

The Centre Democrat.

CHAS. R. KURTZ, -- EDITOR & PROP

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The Cause.

"The cause of the present boom in the West is undoubtedly due, in a great measure, to the large crops and high prices caused by the failure of crops in other countries."

Wm. McKinley, President.

The Credit.

"If the Republicans desire to claim credit for the high price of wheat, they must assume responsibility for the famine in India. Will any Republican convention point with pride to the famine as an evidence that the Republican party is redeeming its campaign pledges?" Wm. J. Bryan.

EDITORIAL.

THE ISSUE.

In 1896 the Democracy, in National Convention assembled, declared in favor of "the free and unlimited coinage of gold and silver at the legal ratio of 16 to 1," and declared that the money question was of paramount importance. In this declaration the Democratic party was joined by the Populist party and by the Silver Republicans, and all three supported the same candidate for president. The Republican party fully realized the force of this combined declaration, and resolved to meet it by also declaring for bimetallism, by international agreement; thus admitting that bimetallism was a necessity, but that in order to successfully accomplish it, it became necessary to have other nations agree to it. By this device many sincere bimetallists were induced to support the nominees of the republican party and the election of McKinley and a republican congress was the result.

No sooner was their success assured, than the mask of international bimetallism was cast aside, and the representatives of the single gold standard, backed by the trusts and monopolies appeared in all their hideousness and arrogance. While the President seemed to be somewhat timid and still pretended to be favorable to international bimetallism, the trust and the money power, through their fitting representative, Mark Hanna, dictated the appointment of Mr. Gage, a Chicago banker, to the office of Secretary of the Treasury, and under his leadership the administration has been completely committed to the maintenance of the single gold standard. Notwithstanding the fact that the National Republican convention of 1896 solemnly pledged that party to promote international bimetallism, the administration, through Mr. Gage the secretary of the treasury, has formulated and sent to Congress a bill, which Mr. Gage boldly avows is "to commit the country more thoroughly to the gold standard." By this action the Republican party has completely abandoned bimetallism and has boldly become the champion of the gold standard, the trusts and the money power. On the other hand the democracy is unalterably opposed to gold monometallism, and in favor of the prompt restoration of bimetallism at the present ratio. The democratic party is opposed to the retirement of the greenbacks and other non interest bearing paper money of the government; the issue of interest bearing gold bonds, and to increase the powers, privileges and excessive profits of the heartless and grasping gold syndicate of this country and their foreign allies. The issue is joined. No one can mistake it. Either the gold standard with reduced wages and scarcity of work, the weight of debt doubled, values reduced and the lives of the people "made bitter with hard bondage;" or those who oppose this system, and advocate the sacred principle of "equal and exact justice to all" must succeed. On the one side are the trusts and syndicates seeking whom they may devour, on the other side the masses of this country defending their homes and firesides against the steady encroachments of the greed of monopoly. Right must finally triumph and we feel that the time has come when the masses will present a united front against their oppressors, drive them from power, and bring back peace and prosperity to our people. The refuge of lies shall be swept away, and the hiding of falsehood shall be uncovered." This mighty nation will yet rise like a strong man from his sleep and then a retribution will come. Justice travels with a leaden heel, but strikes with an iron hand. "The mills of the Gods grind slow, but they grind exceedingly fine." Wait until the flood gates of the people's wrath are turned on, and then there will be fine grinding.

—THE CENTRE DEMOCRAT and weekly Pittsburg Post, one year for \$1.50.

PROSPERITY—A DREAM.

Prosperity is coming, I am told; The wheels are all kept humming, As of old. In a recent great election People voted for protection, And we've had it to perfection, Or we're sold. No more with pauper labor We compete. Now each man loves his neighbor, As is meet. We are wise in legislation, Have restricted immigration— No more pauper population On the street. Our mills are all kept running, So they say; No creditors now dunning Every day. For prosperity's no bubble; We're through with all our trouble And our wages they are double— That's our pay. Our pockets filled with money— Hear it chink; We feed on cake and honey; Wine we drink; We have opened wide our mills And have paid up all our bills; We are through with all our ills. I don't think.

JOHN SHAFESBURY.

HOW IT WORKS.

Another blessing of the Dingley Tariff is the exclusion of American fruits by Germany. It is generally assumed that our fruits are excluded to prevent the introduction of injurious insects into that country, but the real reason is to retaliate on American products, in return for the imposition of discriminating duties on sugar, and the imposition of other duties affecting Germany. In the same way American pork was excluded for a number of years. In both instances the farmer is directly injured by the act of the German government. We have in this country an overproduction of pork and fruits and we must seek a foreign market for the surplus. Germany refusing the importation of these products, robs our farmers of that market and they incur a consequent loss. The tariff on sugar, which is the direct cause of the refusal of Germany to buy our fruits and other products, compels our farmers and the laboring men to pay an enormous tax upon every pound of sugar, they consume. What a blessing the tariff is to the common people, and especially the producing classes. First, it robs them of their market, and they cannot sell to an advantage the fruits of their labor; and secondly, the very cause of the loss of this market, again robs them by taxing the necessities of life. Who reaps the benefit of this tariff, this double loss? The men who constitute the sugar trust, the Havemeyers and Searles. They have become multimillionaires. How much of these enormous sums of money thus gained, have these sugar trust magnates shared with their employees? Instead of an increase of wages in this particular industry, like in all other tariff-fed industries, wages have been continuously reduced, and the dividends increased. The tariff is indeed a blessing to the favored few, but a curse to the producing class.

CENTRE COUNTY AHEAD.

The annual returns to the internal affairs department shows that there was collected a per capita of 47 cents last year in the entire state for the purpose of the poor. The highest amount was in Centre county, 92 cents, and the lowest in Bucks county, 17 cents. The per capita amount of tax collected for the construction and repairs of streets, roads and bridges during the year was \$1.87. The per capita tax collected for schools, etc., in the state was \$2.13.

The per capita amount of tax collected for other purposes, including the maintenance of township, borough, city and county governments, and other forms of taxes, such as licenses, is found to be \$4.91 in the entire state. Five per cent of all taxes collected went for the maintenance of the poor. In Centre county 17 per cent. of all taxes collected is devoted to this purpose, and in Allegheny only two. The percentage for the construction and repairs of streets, roads and bridges in the entire state is 20 per cent. Of the total per capita amount of taxes collected in the state 52 per cent. was expended for the support of township, borough, city and county governments, to which, of course, is added the amounts collected from licenses etc.

Why should Centre county pay more for the maintenance of our poor than any other section? Why is it? Do we have more poor, or is the money extravagantly expended by the officials? Would it not be a wise thing for the Poor Overseers of Centre county to hold a convention and compare notes. Probably there are many unlawful expenditures. We believe in taking proper care of the poor and dependent; but then there is such a thing as encouraging pauperism and dependents.

SURCHARGES.

The following, from a Williamsport paper, shows how County Auditors do their work in that county: "The Lycoming county Auditors report for 1897, filed in the Prothonotary's office, surcharges the County Commissioners with \$20 allowed Constable James Davis for horse hire, and \$200, the amount paid C. F. Deitrick as janitor at the jail. Commissioner Gordon was surcharged \$5 for overcharging in delivering ballots last fall, and County Treasurer Fleckenstein with \$25 for excess of commission allowed tax collectors throughout the county."

WAR NEWS.

The supreme topic at this time is the probability of war with Spain, on account of the sinking of the battleship Maine. Many people ask what is going to happen, and expect the newspapers to be in position to answer. The situation may be briefly summed up: No one knows what will be the outcome. The investigation upon the hull of the Maine is now in progress and no information is given out. Absolute secrecy prevails. If it should develop that the ship was blown up from the outside, Spain without a doubt will be held responsible, and a heavy indemnity will be demanded. Should that be refused, the "dogs of war" would be let loose. The nation is aroused to the highest tension. The patriotic sentiment of this country would not permit a moment's delay for an advance upon Cuba and a naval assault upon Spain. Every effort is being made to fortify our sea coast and prepare munitions of war. The latest news intimate that the Maine was sunk by a torpedo mine. There is grave apprehension on all sides. Stocks have been greatly affected, and unrest prevails in commercial centres. The future is uncertain. The nation patiently awaits the official investigation and then will act accordingly.

THE Germans will not buy our American fruit because there is a bug on it which the Germans do not like. The real bug is the Dingley Tariff. We discriminate against their products by imposing a prohibitory tariff on them, and they in turn refuse to buy from us. Why should we complain? What right have we to complain? They have only been irritated by our hostile policy, and have imitated our bad example. It is a little severe upon our people who have lost a market by it, but they must not complain as long as such blessings come under the guise of protection. The protected manufacturer, we are continually told, will share his enormous profits with the laborer and the farmer, work the laborer by increased wages, and the farmer by a ready market and increased prices. But who has heard of increased wages and ready market and better prices?

THE Democracy advocates equal and exact justice to all, and special privileges to none, hence the party is opposed to a protective tariff which breeds trusts and monopolies, and enables a few special favorites to enrich themselves at the expense of the producing classes.

A VISIT TO ALEXANDRIA.

Continued from first page.

the right, you are in the interior of the sacred edifice and can not help admiring the antique surroundings within. The pew, where used to sit the General that threw a British sovereign across the Atlantic, has remained through years and is marked by a little plate with his name. A warm feeling of reverence swells within your heart as the sexton explains all the minute details historically connected with the church where, beside Washington, worshipped the Fairfaxes, Carlyles, Lees, Paynes, and visited, the Marquis de La Fayette, General Braddock, Aaron Burr and all the noted men of the day. From here you are directed to the La Fayette House, the stopping place of the French General when he visited America in 1824. Sauntering further along and crossing over to King street you are in front of the Marshall House, where later in history another event occurred to be forever recorded in its pages, namely the killing of Colonel Ellsworth, May 24th, 1861, for hauling down the Confederate flag from the top of the house.

During the outbreak of the war Alexandria contained 10,000 inhabitants, many of whom were sympathizers with the Confederacy and were supposed to be giving out much valuable information against the Government. Colonel Ellsworth, then but twenty-four years of age, was dispatched with a company of fire zouaves to capture the telegraph station and stop the information that was leaking out at this point. They descended from Washington in transport steamers down the Potomac in the night and arriving at the wharf, started on a run for the telegraph station. In passing down King street the Marshall House was seen to be flying the Confederate flag from the roof and immediately Ellsworth ascending the nearest stairway tore it down and as he was descending was shot through the heart by the proprietor, named Jackson, Francis E. Brownell, a young man who followed his leader, in turn shot Jackson and thrust his sabre through the body with such force as to throw it to the bottom of the stairs. Ellsworth was carried into an adjoining room but life was extinct and there the body of the young soldier was guarded by his comrades, while the rebel flag, stained with his life blood and purified from the baseness of its meaning, lay at the young hero's feet. The sad occurrence was secretly kept from the rest of the fire zouaves for several hours, and until the body was removed, for it was feared if the fact became generally known that their loved leader had been murdered they would have wrought vengeance on the city in short order.

The approaching car suddenly interrupts your secret musings and once aboard, the gong echoes your farewell to Alexandria, with its rustic gardens, hemmed in by weather-beaten palings, causing many interesting recollections to linger with you for a long time. SERGIUS S. FLETCHER.

THE PRESIDENT IN PHILADELPHIA

He Delivers an Oration at the Washington's Birthday Exercises.

Philadelphia, Feb. 22.—President McKinley, accompanied by his secretary, J. Addison Porter, arrived here yesterday afternoon in the private car of the Pennsylvania railroad. The president was met by Frank Thomson, Charles C. Harrison, provost of the University of Pennsylvania, and C. Stuart Patterson, and by them escorted to the street. Here carriages were entered, and the party was driven to the residence of Mr. Harrison, whose guest the president and Mr. Porter will be during their stay in the city. The president today delivered an oration at the Washington birthday exercises of the University of Pennsylvania at the Academy of Music.

The prevalent excitement over Spanish affairs seemed to give added public interest to the president's visit, and the big Pennsylvania railroad station and the streets adjacent thereto were crowded with people eager to see and greet the chief magistrate. Two companies of mounted policemen escorted the carriages to Mr. Harrison's residence, which is several blocks from the station. Cheering crowds greeted the president along the entire route.

In view of the condition of public affairs, every arrangement had been made to keep the president in touch with all the departments at Washington, and to keep him fully informed of developments at Havana direct telegraphic communication had been established between Washington and Mr. Harrison's house, and in addition to the disposal of the president in the event of the necessity of communication with the authorities.

The city authorities propose to exercise the utmost care over the president during his stay here, in order to protect him from any possible annoyances. Both the front and rear of Provost Harrison's residence are guarded by policemen, and in all his movements while in this city the chief magistrate is closely followed by a cordon of officers.

ITEMS OF STATE NEWS.

Wilkesbarre, Feb. 23.—Mrs. Edgar Spencer and her daughter Elizabeth, who were burned by a gas explosion in the cellar of their house at Mill Creek last week, died yesterday from their injuries.

Pittsburg, Feb. 23.—Word came from Dunbar tonight that Tom Cash had been arrested and was being held for the Allegheny county authorities. Cash, it is claimed, killed "Chicago" John Kelly, colored, laborer on the Unity tunnel of the new Carnegie railway last August. He also wounded several people and held a whole posse at bay, finally taking refuge in a coal bank and disappearing.

Chambersburg, Feb. 20.—About 25 farmers and land owners interested in sugar beet culture met in the Franklin Guards' Armory Saturday. Among those present was Frank C. Bosler, of Carlisle, who will plant a thousand acres of his Cumberland county land in beets, and who will likely erect a factory in or near Carlisle for the extraction of the sugar from the beets. This factory will cost about \$250,000, it is said. Committees were appointed to create additional interest in the project in the different townships and the meeting adjourned to meet Saturday afternoon, Feb. 26.

Harrisburg, Feb. 21.—Deputy Secretary of Internal Affairs I. B. Brown is preparing some interesting statistics showing the total amount of taxes collected in the commonwealth. This table, based upon the population of the state at the time the last census was taken, will show that in the entire state there was collected last year for the support of the poor 46 cents per capita; for construction and repairs of streets, roads and bridges during the year, \$1.87 per capita; for schools, etc., \$2.13 per capita. Of the total amount of taxes collected for all purposes in the state, 23 per cent was devoted to educational purposes.

Philadelphia, Feb. 19.—George Bernhardt, a waiter in the restaurant at 204 North Fifth street, last night shot and probably fatally wounded Reinhart Losar, aged 30 years, and Hannah Reinhart, aged 22 years. He also fired a shot at Annie Reinhart, sister of the young woman, but the bullet missed her. All the persons concerned are cousins, and live at 1203 Vine street. Losar is proprietor of the restaurant, and employs the other three. Bernhardt is said to have had a disagreement with Losar over his attentions to Hannah. The shooting occurred on Vine street, above Eleventh. Bernhardt was arrested. The wounded man and woman are not expected to live.

Philadelphia, Feb. 22.—The premature explosion of a charge of dynamite yesterday in a stone quarry at Sixty-sixth and Vine streets killed three Italian workmen, Mike De Sando, Franz De Succio and Mike Hornburth. The quarry was owned by W. J. Mullin, who had warned the men not to tamper with the charge, which consisted of three sticks of dynamite. Hornburth, however, undertook to loosen the rock, and dropping the cart-ridge proceeded to ram it down. The explosion followed. Over a hundred tons of rock were loosened, and De Sando and De Succio were buried beneath it and instantly killed. Hornburth was hurled 50 feet in the air. He died shortly afterward.

West Chester, Feb. 19.—One of the most horrible crimes in the history of Chester county was unearthed at Doe Run last evening, when the lifeless body of Mrs. Ellen Preston, the missing bride of seven months of Jonas Preston, Jr., was discovered lying on the kitchen floor of her home, her brains oozing from ghastly wounds. Her skull had been horribly hacked with an ax and the head almost severed from the body. Her husband, who was arrested, stated that he and his wife had quarreled, but he professed to be at a loss to account for the fact that he had killed her. His conduct on the way to the prison left no doubt in the constable's mind that he was feigning insanity. It is said that after committing the deed Preston swallowed a quantity of Paris green, intending to make the affair a domestic tragedy, but for some reason the powder did not seriously affect him. Preston is 35 years of age. His wife was 15 years his junior. The couple is said to have always lived happily together, and as yet no motive for the crime has been discovered.

ANNOUNCEMENT.

ASSEMBLY.

We are authorized to announce E. M. Foster, of State College, a candidate for the nomination for Assembly, subject to the decision of the Democratic County Convention.

We are authorized to announce A. C. Thompson, of Half Moon township, a candidate for the nomination for Assembly, subject to the decision of the Democratic County Convention.

DISTRICT ATTORNEY.

We are authorized to announce William G. Runkle, Esq., of Bellefonte, Pa., a candidate for the nomination for District Attorney, subject to the decision of the Democratic county convention.

We are authorized to announce N. B. Spangler, of Bellefonte, as a candidate for the nomination for Prothonotary, subject to the decision of the Democratic county convention.

PROTHONOTARY.

We are authorized to announce B. A. McKee, of Spring township, a candidate for the nomination for Prothonotary, subject to the decision of the Democratic county convention.

We are authorized to announce M. I. Gardner, of Bellefonte, a candidate for the nomination for Prothonotary, subject to the decision of the Democratic County Convention.

We are authorized to announce Robert F. Hunter, of the North Ward of Bellefonte, a candidate for Prothonotary, subject to the decision of the Democratic County Convention.

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THE WONDERS OF SCIENCE

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