

**The Centre Democrat.**

CHAS. R. KURTZ, -- EDITOR & PROP

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**EDITORIAL.**

**POLITICS IN THE PULPIT.**

The administration, under the direction of Mark Hanna, meekly? bears all Spanish insults so that the business of the country, as represented by the stock gamblers of Wall Street, may not suffer. No matter what the result may be to our country and our flag, and no matter how many thousand of poor helpless men, women and children are murdered and starved to death by the treacherous and cruel Spaniards, the peace of the country must not be disturbed. Even Mark Hanna goes to New York as the special emissary of the administration to assure Wall Street and the gold power that there will be no war. Why is it that the trusts, the syndicates, and the money power are more potent than the lives and happiness of the poor Cubans, and those of our own people who have suffered at the hands of the Spaniards? Money, it seems, is of more consequence than the welfare of humanity, and the honor of America. What seems so strange to many is that ministers of the gospel so far forget themselves that they proclaim McKinley as a "Christian Patriot" from the pulpit when he is simply carrying out the commands of the briber and slave driver Mark Hanna, who is his creator and master. When Hanna succeeded in purchasing his election to the United States Senate he wired to McKinley, "God reigns and the Republican party still lives," and McKinley replies, "Congratulations upon your magnificent victory." This is the man who is heralded as a "Christian Patriot," when in fact he is not any better than the sacrilegious Hanna, who owns him, and compels him to do his bidding. It might be well for ministers of the gospel to learn that there are two sides to all political questions and that neither side is infallible. When they learn this, they will know better how to deal with politics, and not fall into the very common error of proclaiming their own political creed instead of preaching the gospel. "Peace on earth, good will to men," needs to be proclaimed constantly by minister and layman, but peace procured through selfish greed is not the hallowed peace proclaimed by the angels at the Saviour's birth. Peace, coerced by the power of gold, at the cost of thousands of human lives, and national humiliation, is the peace of the gospel of hate and selfishness. "This yellow slave will knit and break religions; place thieves upon the bench and give them title, knee and approbation. Which makes the true man kill'd, and saves the thief. What can it not do, and undo?" But when gold does accomplish its selfish ends we should not be compelled to have the willing instruments of this iniquity heralded from the sacred desk as Christian statesmen and pure and unselfish patriots.

**THE WRONG SOURCE.**

The movement to unite all the silver forces against the trusts and monopolies for the campaign of 1893 and 1900 does not seem to meet with favor among the middle-of-the-road populists. Here is what one of the typical representatives of that party has to say upon that question, the most important part of the epistle is its date:

"To the Editor of the Sun—Sir: In the Sun of yesterday, I read your editorial on the joint action of Chairman Jones, Butler and Towne. If you know of the action of the People's Party Organization Committee at St. Louis on January 12th and 13th, you know that Senator Butler does not fairly represent the rank and file of the People's party. Union under Democratic banners is impossible."

—WHARTON BARKER.  
Union League, Philadelphia Pa.

The headquarters of the middle-of-the-road populists seem to have been taken away from Tom Watson's domain, and established in that venerable republican and plutocratic institution, the Philadelphia Union League. A millionaire republican club, frequented by such eminent reformers as Wharton Barker, A. K. McClure and Dave Martin is a fitting place for the eastern headquarters of these middle-of-the-road people who have always been an annex to the republican machine, and ready and willing at all times to do the bidding of the representatives of the money power. Senator Butler may not represent Wharton Barker and his followers, but many of the representative men of the populist party signed the call, of which Mr. Barker complains, and no doubt the sincere members of the party are in accord with Senator Butler and his colleagues. Mr. Barker may at times be with the people in the money question but when he indulges in the terrapin and burgundy of the aristocratic Philadelphia Union League, he

undoubtedly forgets himself and falls back again into his old republican ways. It may be that his epistle to the Sun was written under such circumstances.

**COMMISSIONERS STATEMENT.**

There is little or no occasion to continue the discussion on the statement of the finances of our county, as issued by the Commissioners. All the vital objections to that document, as pointed out by this paper, have been admitted or avoided by the Gazette, the mouth piece of close officials. The public have carefully studied it and can easily see the obscure points and attempt to put up a padded list of assets, omission of important liabilities, hiding of other accounts all for the purpose of creating a favorable impression. This year the tax-payers find their millage increased. That is a condition that should satisfy them how the affairs of the county have been conducted.

**EMBARRASSING.**

A representative in the Ohio legislature has a plan for regulating marriages that has the merit of novelty, if nothing else. He has introduced a bill that provides for the appointment by the probate court of each county of a board of marriages composed of physicians. Persons wishing to marry must make application to this board, and it is made the duty of the board to refuse to grant a license in case either party to the proposed contract has dipsomania, kleptomania, insanity or certain other diseases. In case of a refusal to grant a license there is a provision for appeal to the state board of health. It will be something of a joke on the Ohio cupid, who has been laughing at locksmiths and eluding parental control, when he is made to walk up to a board of matter of fact physicians, pass an examination and furnish a bill of health before he can string his victims.

**LOAFERS.**

Senator Allen's assertion in the senate the other day, that there are 25,000 loafers on the government payroll in Washington, has evoked indignant contradiction. It might be hazardous to assert that there are not a good many who, to put it mildly, take life in a very leisurely way. But it is certain that the national government does not present many such features as that in our own state, where gentlemen of political energy are provided with six and seven-dollar-a-day positions and hire men at a dollar a day to do the work.

**A WRIGLER.**

If we had a president with some backbone in him, this country would not be collecting food to save the starving population in Cuba. Instead, we have a typical old-woman, afraid of her shadow. Oh, for the shades of old Andy Jackson! "By the Eternal," Old Andy would have driven every Spanish rat off this hemisphere long ago and independence, peace and tranquility would have smiled on this poor, benighted island by this time. McKinley has the backbone of an angle worm—always wrigling. Such a president can be used by some.

An awful amount of unreliable sensational dispatches are being printed in the New York and Philadelphia papers these days in regard to the condition of affairs at Havana and the sinking of the Maine. Columns of rumors, that have no foundation, appear every day and the intelligent reading public are becoming thoroughly disgusted. In this class we might mention the New York Journal, World, Philadelphia Inquirer, Record and others. These papers seem more given to sensation than gathering news.

The death of Wm. M. Singely, the distinguished publisher of the Philadelphia Record died on Sunday. He conducted a vigorous journal that had a large influence and patronage in this state. His recent financial difficulties, no doubt impaired his health. In his sudden demise one of the prominent political leaders and editors of this state passes from the scene of activity.

**A Contracts.**

Wheat and flour have largely increased in price, woolen goods of all kinds have advanced in price, pork and other meats are going up rapidly, wages are at the same low level and employment is scarce—and this is prosperity. How do you like it? But business is improving in some lines; yes, especially with the Overseers of the Poor who have more than they can do.

—Naginey, the furniture dealer, has something important to say in his advertisement this week.

—Mrs. E. S. Long, of Snow Shoe Intersection, is spending several days with her daughter, Mrs. Andrew Young, on East Logan street.

—On March 18, Mr. E. A. Peters will offer his farm, one mile east of Fleming, at public sale. A large lot of farm implements and live stock will be sold at the same time and place.

**ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.**

Estate of Mary Barr, dec'd, late of Huston township.  
Letters of administration on said estate having been granted to the undersigned, all persons indebted thereto are requested to make immediate payment, and those having claims or demands against the same will present them without delay for settlement, to the undersigned.  
C. M. BOWLER, Adm'r.  
Bellefonte, Pa.

**STRONGER THAN EVER.**

William J. Bryan Grows in the Public Esteem.

REPRESENTS TRUE DEMOCRACY.

His Popularity Due as Much to the Principles He Champions as to His Personality—Silver a Living Issue—Money Power Menaces the Nation.

The New York World has made a double leaded appeal to Mr. Bryan to drop the silver question and "take up live issues." The World opposed Mr. Bryan in 1896, and as it has since shown no signs of repentance it is difficult to understand why it should object to Mr. Bryan adhering to a "dead issue," says the Omaha World-Herald. The World has not always been a good guesser. It made a bad guess when it declared that Low would be elected mayor of Greater New York, and it makes a worse guess when it declares the silver question to be a "dead issue."

The fact is that that question is the foremost issue. This fact was demonstrated in the recent elections, and the statement will be corroborated by any one who takes the trouble to investigate. The conceded facts that Mr. Bryan, although a defeated candidate, has steadily grown stronger since the election, that his presence and his utterances are in greater demand now than ever before—these facts are not due entirely to the personality of the man. Although he has a pleasing personality, this could not be strong enough to give him the conspicuous place he occupies in the public mind today if he was in truth the "dead leader of a dead cause."

The New York World ought to remember that the largest popular vote ever cast for a candidate for the presidency prior to 1896 was that cast for Cleveland in 1892, being 5,556,918. Bryan's popular vote exceeded that cast for Cleveland by 898,025. Bryan received 81 more electoral votes than Harrison received when he was defeated in 1892 and 8 more than Cleveland received when he was defeated in 1888. Since the election the great principles which Bryan represents have grown in favor, and Bryan himself is closer to the people than he was in 1896. There are some things more to be considered than mere political victory. To be a Democrat these days means something. A Democratic vote emphasizes great principles rather than a strike for a few offices.

Mr. Bryan would not abandon the cause of bimetalism even though such abandonment would mean his election to the presidency. If Mr. Bryan should abandon bimetalism, the New York World would be privileged to observe a demonstration of the eternal fact that great principles are not dependent upon any one man. Individuals whom God has blessed with eloquence and logic and steadfastness of purpose have been in the past and will be in the future of great service in the establishment of great principles. But men are not essential. Some die, some fall in purpose, some succumb to the insinuating influences of great moneyed interests, but the principles live.

It happens that William J. Bryan is a man of exceptional characteristics. He believes in his cause, is brave enough to defend it in all places, honest enough to adhere to it with the devotion of a patriot and able enough to disarm every gladiator that is sent to cross his steel. He cannot be bought or bullied from a cause which he believes to be the cause of the people. The money power has no one to pit against him in a discussion of the great principles he advocates. These principles are growing in favor with each passing day, and from New York comes the plaintive appeal urging Bryan to "take up live issues."

"Take up live issues!" This is the same appeal that was made by the Tories to our colonial fathers when the spirit of American independence was growing stronger each hour. That was the same appeal that was made by the uncompromising slaveholder to the men who believed in the freedom of all human beings. That was the same appeal that was made to the people whose patriotic spirit crowded Abraham Lincoln to the front in spite of the gold of the same money power and the abuse of the same press that throws its influence against Bryan. That is the same appeal that came from Jeff Davis when he wavered of the demand that the Union should be one and inseparable. It is the same appeal that has been heard in every contest where one of the contestants realizes his defeat, but has strength enough with which to parley.

**Merely a Grab For Spoils.**

They are having a very warm time in Chicago at present over what is termed by its authors the metropolitan police bill. The Republican governor and his legislative supporters appreciate the opportunity to reach out and seize a supply of jobs. If the boot were on the other foot, and they would get the patronage away from the Democrats by declaring that the police appointments should be made by the mayor, they would be as loud in declaring in favor of home rule as the Democrats are now.

**Tiresome Figuring.**

Mr. Dingley still insists that the unprecedently heavy deficits will cease as soon as his tariff begins to produce the revenue he estimated for it. As that time is yet uncertain, however, he would like a few profitable taxes, as he is getting tired of figuring revenue into the treasury.

**The Same In the End.**

The Republicans do not seem in accord on the civil service system issue. Some want openly to repudiate their platform declarations for it; the rest wish merely to disregard their pledges while hypocritically repeating them.

**PEOPLE WILL DECIDE.**

Question of the Standard Will Be Settled by Them.

NOT BY A GOLDBUG COMMISSION.

Observations on the Report of the Indianapolis Side Show—Holders of Idle Capital Don't Want Prosperity—Some Statements of Fact.

The self constituted "monetary commission" has completed its report to the self constituted executive committee of the self constituted and appointed Indianapolis monetary convention. It is a somewhat lengthy document and need not be seriously discussed. Though it has already been indorsed in advance by Mr. McKinley, the only effect that its introduction in the house can have will be to demonstrate the active and actual lack of harmony that exists in the Republican party on the money question.

The report will doubtless be introduced in congress as a "nonpartisan" scheme, but the moment that discussion begins the fact will develop that it is not only a partisan affair, but exceedingly inflammatory in its nature.

There is no doubt about the serious defects of our national banking system. The Constitution has been calling attention to them for years, and on more than one occasion its motives have been misconstrued by those interested in banks. The system, as we have pointed out a hundred times, was not primarily intended as a banking system. Its whole purpose was to furnish a market that would uphold the value of United States bonds. It was not conceived in the peace interests of the people, but was invented for the purpose of enabling the government to sell its bonds issued for war purposes at the highest figure. Judged by what it was intended to be, and not what it purports to be, there is no doubt that the national banking system has been a success.

We learn from the report of this self constituted currency commission that "the most serious evil affecting our present monetary system is the threatened degradation of its standard." In other words, there is a threat somewhere in the air that gold may go to a premium and the people get higher prices for their products and higher wages for their labor. Even higher prices, without any premium on gold, would be a "degradation of the standard." The "standard" was "degraded" from 1862 to 1879, the people received profitable prices for their products, men of enterprise built railways and established industries, and prosperity was the portion of the people. It was too much for the holders of inactive capital. They shared in the prosperity, it is true, but they wanted to have all the prosperity to themselves.

They set up a cry about "inflation" and they talked about "inflated prices" until the people really believed that prosperity was hurtful. So the people sent men to congress who voted for repudiation. The congressmen called it "resumption," but it was really repudiation, for the people were compelled to pay in gold debts that were contracted in depreciated paper. This was repudiation, and this was what forced resumption meant. It had the practically unanimous opposition of the Democratic party, which has always and everywhere been opposed to repudiation.

The self constituted committee makes some remarks about the "standard." It says that "there must be some standard of value." It "must have a market value as a commodity independently of any governmental fiat and of all legal tender laws." It may be remarked here that there never was and never will be such a commodity. Let those governments which have gold as the standard demonetize that metal, and its value will fall below that of silver. Even when coined as money it never has been used as a circulating medium, except in the mining regions. The committee proceeds, "It must have, as a commodity, as stable a market value as possible, and in order to secure the stability of that market value the relation between its supply and demand must be as constant as possible." The fact is notorious that gold does not fulfill these conditions. There is no relation whatever between the demand and the supply. The demand for gold is the multiplied demand for all other commodities in countries where gold is the standard. The supply depends upon the accident of discovery or on the caprice of nature.

To that which we have quoted the committee adds, "The civilized world has therefore determined that the standard shall be gold." To this it may be replied that the European governments are wholly controlled by the selfish interests of those who own the gold. In this country the gold standard was imposed on the people without their knowledge or consent. The deed was put into the form of law by means of clandestine legislation, as the record shows, and was so covertly carried out that the president who signed the bill did not know what its effect would be.

With these statements of fact we have the report of the self constituted committee to speak for itself. It is entitled to no more measure of respect than the utterance of an individual. Its form and substance were dictated by the Gold trust, and it will have just as much effect on the public sentiment of the country—no more, no less—as if it bore the signatures of British bankers. The question of the standard will be settled by the people. If they want the gold standard, with poverty prices and pauper wages, we are perfectly willing that they should indorse the gold standard. In their interest we should like to see the standard "degraded" by a rise of prices, wages and property values as compared with gold.

But this matter will be settled by the people, and not by self constituted commissions.—Atlanta Constitution.

**ANNOUNCEMENT.**

**ASSEMBLY.**  
We are authorized to announce R. 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. Rankle, 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 S. B. Spangler, of Bellefonte, as a candidate for the nomination for District Attorney, 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. L. 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.

**HOOD'S PILLS** cure Liver Ills, Biliousness, Indigestion, Headache. Easy to take, easy to operate. 25c.

**THE WONDERS OF SCIENCE**

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The dread Consumption, uninterrupted, means speedy and certain death.

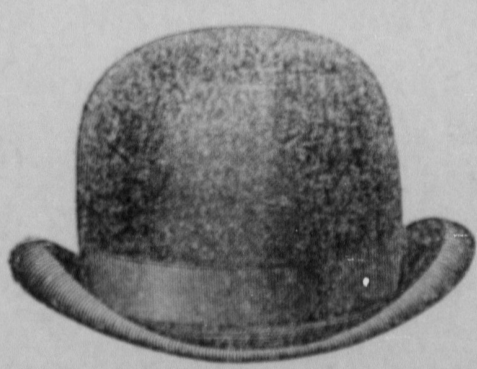
Simply write to T. A. Slocum, M. C., 28 Pine Street, New York, giving postoffice and express address, and the free medicine will be sent direct from his laboratory.

Sufferers should take instant advantage of his generous proposition.

Please all the Doctor that you saw this in the Centre Democrat.

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**GRAND OPENING TO-DAY.**  
Hats & Fancy Shirts—Guyer's Celebrated Self-Conforming hats; Beltaire Lureh & Co's. Imperial Hats in Tourists & Derbies; Wechsler Laufer & Co's. Astoria Hats in Tourists and Derbies—colors, Coffee.  
  
Pearl, Black, Seal, Monoco, Blue, Vicuna, Claro, Beech, Oak and Brown. Cluett Coon & Co's. Celebrated Monarch Shirts in stiff and soft Madras. The King of them all—"The Manhattan," Fancy Madras Shirts.  
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