

The Centre Democrat.

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EDITORIAL.

CENTRE county is Democratic yet—your bet.

THE political pot in Ohio keeps a boiling and Hanna is the most uneasy man in the state.

If Bryan is dead why do the Republican papers keep everlasting at pounding him. Why is it?

SINCE the election, the Republican bosses in Centre county are awarding post-offices quite lively. About one-third of the post-offices in the county are awaiting Republican officials.

By the time the court of Philadelphia is through with the election officers of their city, the Eastern penitentiary will be over-crowded, and they will have to send the balance to the Legislature to make laws, so they can count the vote to suit themselves, and give the Democrats no votes at all.

DR. SWALLOW gives the republican bosses in Pennsylvania another broad side, since the election, in another public letter. It will be eagerly read by the public and republican organs will keep shy of it. It is a hot dose from the Methodist parson. The article is published in full in this issue. Be sure and read it through, then hand it to your republican neighbor.

The editor of the Murfreesboro, Tenn., News, thus accounts for hard times: "We let our timber rot and buy fencing. We throw away our ashes and grease, and buy soap; we raise dogs and buy hogs; we raise weeds and buy vegetables; we raise 5-cent fish with \$4 rods; we build school houses and send our children off to be educated, and lastly, we send our boys out with a \$40 gun and a \$10 dog to hunt 10-cent birds."

THE condition of Cuba's population is truly startling. The latest advices from the island show that thousands are perishing from starvation, due to general Wylar's policy of driving the people into the towns. This should be tolerated no longer. In the name of humanity, the strong arm of this government should now demand a change. Spanish rule and barbaric practices should no longer blot this hemisphere.

Judge Faulkner completes his official duties as Associate Judge, in the Centre county courts, with the close of the November term of court, now in session. When he retires from duty, the office of Associate Judge for the first time in the history of Centre county becomes extinct. When Centre county became a separate judicial district, by an act of assembly, this office was to be dispensed with, at the expiration of the present Associate Judge's term. Thus Judge Faulkner is the last Associate Judge of Centre county.

PROSPERITY PAUPERS.

From a statement made by the Overseer of the Poor of Bellefonte there now are about five hundred persons receiving aid from that department. That is the most ever known, and it looks as though the number would be largely increased before winter is over.

Here is another sample of McKinley Prosperity, in this community. This is a good item for the Daily News and Keystone Gazette to clip this week.

A POLITICAL PROPOSITION.

A young man in Columbia county, who has always taken a great interest in politics, was recently ensnared by one Fishing Creek's fair maidens, and addressed to her the following letter: "My Dear Miss E: I hereby announce myself as a candidate for your hand, and shall use all fair and honorable means to secure the nomination. I know there are many candidates in the field, and I hesitated long before entering the race, but now I am in it to stay. My views on love and matrimony have often been expressed in your hearing in an emphatic way. If you decide to confer upon me the honor I speak of, please fix a date for a caucus with your mother. I have no objection to her acting as temporary chairman, provided it is clearly understood that I am to be chairman of the permanent organization. Should the result of the caucus prove satisfactory, we can soon hold the primaries and select a date and place of convention. I never believed in long campaigns, so if you decide to honor me I will ask you to make the convention date as early as possible. Devotedly yours, etc." The following telegram answered: "Caucus unnecessary, nomination unanimous; come at once and fix the date of ratification."

An Open Letter From Swallow.

(Continued from first page.)

There is good evidence that the rouser and heeler had his way. Our watchers were driven from the polls in some cases by threats, and in some of the brutal vulgarity and profanity of your thugs. One of them, upon remonstrating, was told by your representative "You are not in Sunday school now, you are in politics, and you can take what you get."

It is an open secret that the representatives of yourself and Martin keep back and manipulate returns to suit circumstances. Well has Sam Jones said that Quay "set as an old clock over the ballots of the State, and without regard to the will of the people, can hatch out anything from a 'donnicker' hen to an alligator."

The confidential verbal intimation of one of your henchmen that I can name my own price to quit, the threats of violence anonymously sent, accompanied by miniature coffins, and the anxiety of some of your friends to switch me off from my purpose by the bribery of a fake mayoralty or legislative membership, or a place in the United States Senate, shall not turn me from my purpose. "This one thing I do."

An endless chain of people's agents has been formed. If one is stricken down, another shall take the evidence in my hands, and with permission and aid of the people push the battle. If he is stricken, another shall spring into the breach, and the work never cease till our State is redeemed from the worse than highway robbers who now infest, disgrace, pollute and curse its high places.

We prefer to relegate these thieves to the obscurity which they merit, by the will of the people at the ballot box, and thus save the reputations, the feelings and good name of their hundreds of reputable relatives, including innocent women and children living, and not a few guilty men dead, over whose graves would trail the slimy exposures of an investigation.

Yet, if forced to it by a manipulation of the ballot box to cover the tricks of guilty men, we shall as a final resort go into the courts to reclaim to the State the millions stolen since you have bossed the State, and send to the penitentiary the gang of thieves.

This is a task the magnitude of which we provisionally did not foresee, or it doubtless would have been shunned, but once in it there can be no looking back, however disagreeable or hazardous the duties involved.

TO THE PEOPLE.

The coming conflict will run like a plowshare through political parties, society, churches, civic and patriotic societies, mercantile and commercial organizations and even families.

Many otherwise good men in pulpit and pew, because blinded by party prejudices long fostered, will cast their lot with the thieves; others will strive to be neutral for personal gain. The latter will be counted with the wrong-doers, since in morals those who "do not gather surely scatter abroad."

There must be organization in every precinct, ward, township and county, irrespective of party. In the cities our workers must block the precincts, know every voter by name, and on sight, carefully scrutinize at the earliest moment the enrollment, be patriotic enough to spend time and money for the common weal, and begin at once.

Office should be accepted in the conflict only as a means to an end, and that end the redemption of the State from the grasp of lawless men.

Bear in mind, that no matter what the pretence of Quay to "Keep hands off," no nominations will be made by the party he bosses for any office in the State, from the highest to the lowest, not in harmony with his wishes.

Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty from the blighting curse of boss dominancy and from the depredations of thieves who have for years despoiled and do still despoil the taxpayer of his substance. The great masses of the men who have blindly followed Quay, but have been office-seekers or holders, are ready to forsake their dumb idol, and joining the reform forces now gathering from every party, creed and occupation, strike for better government and for a continuance of a Commonwealth nearly wrecked but worth saving.

S. C. SWALLOW.

Mr. Swallow has a footnote apologizing for the use of profanity. He says: "Our readers must excuse this breach of our rules in introducing eliminated profanity. Our object is to show the real character of our great ruler."

Commendable Decision.

Prof. G. D. Robb, principal of the Altoona high school, has set his foot down squarely against foot ball, and informed the members of the high school foot ball team that they must not play any more this season under that name. The recent fatal accidents on the foot ball field and complaints of parents have led him to take this stand, in which he has the support both of the school board and city superintendent.

Death of Hecla.

Miss Harriet Neff, sister of Cling Neff, of Hecla, died Friday morning at 11 o'clock of diabetes. She was in her 52nd year. The funeral took place Sunday afternoon at 1 o'clock. Interment at Zion.

HARRISBURG LETTER.

Discussing the Stay-at-Home Voters in "Off Years."

ARE NOT THE "BETTER ELEMENT"

Politicians Endorse the Sentiments Expressed in a Philadelphia Democratic Newspaper—National Grange Meeting—End of the Reeder Case.

(Special Correspondence.)

Harrisburg, Nov. 16.—There is much talk among political leaders here regarding the small vote that is polled in what are known as "off years," as this small vote indicates that the citizen does not value the elective franchise as he should do. Many well known Republicans have been discussing an editorial that recently appeared in the Philadelphia Record, and the views therein expressed find many endorsers. The editorial says:

"There is a great deal of discussion on both sides of the Atlantic in regard to the neglect of the elective suffrage under popular government, and many have been the suggestions of legislative methods for bringing delinquent citizens to a sense of their political duties. In a late number of The Nineteenth Century Mr. W. S. Lilly, an eminent writer, quotes M. Benoit, a French publicist, and others to show that in Europe, and especially in France, universal exercise of the elective franchise has proved a sad failure. There are in France more than 8,000,000 registered voters, and of these upward of 5,000,000 habitually abstain from any exercise of their right to vote. Of the minority of 4,000,000 who vote, a little more than 2,000,000—a minority of a minority—determine the result of the elections. Thus under the popular system of France two-ninths of the people control the policy of the government. Behold, exclaims Mr. Lilly, the ludicrous failure of universal suffrage, which has been held up as the ideal theory of government!"

"The thing does look badly on paper so far as France is concerned, but not so badly as it is painted by the enemies of democratic rule. If the 5,000,000 people of France who habitually abstain from the exercise of the elective suffrage could be brought to the polls by some compulsory process, as delinquent children are dragged to school by the constable, it would probably be no better, and might be worse, for popular government. If the 400,000 and more absentees in the recent Pennsylvania election had exercised the right of suffrage it is a question whether they would have materially changed the result. The delinquents who put so little value on the elective franchise in France as well as in Pennsylvania are divided pretty evenly among parties, and do not constitute the best of any of them by any means."

Not the "Better Classes."

"But Mr. Lilly, following M. Benoit, says that the 'better classes' in France do not take part in politics, even to vote, because the ignorant and corrupt 'masses' under the control of the machines would nullify their efforts in behalf of good government. The enemies of popular suffrage thus give their case away. If the absentees constituted the better classes they would perform their political duty by going to the polls; and as they are in a majority of a million they could smash the machines and assert their right to control the policy of the nation. But as they are the worse instead of the better class they basely neglect their political duties and suffer the government to fall into the hands of a minority—or, as M. Benoit puts it, a minority of a minority. But if this absentee majority should be thrown into an opposite scale against the minority and weighed for intelligence and patriotism they would kick the beam. The men who go to the polls are not all good people, least of all the enthusiastic citizens who have been recently stuffing the ballot boxes in order to swell the Republican vote in Philadelphia; but taking the great average of voters, the non-voters—the dudes, epicenes and political geldings—cannot bear comparison with them in patriotism, intelligence or manliness."

"If these non-voters, for whom Mr. Lilly and M. Benoit seem to have so much respect, and who really deserve much contempt, could be brought to the polls, not by their own volition, but by compulsion, it would be worse for popular government, because in their want of public spirit they would be much more apt to go wrong than right. Instead of helping to destroy the political machines they would be likely to strengthen them. But various methods, including constabulary compulsion, have been suggested for bringing the delinquent masses to the ballot box. Among the less drastic plans it has been proposed that every citizen who shall neglect to exercise the right of suffrage for three years shall be disfranchised forever. The shame and dread of political degradation and outlawry would doubtless arouse the better element of the non-voters to a sense of duty, and the rest would not be missed. As a class of political outcasts and pariahs they would, nevertheless, be mischievous to the state. The Record has suggested that a vote and registry at the primary elections be made an absolutely necessary qualification for voting at the general election in Pennsylvania. But no legislative device will ever supply a want of interest in the performance of political duty."

"Universal suffrage, like other human institutions, is so far from being perfect that it is easy to pick flaws in it. It is, nevertheless, with all its drawbacks, better than any other basis of government among men. There is no monarchy in which one out of every three successive sovereigns has not been a fool or a tyrant. Although universal suffrage does not always fully and truly express the popular will by reason of the delinquency of many voters, it makes a better approach to securing free government and equal laws than has any other system which its enemies have been able to recommend."

Farmers and Taxation. The National Grange, Patrons of Husbandry, at last week's convention in this city, ruled Virginia out of mem-

bership on the ground that there are not enough subordinate granges in that state to entitle it to representation.

The committee on legislation presented a report recommending a number of amendments to the pure food law, among them one placing food animals under the provisions of the law.

At the reception to the National Grange in the Opera House Governor Hastings was the principal speaker. The governor referred to farming having been the beginning and foundation work of every new governmental organization, and now become the basis of society. "The present duty of the farmer," he said, "is that of relieving him from the unequal burden of taxation. It is difficult to name a state in the Union where the balance of power is not with the farmer. If an unequal burden of taxation rests too heavily upon him he has only to unite with his fellow farmers to throw off the incubus."

"If you do not want your share of the public burden of taxation to be frittered away in useless expenditure, exorbitant appropriation or aimless expense of investigating committees, whose purpose is to obscure or conceal the truth, it is your fault if you do not stop it. If your capital building should be destroyed by fire and could be rebuilt with the expenditure of half a million dollars you should not be taxed millions on millions to aid a subcontractor or a delusion which might only enrich some favorite architect or building contractor and compel you to give a share of your wheat and corn, your oats and potatoes, to those who have no call upon your bounty, your sympathy or your patriotism."

"You had better rise in your might and drive from place and power those who misrepresent you and your interests."

When the reports of the state masters were presented Ohio reported 22 granges revived and 19 new granges organized, making 409 live granges in the state, with an average of 59 members to the grange.

Colorado reported the granges prosperous and much business going on among the farmers, who gathered this year the largest harvests in the history of the state.

Massachusetts reported prosperity in grange ranks, notwithstanding dull times and general business depression. There are 140 granges in the state, with but two weak ones in the number. The total membership of the state is over 12,000.

New Hampshire reports a year of large prosperity—11 new granges, with 1,599 new members, and the entire state shows 228 granges, with a total membership of over 21,000.

Collapse of the Reeder Case.

The collapse of the case against ex-State Secretary Reeder and others, charged with conspiracy to defame Hon. John Wanamaker, is the cause of much gossip here.

The climax came last Friday afternoon at Easton, where the grand jury ignored the bills of indictment and imposed the costs on Frederick A. Van Valkenberg, of Philadelphia, the prosecutor.

After the grand jury had reported this finding the court called for Mr. Van Valkenberg, to impose the sentence of costs, but as he had left the court room his counsel, W. C. Shipman, agreed to produce him Saturday morning. This was satisfactory to the court, and on Saturday Mr. Van Valkenberg appeared and paid up.

The grand jury retired shortly before 10 o'clock with the bills. Twenty-six witnesses were examined, but Winsboro, the star witness, was not one of them. Constable Ackerman returned from Philadelphia at noon and announced to the court that Winsboro, for whom he had a bench warrant, could not be found.

Sheriff Fenice returned at noon from Scranton with Congressman William Connell, Frederick Godfrey, Isaac Post and E. S. Jackson, for whom attachments had been issued. He was unable to find R. C. Simpson. The witnesses were all called before the court and made to explain their absence. Judge Scott said the court was satisfied the four men brought from Scranton were not guilty of willful contempt of court, and directed that the costs of the attachments be included in the costs of prosecution.

Pennsylvania Monuments Dedicated.

An event of special interest to Pennsylvanians was the dedication on Monday of the Pennsylvania monuments at Orchard Knob, Chattanooga. The monuments were formally transferred to Governor Hastings by Lieutenant Colonel Archibald Blakeley, of the Seventy-eighth Pennsylvania volunteers, in a neat address, to which the governor responded at length, and in turn transferred the monuments to the national government. Hon. John Tweedale, chief clerk of the war department, representing the government. They followed an address by General Henry V. Boynton, president of the Chickamauga and Chattanooga national park military commission, and remarks by distinguished survivors of the war. In the course of his address General Boynton, the orator of the day, said:

"That this national park has been established is largely due to the valor of the sons of Pennsylvania on these and many other fields, and to the patriotism with which these empire states of Tennessee and Georgia, with their sister seceding states, have adopted the decree of a great cause brilliantly tried by both contestants in that high court of last resort, where the sword decides. As Pennsylvania honors this project with the presence of her whole official household, bringing also the surviving veterans of Chickamauga, Wauhatchie, Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge, so we, in turn, rejoice to proclaim the honors due the second state in the Union—but second to none in the practical exhibition of her patriotism and her prowess on every noted battlefield of the war."

"It is a source of keen satisfaction to be afforded this opportunity to testify before those veterans and their assembled friends to the invaluable and unflagging support which the governor of your commonwealth has given to this park project. Of your state commission it is true that no one of the 26 commissions now co-operating with the national commission has been more active and efficient, more careful of the interests committed to its keeping, more considerate of the wishes and plans of the national commission, or more deserving of high praise at its hands." WILKINS.

THE WONDERS OF SCIENCE

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Sufferers should take instant advantage of his generous proposition.

Please tell the Doctor that you saw this in the Centre Democrat. 8-08.

Garman's Opera House, season of '97.

The following attractions have been booked by Manager Garman for season of 1897-98.

- Dec. 1—"Little Trixie." "11—Louis Morrison in "Faust." Dec. 17—Frank Jones. Jan. 22—"A Breezy Time." Feb. 12—Guy Brothers' Minstrels. Mar. 8—Byrne Bros., "Eight Bells."

WANTED—TRUSTWORTHY AND ACTIVE gentlemen or ladies to travel for responsible, established house in Pennsylvania. Monthly \$25.00 and expenses. Position steady. Reference. Enclose self-addressed stamped envelope. The Dominion Company, Dept. Y Chicago.



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Advertisement for FARQUHAR machinery, including a saw mill and Ajax Genier Grank Engine. Text: 'Variable Friction Feed SAW MILL and Ajax Genier Grank Engine. Absolutely guaranteed to cure any case of constipation. Cascarots are the ideal laxative, never grip or gripe, but cause easy natural results. Sample and booklet free. Dr. STELLING HENDEY CO., Chicago, Montreal, Can., or New York. 214'

Advertisement for SANDY CATHARTIC Cascarots. Text: 'SANDY CATHARTIC Cascarots CURE CONSTIPATION. REGULATE THE LIVER. ALL DRUGGISTS. ABSOLUTELY GUARANTEED to cure any case of constipation. Cascarots are the ideal laxative, never grip or gripe, but cause easy natural results. Sample and booklet free. Dr. STELLING HENDEY CO., Chicago, Montreal, Can., or New York. 214'

Large advertisement for MONTGOMERY & CO. SUITS AND OVERCOATS. Text: 'SUITS AND OVERCOATS. The cold weather is here, but a little late. All Suits and Overcoats to be sold at a great sacrifice, right on the edge of a rising market. We never were so well prepared to give our friends and customers good clothing, at their own prices. Gloves by the car load. Job lots in odd sizes in Men's and Boy's Underclothing. Holiday Goods are now ready. MONTGOMERY & CO., ALLEGHENY STREET, BELLEFONTE, PENN'A.