

MORE LIGHT TURNED ON.

Republicans Have Mismanaged Public Office.

STATE AND COUNTY RECORDS.

How the County Funds were Misappropriated for a Campaign Scheme—State Funds being farmed—Returning Prosperity.—Turn Out Next Tuesday.

The address of Chairman Spangler to the democrats of the county seems to have greatly excited the ire of the mud-sill who edits, or is supposed to edit, the Gazette, and he turns his wrath, not upon the address but on one of our citizens without any provocation.

CAMPAIGN SCHEME

The Chairman of the County Committee, however, is right in the statement contained in his address. The purpose was to show, and he did so conclusively, that it was not wise or judicious to turn any office in the county over to the control of the republican party. Everybody, except the late Republican Board of Commissioners and perhaps the editor of the Gazette, knew very well that it was utterly impossible to run the county on a two and one-half and a two mill tax and keep it out of debt. The reduction was a campaign scheme to catch votes, but the people would not be caught; they unceremoniously turned the republican party out of office in the county.

The question of assessments was not considered by the chairman, but as given by the Gazette they show the utter inefficiency on the part of the late Republican Board of Commissioners, and a wise and honest determination of the present board to equalize taxation over the whole county.

Chairman Spangler incidentally mentioned the fact that "the then treasurer had charged and taken commissions on \$20,000, to which he was not entitled." The name of Mr. Goss was not mentioned nor had anything been said about it, and yet others are accused of going out of their way to charge Mr. Goss with misappropriation. Since they have commenced, however, we will show the people how they did manage the county finances during the three years they were in authority.

COUNTY FUNDS MISAPPROPRIATED.

The Republican Board in 1888 started with a surplus of \$24,096, as is clearly shown by the county statement sent out in Feb. 1888 and which is admitted in the Gazette. When the statement for 1890 was published, it showed an actual indebtedness of \$5,267.62. The county auditors in making their report for 1890, which was filed in January 1891, say, "there is due to the several districts for road, school and poor purposes, arising from unassented lands the sum of \$20,173.18. Of this sum the commissioners drew out for county purposes the sum of \$7,664.09. Besides this the state tax for 1889 amounting to \$1,356.46 and the state tax for 1890 to the sum of \$7,001 remained unpaid to the state, and had also been used for county purposes. These several sums, with interest on what was due the State, made a deficiency at the beginning of 1891 of \$21,392.88. It must be remembered that these several sums belonged to the townships in the county and to the state, and that it was a

GROSS VIOLATION OF THE LAW to misuse and misappropriate them in the manner the late Republican Board of Commissioners had done. On all these sums, collected but not paid over, Mr. Goss, the then Treasurer, charged and received commissions, and to these he had no legal right whatever. At the settlement for 1891 Mr. Gramley claimed commissions on the same amounts because he had disbursed them. The County Auditors thought it would be wrong to allow commissions on the same funds twice, and did not, therefore, allow his claim.

From this decision Mr. Gramley appealed, and all the court decided was, that as the law allowed commissions on the "money collected and paid over or disbursed," Mr. Gramley not having collected could not be allowed commissions on these funds. The court, moreover, declared that as Mr. Goss had not disbursed these funds he was not entitled to commissions, but as they were taken and the settlement in which they were allowed, had not been appealed from they could not be recovered to the county. This makes it clear that Mr. Goss was not entitled to the commissions he took on these funds. The Gazette, or whoever tried to state what the court did decide, shot wide of the mark.

The Chairman of the County Committee referred to those things for the purpose of showing that it would not be good policy to turn any more of the county offices over to the republican party. In this he was clearly right and he succeeded admirably. With this show-

ing the people of Centre county ought to be convinced that it is to their interest, advantage and benefit to continue the democratic party in power in the county.

ABOUT STATE FINANCES.

It seems to be absolutely impossible for the republican party to manage either the finances of the county, or great cities, or the State or Nation without juggling. The great cities of Philadelphia and Pittsburg, for many years under absolute republican rule, have been so plundered and robbed that the people of both cities cry for mercy and appeal to the legislature for help.

BARDSEY'S STEAL.

The people must well remember the immense steal of Bardsley, the Treasurer of Philadelphia, which was laid bare in 1891. They know the corruption, the favoritism, and fraud practiced in putting up the public buildings, building the reservoirs and paving the street of that great city.

CORRUPTION IN PITTSBURG.

Only the other week the people of the whole state, were started at the corruption in public office, and the prostitution of public funds made bare by an investigating committee of the council of Pittsburg. Two men, prominent in the councils of the republican party resigned their office, and were arrested, accused of using the city's funds for their private benefit. The deficit at first was said to be \$50,000.00, later the Pittsburg paper thought \$200,000.00, and now it is asserted that the peculations and frauds that have been going on for a long term of years will reach over \$1,000,000.00 and that not only the men who are under arrest to-day but many more who have held office in the same department during a period of twenty years will be implicated.

OUR STATE TREASURER.

Close on the heels of these revelations come the accusation that the present State Treasurer is juggling with the finances of the state. The Philadelphia Press, one of the editors of which is a member of Governor Hastings' Cabinet, in its issue of October 9th declares that:

"The refusal or failure of State Treasurer Jackson to pay to this city (Philadelphia) the balance of the school fund appropriation due to the end of last June, is amazing. Naturally it is causing much adverse criticism of the State Treasurer in the absence of any explanation from that official. It has been broadly asserted that the reason that the money has been withheld from the city so long after it was due, and in spite of City Treasurer Oellers repeated requests that it be paid, is that it could be kept in favored banks here and there in the state which are doubtless paying interest to someone for it."

The Philadelphia Bulletin, a republican paper, of Oct 5th, says:

"On the first of July last there was due the city of Philadelphia, upward of \$1,000,000.00 on account of the State school fund; but up to this time the City Treasurer who, on account of the city's needs for ready money, has been urging a prompt remission of that amount, has received only two payments of \$150,000. More than \$700,000.00 is still due the city."

The same paper, under date of Oct. 8th 1895, in making further complaint of the failure of Treasurer Jackson to promptly pay over the city's share of the school funds, says: If the State Treasury were under the same law that governs the city treasury in respect to interest on its call balances, it would be nearly if not quite \$1,000,000 richer every year.

The profit which private parties are enabled to make out of the handling of the balance—averaging usually well on to \$5,000,000—which the state carries in the banks, is one of the long-standing abuses at Harrisburg which the authors of the republican reform platform this year need not travel very far to look into."

The Philadelphia Ledger of Oct. 7, 1895, has this

QUESTION OF INCOMPETENCY

Raised in the District Attorney Contest.

SKETCH OF THE CANDIDATES.

Mr. Singer not perfect, but a Good Official—Why He Deserves Re-election—Mr. Quigley's Special Qualifications.

The political contests in this county are being waged on the question of the competency of the various candidates. In the last issue of the Gazette an editorial appears assailing Mr. Singer, the democratic candidate for district attorney. The article does not sound like one of Editor Harter's effusions. It is amusing to read this article and its sweeping assertions.

It may be in place at this time to give a brief contrast of Messrs. Singer and Quigley, the democratic and republican candidates for district attorney.

Wm. J. Singer's parents were plain, unassuming Penna. German farmers, in Curtin township. He grew up on the farm, spent several years teaching public schools and preparing for entrance at State College where he afterwards attended several years and then entered the law offices of Orvis, Bower & Orvis as a student. Three years ago he was elected District Attorney and ably filled the position.

In regard to his official career the Gazette article insists that he has made errors. Yes, he has made errors, to say that he has not would be untruthful, and so has and does every other attorney at the bar. Even our President Judges are not infallible, as Supreme Courts of seven judges are necessary to correct their legal stumblings. It would be quite strange if Mr. Singer would not occasionally bring a wrong indictment. He is not a Daniel Webster or a Rufus Choate, but in the past three years he has given close attention to his duties. Many criminals have been brought to justice and the interests of the commonwealth have been carefully guarded. He has done a good work and deserves a re-election. Coming from the farm, being able to converse in both English and German, plain and unassuming in his manners, he is exactly the kind of a man the common people want in that position.

Now let us look at the republican candidate—Henry C. Quigley, Esq. He is the son of a wealthy merchant at Eagleville. Grew up a child of luxury and ease. The Gazette says "Mr. Quigley, Esq., who has brains," as though there was some difference of opinion on that point. While a student at West Point Military Academy, he must have been too indolent or indifferent to use those "brains" for, as rumor has it, he came home one day and never returned, did not keep up in his studies with the class. As stated before and known so well by the attorneys, Mr. Quigley never applied himself to his legal studies, but devoted time and attention to the fashions and whims of the social swirl. Some people censured this statement in a former issue, but no one has yet pronounced it incorrect.

At present there is somewhat of a controversy as to whether Mr. Quigley ever tried a case in court. Some say he has; others that he has not. An effort will be made by the Gazette this week to show that he has, in the last four years, appeared in court. That shows at once that his legal experience, in that time, has been so meager that the public knows comparatively little of him and it becomes a matter of controversy. He is also credited in the same article with "legal acumen second to none at the bar"—pretty hard slap at the balance of members, is it not?

In the point of neglect: Mr. Quigley neglected his studies at West Point, and as a legal student, and we believe would display the same course if entrusted with a public office.

We recognize Mr. Quigley's ability as an athlete, a military enthusiast, a social factor and an exceedingly gallant man among the ladies but his ability to discharge the duties as District Attorney we honestly question. He might be able to give the correct idea on social forms and usages, the proper height and tuck of a linen collar, and the extreme fashion in the length of a full-dress coat tail, and what jewels were in good form, but there would be great risk in entrusting him with a serious criminal proceeding.

As a pronounced republican, a pet of Dan Hastings, in whose law office he studied and in whose palatial residence he now lives, in all the pomp of royalty, we can see no reason why any democrat should think of forsaking his party nominees to elect one of Hastings' heelers.

Stand by your ticket. Vote for Wm. J. Singer, a loyal democrat, a farmer's boy, deserving capable and who would

appreciate the emoluments of the office. Complimentary voting don't pay. Vote for Singer and see to it that you and your neighbors get to the polls on Tuesday. Votes count.

HAS BEEN REWARDED.

Mr. Abraham Miller was in the war and came back wounded, a fact well known to almost everybody in Centre county. There are hundreds of other men who also served their country faithfully and equally as well, who returned maimed and crippled. They went forth as patriots, in defence of their country, and since their return have taken their places in the community and have been quiet and unassuming. They have not continually been pushing their soldier claim before them, year after year, to secure a public office, or are chronic office seekers. That is the difference in some men. As an old soldier, we think Mr. Miller has been quite well cared for. By special act of congress he was awarded \$3,000 as back pay pension, and since then has been drawing \$24 per month or \$288 per year, for 16 years which would amount to about \$5,000 more, or about \$8,000 in all, thus far in pensions. As storekeeper at the Pleasant Gap distillery for a long term of years, Mr. Miller got several thousand more, as some years the salary amounted to over \$1,000. This position was given Mr. Miller because he was an old soldier. Upon this claim he has received in all at least \$12,000 in the past fifteen years. Where, in all Centre county, can you find an old soldier who has fared as well upon public office and benefits. We are glad to see Mr. Miller so fortunate.

Another condition now confronts us. Mr. Miller's thirst for public office, it seems, can not be satisfied. Now he wants to be elected Prothonotary of Centre county, and his principal claim is that he is an old soldier. In all candor we appeal to the good sense of our readers and ask if Mr. Miller is not pushing this claim rather hard? Has he not been well cared for in the past by offices and benefits to the amount of at least \$15,000? and yet wants more. Could we treat every old soldier as well? No, because there would not be enough of them.

The nearest thing that appeared in the Gazette this week to a deserter was a copy of the Centre Democrat in which its editor reiterates some of his malicious charges by asking Mr. Miller a number of questions, the answer to which we have repeatedly told him, he could get from certified papers left in the Gazette's possession for that purpose. And the most startling thing, perhaps of all is the intimation that Mr. Miller was a deserter.

To the above the writer will say: the papers at the Gazette office were shown to the writer; they consist of a number of enlistment and discharge papers; endorsements and applications for pension, etc; among all not a line or word was to be found relative to the Harrisburg episode. Mr. Harter knows the contents of these documents too well and if he, or Miller, could by them answer our printed questions they would not hesitate, avoid or dodge them as they have been doing during the entire campaign. The public knows that. If these questions are "malicious charges" why did they leave them unanswered? Mr. Harter knows that the answer can not be found among the documents he speaks of. This is simply another method of avoidance, and is not the truth, either.

We know nothing of Mr. Miller's record, as given in Bates History, and referred to last week. He was not accused, neither was it intimated by us, of him being a deserter. We know Mr. Miller was in the service, was severely wounded and that speaks for him. We think, and hope, that he can show that this is an error, as has occurred to many other soldiers, and that he is not guilty of such an unpardonable crime towards his country.

We have no apologies to offer for our course, in this controversy, which the opposition terms "malicious," but that does, happily, not make it so, for if a man's record dare not be investigated the fault lies with him. Time, opportunity columns of the paper, anything desired, were extended Mr. Miller, if any wrong was done him, to make reparation.

With this brief summary of the controversy in regard to Mr. Miller's war record, we leave the matter with the people and the voters for their consideration.

Will Charge for Bicycles.

The great increase in the number of bicycles carried by passengers on the Pennsylvania railroad has led to the issuance of an order that the railroad will no longer carry bicycles free as passengers' baggage. They will be rated the same as excess baggage, except that the minimum charge will be but fifteen cents. The baggage men say that of late eight or nine bicycles is nothing unusual on one trip, and that goes to show the increase in baggage heretofore seldom carried.

An Opportunity

For a few days only. A few live agents; either sex; genteel business; can be done day or evenings. For particulars write immediately, with reference. Address, W., Box 1664, P. O., N. Y. City.

MR. MILLER'S WAR RECORD.

A Few Concluding Remarks on the Subject.

WHY DOES HE HESITATE?

No Papers that will Explain the Harrisburg Investigation—On the Lost Commission—What is Wrong—Why they avoid, dodge and hesitate—The Conclusion.

For several weeks past certain members of Company E, 184th regiment P. V. living in this section, through the columns of the CENTRE DEMOCRAT, have been urging Mr. Abraham Miller republican candidate for prothonotary, and who now wants his third or fourth office on the sole ground of having been an old soldier, to explain a part of his soldier record, in regard to recruiting that company and why he never was commissioned captain, as he had expected.

In regard to other matters, not questioned, he and some of his republican friends were quite eager to rush into print, but the Harrisburg event was very carefully avoided. For three weeks Mr. Miller has avoided the following plain questions:

- (1) Were you at Harrisburg while the 184th regiment and especially company E, was being organized?
- (2) Did you know that an investigation was made in regard to recruiting officers retaining bounty money from soldiers?
- (3) Did you expect or have any assurance of being appointed captain of company E, or did the members of this company consider your appointment probable?
- (4) Why did you not regularly enlist as others?
- (5) Were any of the soldiers from Centre county, recruited by you, accredited to Lehigh or any other county, and if so why?

Why does he not answer them? They come from old soldiers, of his own company. That was not even denied; for if it had been, the men would have come out in complete statements, over their signatures. Until then it was not necessary. Only one man testified in behalf of Mr. Miller to this Harrisburg affair and his name was sufficient to discredit his words.

The nearest thing that appeared in the Gazette this week to a deserter was a copy of the Centre Democrat in which its editor reiterates some of his malicious charges by asking Mr. Miller a number of questions, the answer to which we have repeatedly told him, he could get from certified papers left in the Gazette's possession for that purpose. And the most startling thing, perhaps of all is the intimation that Mr. Miller was a deserter.

To the above the writer will say: the papers at the Gazette office were shown to the writer; they consist of a number of enlistment and discharge papers; endorsements and applications for pension, etc; among all not a line or word was to be found relative to the Harrisburg episode. Mr. Harter knows the contents of these documents too well and if he, or Miller, could by them answer our printed questions they would not hesitate, avoid or dodge them as they have been doing during the entire campaign. The public knows that. If these questions are "malicious charges" why did they leave them unanswered? Mr. Harter knows that the answer can not be found among the documents he speaks of. This is simply another method of avoidance, and is not the truth, either.

THAT MARSHALL BILL.

The Gazette wanted to say something last week, and, of course, attempted an excuse for Gov. Hastings signing the Marshall Pipe-Line Bill, and for which many think he was amply rewarded. The Gazette breaks out in the following fashion:

"There is not a paper of any repute in the State that is now criticizing the Marshall Pipe Line Bill, signed by the Governor."

That is a good excuse for its own course—a bit of self praise. But the statement is simply untrue. The leading independent papers have, and are, censuring this act and anybody who reads and wants to be correct would not make such a sweeping statement. We suppose he assumes that all papers who do not worship "Our Dan" (rather Coal Oil Dan) are of no repute. Another statement that attracts attention is "the argument is left for small, unprincipled organs, who use it for political effect to blindfold readers."

The Gazette and the Gov. must be of the same opinion; they do not like to hear anything about the pipe line bill, the increase cost in the price of coal oil that immediately followed, or what there was in the "dicker." These are what are termed leading questions.

A FEW FACTS.

A few facts may not be out of place at this point from one of the small unprincipled organs that is always putting such embarrassing questions at the Gazette gang.

One year ago, there was no Marshall pipe-line bill in existence. Gov. Pattison had vetoed such a bill for the benefit of the public good, and no oil corporation could control the product. One year ago, Oct. 25, 1894, ordinary "head-light—150 test" illuminating oil was sold by the Atlantic Refining Company to our Bellefonte merchants for 6 cents per gallon, at wholesale.

At this writing, Oct. 29, 1895, we have a law that enables the Standard Oil Co. to gain a monopoly of the trade. This law came into effect by the grace of a republican assembly and a republican governor last spring. To-day the dealers in Bellefonte must pay the Atlantic Refining Company a cent per gallon for the same oil that one year ago cost but 6 cents. That means The Standard Oil Company gets 50 per cent. more for their oil now than one year ago. The above figures were taken from bills sent to a number of our merchants and can not be disputed.

In the eyes of the Gazette, Hastings' subsidized personal organ, these are only matters for "small unprincipled organs," but it does concern mightily the people who consume coal oil and in the end pay the bill.

This coal oil deal, of the present administration, was an outrage on the public. How long will they endure these evils? Just as long as they endorse such men at the polls.

A vote on Tuesday for the republican ticket means an endorsement of Gov. Hastings with his coal oil bill, the squandering of public funds and increase of unnecessary offices.

Think well how you vote on Tuesday. Rebuke the Gazette and its shameless defence of this outrage upon the rights of the people, and the unjustly being from the pockets of every taxpayer, their hard-earned dollars due to republican legislation. Votes, alone, will count.

ABOUT GOV HASTINGS

Governor Hastings left Harrisburg on Tuesday for Ohio to speak for the state Republican ticket. He speaks on Wednesday at Springfield. On Thursday evening he is booked for a speech at Columbus and on Friday he will speak at Toledo. These are all the speeches he expects to make in the present campaign. On next Monday Governor and Mrs. Hastings go to Bellefonte. He will remain over until Tuesday morning to vote, after which he expects to leave for Pittsburg to take part in the opening exercises in the evening, at the Carnegie library in Schenley park. The governor came home Saturday evening from New York where he was the principal speaker at a Republican mass meeting in Cooper Union on Friday evening. It was the second time he spoke in that city. The first was in 1888, when he was adjutant general. Then he addressed a meeting in Madison Square hall on the same platform with the late James G. Blaine. After Friday's meeting the governor and Mr. Beitler were entertained at dinner at the Union League by Cornelius N. Bliss. There were twenty guests present, the most distinguished of whom were General Horace Porter, Captain John S. Wise and J. Sloat Fassett.

On the governor's return from Pittsburg he will prepare for his trip to Atlanta with the Pennsylvania commission to take part in the Pennsylvania day exercises, which occur November 14. The party will start Monday is week. The executive mansion is still in the hands of decorators, carpenters, painters, artisans and will not be in its best shape much before

(Continued on page four.)