

# The Centre Democrat.



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## The Centre Democrat.

CHAS. R. KURTZ, ED. & PUB.

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### Editorial.

#### THE TICKET.

At the time of going to press, 4:30 Wednesday afternoon, the following was received from Harrisburg:

Governor—Wm. M. Singery, of Philadelphia.

Lieut. Gov.—John S. Rilling, of Erie.

Auditor General—David E. Magee, of Lancaster.

Sec. Int. Affairs—Gen. W. W. Greenland, of Clarion.

Cong. at Large—Hanibal K. Sloan, of Indiana co. and J. C. Bucher, Union.

RAPID progress is being made with the tariff bill. It ought to pass the Senate by the end of the present week.

A few republicans did not like the tone of the last issue of the CENTRE DEMOCRAT and its comments on their primary election and convention. That was no surprise.

DAVID B. HILL continues to oppose the administration in the U. S. Senate. He wants to defeat the Wilson bill because he hates Cleveland. He is jealous of the President's success thus far. Hill has proven himself a Benedict Arnold to his party.

The republicans are particularly delighted with Senator Hill's opposition to the Wilson bill. When Hill fought the McKinley bill the republicans poked sarcastic remarks at him and considered him a very bad democrat—now they admire the man who once was the object of their contempt. Strange.

THE COMMONWEALTH armies at Washington are slowly disbanding. The cause is rations are getting low and the community would contribute to the support of loafers. Coxe is a candidate for congress and will edit a newspaper at Washington. It seems that when a man can't make a success of anything else he drifts into journalism. There is plenty of room in the profession.

ON Wednesday of last week the president sent to the Senate the nomination of William D. Bigler, Esq., of Clearfield, to be Assistant United States Treasurer at Philadelphia. Mr. Bigler is a lawyer by profession, and a son of the late ex-Governor William Bigler. He is 53 years of age, and is well equipped for the duties of the position. The salary is \$4,500.

#### THE CAMPAIGN.

As we go to press on Wednesday afternoon it is impossible to get much information in regard to the doings of the Democratic State Convention in session, at Harrisburg, that afternoon. The attendance is quite large from every part of the state. That is an indication that the rank and file of the party are aggressive and ready to make a strong campaign this year. The shrieks of alarmists and the wail of calamity howlers can not discourage the democrats of this state. They know that the party is founded on principles that will prevail. Temporary depression may discourage some and others may be deceived for the time. It is still four months until the November election, and in that time wonderful changes can take place.

There has been a general call from all sections for Mr. Singery, editor of the Philadelphia Record, to allow his name to be at the head of the state ticket for governor. He would unite the party and Gen. Hastings would be compelled to hustle. There are elements that can enter this campaign that might make the result very uncertain.

The battle has not been fought and the result is unknown. Blaine's popularity and magnetic personality was not reducible to votes. The same thing may happen to other men.

#### Prohibition County Convention.

The chairman of the Prohibition county committee has issued his call for the holding of their convention, on Tuesday, July 24th, at 10.45 o'clock a. m. It is the intention of the prohibitionists to put up a full county ticket and wage a vigorous campaign in the county.

## GREEN GOODS RACKET.

### HOW DUPES ARE FLEEDED BY SHARPERS.

An interesting bit of testimony by an experienced Criminal—Sharpers protected by the police—Profitable but dangerous business.

For some time past the officials, in both high and low places, in New York city, have been trembling with fear of exposure from the investigation in progress by the senate committee. It appears that the police authorities of that city have been protecting the worst form of criminals, upon whom they lay a heavy assessment. Gambling dens, houses of ill fame, swindlers of all kinds are allowed to ply their vocations unmolested as long as they pay a certain sum to the officials for protection.

The "Green Goods" business was exposed last week. As many of our readers have received circulars from these men we publish a full statement of how the business is conducted and how the poor dupes, anxious to get rich quick, are fleeced of their money. George Appo, a Chinese-American criminal, who has served a number of terms in penitentiaries for various crimes, gave the following startling testimony before the investigating committee last Thursday:

The witness was told to explain to the committee how green goods were sold. He told in detail how circulars were sent all over the country announcing that counterfeit money made from plates stolen from the Government could be had cheap by coming on to New York for it; and how the dupes were sent home with a bag of green paper or were openly robbed. He was then asked to give a list of the operators engaged in the green goods business, and describe their various offices. First, he said, came the "backer" who is known to the crooks as the bank roll man. He supplies the money used in the business; second is the "writer" who sends out the mail; third is the "steerer" who goes after the victims who have been located in the neighboring cities; fourth is the "ringer" who is behind a partition in the "turning joint" and substitutes worthless paper for the good money the victim thinks he is getting; fifth is the "turner" who does the trick with the victim; sixth is a man known as "the old gentleman" who is introduced to the victim as the "turner's" father, and last is the "taller" who takes the victim away after he has been fleeced and puts him on his homeward train. The "turning joint" is the place where the victim is taken to buy his goods, and is generally an empty store room with a desk which is required in doing the "turn."

Q.—How are the profits of the business divided? A.—The backer takes fifty per cent, and the writer takes fifty per cent. These two divide the expense of paying the others. The steerer, ringer and taller gets five per cent. of the gross, and the turner ten per cent.

Q.—What are the duties of the writer? A.—He gets from Bradstreet and Dun's agencies and from directories lists of names, and he mails to the persons whose addresses are thus obtained a circular explaining the business, encloses a bogus newspaper cutting which contains a pretended account of Government detectives having discovered that what was supposed to be an overissue of genuine bills was really an issue of bills from stolen Government plates, and of the arrest of the man who had stolen the plate and official printing paper from the government. He also encloses to the victim who responds a sample of the goods, which is, in fact, a genuine one or two dollar bill, and a telegraph blank with instructions how to reply by telegraph.

#### WHAT HAPPENS TO A GUY.

A list, it further appeared is made of the circulars sent out, and when a response is received the man who responds appears on the books of the swindlers by number, but he is known to the gang at first as a "come on." The "come on" is instructed by mail what town and hotel to go to, and is supplied with a passport by which he is to know the agent of the "company." A familiar password is, "How are you, speedy for tune?" Then a steerer is assigned to bring the "come-on" into town. When he reaches this city he is taken to a saloon, where he is told to wait while the steerer goes and notifies the turner that his come-on is a "guy." A man is a guy when he has proceeded as far in his search for speedy fortune as to be brought to the city by a steerer. The guy is then taken by the turner to the turning joint, where he is introduced to

the turner's "father," known in the business as "the old gentleman," and whose function seems to be to inspire confidence in the mind of the guy. To the guy is then shown a package containing from \$2,000 to \$10,000. He is asked how much business he wants to do, and a deal is made at the rate of ten dollars for one. That is, if the guy says he has \$300 he is allowed to count out \$3,000 of the good money, and \$250 more is added for his travelling expenses. The guy's money is put away, and the pretended green goods that is, good money is packed in his presence in a box. He is told at this point to sign his name, and that is when the "turn" is done. The box containing money is put on a shelf, against a partition and the desk lid is opened, ostensibly to get the book or paper which the guy is to sign. The lid conceals the shelf and the "ringer" makes a transfer—that is he substitutes through the partition a package containing worthless paper for that in which the good money has been placed.

Q.—Where does the old gentleman come in? A.—He just sits there as a matter of fact.

Q.—Is not the victim sometimes given a dollar to go out and change by the turner? A.—No, not now. He has had a sample sent to him to investigate.

Q.—Go on with the progress of the guy. A.—When the guy gets his package he is cautioned to be very careful about opening it, as United States detectives might see him. He must not attempt to spend any of it in this part of the country, as this vicinity is flooded with the goods. Then the taller comes in. He is told to take the guy to his train, buy him his ticket, see him safely on board; and if the man looks as if he might be a hard guy the taller rides out on the road with him for some distance.

Q.—What has the banker to do? A.—He has the bank roll. He always has a large sum of good money on hand to show to victims.

Q.—But sometimes there is trouble when the victim gets to the train? A.—Well if there is the taller gets it.

Q.—But they sometimes come back with a kick or protest? A.—The guy seldom comes back. If he does, the taller throws a scare into him. He pretends to be an officer, and tells the guy that he is just as bad as the turner or steerer, and if he wants to keep out of trouble the best thing for him to do is to get back home.

Q.—But have there not been cases where a guy has not been sufficiently frightened by the taller, and has been taken to a police station? A.—Yes.

Q.—What was that done for? A.—The police throw a scare into him.

Q.—Do you know of such a case? A.—Yes.

Q.—How is the mail matter disposed of by the writer? A.—It is generally scattered all around town in mail boxes but it is sometimes put in the general post office in bulk.

#### POLICE PROTECTION.

Q.—But you are all under police protection? A.—There is no doubt of that or else why should the police let me pass with a victim?

Q.—How do you know they do that? A.—My picture is up in the Rogues' Gallery (pointing toward Mulberry street.) They all know me. They pass me when I have a guy and they bow to me and pass on.

Q.—And did you walk along with guys with immunity? A.—I did. If I had a guy the police never saw me, but if I picked a pocket they always saw me pretty quick.

Q.—What is the biggest day's business you ever did? A.—I made \$600 one day.

Q.—At five per cent? A.—Oh, no; \$125 of that was my commission, the balance I got from the guys. When I take a guy to a train I throw a scare into him and say, "well, here is the train; my fee is \$150." They generally have some money. On that day I got \$150 off one guy and \$130 off another.

Q.—What, do you work more than one guy a day? A.—Yes, sometimes half a dozen.

#### A CAB AS A TURNING JOINT.

The witness was asked to explain the new trick of using a cab as a turning joint. He explained (and using his body and hands and feet in demonstration) that sometimes instead of ringing the guy in a regular joint, they would give him the package of genuine bills to carry to a cab which would be hired to go to the ferry. The ringer would enter the cab first and there use a blanket or lap robe to cover up the bogus package, and when the guy got in his package would be concealed by some accidental twist of the lap robe; and then the exchange would be made by the ringer's hand or feet, and when the guy

left the cab at the ferry he would triumphantly carry off the package of worthless paper.

Q.—Have you known of instances of the return of guys for a second deal? A.—Yes, I have heard of three or four soft guys coming back. This would be in cases where the goods were sent to them by express, or where the taller had induced them to check their goods as baggage. In those cases the writer would explain that the expressman or baggageman had stolen the goods and they would come back for more. The next time they would carry their own goods and then they never came back any more.

#### HOWARD CHURCH CASE.

About four years ago, a dispute arose among the members of the church of the Disciples of Christ, at Howard, this county, which culminated in a suit in court as to the ownership of the church property. The plaintiff, or the Long-Lucas party, were represented by Messrs. Reeder and Love, and the defendants, or the Gardner-Harvey party, by Messrs. Spangler & Hewes, assisted by Ira C. Mitchell, Esq. The cause, a suit in equity, was referred to Col. Keller as master, who, after taking considerable evidence in the same, asked to be relieved of any further work in the case, on account of illness. Clement Dale, Esq., was appointed master in Mr. Keller's stead, who after some consideration of the evidence, made a report and recommended a decree in favor of the plaintiffs, or the Long-Lucas party. To these findings the defendants excepted, and on June 6th the case was argued before Judges Furst, Riley and Faulkner for a full day. No consultation on the case was had among the Judges, but notwithstanding this fact Judge Furst, without filing any opinion, handed down a decree on the 18th inst., dismissing the exceptions to the report of the master and sustaining the plaintiff's contention. At this time Judge Riley was present, but Judge Furst did not consult him or inform him of his (Furst's) intention.

This disposition of the case, to the minds of the Associate Judges, is not in accordance with the principles of justice and equity and they, therefore on the 26th inst. made and filed a dissenting opinion and decree in this cause, overruling the order and decree of Judge Furst, sustaining the defendants' exceptions to the master's report and dismissing the bill of complaint at the costs of the plaintiffs.

When judges disagree who shall decide? In other words: "who am the court?"

#### State Revenues.

There will be a large decrease in the revenues of the state this year in comparison with those of the past five years. In 1893 the revenues aggregated \$13,500,000, which is abnormally large in comparison with those of previous years. Of this amount over \$1,000,000 was personal property tax from Philadelphia, which was in litigation for two years as a result of John Barsley's defalcations and recovered by the attorney general's department and turned into the state treasury. The revenues to date show a falling off of over \$300,000 as compared with those of the same time last year. Auditor General Gregg estimates the revenues this year at \$10,000,000. The gross receipts of corporations which have been seriously effected by the financial depression, strikes and other unfavorable conditions.

#### Severe Storm.

On Tuesday a severe storm passed over sections of Burnside township. Hail fell in large quantities covering the ground at some places to a depth of several inches. Great damage was done to fruit trees and crops of all kinds. In some places the crops are entirely ruined.

The Coleville band will hold a festival and dance at their hall on Friday and Saturday evenings, June 29th, and 30th.

Lieutenant W. F. Reeder came home on Saturday night from Pankus-tawney and spent Sunday in Belleville. He reports the situation not at all alarming and thinks the reports in the daily papers are greatly exaggerated.

Don't forget the Y. M. C. A. picnic at Hunter's Park, July 4th. Bicycle and foot racing, and ball game in the afternoon. Everybody will enjoy themselves. The ladies will provide refreshments. The Belleville band, arrayed in their new uniforms, will be present to make music for the occasion. Come one, come all.

Shaeffer, the photographer, is doing a rushing business on his 99 cts. crayon.

## WASHINGTON LETTER.

### THE TARIFF BILL WILL SOON PASS.

Senator Hill Bitterly opposes the measure. A few changes will be made in conference—Coxey's Army awindling.

Senator Hill's fight against the income tax was a futile one, and he did not get even the support of all those he had counted upon. Whether it was that fact or something else he conducted the fight with such bitterness that he has made enemies among the democratic Senators who will never forgive him for the language he used and for the manner in which he used it. Senator Hill could have made a fight against the income tax without offending a single democrat who favors it, but he chose to do otherwise, and even those who agree with him in opposing the tax are now unanimous in saying that he has made a mistake that he will never be allowed to forget. No man objects more to being driven than he. Yet he tried to drive; his democratic colleagues.

The end of the fight against the income tax is the end of the legitimate fight against the tariff bill, and unless there is some republican trickery the bill will pass the Senate and be in the hands of the conference committee before the close of this week. Public interest, recognizing the early passage of the bill, is now centered upon the changes that will be made in it by the conference committee. That there will be a number of changes is regarded as certain, and it is fair to presume that they will all lean towards the original Wilson bill as it was passed by the House, although probably in few if any, instances going all the way. The sugar schedule is regarded as one of the certain changes to be made, but it will hardly go as far as free sugar, because of the opinion that some revenue must be raised from sugar.

The Hatch anti-option bill, which passed the House by a vote of 150 to 87 has been before Congress in one or another shape for the last five years. It was shown by the manner in which party lines were disregarded when the vote was taken for the bill, democrats 63 republicans 47, and populists 10; against, democrats 61, republicans 29,—that politics did not influence the members to any marked extent.

The so-called industrial armies, three of which are now in the vicinity of Washington, are rapidly going to pieces, the men finding that the people of this country are not quite silly enough to work for money and then contribute it to keep several hundred men lying around in idleness.

#### Changes in the Faculty.

The following changes are announced in the faculty of State College for next year: Professor of English, Fred Lewis Pattee, of Dartmouth college; mathematical instructor in the preparatory department, George Tucker Sellow, of Cornell university; instructor in chemistry, William H. Reburn. Frank J. Pond, former instructor in chemistry, will spend next year studying in Germany.

#### Saved Six Cents.

A farmer in Forest county made a trip to the county seat to have a cow stricken from his assessment. The animal was assessed at \$16, but she had died and he wanted to keep up the average man's reputation for avoiding taxes. It cost him a day's time, half a dollar for dinner and horsefeed, but he saved 6 cents taxes and went home happy.

#### New Church.

The Reformed congregation at Centre Hall are preparing to build a new edifice. Last week the Ladies Aid Society purchased two lots in Wolf's grove, as a location for a new church. No particular time has been selected for erecting the building, as their present edifice is still in fair condition.

The following will very likely be the Democratic state ticket this year: William M. Singery, of Philadelphia, will be nominated for governor; John S. Rilling, of Erie, for lieutenant governor; David F. Magee, of Lancaster, for auditor general; General Walter W. Greenland, of Clarion, for secretary of internal affairs; ex-Senator Hannibal K. Sloan, of Indiana, and Senator Gerard C. Brown, of York, for congress at large.

#### "The Only" For a Penny.

The Pittsburg Daily Post has been reduced from 3 cents to 1 cent a copy and is furnished by mail at \$3.00 per year, or 75 cents for three months. Eight large pages every day. Send your order at once.

#### THE PRESIDENT JUDGESHIP.

MILSBURG, June 25th, '94. ED. CENTRE DEMOCRAT: The article in your last issue over the signature of "Veritas," commending the candidacy of C. M. Bower, Esq., for President Judge, was timely and proper, but the writer neglected to mention one of the chief virtues of Mr. Bower, viz: He is the poor man's friend. Cal. Bower has never been known to refuse his professional services where a poor man sought justice, because he was unable to pay a fee in advance, but on the other hand more than once within the writer's knowledge he has been known not only to render his services but to advance money to pay necessary expenses to obtain poor men their rights. Before such a man as Judge, the scales of justice would not turn under the weight of gold, and a man without the prestige of wealth could go into court against corporation and monopolies with an assurance of righteous judgment. A shlyock on the bench is a curse to any community. Give us Bower, the poor man's friend, and the motion of "Veritas" to elect him without distinction of party, is seconded by  
POPULISTS.

#### Odd Fellows Picnic.

The Nittany Valley lodge I. O. O. F., will hold a basket picnic in the Hecla grove, near Hecla station, on the C. R. R. of Pa., on Saturday, July 21, 1894. Sixteen sister lodges have been invited to attend, also 4 Sabbath schools and 3 G. A. R. posts. Good bands will be in attendance and addresses will be delivered by able speakers. The lodge will also hold a festival at the same place in the evening.

#### Costs in Advance.

Judge Bell, of Blair county, says that a witness in any common law proceeding has a right to demand his costs in advance when subpoenaed to appear at court, as he would be justified in remaining away should his costs not be paid.

#### OBITUARY.

JOHN BITNER LEATHERS was born near Houersville, in what is now Benner township, Centre county, Pa., on the 18th day of March, 1827, and closed his pilgrimage at Mt. Eagle, Howard twp., after a painful illness of several weeks duration) June 14, 1894, aged 67 years, 2 months and 27 days. His parents were John and Barbara (Bitner) Leathers, well known in Bald Eagle Valley, as well as other parts of the county, for their noble lives of usefulness and Godliness. On the 13th day of September, 1846, he was united in the holy bonds of matrimony with Miss A. Eliza Turner, who proved a true and devoted companion and helpmeet and became the mother of twelve children, of whom two sons, William T. and N. Haupt, and five daughters, Ella B., Cora E., Bertha Edith, Olive E. and Florence survive, the other five having preceded the father to the "Home of the Soul." Three brothers and two sisters together with nine grand children, remain to mingle their tears with the bereaved wife and children. Mr. Leathers was widely known and esteemed for his many noble qualities, and his demise is profoundly regretted by a large circle of friends and acquaintances among whom his long and useful life was passed. His family were especially the objects of his affection and kindness, and that they might be comfortable and happy; he was diligent in business, carrying on the pottery business as long as it was profitable, after which he established a handle factory which he successfully conducted until his last illness, and so prudently he managed his affairs that he had no debts, and his business matters are so well arranged that his sons will be enabled to continue the business without interruption. In early life he became a Christian and united with the church of Christ at Howard, and so faithfully did he and his companion heed the divine injunction to "bring up their children in the nurture and admonition of the Lord," that all but the youngest are members of the church. His funeral services were conducted by Rev. E. N. Manley, of Howard, at the family mansion, on Sunday, June 17th, and all that remained of the beloved John B. Leathers was followed by a vast concourse of people to Sandy Ridge cemetery, near Curtin, and all that was mortal was returned to its native earth, while he has gone to dwell with the dear savior in one of the "many mansions." His bereaved family are Christians—they are comforted up by the Christian's hope, and knowing that their departed loved one, having been sustained by an unflinching faith as he passed through the gates of death now "sleeps in Jesus," they know that he will be in the triumphant throng who will come with our glorious Lord, when he comes to make all things new, and to be glorified in his saints.

"There is a land immortal,  
The beautiful of lands,  
Beside its ancient portals  
A silent sentry stands.  
He only can undo it,  
And open wide the door,  
And mortals pass through it,  
Are mortals never more."  
—L. C. M.

## Mingle's Shoes,

like hotel doughnuts, are hand-made and lasters.

Wise ones say that a man stands about sixteen chances of being struck by lightning to one of getting a good pair of shoes in these degenerate days.

MINGLE is the man who wants to meet you when in need of a Good, Honest, Faithful pair of shoes. He will sell you a pair for which the lightning has no liking.

A few crumbs of comfort may be gathered here and there, but if you want

A Whole Loaf of Satisfaction

Try MINGLE for Shoes.