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W. P. KURN

# The Centre Democrat.

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CHAS. R. KURTZ, Ed. and Prop.

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## MAY SELECT COL. J. L. SPANGLER

To Succeed Wright as State  
Chairman

IT WOULD MEAN HARMONY.

His Name Will be Placed Before the Democratic State Committee to-day—He is a Friend of the Two Factions—Brief Sketch of His Career—A Self-made Man—A Leader Like Him Needed.

Robert E. Wright, of Allentown, Pa., Chairman of the Democratic State Committee, recently tendered his resignation. He holds the gold standard, and therefore very honorably preferred to step down and let some other capable man direct the Bryan free silver cause in the Keystone state. John M. Garman, Esq., of Nanticoke, Pa., and James Kerr Esq., of Clearfield, Pa., have been suggested as successors. From what we can gather from the situation, there is a strong sentiment in all sections, favoring a man who is not identified with the warring factions of our party in this state, and who can unite these elements into a harmonious action this year. Col. Spangler seems to be the man for the situation, and we believe he will be unanimously chosen to-day, by the committee in session at Harrisburg.

COL. J. L. SPANGLER.

Col. J. L. Spangler is the oldest son of John Spangler and Annie Berger and was born in Adamsburg, Snyder county, Pennsylvania, September 27th, 1849. His early life was without special incident. He attended the common schools of Snyder county until 1860, when his father removed to Centre county and resided at Centre Hill and later at Centre Hall, in one of the most beautiful valleys of Pennsylvania from that until this, except during his official term as sheriff of Centre county, to which office he was elected in the year 1877. In his youth Col. Spangler learned the trade of blacksmithing, in his father's shop, at Centre Hill. When they removed to Centre Hall, he assisted his father in the hotel business. He was ambitious to gain an education and eagerly devoted his spare moments to reading and study. Col. Spangler attended the common schools in Centre county and was there fitted for entrance to the Dickinson seminary at Williamsport from which he graduated with honor in June 1871.

He entered the law office of Messrs. Orvis & Alexander in the latter part of '71, pursued the study of the law diligently and with success and was admitted to the bar of Centre county in January, 1874. He at once took high rank in the legal profession and his abilities were so quickly recognized that in the summer of the same year he was nominated for the office of district attorney of Centre county, and was elected by a large majority in the fall of that year. He filled the office ably and acceptably to the people for the full term of three years, and would undoubtedly have been re-nominated and re-elected in 1877 but for the fact that he declined a re-nomination, apparently for the reason that his father was a candidate for sheriff in that year.

Col. Spangler continued the practice of his profession, after his official term ceased, for a number of years, alone and, subsequently, as the senior member of the firm of Spangler & Hewes. He had high standing at the bar and was an especially persuasive advocate, his genial disposition and temper making him an especial favorite with the jury.

During his professional life, he was also interested in local politics in reference to which he was always an influential adviser in his party. He was chairman of the democratic county committee during the celebrated campaign of 1880, when Gen. Hancock received a majority of 955—an unusual one in Centre county and larger than that of any presidential nominee of that party since. In 1890 he was the cordial choice of his county for the nomination for Congress in the 28th Congressional District, and would undoubtedly have been nominated at the conference of the representatives of the several counties, but for the fact that Gov. Curtin had been a candidate for three successive terms previously. His mental equipment and education would have fitted him admirably as a successful candidate of his party and, if nominated, he would undoubtedly have been elected, and those who know him best are satisfied that the district would have been worthily represented, in case of his election.

Immediately after the unprecedented disaster caused by the flood at Johnstown in the latter part of May 1889, Col. Spangler, who was in that part of Cambria county, hurriedly repaired to Johnstown in company with Gen. Hastings and was so overwhelmed with the necessity for prompt action on the part of all

who could render service to the afflicted people there that he remained upon the ground and volunteered to render such service as he might in the distribution of provisions to those who were in need. He organized the Commissary Department and was so efficient in the discharge of the duties connected with it that, in recognition of his services, he was appointed by Gen. Beaver, then governor of the state, Assistant Commissary General, with the rank of Lieutenant Colonel on the National Guard of Pennsylvania.

In the fall of 1887, Col. Spangler became acquainted, through several gentlemen who had the control of coal lands in the Northwestern corner of Cambria county, with the marvellous mineral wealth of this region. He visited the locality and was impressed with its extent and value. As a result of it, he enlisted the interest of others in such a way as to induce an effort to secure control of a large body of the coal in that neighborhood. As a result the Blubaker Coal company was formed, of which he may be said to be the original founder. Others united with him and the business was followed so intelligently and persistently that the company became the owner of some 12,000 acres of the best coal in this region. Col. Spangler has continued as a director of the Blubaker Coal Company, since its organization and is one of its most prominent stock-holders. As a result of this business connection, he became interested also in the Sterling Coal Company and, when the interests of the latter company increased in the region to such an extent as to demand active and energetic supervision, Col. Spangler was appointed the general manager and has resided in Hastings, acting in that capacity for several years.

He had considerable experience at Bellefonte in the development of real estate and became interested in the Hastings Improvement Company and was one of the original and energetic movers in the development of the Spangler Improvement Company. In recognition of the services rendered by him as treasurer and trustee of the latter company, the village on the West branch of the Susquehanna, which is destined to be the centre of a larger number of coal operations than any locality outside the Houtzdale basin, was named "Spangler." Col. Spangler was married on March 24th, 1890, to Mrs. Eliza Wagner Holliday, and enjoys the domestic comfort to which he is entitled, in his elegant and hospitable home at Bellefonte. Although so largely interested in other localities and spending most of his time either at Hastings or Spangler, he maintains his residence in Bellefonte.

Col. Spangler is truly a self-made man. He arose gradually from the ordinary walks of life by the force of his own energy and ambition. His early industry was shown by mastering a trade. The writer well remembers him as carefully attending to the work about his father's hotel. Ambitious and studious he soon became an instructor in the public schools, and mainly by his own resources acquired an education at Dickinson college. Thus step by step he advanced himself by his own energy and ability and to-day he is recognized as one of our foremost citizens in this state. He has gained distinction by his chosen profession as an attorney, and been exceedingly successful in business pursuits. In public matters he has always taken a live interest and has been a well known orator and political leader. He is broad-minded, public spirited and always in close touch with the people.

In this district it is very likely that he will receive the nomination for congress this year. His election we are confident would follow, for he is truly in sympathy with his party and its doctrines to-day. As a representative in the halls of congress, he would win eminence and distinction and be of great service to his constituency.

National Bank for Spangler.

At a meeting of the Spangler Improvement company various matters in regard to the development of the town were discussed, and it was decided that a national bank should be established. W. P. Duncan of Philipsburg, was entrusted with the organization and it is expected the project will materialize within the next three or four months. Mr. Duncan, in conjunction with James McClain, was also authorized to make arrangements for the extensions of the Spangler Water company's system to supply North Spangler and Bangsboro.

Married at Tyrone.

A quiet wedding took place at Tyrone on Monday morning at the residence of Mrs. T. F. VanScyoc, on North Pennsylvania avenue, when their daughter became the bride of Harry L. Camp. Mr. Camp is a traveling salesman, and is a young man of character and industry. He is a son of W. R. Camp who formerly resided at Bellefonte.



COL. J. L. SPANGLER.

## POINTERS ABOUT FREE SILVER

What is the Meaning of the Gold Standard.

FREE SILVER -- HIGH PRICES.

How Prices are Reduced by Gold, When Money is Scarce—Free Silver Enhances Farm Products—Decline of the World's Products Under Gold—Undeniable Facts.

*WE DEMAND the free and unlimited coinage of both gold and silver at the present legal ratio of 16 to 1, without waiting for the aid or consent of any other nation. We demand that the standard silver dollar shall be a full legal tender equally with gold for all debts, public and private.*—Democratic National platform, 1896.

Free coinage means that silver and gold bullion shall be coined without charge by the United States mints.

Unlimited coinage means that all the gold and all the silver presented at the United States mints shall be coined into money.

The ratio of 16 to 1 means that the number of grains of pure silver in a silver dollar shall be sixteen times the number of grains of pure gold in a gold dollar.

By full legal tender is meant that when a debtor offers either gold or silver to a creditor in any sum whatever the creditor is bound to accept the same and discharge the debtor from his liability.

THE TWO STANDARDS EXPLAINED.

1. What does gold standard mean? Does it mean pay in gold?

2. If we should have the free and unlimited coinage of silver, what would the Government stand for? Would it be redeemable or would it be worth 100 cents?

3. How will free and unlimited coinage enhance prices? All parties concede that it will enhance the price of farm products.

1. Gold standard means that the value of everything is measured in gold alone. A thorough-going gold standard would be such as obtains in England now, where gold alone is legal tender in unlimited amounts, and all other money is subsidiary; that is, legal tender only in limited amounts.

2. Under the free and unlimited coinage of silver the Government stands good for nothing. It guarantees no value. It simply places its stamp upon 371 1/4 grains of pure silver and says "This is a dollar." It places its stamp upon 1-26 as many grains of pure gold and says "This is a dollar." It does not buy either gold or silver. It simply certifies to the weight and fineness of the metal contained in the coins. They are then handed back to the persons who brought the bullion to the mints and the coined silver dollars purchase whatever they can in the market.

3. In order to answer this question it is necessary to understand the connection between money and general prices. This is the keynote to the whole metal controversy. The underlying principle is that the general range of prices depends upon the total volume of money in circulation or available for circulation. In other words, as you increase the volume of money you increase prices; as you decrease the volume of money you decrease prices. The free and unlimited coinage of silver will result in a great volume of money—that is, primary money—and will therefore increase prices.

There will be more money to exchange for other things than there was formerly; consequently, each dollar will be less valuable than it was before. That is to say, everything else will bring more money. As the so-called quantitative theory of money is really the fundamental proposition on which bimetalists found all their arguments, it is well to consider what eminent writers on political economy have said on this subject, and the following quotations are in point.

John Locke, in his "Considerations," relating to the value of money said:

"Money, while the same quantity of it is passing up and down the kingdom in trade is really a standing measure of the falling and rising value of other things in reference to one another, and the alteration in price is truly in them only. But if you increase or lessen the quantity of money current in trade in any place, then the alteration of value is in the money."

Locke further said:  
"The value of money in any one country is the present quantity of the current money in that country in proportion to the present trade."  
Fichte says:

"If the quantity of the purchasable articles increases, while the quantity of money remains the same, the value of the money increases in the same ratio; if the quantity of money increases, while the quantity of purchasable articles remains the same, the value of the money decreases in the same ratio."  
John Stuart Mill ("Political Economy") says:

"The value of money, other things being the same, varies inversely as its quantity; every increase of quantity lowering the value, and every diminution raising it in a ratio exactly equivalent."  
Ricardo ("Reply to Bosanquet") says:

"The value of money in any country is determined by the amount existing. That commodities would rise or fall in price in proportion to the increase or diminution of money I assume as a fact that is incontrovertible."

DECLINE OF PRICES.

How the Products of the World Declined Under Gold.

The principal contention of the Free Silver people is that by having gold alone for our primary money, it becomes scarcer, and hence more valuable. The purchasing power of the dollar, on a gold basis, becomes greater. A \$1000 debt contracted years ago when we had both metals, is almost twice as hard to pay now under the single standard, because gold is scarce and has almost doubled in value since then. That is, it requires almost twice as many of the ordinary products to repay the debt now. During this time silver has kept its relative value, as bullion, with all other products. It has not declined but gold has been enhanced. In this way capitalists had their holdings doubled in value, at the expense of the creditor, or the one who borrowed or contracted a debt.

The increase in the value of a gold dollar, that is the increase of its purchasing power, is shown by the general decline of prices. The Cincinnati Inquirer shows that in the following:

Q. What do republicans mean by the oft-repeated assertion, "We do not believe in a debased currency?"

A. This is a catch phrase that serves in place of argument. It belongs in the same category as the expression, "an honest dollar." The silverites also say they believe in an honest dollar. It is, therefore, essential to determine what we mean by an honest dollar. The ideal quality in money would be steadfastness in value. The best money, therefore, would be that money which would always

Continued on 4th page.

## GOV. HASTINGS TO BE THE MAN

To Succeed Cameron in the U. S. Senate.

HE IS THE CHOICE OF QUAY

The Compact Has Been Formed—A Quiet Canvass Being Made—Wannamaker and Penrose will be Dropped—The Programme sure to go Through.

The Harrisburg Patriot, on Tuesday, has the following to say in regard to Gov. Hastings being the successor of Don. Cameron, in the U. S. Senate:

Governor Hastings will take the place of J. Donald Cameron in the United States senate if he is not defeated by an independent combination. This is now as certain as anything can be in Pennsylvania politics. Senator Quay has picked out the Governor for his colleague and there is every reason to believe the next legislature will ratify his choice. If General Hastings is elected he will be the only governor in this commonwealth who made the gubernatorial office a stepping stone to the senate. The late Governor Curtin tried it and was beaten by General Simon Cameron.

Senator Quay was Curtin's friend in that memorable contest and directed his campaign. He was a member of the house at the time from Beaver county. The senator was the choice of Curtin's friends for the caucus nomination for speaker and was beaten by a small majority. This is the first and only time in his political career that he has been defeated in a personal contest for office. Quay's friends in political and official circles at the state capital believe he is just as anxious now to make Hastings senator as he was more than thirty years ago to secure a similar honor for Curtin.

HASTINGS' FRIENDS AT WORK.

While Governor Hastings has given no formal notice of his aspirations to succeed Cameron, his friends are quietly forming a complete organization through the state. They have already secured promises of support from several legislative nominees. The Governor will not formally announce his candidacy. This will not deter him, however, from making a quiet and active canvass for the nomination and election of legislators friendly to his interests.

With the potent aid of Senator Quay it looks as if nothing but a Democratic legislature or an independent combination can defeat Governor Hastings. His strongest competitor is Senator Penrose, whose strength lies in his use of Senator Quay's name.

CAMPAIGN OPENED.

Wm. J. Bryan Sounds the Keynote.—Issues Defined.

On Wednesday evening the largest gathering ever known assembled in Madison Square Garden, N. Y., to hear Wm. J. Bryan's speech, in reply to his formal notification as the democratic nominee for president. It was a monster ovation, unparalleled for intense interest and enthusiasm.

It was an occasion which the country looked forward to for many weeks and the central figure, "The Boy Orator from the Platte," proved equal for the occasion.

His reply was a carefully prepared, and elaborate enunciation of the platform and distinct definition of the leading issues involved. It was a masterly effort in which oratory played a minor part, and gave place to a thoughtful discussion of the momentous issues, which are now agitating the public from coast to coast. The silver enthusiasm of the occasion was the greatest surprise. It demonstrates that the East appreciates the virtue of free silver—the cause of the people.

In our next issue a complete report will be given of this famous speech.

Lutheran Reunion.

Reunion of Lutherans from Centre, Clinton and Lycoming Co., will be held at Hecla Park, Thursday Aug. 20th. Rev. Geo. P. Gill and Rev. Dr. Pohlman, our African representatives, will be present, also other prominent speakers from Williamsport and other points. Excursion rates, from all points along Central R. R. of Pa. All good Lutherans should turn out and make this our second annual meeting a grand success. Any information desired, address,

W. P. KURN, Sec.

BELLEVILLE, PA.

Business Men's Picnic.

A move is on foot to have a business men's picnic at Hecla Park, at some day in the near future. The object is to have all the business men in Bellefonte to agree to close one day and join in a day's outing. The business men of Lock Haven have been invited to join with Bellefonte and make it a memorable event.

"DICK" BLANDS VIEWS.

The silver sentiment is strong among the mechanics, and artisans and the laboring people generally. There is also strong sentiment for silver among manufacturers and tradesmen. There are many business men, of large means and conducting large enterprises, who admit the scarcity of money and the difficulty of closing collections and making sales. They see there is something wrong in our financial laws; they are almost persuaded to join the silver forces, and no doubt will do so after hearing the matter fully discussed.

When talking to them on the subject they seem to have been somewhat impressed with the argument of the gold standard people, that there would be a contraction of the currency and a panic if we undertook to restore free coinage of silver. To them we offer this reply: There will be no panic under free coinage. The gold standard advocates pretend to have convinced themselves and are now industriously endeavoring to convince everybody else, that the free coinage of silver would produce a contraction of the currency and a consequent panic in this country. Nothing can be farther from the truth in a common sense view of the matter. If it were definitely determined that at any time in the near future this government would decide upon the free coinage of silver at the ratio of 16 to 1, the effect would be to raise and produce prosperity at once, money would come out of its hoarding places and be invested in property and productive enterprises. Even the gold standard advocates themselves, with Carlisle at the head, admit that the ultimate effect of the free coinage of silver would be to cheapen money, or what is the same thing, enhance the prices of things generally.

The free coinage advocates not only admit, but claim that the benefits to be derived from the free coinage of silver would be to increase the prices of property and commodities so that both sides to this question agree upon this one point, that the free coinage of silver would cause a raise in the price of property and commodities, which is the same thing as cheap money.

This being admitted, everyone of common sense knows that men who have money for investment now hoarded in bank vaults and other places would immediately undertake to avail themselves of the advantage of a rise in property by investing their money in property in order to realize a profit upon their investment. The effect of the free coinage of silver, would therefore, be to immediately cause an investment of money in property and commodities instead of as now, in bonds and mortgages. There would be an immediate revival of business in the country.

No man in his senses will dispute the fact that gold would be made cheaper by the free coinage of silver and the free use of silver as money; hence gold would immediately come from its hiding places and be invested in property and commodities, for the plain reason that property and commodities would rise in value and gold would fall in value. There would be no profit in hoarding money, because everyone knows gold would fall under the bimetallic system of free coinage of silver.

Gold is now hoarded because it is constantly rising in value, as compared to all other things. The moment it is understood that gold will fall in value, as compared to all other things or as to all property and commodities, the owners of gold will not seek to hoard it, but to invest it in things the value of which will be on the increase.

The contention that debtors would be immediately crushed under the effort of creditors to realize their loans in anticipation of the free coinage of silver, has neither reason or business common sense behind it. The fact that everybody would understand that the free coinage of silver would cause a rise in prices would put up the price of property of debtors at once, would give an immediate market and ready sale for that property, so that when the creditors undertook to collect his debt, the debtor would find that he could make a sale of his property on better terms than now. He would find people ready to invest in his property either as purchasers or loan money upon it on much better terms than now. That money would not be invested in bonds and mortgages to the same extent as now may be admitted, but we have been legislating long enough in the exclusive interest of bond holders against the industrial masses of the American people.

Excursion Aug. 20th.

The excursion to the Sea Shore via Pennsylvania Railroad August 20th, referred to in notice in this issue, will no doubt be well patronized. The rate is unusually low and the accommodations will be first class.