

The Centre Democrat.

CHAS. R. KURTZ ED. & PROP

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TO THE COUNTY DEMOCRACY.

Primary Election and County Convention to be held June 6th and 9th.

The democratic voters of Centre county will meet at the regular places for holding the general elections, in their respective election districts, on Saturday, June 6th, 1896, to elect delegates to the County Convention, at which time they may vote instructions, if they see fit.

The delegates chosen at the above stated time, will meet in the court house in Bellefonte, on Tuesday, June 9th, 1896, at 12 o'clock noon, to nominate: Two candidates for Assembly. One candidate for Sheriff. One candidate for Treasurer. One candidate for Register. One candidate for Recorder. Two candidates for Co. Commissioner. Two candidates for Co. Auditor. One candidate for Coroner, and One candidate for County Surveyor.

Said delegates so chosen will also at the same time elect three conferees to the next Congressional caucus or conference of which Centre county forms a part; a chairman of the county committee to serve from the 1st day of January, 1897, to the 1st day of January, 1898; and transact such other business as the interests of the party may require.

APPOINTMENT OF DELEGATES. The number of delegates to which each election district is entitled, based upon the vote for governor in 1894, and as apportioned by the county committee in 1895, is as follows:

Table listing delegates by district: Bellefonte, Centre Hall, Howard, Milesburg, Millheim, Philipsburg, South Philipsburg, Unionville, Waverly, York, etc.

Total number of delegates, 79. The officers for holding the primary election on the 6th of June, 1896, as determined by the county committee at its last meeting on the 2nd inst., will consist of two assistants for each election district, chosen by the committeeman of such district, and the following persons who are the members of the county committee, to wit:

Table listing county committee members: Bellefonte, Centre Hall, Howard, Milesburg, Millheim, Philipsburg, South Philipsburg, Unionville, Waverly, York, etc.

EDITORIAL.

WELL named—"Straddle Bug" McKinley.

The latest is that Quay will be satisfied if McKinley will let him on the presidential ticket as vice-president. That would be a fine team.

The Democratic party this year has attained its 100th year, completed its century mark. This fact should be fittingly observed by the Democracy in Centre county.

PRESIDENT CLEVELAND has redeemed another pledge by enlarging the civil service list, that covers many of the departments. This caused a big kick among our republican friends, who are looking forward to divide the spoils at Washington, later.

THE REPUBLICANS have named McKinley the "Advance Agent of Prosperity." Speaker Reed more appropriately has named him the "Straddle Bug" because of his doubtful position on the money question. Reed is correct in his ruling this time, but our republican friends do not quote him.

SOME of our active democrats are of the opinion that the organization in Centre county is sadly in need of a new and comprehensive set of rules for the regulation of all its affairs. In the past the organization has moved along more by custom than anything else. In many other counties there are fixed rules for almost every procedure. We think it would be timely for the next convention to take action in this direction. Have a committee appointed to formulate a new set of rules and report same for consideration and approval.

An industry which, as shown by its export trade, needs no protection whatever, is enabled by means of a pool agreement and with the help of the tariff duty on imported nails, to increase prices at home by 200 per cent, in the course of a few months, and to compel all buyers in this country to pay this ring price, which it sells nails to the people of Germany and other foreign countries for a price lower by \$1 per keg, or about 40 per cent. The Republicans have voted to add 15 per cent, to this pool's tariff "protection." This nail pool now controls the Bellefonte nails works and keeps them shut down. They have a complete monopoly of the business. That is how protection benefits this community.

EQUIVOCATION WON'T GO.

Juggling of Words on the Money Question Will Not Suffice.

Mr. McKinley has made a mistake. He is undoubtedly "the favorite" in the race for the Republican presidential nomination, but the race is not yet won, and still less is it decided what the result at the polls next November is to be. The money question is one of the most important just now. The people at last understand it. They are divided into two bodies. One has presented as its ultimatum to political parties that they shall declare unequivocally for the free and unlimited coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1 without awaiting agreement with any other country. The other with equal insistence demands that they shall declare themselves unflinchingly opposed to this free silver policy.

The time has passed when either side is to be deceived or satisfied with any juggle of words, however ingenious. Yet Mr. McKinley has had his Ohio convention frame and adopt a resolution on this subject which means nothing except that he would like the support of men on both sides without pledging himself to anything on either side. It is not likely that any such policy will meet acceptance either at St. Louis or in the election. Mr. McKinley is likely to be nominated because he stands for protection, but it will be upon a much more pronounced platform than that which he has framed or else his nomination will invite revolt and bolting.

The issue is simple enough. The people on both sides of this question are asking parties and candidates the categorical question, Are you or are you not in favor of free and unlimited silver coinage at the ratio of 16 to 1 and without waiting for international agreement? No attempt to answer this question with equivocations is likely to satisfy the men on either side of the controversy. We have passed beyond that stage.—New York World.

THE CHIEF OBSTRUCTION.

A Protective Tariff Enhances Cost of Commodities and Hampers Commerce. A tariff spoils; it organizes, observes the Philadelphia Record, sentimentally remarks: "The world's supply of useful products is now, and it always has been, insufficient for the needs of men. But men who have desired the things produced have been forbidden to obtain them because misgovernment has obstructed the movement from producer to consumer." Just so. Of all the obstructions produced by misgovernment the worst has been a protective tariff in enhancing the cost of commodities and restraining the exchanges of commerce.

Our tariff philosopher goes on to say: "Thus there seems to be a surplus production, but in truth there is nothing else than partial paralysis of the business of making exchanges." Why, then, in the name of common sense, increase this paralysis by raising high tariff obstructions to prevent American manufacturers from obtaining cheap and abundant raw materials of production? In consequence of the repeal of the wool duties the woolen manufacturers of the United States produced in 1895 purer, better and cheaper fabrics, and in far greater quantities, than in any former year in the country's history. The inevitable effect of a restoration of the wool duties would be to again obstruct the movement from producer to consumer and increase the paralysis of the business of exchanges. Happily, this danger is past for a time, and, let us hope, forever!

No Time For Experiments.

The Chicago Tribune, which insists upon tariff reductions at odd times when it does not urge a prohibitive tariff, complains because McKinley has the support of all Republicans "who believe it is impossible to get too much of a good thing." "These McKinley Republicans," says The Tribune, "include all those members of the Republican party who believe that a tariff which creates and fosters trusts is a good thing."

If all these Republicans are conceded to McKinley, the favorite sons would as well withdraw. The radical protectionists who foster trusts under the name of infant industries comprise nine-tenths of the Republican politicians. They may believe Reed or Allison is for trust building protection, but they know beyond all disputing how McKinley stands. And this is not a year to try experiments.—St. Louis Republic.

PEOPLE BENEFITED.

GOOD RESULTS OF THE FREE IMPORTATION OF WOOL.

Domestic Manufactures Greater In Quantity and Better In Quality Than Ever Before—Warm Clothing Cheap and Abundant—A Preventive of Disease.

In spite of the growing contentment of the country with the actual tariff, the Republicans, in their despair of harmony on the currency question, appear resolved to keep up agitation for higher protective duties. A calamity organ howls over the large importation of woolsens in 1895 as if the like had never happened in the country before, when, in fact, these importations amounted in value in 1890 to \$56,583,432, at an average duty of 80 per cent. When the duty was raised by the McKinley tariff to 100 per cent, these importations declined in value in 1891 to \$41,000,080. In 1895 the importations of woolsens amounted in value to \$60,000,000, at an average duty of a little less than 50 per cent. The larger importations of 1895 cost at the custom house a little less than \$90,000,000, and the much smaller importations of 1891 cost nearly a similar sum. When the goods passed from the importers to the wholesale dealers and the retailers, and finally to the consumers, the difference in cost was nearly if not altogether effaced. In other words, the American consumers are obtaining a great deal more warm, comfortable and pure woolen clothing for a great deal less money.

But the same calamity organ asserts, without proof—or rather in face of proof to the contrary—that a great deal of the woolen goods now imported is "of the most unsatisfactory kind." This assertion is made on the gratuitous assumption that the American people are such poor judges of the qualities of their wearing apparel that they are easily imposed upon by the cheap and flimsy stuffs that are brought from abroad. It goes on the further assumption that the importers, merchant tailors and dress-makers do not hesitate to cheat their customers with these "shoddy" stuffs, when much better of home production could be obtained.

If the manufacturers, merchants, importers, tailors, dressmakers and consumers of the United States could be summoned, there is no doubt that by an overwhelming majority they would testify that the woolen clothing, both of domestic and foreign production, was better, purer, cheaper and more abundant in 1895 than in any former year in the country's history. The proofs of this lie on the surface on either hand. The manufacturers of domestic woolsens of nearly every description were in far greater quantity and of far better quality than in any former year. As substantial evidence of the truth of this statement the consumption of wool, domestic and foreign, in the American mills last year was much greater and of much finer qualities than ever before. The products of this wool are not lying unsold in warehouses, but have gone to cover the backs of 70,000,000 of American men, women and children in this inclement winter. If the assertions of the calamity howlers had been true, the enormous quantities of fine wools of Australia and Argentina could not have been imported and made into goods against a flood of foreign woolen manufactures.

On the other hand, the increased importations of foreign fabrics of wool have supplemented the domestic production. Without these importations the American people would have been subject to great discomfort and hardship for want of sufficient woolen stuffs to meet their increased demands. The reduction of duty from 100 to 50 per cent has stimulated the importation of woolsens to a considerable degree. At the same time the free admission of wool has stimulated the domestic production of woolen goods to a far greater extent. The American millions are enjoying the benefits of both movements in the excellence, variety, cheapness and abundance of their winter clothing.

As a further and most important consequence of this great revolution there is no doubt that the remarkable health which the American people enjoyed last year and are now enjoying has been and is due in a very large degree to the cheapness and abundance of their supplies of woolen apparel. Instead of going to the doctor for a pill or a bolus, or to the druggist for a patent medicine, upon every fresh attack of cold or rheumatism, they have prescribed for themselves more warm blankets, flannels and underwear as a preventive of the diseases that are so frequent in the variable climates of the United States. By returning to high duties on wool, and still higher taxes on woolen clothing, the American people would grievously sin against themselves in both pocket and health. We do not believe they will be guilty of so great an offense.—Philadelphia Record.

Neither Honest Nor Satisfactory.

"The national convention will have to do better on the money question than did the Ohio Republicans," says the Philadelphia Inquirer, Republican, which characterizes the Ohio plank as "not honest, because it is meaningless. It is nothing but a paraphrase of the national plank, and it is unsatisfactory."

Money Backing A-Plenty.

Senator Callom charges that McKinley is using money to help get the presidential nomination. Of course. All the Pennsylvania protection barons are backing McKinley, and he can have millions if he wants them, not only to get the nomination, but to carry the election as well.—Kansas City Times.

Funny Things In Politics.

Quay's friends are protesting against McKinley's dishonest election methods. This is the funniest thing that has happened since Dudley made his argument in Washington against ballot box stuffing.—St. Louis Republic.

MERCANTILE APPRAISEMENT FOR 1896.

The vendors of foreign and domestic merchandise will take notice that they are appraised and classified by the undersigned, appraiser of mercantile and other license tax, for the year 1896, as follows:

Large table listing mercantile appraisement for 1896 with columns for Name, Business, Class, and Tax. Includes entries for Aaronburg, Axtmann, Belfonte, etc.

An appeal will be held at the Commissioner's Office, in Bellefonte on Monday, June 1st, 1896, between 10 a. m. and 4 p. m., when and where all persons interested can attend if they see proper. D. W. GEISS, Appraiser.

Advertisement for THE TROPICUS SHOWS COMBINED by FRANKLIN BROS. featuring portraits of men and text: "America's Leading Amusement. WILL EXHIBIT IN ALL ITS VAST ENTIRETY AFTERNOON AND EVENING AT Bellefonte, Wednesday May 27th."