at the fair grounds last week. In the park there is nearly thirty miles of track now in operation which will accommodate 1,000 cars and give room for handling 1,000 more with out interfering with unloading and disposing of empty cars. A force of one hundred men is now employed in the transportation, unloading and placing the exhibits in proper sections while many hundred men are at work unpacking. Sixty electric launches, twenty steam launches and a large number of gondolas, to be manned by gondoliers brought from Venice, have arrived at the grounds. As most of the big buildings can be reached by boat it is expected that this will be the most popular mode of transit.

County Tax Rates.

The following are the tax rates of several of the counties in this State: Adams county, 34 mills; Armstrong, 74; Beaver, 3; Blair, 34; Bradford, 34; Butler, 4; Carbon, 5; Chester, 24; Centre, 3; Clarion, 124; Clearfield, 6; Clinton, 6; Crawford, 7; Dauphin, 34; Delaware, 34; Elk, 8; Forest, 7; Franklin, 4; Huntingdon, 10; Indiana, 5; Jefferson, 10; Juniata, 8; Lancaster, 2; Lycoming, 5; Lackawanna, 5; Lawrence, 3; Luzerne, 6; McKean, 7; Mifflin, 10; Montour, 6; Northumberland, 6; Perry, 8; Potter, 8; Schuylkill, 7; Sullivan, 10; Susquehanna, 10; Tioga, 5; Union, 4; Warren, 3; Washington, 3; Wayne, 6; Westmoreland, 5; Wyoming, 7; York, 34. From this list it will be seen that Centre county is among the lowest in tax rates.

WASHINGTON TOPICS.

SCANDALS INVOLVING HIGH OFFICIALS.

How Fine Salaries are Given out—Maxwell's Fine Record—Democrats being Appointed—The Treasury.

Scandals involving the officials of the late republican administration are coming to the surface with alarming frequency these days. One that is almost embarrassing because of the nearness of those concerned therein to ex-President Harrison, is that unearthed by Secretaries Gresham and Carlisle, relating to the manner in which ex-Secretary of State Foster, is squandering the government's money upon a lot of favorites, all on government pay rolls, that he has taken on a junketing trip to Paris, ostensibly to aid him in the Behring Sea arbitration. As specimens of this pleasure party these two will suffice, giving a fair idea of the whole business; Major Halford was made paymaster in the army at a salary of \$3,500 a year as a reward for his services as Mr. Harrison's private Secretary, and was ordered to Paris to remain during the arbitration, although no one could see the necessity for an army paymaster there. Mr. Foster, who is U. S. agent at a compensation named by himself while Secretary of State, wished the Major to have a good time so he ordered that he should be allowed from the State department funds \$15, a day for expenses. J. Stanley Brown, who was Garfield's private secretary, draws \$10, a day as regular employee of the State department, but having ordered him to Paris Mr. Foster directed that he, also, should receive \$15, a day for expenses, in addition to his regular salary. There are a number of others treated equally liberally. Another scandal exists in the weather bureau and Secretary Morton is now investigating charges of general cussedness against some of its most prominent officials that are almost certain to result in a number of dismissals. According to these charges the crookedness began from the time the bureau was transferred to the department of Agriculture, and never stopped.

Unless some sort of a compromise can be reached the republicans holding the federal offices in Kansas are safe to enjoy their snaps for some time to come, as President Cleveland has directed that no appointments be made in that state until it can be satisfactorily arranged whether the fusionists or the straight-outs are to be given control, or a division made between them. While Mr. Cleveland wants to do the square thing on both sides it is an open secret that his personal feelings are all on the side of the straightouts.

No time is being wasted by fourth assistant Postmaster General Maxwell. The task of putting democrats in charge of all the fourth class post offices is gigantic, but it will in time be accomplished. The average of new democratic appointments is already well over one hundred a day, the highest number yet appointed in a single day by Mr. Maxwell being 188.

The administration and democrats generally are delighted with the March statement of the condition of the Treasury. It was, of course, known before hand that the payments for the month would necessarily be unusually large, but it was not known, or even guessed at by ex-Secretary Foster that the March receipts would be some millions in excess of his estimates. As a result, instead of the hole in the available cash anticipated on account of the big March payments \$1,500,000, was added to the surplus, and the free gold, now near the \$8,000,000 mark, continues to accumulate. Secretary Carlisle has received many congratulations upon his first month's showing, which but tends to confirm the general belief that he would make a successful Secretary of the Treasury.

Mr. E. Ellery Anderson, of New York, credited with being the principal author of the tariff bill recently made public by the Reform Club, of that city, is in Washington. He says "The Reform Club, which has played such a prominent part in the present situation, has promulgated its tariff reform bill, not with the understanding that it is to be accepted, but mainly for the healthy and widespread discussion which will follow."

The silly fight which has been made on Mr. John E. Riskey, the minister to Denmark, has had no effect here, as Mr. Riskey has received his commission and taken the oath of the office. He will probably receive his final instructions this week, and rumor says a portion of them will be to open negotiations for the purchase of a Naval station on the

island of St. Thomas, West Indies, from the Danish government.

President Cleveland told Senator Roach, of North Dakota, that no faction of the party in any state will receive recognition to the discrimination of another faction, but that the ability and character of the applicant will decide all appointments. By the way, speaking of Senator Roach the impression seems to be general that nothing more will be heard in the Senate of Mr. Hoar's resolution to investigate newspaper charges against Mr. Roach.

BAKER BALLOT LAW.

Certain Changes suggested by a Legislative Committee.

Representative John H. Fow, one of the house legislative committee to make certain changes in the Baker ballot Law, in a letter to the Philadelphia Star says that the committee will suggest the following: "The first amendment," said he, is to strike out of the ballots the residence of the candidates. This is considered wholly unnecessary. It is in the nomination papers and only increases the size of the ballot by printing it on them. Second, to reduce the number of ballots. Third, fix one day to deliver the ballots to the judge of election instead of two, the ballots to be delivered on the Monday before the election. Fourth, to extend the time for the sheriff to issue the proclamation. As the law now reads it is impossible for him to comply with it. Fifth, to require the common pleas court of the district where nominations are made, except those made in state conventions, which shall be tried in Dauphin county courts, to decide upon the validity of all certificates of nomination. Sixth, that in marking the ballot each candidate's name should be marked with an X and the group marking is done away with. Seventh, all groups to have appellation when that party for ten years has been making nominations in a state convention. Eighth, to repeal that portion of the law which requires the sheriff to issue a proclamation for city elections. Ninth, that no candidate shall be allowed to act as watcher or be permitted in a booth after he has voted. Tenth, that election officers shall not be permitted to prepare a ballot for a person who claims to be disabled; and eleventh, to require all persons who claim to be disabled to make affidavit to the same.

"Free Lunches" Illegal.

Judge Porter, of Pittsburg, recently made a decision in the license court in some cases that came before him that "free lunches" are illegal when furnished in saloons. In a subsequent interview he gave the following reason for his ruling. He said:

I have assumed this position respecting free lunches in consequence of the number of letters I have received on the subject. I have received letters from numbers of wives of mill workers, stating that their husbands did not come regularly to their meals, and that one of the reasons they did not was because of the attraction held out to them by saloonkeepers in the shape of free lunches. If these inducements keep husbands from home, the inducements must be abolished.

This is a new question for the courts, but the reason for Judge Porter's ruling is it least plausible. Having gotten into the courts there is a fair prospect that it will remain there until the question is definitely settled one way or the other. Our temperance friends will now have open to them a new line of attack on saloons.

Offensive Partisanship Defined.

Postmaster General Bissell has told a Kentucky Congressman that "stumping for Harrison" did not constitute "offensive partisanship" in a postmaster provided that he did not neglect the duties of his office. More specifically, Mr. Bissell thus defined the offensive partisanship:

(1) One who would turn his office into political headquarters; (2) one who would manipulate the mails in the interest of his party; (3) one who would collect and solicit funds for the use of his party, and (4) one who would use the position to coerce patrons of the office into voting as he wished.

Activity in the Coal Fields.

There are extensive preparations being made throughout the Centre-Clearfield coal fields for a greatly increased output. The new branch railroads, the Beech Creek and one by the Pennsylvania, are being built, and new mines are being opened by the Berwind White mining company, Wigton & Sons and George Good & Co., and the Lehigh Valley. Wigton & Sons are sinking two shafts to the "B" vein on Black Hawk run and will operate the mine 280 feet under the ground.

—Silkline Curtain Lace, etc.

LYON & CO.

LEGISLATORS WANT TO QUIT.

The legislature has not yet fixed the date of final adjournment, but the session will hardly be extended beyond June 1. Two years ago the members left for good the last week in May. Already many members of the present session are tired of the dull, routine work and are anxious to draw the balance of the salary due them and go home. The senate is still away ahead of the house with its work, although holding but one session daily to the two held by the house. In 1891 the house began holding night sessions April 14 and continued to do so four days a week until the close of the session. The senate will hardly hold night sessions, but it is probable that it will hold morning and afternoon sessions after this week.

There is lots of work ahead for the members of both branches. Four hundred and fourteen bills have already been introduced in the senate, 145 of which have passed. The senate has also passed fifteen house bills, making a total of 157. The total number of bills favorably reported from committee to the senate is 565, many of them being house bills. But nineteen bills have been adversely reported. Many others were reported from committees negatively, though, but were afterward referred back to committee, then brought out with an affirmative recommendation and are now well on their way through both branches. The senate has voted down twelve bills, the most important of which was the measure to extend the minimum school term to seven months, the Crouse bill regulating the charges of telephone companies, the Crothers' rapid transit bill and the Meek fence bill.

There have been introduced in the house 762 bills up to the present time, or twenty-five more than found their way in this body at the same time two years ago. Five hundred and forty-three bills have been reported from committee to the house this session. Seventy of these have been acted upon finally and six have gone to the governor for his consideration. The number of adversely reported to the house is far in excess of those negated by senate committees. This list includes many measures of importance, among them the anti-discrimination and anti-free pass measures, the Quinnan railroad commission bill, the bill making it unlawful for railroad companies to charge more than two cents a mile for carrying passage and a number of free text book measures. Two years ago the aggregate number of bills reported from committee up to April 1, was 558, eighty had been passed and seven sent to the governor.

Prominent Newspaper Man.

The Argus is one of the principle democratic papers at Albany, N. Y., and has been especially prominent as an administrative newspaper. It is now said that its present owners are about to part with it and that it will be sold to Mr. William McMatie Speer, the legislative correspondent of the New York Sun.

Mr. Speer who thus obtains control of a great newspaper plant, is a son of the late Hon. R. M. Speer, of Huntingdon, this state. He is a member of a very bright family. His brother Robert Speer, is prominent in the ministry, and for quite a number of years William McMatie Speer has been gaining prominence in the journalistic world.

Gov. McKinley's Debts Provided For.

Governor McKinley has refused to receive any contribution to help him out of his financial difficulties; has returned at once all money addressed to him, and has begged others to desist from all efforts to aid him. Nevertheless, this work has gone on, and Mr. H. H. Kohnsaat, trustee of the McKinley fund, says that by April 1st every cent of the \$95,000 liabilities will be paid off, chiefly by \$1 subscriptions from all parts of the Union.

Prohibition Quartette.

The Silver Lake Quartette will give a lecture and concert in the court house in Bellefonte, on Tuesday, and Wednesday, April 11th, and 12th, at 8 o'clock p. m. Admittance free. Tickets for reserved seats inside of rail can be obtained from F. Potts Green for 15 cents. This will be a rare treat. Doors open at 7 o'clock each evening.

Z. ZEGLER,

Remains in Office.

Since Mr. H. B. Herring, who was last fall elected county surveyor of Centre county, failed to qualify at the time the County officers were sworn in last January, our townsman, J. H. Reifsnider, Esq., will continue to remain in office for the next three years, which makes his third term for surveyor.—Journal.

TEN MEN SUFFOCATED

A Terrible Mine Disaster Near Shamokin.

A RESULT OF GROSS CARELESSNESS.

The Explosion of a Lamp Sets Fire to the Lower Vein of the Nelson Shaft—Ten Miners Suffocated by Smoke—Mine Still on Fire.

SHAMOKIN, Pa., April 3.—By the explosion of a lamp in the hands of a Hungarian miner ten men lost their lives at the Nelson shaft, near this place, on Saturday. The dead are: Joseph Bortrax, single; John Gray, married; John Burt, married; Frederick Ginter, single; Frank Shupp, single; Nicholas Butah, married; John Ryan, single; James Brennan, single; John Robel, married; Michael Brennan, single. The 1011 miners were residents of Shamokin and Springfield, a small village adjoining the borough.

The burning oil set fire to the roof of the mine, and the efforts of the miners to extinguish the flames were unavailing owing to the inadequate supply of water. An airway shaft connects the No. 10 vein with the red ash vein, which is situated directly over the former one.

Hurriedly notifying the miners on this life the engineer was signaled and the fight to the surface commenced. Once out some of the men thought of the air passage leading to the red ash vein, and knew that were the occupants not notified some would surely die. A gallant band of rescuers was lowered, and when the cage stopped at the red ash vein, 500 feet from the surface, the men found the tunnel filled with smoke which had come up from the lower level. A couple of rescuers jumped off the cage and tried to walk through the smoke, which grew denser every minute. A few dead mules were stumbled over, and the men reluctantly retreated and returned to the surface, aware that if anyone was in the tunnel he could not escape, as there were no exits at this particular side of the lift.

The cage was again lowered and a force of men started in to explore the tunnel. It was risky work, as a sulphur explosion was imminent. With cheery words to each other they pressed forward and finally reached two corpses wrapped in each other's arms. They were the bodies of the Brennan brothers. One dozen yards further on lay John Ryan. He was dead. Three feet away were the remains of Shupp and Ginter. The gruesome search continued until every part of the vein had been explored, ten dead men being the total find. The mine is still on fire.

INUNDATION OF A MINE.

Three Lives Lost at the Laurel Hill Colliery at Hazleton.

HAZLETON, Pa., April 4.—Another mine horror occurred yesterday just on the outside of this city. The mine is known as Laurel Hill, and is operated by Pardee Brothers. The nature of the accident was almost a repetition of the Jeanesville disaster of two years ago, when eighteen men were drowned.

The accident was caused by David Williams firing a blast in No. 19. Immediately after the blast went off a terrible roar was heard and an immense body of water rushed down No. 19 breast, filling it to the roof. Williams was caught in the flood and undoubtedly perished.

The rush of water into the gang changed the current of air, and like a telegraphic signal warned all of their danger. Among the first to realize its import was William Dolan. Regardless of his own danger he at once undertook to warn the men at work at the various chambers above the gangway. His heroism undoubtedly saved the lives of ten men who are now at their homes suffering from bruises sustained in their battle with the flood.

It has been definitely ascertained that three men are in the mine. They are Thomas Hudson, W. L. Trembath and Richard Williams. The latter is dead beyond a doubt. There is a faint possibility that the other two may be rescued alive.

HAZLETON, Pa., April 5.—Nothing has been developed at the Laurel Hill mine that would indicate a speedy recovery of the entombed men. Yesterday the men came unexpectedly upon a mule, almost entirely covered with muck and slush. To the surprise of the workmen it was still alive. It is now said that Williams, Trembath and Hudson are not the only men entombed. Two Hungarian laborers are also missing. They have not been seen since the accident occurred.

Another Mine Accident.

SHAMOKIN, Pa., April 5.—A terrific gas explosion occurred in the air shaft in the Sterling colliery last evening, burning Thomas Jenkins and Petro Buccerri in a frightful manner, the former, it is feared, fatally.

A Murderer Lynched.

CHARLESTON, W. Va., April 5.—About a week ago Police Officer John Chandler, of Bluefield, Mercer county, was shot and killed in a disorderly house kept by the notorious Kiz Redd, the wickedest woman in West Virginia. Last night a row was started at Kiz Redd's joint in Graham. During the melee Charles Morgan, colored, emptied a revolver into the crowd, killing John Lessee, a colored boy who had taken no part in the disturbance. Morgan was caught by a mob of citizens, who lynched him to a tree almost in front of the house. Kiz Redd fled, with a portion of the mob in pursuit of her, and she is reported to have been caught and lynched on the Virginia side of the state line.

Pleasure Seekers Drowned.

AMSTERDAM, April 5.—Several persons lost their lives by the capsizing of a sailboat in which a large party were on a pleasure excursion. Twelve of them were rescued in an exhausted condition, but four perished.

Mormons in Conference.

SALT LAKE CITY, April 5.—The semi-annual conference of the Mormon church began yesterday. The dedicatory ceremonies of the Temple begin tomorrow and run on to April 13 inclusive.

PUBLIC EXPENSES.

The New York Tribune prints the following interesting table showing the net expenditure of the government per capita from 1872 to 1892. It is a striking showing, and illustrates at a glance how the growth of pension payments has operated to counteract the reduction of burdens that might have been anticipated twenty-seven years after the close of the war of the rebellion:

Year	Total	Pensions	Other
1872	\$6.84	\$0.70	\$6.14
1873	6.97	.79	6.18
1874	7.07	.88	6.19
1875	6.25	.07	5.58
1876	5.87	.02	5.25
1877	5.21	.00	4.63
1878	4.98	.07	4.41
1879	5.40	.72	4.74
1880	5.34	.97	4.37
1881	5.07	.97	4.10
1882	4.80	1.17	3.72
1883	4.99	1.25	3.67
1884	4.39	1.01	3.28
1885	4.55	1.09	3.56
1886	4.15	1.14	3.01
1887	4.46	1.26	3.19
1888	4.43	1.35	3.08
1889	4.28	1.43	2.85
1890	4.75	1.71	3.04
1891	5.55	1.94	3.61
1892	5.28	2.65	3.23

—Douglas shoe, the best in the world, every pair warranted. Men's \$2, \$2.50, \$3, \$4, \$5. Boys \$1.75, \$2, \$2.50.

LYON & CO.

Tyrone Rejoices.

Tyrone people are now happy, independent and even saucy, since they feel sure of obtaining free mail delivery system. They have been longing for it for some time and at last their postal receipts for the year just closed have passed the \$10,000 limit. As the postal receipts of a town are a good index of the business activity Tyrone has been making some rapid strides in the past few years as the following will show. The receipts at that office each year since 1886 were as follows: 1887, \$6400; 1888, \$7196; 1889, \$7580; 1890, \$8078; 1891, \$8407; 1892, \$9309; 1893, \$10153.

We cannot help but congratulate our neighbor upon their rapid advancement and we hope the new postmaster General I will not hesitate a moment in extending the carrier system to Tyrone, for now they are entitled to it.

General Grant Replies to a Snob.

The anecdote is told of General Grant that soon after his nomination for the presidency he was in the city of—where he had not been expected, and was known to but a few, and there, on a rainy Sunday, entered a church and took a seat in a vacant pew not far from the pulpit. The man who rented or owned the pew came in and seeing some one in the seat, sent the sexton to ask the intruder to leave it, which the general did, simply saying "I supposed it was probably the pew of a gentleman or I should not have entered it."

His Brother-in-law.

An exchange tells of a lady who decided to scare her husband, who was quite a hard drinker, so that he would reform. To do this she procured a costume of a devil that had been worn at a masquerade. The next time the erring spouse came home feeling happy she quickly donned the costume and as he opened the door she stepped forward and said in sepulchral tones, "come with me—I am the devil." The result rather startled her, as the response that greeted her was: "Zat so? Shake, ol' boy I'm your brother-in-law. I married your sister."

Recent Deaths.

Oscar Johnson died at Milesburg last Friday. The deceased had been an invalid for some years. He was 17 years of age.

John Fogleman died at his residence near Fillmore, on last Thursday. He was 62 years old and was member of the Evangelical church.

Will Gibson, a young man about 20 years of age, died at Sunbury where he had been ill with typhoid fever. His parents lived in Bellefonte.

On Tuesday James H. Rankin, Esq., received a dispatch announcing the death of Mrs. Clara Shaeffer, wife of John C. Shaeffer, in New York City that day. The deceased left Bellefonte about 40 years ago and was the daughter of Geo. Armstrong. She was 55 years of age, and leaves a husband and five children.

—An effort is on foot to establish a new ball ground on Hoy's farm, near to town. It would be much handier than the park and by no means as expensive.

—This week the CENTRE DEMOCRAT is one day late in reaching its subscribers caused by our paper failing to reach us in time. This has not happened for several years and was entirely unavoidable on our part.

Latest novelties in Spring Clothing for Men, Boys and Children. The best suit in the market, for men, at \$10. Tailoring a specialty.

MONTGOMERY & CO.,
Bellefonte, Pa.