The Centre Democrat.

CHAS. R. KURTZ

CIRCULATION, OVER 1800. Telephone Call 1183.

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EDITORIAL

of the sheriff contest. Just as everybody been expecting to get 75 cents a ton. expected.

Our comments in last issue, in regard cent contest, was very favorably received on all sides. The people do not want to for. The petitioners should pay for their music. They caused all the trouble.

shown for the protection of American citizens. In this direction Cleveland and Onley truly were derelict and slow to act. Their course was un-American. In this direction we must compliment the Presihave taken.

THE Williamsport Times, of Friday, does our townsman, Hon. James Schofield, the honor in designating him the leader of the democratic side in the state legislature. It pays him quite a compliment for his prominence in that body. We are glad to hear that Centre county is so well represented in that august body. The Gazette may make note of this fact, if it chooses.

ABRAHAM V. MILLER is said to be an applicant for the postoffice at State College. The republicans of the county should generally push his claim for this position. During the recent campaigns he frequently was pointed out as one of the most deserving men in the party. It now would only be consistent to stand by Mr. Miller in this request. We truly believe he is in need of the office and would appreciate it.

GOV HASTINGS suggestions for the rebuilding of the state Capitol met with general favor. He wants a building erected that will embody the leading features of the one destroyed, but to be fire proof and more modern in its interior arrangement, but at the same time perserving the Colonial style of architecture. This would require an expenditure of about \$500,000 and would not impose any heavy burdens upon the public.

favoritism-more legislation for individ- this matter. He knows that the Repub- ed upon. uals-more private schemes-that is what lican programme will not restore prosthe coming special sessions of congress perity, and he is taking time by the been offered since the opening of the will consider. When a manufacturer crys forelock. He knows that the depression for protection he wants a special favor now prevailing will grow deeper, and and the public must pay for it. Favori- he therefore makes haste to protect him- repeal of special acts, and there is tism in public legislationis wrong. It is the self by compelling his miners to accept some discussion whether after all the enemy of popular government. Equal starvation wages for the next 12 months. opportunities and favors to none are the only just course. McKinley must re- Republican manager gives to the hopes ward past favors, hence a new tariff bill and expectations of the people? will be passed.

BECAUSE the Carnegie Company has been unabled to sell steel rails to English railway companies at lower prices than they can be bought in England the pur-blind Protectionstery out : Now the English will be obliged to abandon free Last week I went to Washin'ton fer the trade, the wise Englishmen will abandon making steel rails when they can get them cheaper elsewhere. They will But the dancin' wor a sorter of a high falutin' never be prevailed upon to re-enter that Fool's Paradise where men undertake to An' tho' fiddlers wor a plenty, I kum tailin' in make themselves richer by taxing themselves.-Philadelphia Record.

Gov. HASTINGS recently gave out a very sensible interview in which he But I quit at sight of Hanna an' his ostentastates that he is not an aspirant for any appointment from the McKinley administration. Nor had he at any time been I never could believe it, had I not seen; with seeking an appointment. He claims to be fully satisfied in filling the position of Thet a man cud be so chipper when pursued Chief Executive of this state and considers is his duty to serve the full term for which he was elected. It is an exalted I imagined his ears burnin' with a dyin' position to preside in that capacity and he has ample opportunity to make himself asciul to his constituency. It would An' veted fer his better times, that are somebe a mistake to seek an appointment of any kind. Our advice to the Governor is to stick to his job, and take care that the present legislature don't squander too much money in unnecessary appro-

THERE is considerable animation among the aspirants for the Bellefonte postoffice. At present the various candi- Cud gobble votes of workin'men, on a campaigndates are circulating their petitions. Col. Bayard has several sheets filled already I wonderhow th' Almighty will record the finwith signatures, and they are nearly all old soldiers who are auxious to see their comrade pull the plum. W. W. Mont- But I reckon that the balance won't be goin' gomery has gathered a long list on his petition about Bellefonte and patrons of the office. Samuel Diehl has not been very noisy of late. He was an early bird and probably thinks he will capture the worm in due time. While all these fellows are hustling Al Dale, Esq., sits back and with a complacent smile seems to the part of the people to season McKinbe content; he was an original Arnold ley's "confidence" until his first intallman, rather "fernimpst the General" and ment of prosperity arrives. deposits on that. Dale claims to have an maide pul! and simply winks the eye when the post office is mentioned. There thing to say in this issue in regard to have not been very noise of late. I tisement elsewhere.

WISE FORETHOUGHT.

Mark Hanna Takes Time by the Forelock-Does Not Look For Prosperity.

The news that Mr. Mark A. Hanna, who heralded Mr. McKinley as the advance agent of prosperity, has forced the men employed in his mines at Pittsburg to sign a contract to work a year for 60 cents a ton is of considerable public importance, says the Atlanta Constitution. The men, it is said, were given the option of signing the contract or refusing to work, and they signed it rather than And the county must pay the expense see their families starve. They had

Now, if any other employer except Mr. Hanna had compelled his men to sign a contract to accept the lowest rate to who should pay the expense of the re- of wages for the next 12 months, the fact would have been interesting, but it would have possessed no public imporpay any more than they are responsible tance. But Mr. Hanna is known and recognized everywhere as the drum major of the republican procession. He caused Mr. McKinley to be nominated by de-In relation to Cuban affairs Secretary claring in the west that his candidate Sherman and the President are to be was for protection and bimetallism, and commended for the interest they have in the east that Mr. McKinley was for gold and a fairly reasonable amount of

The nomination was made accordingly, and when the campaign was under way Mr. Hanna declared that Mr. Mcdent and his Secretary for the stand they Kinley was "the advance agent of prosperity." All the orators and organs took it up and hailed the Ohio major as "the advance agent of prosperity." Mr. Mc-Kinley himself, accepting the title with a smile, announced that he and his republican friends would "open the mills of labor," and by "raising the prices of manufactured products, make better markets for the farmers." On numbers of occasions he asked the crowds that assembled at his front door: "Have the Democrats made you rich? Well, put your trust in the Republican party. We know how to make the people prosper-

> Now, the question arises, and it is a very serious one, does Mr. Hanna be- whose duty it should be to revise every ieve that Mr. McKinley is really the advance agent of prosperity? Does he really think that the Republican party to this body, which it no doubt was, can restore prosperity? If so, it is indeed passing strange that he should bind workmen in his employ to accept starva- placed the authority in the hands of a tion wages for 12 months. Did not Mr. Hanna realize, when he set about this business of compelling the unfortunate miners in his employ to bind themselves large majority of the members at the to accept panic wages for another 12 months, that his position as the great drum major of the Republican jubilee band would leave a horribly bad taste in the mouth of the public? Or did he that provoked considerable discussion feel that his great feat of electing Mc-Kinley gave him the right to apply the screws to his employees?

MORE tariff—more protection—more to be drawn from Mr. Hanna's action in further consideration it will no doubt

Meanwhile we hope Mr. Hanna is mistaken in his private views. We hope the Republicans will restore presperity before the year is out.

MARK HANNA AT THE BALL.

nauguration ball, An' I danced fer Bill McKinley an' "pertection" fer us all;

behind.

Thar wor minutes an' Germans, an' a pompeydoor quadrille.

tions way.

cents a day.

my eye.

the by hunger's cry : % But as he went 'round a struttin', proud o'

station an' o' purse,

I sorter felt ashamed as how I'd been took in by him.

how getting' dim ; Fer thar's little use a lookin' fer prosperity

ter stay Whar the miners are a starvin' on their sixty cents a day

As I watched him gallivantin' an' a-smiling 'round about, An' recalled his hungry miners, an' their fam-

lies 'victed out. I marveled how this 'pressor an' desp'iler of

the poor.

in' our.

When Mark Hanna an' his miners are a-stand-

in' the scales

Hanna's way Gainst the miners now a-starvin'on their sixty a day. -CECIL LESLIE.

Wg are tired of confidence games, played by political buncoers.

WANTED-a little more patience on

-Williams, the paper man, has someother aspirants for the plum, house decorations. See his newladver-

HARRISBURG LETTER

The Defeat of the Legislative Commission Bill.

HAMILTON ROAD BILL POPULAR.

It Is Believed the Measure Providing for Better Roads Will Pass-Provisions of the Excise Commission Bill-Opposition to a \$550,000 Capitol.

(Special Correspondence.) Harrisburg, March 16 .- While it is true that one swallow does not make a summer, yet the committee of the senate appointed to investigate the capitol fire realize that one Swallow can give very considerable trouble if so disposed. The refusal of Dr. Swallow, editor of The Methodist, whose accusations are familiar to your readers, to give the names of persons whom he claims to have knowledge of the cause of the fire, has placed the committee in an unpleasant position, and while they have profound respect for the gentleman's calling, they feel that it would establish a bad precedent to allow him to prevent them from obtaining evidence to assist in prosecuting their work. They have referred this case to the house for its disposal. This will no doubt be acted upon this week. Both the friends and enemies of Dr. Swallow claim that they have no ordinary individual to contend with, he being a man of more than usual courage and able to defend himself in a contest of this kind.

Dr. Swallow himself is quite reticent on the subject, but some of his friends claim that he is justifiable in his refusal to answer the questions propounded by this committee, on the grounds that he is to be tried for criminal libel in the courts of Dauphin county, and on that account should be exempt from giving evidence that he may want to use in this trial. But what action will be taken by the legislature in the case remains to be seen.

One of the important events of the week was the defeat of the legislative commission bill, which proposed to establish a commission of three men, learned in the law and with powers second only to the supreme court, bill before presentation to the legislature. This was in the judgment of the members of the legislature an insult as it was an admission that our lawmakers were not capable of transacting business without guardians, and it few persons, which would have a damaging influence to the state. To those who are frequently on the floor of both houses it is plainly to be seen that a present time are representative men, and in every way capable of filling

their positions with ability and credit. To Investigate Miners' Destitution.

Another of the features of the week was the resolution to investigate the destitution in the Pittsburg coal mining district and its causes. The friends of this measure were very active in its There is but one reasonable inference interest, and while it was laid over for

Among the many bills that have session are a number that are recognized by the several committeees as unconstitutional, as they relate to the committees have not a right to report them, either negatively or affirmative-And is this the answer that the great ly, to each house for their consideration, and not hold them, as it is proposed to be done. This will develop very considerable discussion within the

next few days. Among the popular measures that have been introduced this session, that has every assurance of passage, is senate bill No. 9, or the Hamilton road bill, and strange to say the influences working in its favor comes largely from the farming districts. Of the 1,857 supervisors reporting as to its value from 1,422 townships in the state 1,338 favor a money tax. In the country districts it is recognized as having very superior advantages over the law now in force. The present laws allows the supervisor to levy a ten mill tax, and in addition to this they may incur a debt to an unlimited extent, which the townships are subsequently re-But nary reel er Money-Musk ter rattle hoofs quired to pay; thus virtually the powers of supervisors are unlimited.

The Hamilton bill limits the powers of supervisors to run a township in Fer his miners are a-starvin' on their sixty debt, restricting them to a 10 mill tax, and in case of a great emergency this tax may be increased to 20 mills, but the extra 10 mills can only be levied by application to court, and the citizens of any township where it is proposed can protest against this additional expense. With a few modifications this bill will pass both houses within the next few days.

The Excise Commission Bill.

A bill embracing many far reaching provisions, and which is known as the state excise commission bill, has recently been introduced. This is in addition to four others that are already pending in the house or senate for the appointment of commissioners composed of a few men who will take absolute control of certain industries or itstitutions. Among these commissioners are what are known as the electric light and water power commission, railroad commission, mining commission, the state excise commission and the new capitol commission.

These bills are said to be backed by the Quay people, although his friends have very little to say concerning them. It is claimed by the anti-Quay people that these commissions mean a great concentration of power; a condition of affairs the people of Pennsylvania can-not afford. It is thought also that one of the principal objects of these commissions is to afford a number of additional lucrative positions to persone

who are anxious to serve the state. The excise commission is to be established for the enforcement of the liquor laws of the state. By the provisions of this bill the officeholders in the state are increased by about 200, and it provides that within 30 days after its passage the governor shall appoint an excise commission for a period of five years, at a salary of \$3,500 a year and \$1,200 additional for expenses. It also provides for a deputy at \$2,000 and \$1,200 for expenses, and a

secretary at \$1,500 per year and such clerical force as may be necessary. Each city of the first and second

class, in addition to this, is to have a deputy commissioner at a salary of \$2,000 per year, his office to be equipped with such clerical force as may be necessary. The commissioner will appoint five special agents at \$1,200 per annum and expenses, who will act as confidential representatives of the commissioner, to investigate matters concerning the liquor traffic. They will have the right to designate any county attorney or any attorney to act with them, and to receive such fees as agreed upon. The scope of this bill is very wide, permitting the right of entry at any and all times even on

It is claimed by the friends of this measure that the liquor laws are not enforced, and that it requires some such power as provided in this commission to give force and vitality to existing statutes.

To License Social Clubs.

As a means of providing funds for the payment of the expenses of the office of excise commissioner a bill has been introduced in the senate which reduces every club of large or small distinction to the grade of common tavern, and in many respects this measure will make it more difficult to be a respectable club man than it does a saloon keeper.

This bill provides that each club, in order to sell liquor, must be licensed at a cost of \$75 in townships, \$100 in boroughs and \$350 in cities of first and second class; and in the application for a club license the name of the club must be given, location and number of rooms, name of secretary and treasurer; Americans or naturalized foreigners; name of owner of the premises; whether the club is for the exclusive benefit of members; a list of names of all bonafide members and their residences; whether or not the secretary or treasurer ever had a license revoked; the presentation of two bondsmen as security, with property worth over \$2,000; the signatures of 12, with the statement that they are personally aware that the facts set forth are true, and the right of remonstrance on the part of the citizens. It is proposed to keep a separate acount of all moneys received from club licenses, and to use them for the payment of the running expenses of the

Although the message of Governor Hastings on the construction of the new capitol building, in which he advises a separate structure at a cost of \$550,000, which would include a handsome main hall to be built on the colonial style of architecture, is meeting with some approval throughout the state, there is some opposition developing among the members, especially those who are interested in the passage of the act establishing a building com-

Opposing a Cheap Capitol.

In commenting on the message a few days ago a prominent member of the house committee remarked: "The proposition to erect a structure for half a million dollars werges on the ridiculous If the limit had been fixed at \$1,500,000 the measure would be worthy of discussion. Then, too, I do not find an overwhelming sentiment in favor of the co lonial style of architecture. We want no gingerbread structure, but something that is stately and substantial, which will serve us for succeeding gen-

A large number of members think, however, the suggestion a very good one, and that, as the governor suggests, a main capitol building could be erected of brick, stone and iron, fire proof in character, and in every way in keeping with the dignity of the commonwealth for this amount.

Governor Hastings has arrived at the plans he suggests after long and careful deliberation, and is backed by a large number of the most influential and representative citizens of the state. In all probability there will be a big fight ensue over the plans the message commends.

If the cost of this structure is limited to \$550,000, and an insurance received on the burned building of \$200,000, there would be only about \$350,000 to be pro-

The committee on agriculture of the house is opposed to any change in the oleomargarine law, and the bill to license the manufacture of this product in Pennsylvania is receiving strenuous

The Civil Service Measure.

The bill known as the civil service measure, entitled "an act to regulate the civil service of the commonwealth and of the cities thereof, of countles containing more than 150,000 inhabitants, and to provide penalties for its violation," which its friends claim was drawn in the interests of purity in politics, was the cause of a very spirited debate in the senate a few days ago. The opponents of this bill contend that it should be amended, as it confines its provisions to Philadelphia and Allegheny, and leaves out the other counties of the state, with the possible exception of Luzerne and Schuylkill.

A motion to amend it was defeated by the Quay people, which resulted in a very sharp debate between Senators Flinn and Grady. The fight raged for some time, when action was suspended that further consideration might be taken on another bill. Despite the fact that some of the members who are in sympathy with the friends of this bill offered various amendments, these we knocked out and the bill in its original form passed second reading. The bill will without doubt pass the senate as it was originally intended, but it is understood they are preparing to give it a warm reception in the house when it reaches that body.

The investigation of the state treasury and auditor general's departments is about closed. This committee will recommend the passage of Stewart's interest bill as amended, exempting \$500,000 in each of the three active banks, and no doubt will urge more help for the auditor general's department. Mr. Mylin has suggested the propriety of giving authority to the auditor general to prepare a voucher for the various institutions receiving aid, which will no doubt be embodied

It is also likely that a bill will be recommended taking away from all officers, excepting the suditor general, the right to draw warrants. This would make this official responsible, and he could compel the filing of vouchers for all expenditures in his of-This committee will likely have their report ready to submit to the legislature carly in the week.

in a bill.

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