

The Centre Democrat.

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The Centre Democrat.

CHAS. R. KURTZ, ED. & PUB.

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Editorial.

OIL has advanced from 74 cents to \$1.45 in the past month. In the meantime other commodities have gone down. Could there be any connection between this and the Marshall Pipe Line Bill?

WHEN the poor man buys his weekly can of illuminating oil and finds that he must pay several cents more per gallon he should not damn the Wilson Bill or blame poor old Grover for it.

Judge Bell, of Blair county, has granted 67 tavern licenses and refused 21. The above number brings the county a revenue of \$28,550. That ought to keep them in good humor for the next year.

The bill to prohibit the killing of deer in the State under a penalty of \$200, for five years after October 1 next, passed finally in the House. A similar bill as to the shooting of quail and other game birds and the taking of fish from the public streams is likely to follow.

A PORTION of the income tax law was repealed as being unconstitutional. This will be welcome news to many republicans who are anxious to see every source of revenue cut off and the government embarrassed all for the sake of political effect. As matters now stand this will not come to pass.

WHENEVER you see limp, languid youths wearing long hair, parted in the middle, effeminate in manner and speech devoted students of what is "stweetly pwop," who in themselves have no individual characteristic or merit, you can depend that they are some of Oscar Wilde's disciples. They can be found in every community; we have them.

One hundred of the leading citizens of Chicago have invited President Cleveland and wife to a banquet, the reason assigned being because he has preserved a sound currency and maintained the national credit. It would be well for some of our republican blackguards, who for the past year could not say anything too mean of the president, to note this fact.

THE following will be an objectional item for the *Keystone Gazette* to print in its editorial department: "Highest in eleven years—The oil market went a fraction over \$1.17 yesterday—the advance of the oil market yesterday to \$1.17; marked the highest point reached since December, 1883." It is from the *Pittsburg Times*, a republican paper. It should be remembered in this connection that a republican Governor recently signed a bill allowing the Standard Oil Company to monopolize the entire business.

These are no doubt very gloomy days for democracy, and the party is sure to lose many of its later recruits and all of the camp-followers who only worship at the shrine of success. But there is a solid body of believers left whose faith in Jeffersonian principles is the mainstay of the Republic. There need, therefore, be no fear that the democratic party will fail as long as the Republic lasts. If there were no democracy tomorrow there would be the day after. Its opponents would recreate it, their principles and practices are so obnoxious to free and stable government.

THE Methodist minister, Dr. M. J. Lansing, who made a personal attack upon President Cleveland, asserting from the pulpit that the President was habitually intoxicated and often beyond self control on public occasions, has been severely called down by Mr. Cleveland himself, who brands his accuser as a wilful liar, and the testimony of many eminent men substantiate the assertion. The Rev. Lansing is now humiliated and disgraced. In this extremity he comes forth in a meek and humble apology and retracts all he had said. This is another illustration of the fair treatment to be expected from the ministry when they leap into the political arena. Their zeal and prejudice gets away with them and like old Burchard they make "Bob Wallaces" of themselves, almost every time.

—Frank Nagney requests us to state that he has had a telephone put in his place of business.

MORE ABOUT OIL.

THE CONSUMER PAYS THE BILL.

Oil Advanced in price since The Marshall pipe line bill was signed—Bismirched records.—Need cleaning up.

Last week the *Gazette*, Hastings' subsidized organette played its customary music, in defence of a republican Governor who is in need of all the apology and explanation that is to be had. In defence of a weak cause and considering the subject at issue, our devoted uncle did remarkably well, but at the same time dubbing the writer as "Alex McClure's razor backed imitator" does not give any comfort to the poor man who must pay about five cents per gallon more for oil since Hastings signed the Marshall Pipe Line Bill.

Editor Harter based his defence upon an inquiry made with some local merchant in regard to the retail price of oil and found that it had "not raised a single farthing" and concludes that "this settles the matter as far as the consumer is interested" and on that ground he exonerates the Governor of responsibility. Harter apparently didn't know much about the subject and unfortunately came in contact with some other individual in the same unfortunate situation. Hence nothing and nothing, combined, naturally produced nothing; and that is the result of his defence.

The market quotations, for crude petroleum, in the pipe lines and tanks, before the Marshall Pipe Line Bill was passed, was ranging between 74 and 82 cents per barrel of 32 gallons. In the past month the oil market has experienced an unparalleled boom. Crude petroleum jumped to \$1.14 last week and at the hour of going to press, Wednesday afternoon, reached the unprecedented advance of \$1.50, or double in value—all since Gov. Hastings signed this bill which the press denounced as a piece of infamy and jobbery. Recent dispatches sent out by the Standard Oil Company, declare this to be due to increased demand and reduced supply. That will pass for an apology.

Any sane man knows that when crude oil doubles in value, the refined product must naturally follow; but the retail price does not fluctuate as rapidly. In the past week the retail price of oil has advanced about five cents per gallon and if the market remains at \$1.50 per barrel we can expect it to reach at least 20 cents per gallon for refined. The latest market reports predict that it will advance to \$2 per barrel crude; so much the worse for the poor consumer.

The Standard Oil Company is a gigantic monopoly with many millions back of it. They control or handle 80 per cent. of the entire product. They have the principal pipe lines to convey it to the sea board. Heretofore the law prevented them from buying a competing pipe line. It was a great advantage to them to have it repealed. For years they fought and lobbied at Harrisburg to get such legislation. Pattison vetoed a similar bill, but Gov. Hastings signed the Marshall Pipe Line bill which gives this monopoly the opportunity to wipe out all competition and control the market and that is what seems to have happened. In every store in Bellefonte the retail price of oil has advanced, or it is being sold at a loss by the dealer.

This is the situation of the oil question and it is an exceedingly distressing one to the consumer. The universal opinion is that the Marshall pipe line bill has left the Standard Oil Company the master of the market, and the action of a republican Governor and Legislature must bear the responsibility.

The astute republican editors of regulation party organs, and the subsidized sheet, can now do a great favor to their party and a greater service to the Executive if they can give an intelligent explanation that will clear up their present bismirched records.

It is no wonder that many democrats are regretting that complimentary vote given Hastings. To them, we say: Come home, and sin no more.

To Bro. Harter we say: The eyes of the oil consumers of Centre county are awaiting to see if you can clear up this record of infamy, now posted on your door.

John Carper.

The venerable John Carper, of Linden Hall, died on Sunday last aged upwards of 90 years, after an illness of several months. He was one of the most respected citizens of Harris township. We do not have any particulars.

THE INCOME TAX DECISION.

The long wait over the litigation against the income tax is at an end, and the law is to stand in force except as to two important particulars.

Therefore, the court rules that the tax on incomes from rents and lands is a direct tax and therefore in conflict with the constitution.

It also decides the tax is unconstitutional so far as it relates to incomes from state, county or municipal bonds. Therefore, in making returns the citizen will be allowed to deduct what he gets from his real estate investments as well as from his ownership of state, county or municipal bonds.

The fact of the law being declared unconstitutional as to these two points does not invalidate it as a whole. In this the court is equally divided, and therefore the law stands, with the exceptions noted. The lower court sustained it as a whole.

In brief, the court construes the tax on lands and rentals as a direct tax. This has always been understood to be a weak point of law. Direct taxes under the constitution must be levied on population, and not on property. Incomes from state, county and municipal bonds are held to be beyond the power of congress to tax.

Just to what extent the decision will cut down the expected revenues from the income tax it is impossible to determine. It is estimated that there are outstanding about a thousand millions of dollars in state, county and municipal bonds. At an average of 5 per cent the income from these bonds would be \$50,000,000, and a 2 per cent tax on this income would be \$1,000,000. The incomes from lands, in the shape of rental, is too big a subject to handle even in the way of estimates.

The law as it is to stand will bring in large revenues, and we are glad to know that the supreme court decision does not affect the general powers of the government to levy a tax on at least a part of the surplus wealth of the country. If the land tax is a direct tax, of course it is obnoxious to the constitutional restriction. The decision seems to be clear and logical to the lay mind.

The Harman's Back.

In January 1894, Milton and Mary Harman, of Spring township, were arrested for the inhuman treatment of their son Geo. Harman. At April term of court they pled guilty to the charge, and were each fined \$100, confinement in the Western Penitentiary for a year. On May 8th both parents were taken to the Western Penitentiary and on last Saturday they arrived back in Bellefonte. Mrs. Harman was taken suddenly ill, and is lying at the Cummings House unable to be about.

When the Harman's were taken away their children fell upon Spring township for support. What personal property was left by him was taken by the overseer of the poor and sold. Mr. Harman is now attempting to recover from the township the amount of property taken, but will not likely succeed.

A Strike Threatened.

It is asserted that before the month is over all the bituminous coal miners between Altoona and Pittsburg will strike for the advance they failed to get by last fall's strike. The raise has been granted elsewhere, consequently the miners are becoming indignant and greatly aroused.

At a recent meeting in DuBois the organized miners, it is said, decided to strike. The men in that vicinity are not organized, so had no representatives present, but the organization can be quickly effected, and if the threat of the DuBois meeting is brought to a climax, there is little doubt that it will be joined by all the miners in that entire district.

"Brack" Powell Arrested.

The following is taken from the Sunday *Philadelphia Record*:

"Detectives Bond and Murray arrested Charles Powell, a colored man, who came to this city from Bellefonte, last evening, in the rear of 615 Lombard street, on the charge of arson. He is accused of setting fire to the store and warehouse of Jacob Hirsch, in Osceola borough, Clearfield county, on the night of May 2, 1894, with several other colored men who are not known."

This is none other than Bellefonte's famous "Brack Powell" who has been in jail oftener than he has toes on his feet. Brack is a famous coon, and if found guilty of the alleged charge will not annoy his acquaintances in Bellefonte for some time.

A NEW TELEPHONE.

It is stated that a new system will be tried in the near future.

Thurlow Weed Barnes, president of the new Standard Telephone company, officially states that the concern will go into the telephone business with new and improved appliances in every state and territory. About fifty sub-companies have already been licensed, each for specified territory.

It is hinted, though not definitely stated, that General Aldrich and John W. Mackay, are more or less interested in the parent company, the capital of which is said to be \$10,000,000. The company makes this statement as to its basis principles: The Standard rests on the simple fact that an electrical undulation is necessarily more rapid and accurate than any known power. On this fundamental fact is based the peculiarity of the Standard telephone, the superior qualities of which have been demonstrated by practical tests, purposely made most severe, against resistances equivalent to tests over 3,500 miles of wire, so that the company expects to be able to talk easily from New York to San Francisco.

Saratoga Sailors.

Messrs. John Sourbeck and John Scaron, two Bellefonte youths, have just completed a three-months cruise on the school ship "Saratoga" which left Philadelphia on January 8th. Their faces are slightly bronzed by exposure to the southern climate. Seventy-two boys including officers went, on this ship. During the voyage the boys spent forty-six days at sea and an equal number on shore, visiting various foreign ports. The health of all has been excellent, no one suffering from anything worse than sea sickness.

The change in coming from a warm climate into a cooler one was shown by the boys one by one exchanging light pea jackets for heavy woolen coats as soon as the ship got north of Cape Hatteras. The entire trip was made almost on schedule time, the vessel being but three days overdue. Good weather was the rule during the entire trip.

The vessel arrived at Barbadoes on

July and August. The next cruise will be undertaken in about two months. Captain Strong has nothing but praise for the boys, who he says, deported themselves with much credit.

Mother Lycoming's Centennial.

Lycoming county will celebrate its centennial anniversary April 18. It was formed from part of Northumberland, and was originally much larger than it is now. Territory that was formerly embraced in Lycoming county has been cut off and now forms Sullivan, a part of Bradford, all of Tioga, Potter and McKean, a part of Warren, Forest and Venango, all of Clarion, a part of Armstrong, all of Jefferson, part of Indiana, all of Elk, part of Centre, all of Clinton and part of Union.

At 12 o'clock April 18 the citizens of these counties are invited to help celebrate old Mother Lycoming's 100th birthday by ringing bells and blowing steam whistles for the space of ten minutes, and all public and private schools and other assemblages are asked to sing "My Country, 'Tis of Thee."

Mr. Eagle Items.

We are glad to hear that business is getting better in some places. The Mountain Eagle Handle Factory of which J. B. Leather's Sons are proprietors, is very busy at present. Orders are coming in faster than the handles can be made, so they are running day and night.

Miss Cora E. Leathers went to Philadelphia on April 3rd, where she expects to stay for several months.

Mrs. R. C. Leathers has recovered from a severe attack of inflammatory rheumatism.

Mr. A. H. Leathers is the happy father of a bouncing baby boy, whose name is J. B. Leathers.

A Warning.

The supreme court of Indiana rendered a decision in a divorce case in these words: "You voluntarily chose a drunkard for a husband, and you should discharge the duties of a drunkard's wife. His failure to keep a pledge of reformation made before marriage does not justify you in deserting him. Having knowingly married a drunkard you make yourself content with the sacred relationship."

Married.

At the home of the bride at Snow Shoe, Pa., April 8th, 1895, by Rev. H. N. Minnigh, Mr. Harvey M. Harm, of Mahaffey, Pa., and Miss Mellie Shope, of the former place.

A SUDDEN DEATH.

JACOB THOMAS' SERIOUS ILLNESS.

Terminated in his Death on Wednesday—A Prominent Citizen and Business Man.

On Wednesday noon Mr. Jacob Thomas died suddenly at his residence, at this place. He had been ill for a few weeks past, but not serious until the last few days. His age was about 76 years.

Mr. Thomas was one of Bellefonte's prominent citizens, who spent most of his life in this section, and was identified with business enterprises, of which only the older residents have any recollection. He was a son of Wm. A. Thomas, who came to Bellefonte from Chester county and was an extensive iron manufacturer, who amassed much wealth and owned most of the land which now constitutes the North ward of Bellefonte, and many valuable tracts of ore land elsewhere. For some years Jacob Thomas engaged in the iron business at Howard, Pa., but it was unprofitable. He was engaged in business in Philadelphia. After that he came to Bellefonte and became a member of the firm of Wagner & Thomas, dealers in grain, produce, etc. Their ware rooms were located in the old building near Garbriek & Hale's mill. In those days that was the terminus of the canal, and they did a very large amount of business. After that he became the principal member of the firm of Jacob Thomas & Co., manufacturers of glass, at this place. His brother Isaac and son Joseph were the remaining members of the firm. In 1871 it went out of business and since then Mr. Thomas has lived a retired life. He is of the early Quaker families, who came to this place many years ago. In disposition he was rather retiring, yet those who enjoyed his closer friendship pronounced him a most entertaining companion.

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The Passover Week.

This is Passover week with its holy convocations in memory of Israel's exodus from Egypt and its transition through the Red Sea from bondage to freedom, from Pharaoh's despotism to independence. The Passover is the grand and indelible monument in history of Israel's natal day, the starting point of that circle of history which begins thirty-four centuries ago in yonder Egypt and in the wilderness of Arabia, and then rolls on and on via Palestine over all countries, ages, ancient and modern, through all vicissitudes, rise and fall of empires, flood and ebb of religious and philosophical systems, all races of the human family, deflecting all forms of government, among all races of the human family, reflecting all triumphs and discomfitures, all victories and defeats, all the joys and all the woes of humanity. Sublime in its grandeur, indescribably pathetic in its variations of light and shadow incomparably wonderful in its imperishable continuance, enigmatical and marvelous to contemplate is this long episode from the world's history, at the sunny side of which we stand and look back through the long centuries of shadow and darkness to the very starting point, by celebrating the Passover, the Feast of Liberty.—Ez.

Death of Minnie Nymann.

Minnie M. Nymann, daughter of Wm. and Mary Nymann, died at Fairview, Boggs twp., Saturday night March 15th 1895, aged 18 years 10 months, and 1 day. Internment took place on Monday morning in the Advent cemetery. Services were held by Rev. T. E. Eland, of Unionville. Pall bearers were, Misses Rosie Heaton, Lizzie Yarnell, Julia Lucas, Bessie Malone, Verna Brown and Lizzie Confer, all friends of the deceased.

Extravagant Woman.

Mrs. William K. Vanderbilt has the reputation of being one of the most recklessly extravagant women in New York ever knew. The fact that she had an entire floor of the Continental hotel in Paris refurbished for her expense for a stay

Baby Carriages.

Nagney the furniture dealer is a man who knows just what to buy. On Wednesday he unpacked about a dozen of the finest baby carriages to be had. Not everybody has any use for such a conveyance, but those who have should pay his store a visit, or call him by telephone. He has one.

The Arbor Days.

The spring is late and Governor Hastings is not rushing the Arbor Day dates. His proclamation fixing April 11 and 25 as the days for public tree planting is quite as advanced as the season, but it is timely as a notice to the tree planters to get ready for their work.

—Herbert Shaeffer has resigned his position with Adam's Express Company at this place. He is succeeded by Harry Taylor.

AUDITOR'S NOTICE.

In the Orphans' Court of Centre county, in the re-estate of Mary A. Oswald. The undersigned, an Auditor appointed by the court in above estate, to make distribution of the balance due estate as per account filed and confirmed to and among those legally entitled to receive the same, will be at his office in Bellefonte, Pa., on Friday, April 13, 1895, at 10 a. m. to perform the duties of his appointment when all parties interested may attend if they see fit.

J. W. ALEXANDER, Auditor.

Your Shoe Bill

Is a big item of your expense. You can

Reduce It

By trading with us From baby to grandpa can find suitable

Footware

Here. We have all sizes, all styles, all prices—for all people. A very

Special Thing

Is our Ladies' Button and Lace.

Mingle's Store.