

The Centre Democrat.

CHAS. R. KURTZ, -- EDITOR & PROP

Actual average, sworn circulation, of this paper, for the past year, 1897, was **OVER 2000 COPIES PER WEEK.**

Telephone Call 1183.

TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION:
Regular Price \$1.50 per year.
If paid in ADVANCE \$1.00 "

Special Club Rate:
THE CENTRE DEMOCRAT will be sent one year with any one of the below named papers, at the following low rate: With
Pittsburg Weekly Post \$1.50
Cincinnati Weekly Enquirer 1.50
New York 3-times-a-week World 1.65

DEMOCRATIC TICKET.

FOR CONGRESS:
J. L. SPANGLER.
(Subject to the decision of the district conference.)
FOR SENATE:
WM. C. HEINLE.
(Subject to the decision of the district conference.)
FOR ASSEMBLY:
R. M. FOSTER.
J. H. WETZEL.
FOR PROTHONOTARY:
M. I. GARDNER.
FOR COUNTY SURVEYOR:
HARRY HERRING.

EDITORIAL.

THE COUNTY CONVENTION.

The result of Tuesday's Democratic County Convention will be found in another column of this issue, and should prove satisfactory to the individual members of the party.

Let us call brief attention to the resolutions adopted. In clear and unmistakable terms the principles of the National Platform are recognized as binding upon the party, until changed. That means there is no surrender of our position on national issues. We still stand by our colors, with earnest persistency, notwithstanding the fond wishes and predictions of our many warm republican friends, always concerned about our welfare.

The greater portion of the resolutions are devoted to local state issues on which this campaign should be contested. The evils of the past legislature are set forth in strong language, as well as the wrongs that have emanated from other state departments controlled by the republican party. These abuses have grown so flagrant and notorious until the public are disgusted with Quay misrule and certainly will demand a change. Better government at Harrisburg will be the campaign issue and on that score the Democratic party promises and pledges itself to secure the long-needed reforms, if only entrusted with the authority by the people.

How to begin this work? Another resolution urges the nomination of the Hon. Geo. A. Jenks, of Jefferson county, to head the state ticket who is a whole platform, for honest government, in himself.

In regard to the county ticket nominated, little need be said. There was an abundance of good material for the various offices, but in some cases more men than positions. For Congress, Senate and Surveyor there was no contest, while on Prothonotary, Assembly and District Attorney there were numerous aspirants and it was absolutely impossible to gratify all. Some of course are disappointed. They went before the public pledged on their honor as men to submit to the decision of the county convention and if they are honorable, they will submit willingly to the result of its deliberations. A partisan follows a party only for office and gain; a democrat votes his ticket and supports its candidates from deep-seated convictions, and any man who becomes a "kicker," from disappointment and opposes his party is not worthy of the name of "Democrat" or entitled to manly respect, and never should receive recognition from any party.

As said before, it is believed that all the aspirants were loyal democrats. There is no doubt but that each one will size up to the situation and be found standing shoulder to shoulder in the ranks and ready to render their best efforts for the triumph of the principles espoused by the great organization to which they belong.

The county ticket is composed of good men—but just as good men failed to be nominated. They are competent for the positions to which they aspire. They were fairly chosen by the people, and now it is the duty for every true democrat to give it his hearty support.

Centre county is a democratic county, and this year we should roll up such an immense majority as to dispel any illusion entertained by the opposition. A united effort—every shoulder at the wheel—and success will be ours.

A BELLEFONTE BUGABOO.

Since the Democratic County Convention met on Tuesday our republican friends, and a few democrats, are trying to find a big bugaboo in the county ticket, because a number of Bellefonte candidates are on the ticket. Yes, it is a fact that several nominations came to Bellefonte this time, and is that a crime? We think not.

It is a recognized practice and a piece of political strategy, if that is the proper term, to divide up the ticket each year so that the various sections of the county will be represented. That is good politics, generally speaking. But then this practice may be carried to extremes. Men often base their entire claim on the matter of location, forgetting adaptability

ity and sacrificing the highest of all claims, that of ability and fitness to fill public positions. This latter condition can not be attributed to the present situation. Anyone of the Prothonotary or Legislative candidates would have graded the ticket.

The facts in the case are easily summed up. Little interest was shown in the canvass this year. Everybody was absorbed in the war. The various candidates traveled the county and the ones who succeeded are the ones who seemed to have worked and traveled the most industriously, personally soliciting support, like busy bees improving each shining hour. That is what counts and that is what won, more than anything else. If a number of Bellefonte candidates were nominated, it is simply because the people wanted them. Bellefonte has only seven delegates, while in the balance of the county there are over eighty. It was the votes from the majority of the delegates outside of Bellefonte that made the nomination. The voters in the country districts instructed them in this manner. It is a democratic principle that a majority rules and as long as that is a safe guide in making nominations, no sensible man has a right to find fault or criticize, and at the same time be a consistent democrat.

The voters at the polls made the ticket. Votes and nothing else gave Bellefonte a slight preference this time, and no censure can be laid at Bellefonte. If some of those who are displeased, and we hope they are few, will give this a bit of sober reflection, they will realize that the voters selected this ticket and censure on any individuals is wholly unjust, unfair and unmerited.

Democrats, don't stumble on trifles? Don't let the republicans excite your prejudices? But give the ticket your hearty support. Don't let little molehills or prejudice swerve you from Democratic duty.

CANDIDLY SPEAKING.

Tuesday's convention was marked by a number of blunders, in organization and in the course of proceedings, due probably to the fact that not sufficient care was exercised in previous arrangements. Such things happen occasionally from oversight or neglect or bad judgment. Candidly speaking it must be acknowledged that there were some embarrassing situations in the convention on Tuesday, but while they were of no serious nature and injured no one, it has given our republican friends a great deal of satisfaction and they never fail to "rub it in" on us at every opportunity.

One feature of our convention was evident in that there was a harmonious sentiment; while the last republican gathering was a war of factions in which the Hastings-Wanamaker people knocked out the Quay-Stone crowd in fine style.

There were no bosses running our convention; while theirs was a clash of political roosters.

Among the republicans there is very little stir thus far for nominations on their county ticket. Among the candidates are E. F. Townsend, of Philipsburg and John A. Daly, of Curtin, for assembly. For prothonotary James Gregg, of Milesburg and A. C. Williams of Huston twp., are in the field. The date for holding their convention has not been announced.

WHEAT is going down in price and silver is advancing. A general crop of wheat over the world will re-establish normal conditions and that is what will knock the sand out of the gold bug argument. Wheat and silver will be together inside of another year, if no famine prevails abroad.

SILVER is going up in price and wheat is coming down. That makes the gold-bug tremble. Many a republican contractor is growing fat on army contracts now, and that may be the reason for prolonging the war. Uncle Sam must pay all the bills.

CENTRE county democrats are for the nomination of Geo. A. Jenks, for Governor, and so will be hosts of other districts in this state. Jenks at the head of the ticket would be an inspiration for the campaign. He would be a record breaker, like Pattison.

THE republicans are prosecuting the present war, there is no doubt about it; but the democrats by virtue of public sentiment forced them to take the step. Freedom for Cuba was a democratic plea and McKinley had to be driven to action.

AMONG the democratic candidates who fell short of the prize on Tuesday was Geo. W. Kock, of Potter township, who came up smiling over the result. He seemed to think that the only thing for him to do now was to form a "ring" of all his friends and get them to whoop-up for Foster and Wetzel. That is the genuine kind of democracy, and always respected.

THE editor of the Gazette has stopped writing editorials on wheat and silver.

WM. G. RUNKLE, Esq., did the manly thing on Tuesday, when he asked that his competitor be nominated by acclamation.

It is a prevalent opinion that Col. J. L. Spangler can secure the nomination for congress in this district, if he should ask for it.

A DISTINGUISHED CONVERT.

In a brief and forcible article in the "North American Review" George S. Boutwell, of Massachusetts, formerly United States senator and secretary of the treasury during General Grant's second presidential term, advocates the re-establishment of an income tax, and to remove latter-day constitutional objections proposes this amendment to the constitution:

The Congress of the United States is empowered to levy taxes upon the persons, incomes and properties of the inhabitants of the several States and to collect the same.

In arguing the case for an income tax Mr. Boutwell points to its necessity. The decision of the supreme court, October, 1894, "by a divided court," he says, "declared that an income tax levied directly upon the citizens of the country was unconstitutional, and that the only method by which an income tax could be levied and collected would be by a direct tax upon the States. Such a tax could only be levied upon the States according to the population of each, and without any reference to the ability of the citizens to respond to an income tax. Consequently, it would be in effect a capitation tax, which, if levied, would not be paid, probably, by the poorer States of the Union."

Congress tried this experiment of a direct tax on the States at the outbreak of the civil war, to raise \$20,000,000. Some of the States paid and others did not. The result was that Congress a few years ago reimbursed the states that paid in order that equality might be re-established. The injustice of a capitation tax on the States is obvious. It taxes men, and not property or wealth. One illustration will suffice. Georgia and Massachusetts have the same population, but the per capita assessed valuation of Georgia is \$226.37, while that of Massachusetts is \$932.12. The total assessed valuation of one State is \$2,154,000,000, while that of the other is only \$415,828,000. Under the capitation plan—the only one left by the supreme court decision—both States would pay the same amount of Federal taxes, regardless of the difference in wealth. No capitation tax can ever be enacted in this country, simply because, aside from its inherent injustice, the poor people vastly outnumbered the rich.

Mr. Boutwell points out as another reason for an income tax the decrease in customs duties, caused by the increase of American production and the falling off in importation. We will give one instance of this, which has a local interest in Pittsburgh. Ten years ago we collected on \$51,079,000 imports of iron and steel customs taxes amounting to \$21,283,000. In 1897 we collected on imports of iron and steel valued at \$16,361,000 only \$6,572,000 customs taxes.

Other illustrations of the same character may be found, all showing that the tariff can be no longer relied on as our principal source of revenue. With vastly increasing Government expenditures we must look elsewhere. Internal taxes on tobacco and liquors are now excessive, and cannot be further increased beyond what is proposed in the pending revenue bill. Sooner or later we must have recourse to an income tax, and the sooner the better.

The law and gospel was laid down by Adam Smith, the father of modern political economy, more than a hundred years ago, when he said: "The subjects of every State ought to contribute toward the support of the Government as nearly as possible in proportion to their respective abilities—that is, in proportion to the revenue which they respectively enjoy under the protection of the State."

EXCUSES THAT DON'T EXCUSE.

The war department is publishing an array of figures showing what the ordnance, subsistence and commissary bureaus have done in the way of fitting the volunteer army for field operations. This is supposed to be an answer to the complaints of inefficiency and incapacity that have been made public from General Miles. But what matters this array of uniforms bought, supplies accumulated, trains loaded, if the things were not in the right place at the right time? That they were not is apparent from the delay in the departure of troops from Florida. For a month there have been ten or fifteen thousand regulars within easy distance of the Florida ports. They are reported to have sailed from Tampa for Key West Tuesday, and may reach Santiago the last of the week. Even this is uncertain. What has happened in the meantime? Admiral Sampson has reduced most of the outer and coast defenses of Santiago, and is on record as having declared a week ago he could occupy Santiago in twenty-four hours if he had 10,000 men. He had a special force of 800 marines at his disposal aside from the regulation force required on ship-board, and these he landed on Friday and occupied a strong position in the bay of Guantanamo. They have been attacked by a superior force of Spaniards, so far have gallantly held their own and have been reinforced from the fleet. But there are limitations on the admiral's capacity to strengthen the detachment that has landed and planted the American flag on the heights of Guantanamo. The ships of the fleet have few men that can be spared without crippling the service aboard ship. It is evident the marines on shore were hard pressed in the attack on Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning.

We hope for the best, but in the absence of a supporting force they may be compelled to abandon their position.

There should have been a supporting body of the much-lauded regulars, who have been in camp in Northern Florida for a month at Santiago. That there was not marks one of those blunders in the conduct of the war that is a sure index of incapacity somewhere. It needs no military expert to see this. It is a matter of plain common sense. The blame rests exclusively on the Washington authorities. The officers and men have been eager to get away, and for weeks have been restive under the delay. Now at a critical turn of affairs our troops are not where they should be.—Post.

FACTS—AND A QUESTION.

1. Admiral Dewey says that the Spanish fired more shots in the battle at Manila than our ships did. But their shots were wild. They were no marksmen.

2. Admiral Sampson in his report of the bombardment of San Juan, which city he could have taken if he had not been restrained by instructions, spoke of the "crazy firing" of the Spanish gunners. We fired 600 shots. The forts replied with twice as many, without killing a man or doing any material damage.

3. Admiral Sampson, in his report of the shelling of Santiago, says: "Have silenced the works quickly, without injury of any kind, though within 2,000 yards." The Spanish admit the loss of several officers and men, both in the forts and on the ships. The Mercedes was sunk, the Vizcaya and a torpedo-boat were reported injured and the fortifications were rendered practically useless. All in three hours!

4. Lieut. Powell, who pluckily ran his boat almost under the guns of the forts in his attempt to rescue Lieut. Hobson and his little band of heroes, gives the same testimony as to the ludicrous inefficiency of the Spanish gunnery.

5. Admiral Sampson, in his test shots at Havana and in the bombardment of Matanzas, both rendered ineffective through orders from Washington, found that the Spaniards could not shoot to do any harm.

6. In the Philippines the insurgent leader has whipped the Spanish troops whenever he has got at them, just at Maceo and Gomez used to do in Cuba.

The war has now lasted for fifty-four days. What has occurred during this time to justify the apparent fear and the evident extreme timidity of the Administration? Has anything developed to discredit the original assertion of The World that the Spanish Navy was not dangerous, that the fortifications in Cuba are useless against modern guns, and that Spain could be brought to terms in one week under a resolute and relentless attack upon her two vital points—Havana and Porto Rico?

What has happened or has been discovered to justify the extraordinary preparations of the President for a great and long war—the calling out of 200,000 volunteers for two years, the authorization of a war loan of \$500,000,000 and the levying of \$150,000,000 of war taxes? What has occurred to explain the constant restraint and check put upon the navy, the vacillation and changes as to the proper points of land attack?

The common sense of the people has taken note of the salient facts in this remarkable war. They are asking WHY all this shilly-shallying and ghost-chasing? WHY this magnifying of a little ease of discipline into the semblance of a dangerous and costly war? WHY these scattered and laggard blows everywhere save at Spain's solar plexus? Is it not natural that the people should suspect a connection between this long-drawn-out war and the fall elections?—World.

W. G. RUNKLE, Esq., late candidate for District Attorney nomination, is taking a happy philosophical view of the situation since Tuesday's convention. When war was declared his competitor, N. B. Spangler, Esq., was called away with Company B. Under the circumstances sentiment for the soldier carried the day. Runkle thinks that if it had not been for the Spaniards, the flag raisings and Decoration Day exercises, things would be different. He thinks he enjoyed himself during the campaign, and that his many friends can do him a great favor by loyally standing by the nominee.

It is amusing to hear our republican papers talking about a "Bellefonte Ring" controlling Tuesday's Democratic convention. The remarkable feature about this assemblage was the noticeable absence of anything of the kind—there seemed neither a head to guide, or a tail to wag, in its deliberations and it drifted along floundering frequently in a ridiculous manner. This cry of Bellefonte ring don't go every year. It becomes a monotonous yelp, year after year, when there is no semblance of truth in the statement. Talking about rings, if there ever was such a thing in local politics it displayed itself in glorious style at the recent republican convention when W. F. Reeder and the administration forces manipulated matters.

It seems certain that Congressman Arnold will be a candidate for re-election. That means a delay of about four months in making the Bellefonte post office appointment.

Fine Groceries

- Fine Teas, Fine Coffee,
- Fine Spices, Fine Syrups,
- Fine Fruits, Fine Confectionery,
- Fine Canned Goods,
- Fine Cheese, Fine Dried Fruit,
- Fine Ham, Fine Bacon,
- Fine Olives, Fine Pickles,
- Fine Sardines, Fine Oil,
- Fine Ketchup, Fine Oranges,
- Fine Lemons, Fine Bananas.

But all these can talk for themselves if you give them a fair chance.

NEW FISH.

- Bright Handsome New Mackerel,
- New Caught Lake Fish,
- Ciscoes, Herring,
- White Fish, Lake Trout,

Maple Sugar and Syrup

- Canned Soups, Bouillon, Oxtail,
- Mock Turtle, Vegetable,
- Consomme, Mulligatawny,
- Tomato, Chicken, Gumbo,

QUEENSWARE,

- Enameled Ware, Tin Ware,
- Brooms and Brushes.

The best place to bring your produce and the best place to buy your groceries, etc., etc.

SECHLER & CO

HIGH STREET, BELLEFONTE, PENN'A.

Our Twenty-fifth Anniversary

in the Wall Paper business.

The startling fact is the Wonderful

Fall in Prices

in 25 years. The same grade of paper we sold 25 years ago for 20 cents we will sell this spring for 3 cents, with a matched ceiling and a beautiful matched border 9 inches wide—something that was not thought of 25 years ago.

Immense Stock

Over 50,000 rolls of Wall Paper ranging in price from 3 cents to 75 cents a single piece. These goods are selected with special care and from the largest and best factories in the country. White Back, single piece, 8 yards long, 3 cents; ceiling to match, 3 cents; 9-inch border to match, 2c. per yard. White Blanks, Glimmers, Bronze and Golds, with Blended Friezes and Ceilings to match—prices 4, 5, 6 and 8 cents.

Marvels of Beauty

are the Gold Side-Walls with Flitter Ceiling and 18 inch Flitter Frieze, elegantly blended, from the deep, rich coloring of the side wall to soft, delicate tints of the ceiling. A way down in price—10, 12 and 15 cents a single piece; Blended Flitter, Frieze and Ceilings to match Ingrain or Boston Felt Side Walls in all shades.

S. H. WILLIAMS

WEST HIGH STREET, BELLEFONTE, PENN'A.

FAUBLE'S.

Big Reduction Sale of our entire stock of Clothing and Gents' Furnishing Goods now in force. You cannot afford to miss it. Everything in our entire establishment must be sold regardless of cost.

BACKWARD SEASON, Big Stock and need of more room for Fall Goods forces us to offer this stock at the greatest sacrifice ever known for good goods.

THIS SALE positively means an actual saving of many dollars to Centre county Clothing Buyers.

FAUBLE'S