

# The Centre Democrat.

CHAS. R. KURTZ, -- EDITOR & PROP

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(Subject to the decision of the district conference.)

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### DEM. COUNTY TICKET.

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For Prothonotary—M. J. GARDNER.

For District Attorney—N. B. SPANGLER, ESQ.

For County Surveyor—HARRY HERRING.

### EDITORIAL.

#### FIX THE BLAME.

Since the war is about over the country is considering the results achieved. One of the most appalling features is the criminal negligence, mismanagement and inefficiency of the War Department. The loss of life, from Spanish bullets and shells sinks into insignificance aside of the deaths among our soldiers, due to improper food, insufficient supplies, unhealthy camps, lack of medical stores and proper care of the sick. Camp Alger proved a death trap, while our boys at Chickamauga were camped in a malarial district, with typhoid germs infesting the air and water. They suffered much and died by scores. In the face of this epidemic the department at Washington took no action until public sentiment intervened.

Company B, of Bellefonte, lost two stalwart young men in the typhoid infection at Chickamauga, while the health of others may be permanently effected or ruined. Other companies suffered likewise and some even more.

In the engagement at Santiago the inefficiency of the War Department was shown. The supplies were slow in reaching the men, and then of an insufficient and improper quality. At Tampa the utmost confusion prevailed. Politicians appointed as quartermasters could not grapple the situation. Trainloads of provisions remained unmoved and perishable goods were lost by the carloads. At Santiago, after the battle, the sick and wounded suffered untold miseries, because the medical supplies had not been sent along.

Another dark page. The wounded and dying were placed on filthy transports, that lacked pure water, decent provisions, proper nurses and medical attendance. Result was, many a brave boy died for want of proper care and treatment.

The conduct of the war has been a scandalous crime and reproach in these instances. It has aroused the indignation of the country and the matter must be investigated.

Negligence of this kind, resulting in unnecessary suffering and great loss of life, can not be overlooked. The ones who are guilty must be found and severely punished.

THE republicans are trying hard to dodge state issues in the election of candidates for purely state offices. They don't want to talk about the last legislature, the looting of the treasury, and the many steals and misappropriation of funds. These are of no account to them. President McKinley's administration must be endorsed. Good local government at home, is no issue to them.

THE republican party wants all the credit for the conduct of the war. Why then should they not be held responsible for the incompetency, suffering and death among our soldiers. A Political favorites appointed to prominent positions was the fault, and the poor soldiers had to suffer in consequence.

ANY man who wants to go to legislature and is afraid to state where he stands on important public issues is lacking in courage and not deserving of public confidence. We mean John A. Daley who will not state where he stands—whether he is for or against Quay.

No time has been fixed for holding either the democratic Congressional or Senatorial conferences of this district. The various county conventions have all been held and each seems to have a candidate.

### CANDIDATE STONE ANSWERED.

In his speech at Mt. Gretna the other day Quay's man Stone asked the following question:

Do you suppose that President McKinley would think that this great state was satisfied with his glorious administration if it should support the Democratic party in this fall's campaign?

The Pittsburg Chronicle Telegraph, a Republican paper, calls attention to this question of Colonel Stone and makes the following comment upon it:

Inasmuch as Colonel Stone represents the Quay faction, which has done everything it can to impede, harass and annoy President McKinley's administration, it is fair query whether the president would not think such a result a deserved rebuke. In view of the fact that Senator Quay voiced the policy of the administration and allied himself with the Democrats, and that Colonel Stone himself tried to organize a similar bolt in the house, the least that is said about loyalty to the administration as a factor in this campaign, the better it will be for the head of the ticket.

W. A. Stone, Quay's candidate for governor of Pennsylvania, made a speech at Mt. Gretna on Wednesday. In the course of his remarks he said:

You always have heard this cry of corruption, but it is entirely without foundation.

Colonel Stone is good republican authority, but there are many republicans who contradict him in regard to this cry of corruption.

Colonel Wanamaker, better known and more exalted republican authority than Colonel Stone, says:

I have been a republican since 1860, but our party now stinks in the nostrils of any decent man. If the people are willing to uphold this corruption, God save the country.

The Philadelphia Press, also good republican authority, in the same issue in which Colonel Stone's speech is reported, said editorially:

That the last legislature did rob the people of Pennsylvania and would if it could have robbed it much more is proved by the Record. Governor Hastings vetoed many measures because they were downright steals, and his veto message shows just why they were steals.

The republicans of York county, at their convention held on May 17, passed a resolution with reference to corruption, from which we quote as follows:

We denounce in unmeasured terms the unparalleled and disgraceful corruption rampant in the last legislature; the utter and shameless disregard of the solemn obligations of official oaths—resulting in open and unblushing perjury; we denounce the fake investigations—investigations dishonest in their inception and exercise, and instigated solely, either for white-washing purposes, or for looting the state treasury in the interest of individual members; we denounce the various junketing trips and other shams, which under specious pretenses, robbed the state, and burdened the taxpayers, and we condemn the lavish and inexcusable expenditure of the public money, in the purchase of supplies far beyond the honest requirements of the public service—specimens of petty corruption which should forever relegate its promoters and beneficiaries to private life.

This is quoting much republican authority against Quay's man Stone, and we quote it to help the people to see that there is corruption, Colonel Stone's assertion to the contrary notwithstanding.

The corruption charged exists under republican rule, by republican permission, and is and has been practiced by republicans, and consequently if the people wish to abolish it they can best accomplish their object by electing democrats. It has been shown by experience that under democratic rule the Pennsylvania state treasury always fills up and under republican rule it is emptied.

### POLITICS IN THE ARMY.

The assurance with which Secretary Alger declares there will be no investigation of his department and that all did "magnificently" in the face of the daily reports of horrors and suffering will soon transfer the load of responsibility from the cabinet officer to the President. In fact the President is the responsible party on our theory of administration. The secretaries are his clerks to do his bidding. Remissness or lack of capacity or blundering on their part if not promptly corrected becomes a matter of presidential responsibility. Investigation, searching and thorough, by competent authority, is the first step to mend matters, and if President McKinley sustains Alger that there shall be no investigation, the fearful load goes to the presidential shoulders.

It is admitted that the system in vogue since the civil war is defective, but when you have a bad system administered by incompetents the climax is attained. Before the war everything was running smoothly in our little army. There was no friction and supplies were plentiful. Then came the necessity of expanding an army of 25,000 to 280,000. It was a mighty undertaking, and at this time of all others politics was allowed to creep in. When military education and experience were most needed was the time selected to pay party debts by the Alger and Hannas of politics. They did it, and could do it only through the co operation of the President. It is a most important fact in this connection to keep in mind that there was abundance of trained material, in educated and experienced officers, on duty as post commanders and regimental quartermasters. Were they taken? Not a bit of it. Politics crept in.

Out of 86 officers appointed to volunteer rank in the quartermaster's department 52 were from private life and only

34 from the army, and out of 87 officers appointed to volunteer rank in the commissary department only 19 were from the army and 68 were from civil life.

The quartermaster general and the commissary general are on record that most of these sons of somebodies or political workers for the Quays and Hannas of politics were an absolute hindrance rather than an aid. They did not know how to draw a requisition, and the time of experienced officers was taken up in instructing them.

Another point of importance is to be considered. In the navy retired officers were ordered on duty. In the army not a retired officer was called back to the service. The reason was that had these capable and experienced men been ordered on duty—the number of political appointments would have been decreased.

Without an Alger investigation the common sense of the country, on such facts as these, is placing the responsibility. It is going directly to headquarters—to the President.—Post.

### SENSATIONS ON THE BATTLEFIELDS.

Edward Marshall, the correspondent, who was wounded at Guasina, has written his "Recollections" for the September "Scribner" from which the following extracts are made:

"I saw many men shot. Every man went down in a lump, without cries, without jumping in the air, without throwing up hands. They just went down like clods in the grass. It seemed to me that the terrible thud with which they struck the earth was more penetrating than the sound of guns. Some were only wounded; some were dead."

"There is much that is awe-inspiring about the death of soldiers on the battlefield. Almost all of us have seen men and women die, but they have died in their carefully arranged beds with doctors daintily boarding the flickering spark, with loved ones clustered about. But death from disease is less awful than death from bullets. On the battlefield there are no delicate scientific problems of strange microbes to be solved. There is no petting, no coddling—nothing, nothing, nothing but death. The man lives, he is strong, he is vital, every muscle in him is at its fullest tension when, suddenly, 'chug!' he is dead. That 'chug' of the bullets striking flesh is nearly always plainly audible. But bullets which are billeted, so far as I know, do not sing on their way. They go silently, grimly to their mark, and the man is lacerated and torn or dead. I did not hear the bullet shriek that killed Hamilton Fish; I did not hear the bullet shriek which struck many others who were wounded while I was near them; I did not hear the bullet shriek which struck me.

"There is one incident of the day which shines out in my memory above all others now as I lie in a New York hospital writing. It occurred at the field hospital. About a dozen of us were lying there. A continual chorus of moans rose through the tree branches overhead. The surgeons, with hands and bared arms dripping and clothes literally saturated with blood, were straining every nerve to prepare the wounded for the journey back to Siboney. Behind me lay Captain McClintock with his lower leg bones literally ground to powder. He bore his pain as gallantly as he had led his men, and that is saying much. I think Major Brodie was also there. It was a doleful group. Amputation and death stared its members in their gloomy faces.

"Suddenly a voice started softly: 'My country 'tis of thee, Sweet land of liberty, Of the I sing.'

"Other voices took it up: 'Land where my fathers died, Land—of—the—Pilgrim's pride.'

"The quivering quivering chorus, punctuated by groans, and made spasmodic by pain, trembled up from that little group of wounded Americans in the midst of the Cuban solitude—the pluckiest, most heartfelt song that human being ever sang.

"There was one voice which did not quite keep up with the others. It was so weak that I did not hear it until all the rest had finished the line: 'Let freedom ring'

Then halting, struggling, faint, it repeated slowly: 'Let Freedom—'

"The last word was a woful cry. One more son had died as died the fathers."

### MISERABLE ASSAULTS.

Some of the most ridiculous rumors and silly stories have been put in print by republican papers in regard to Candidate Jenks recently.

All his political opponents can rake up against him is the tattle of irresponsible fellows like Howley, of Pittsburg, and his stories relate to what Colonel Guffey is reported to have said to somebody whose name is not given and who is supposed to have repeated what he is said to have heard in private. This is, indeed, an honorable and gentlemanly way of attacking a candidate who those who adopted it concede possesses the best qualities that grace a noble character. Such miserable assaults, even when made by the millionaire owners of Philadelphia newspapers, will, in the end, recoil upon those who stoop to make them.

No matter what they say Geo. A. Jenks' life is an open book—upright honorable, high ability and integrity beyond question. Just such a man political heifers fear in the gubernatorial chair.

### THE TYPOS' BANKER.

A GOOD-NATURED MAN ON WHOM THE PRINTERS IMPOSED.

Held Down Cases Until He Received a Legacy—The Uses He Made of Property—Best Shylock That Any Composing Room Ever Had—"Touched" in Novel Ways.

"I've never told you about Wallace Egbert, the printer millionaire, have I?" asked the gentleman from the south after his pipe was going. "Wallace was a good printer, but he fell heir to \$15,000. Had it willed to him all in a lump. He was holding a case on the Louisville Courier-Journal at the time, but of course, a printer with a bank account of \$15,000 couldn't work, so he put on a 'sub' for two years while he spent it. He went into the 'shylock' business for the boys. Loaned them small sums at low rates of interest. Suppose you should come to town broke and get put on the 'sub' list. I would say:

"'Brown, have you any money?' and when you would say 'No,' I would tell you, 'then we must go to Wallace. You would ask who Wallace was, and I would tell you he was our shylock and we would go out and hunt him up. When we met him I would say:

"'Col. Wallace, allow me to introduce you to my friend, Col. Brown.'

"'How do you do, Col. Brown. I am delighted to make your acquaintance.' Wallace would say: 'Do you expect to tarry with us?' You would tell him you did and he would say:

"'Very glad to hear it, Col. Brown very glad to hear it.' Then he would say: 'Col. Wallace, my friend here tells me that, as I am broke, perhaps I can negotiate a loan with you.'

"'Certainly, Col. Brown, certainly. How much shall it be?'

"'You will repay \$5, and he will pull the sum out of his pocket. Then if you give him half a dollar every Monday you can keep the principal as long as you like. He will never ask you for it.

"To show you how we would borrow money I will relate one little incident. Wallace went in away up society, and on a certain night was at the opera with a young lady from Cincinnati. And that very night another friend and I wanted some money! We wrote a letter to him asking for \$5 apiece and then began looking for someone to deliver it. In front of the theater we met one of the smoothest printers that ever lived. He was easy in his manner, grew a long, graceful beard and could talk as well as the best 'con' man in the world. We showed him the note, and said:

"'If you can get this to Wallace there is a dollar in it for you.'

"'O, yes, he could do that. 'But,' we told him, 'there is Speaker at the door, and you know no man ever got past him without the money or a pass.' 'Never mind that,' he replied. 'I can work it.' Well, we watched him through the door. Up he went to Speaker and we could see him stroking his whiskers and putting up his 'con' talk. And, after a few minutes, he passed into the theater. The rest was told us by Wallace next day.

"He went down the aisle to the very front row, where Wallace and the young lady were seated, and as luck would have it, there was a vacant seat next to them. He slipped into it, carefully put his hat on the rack under the seat, bowed to Wallace and extended his hand. He was such a fine-looking man there was nothing for Wallace to do but introduce him to the lady. This introduction was gracefully acknowledged with a compliment, and he sat there easily talking about the play and actors. But while engaging the attention of the young lady he leaned across Wallace and, as he did so, and while stroking his moustache, he whispered:

"'Five for Jack and five for Bill.' Then he went on talking. Wallace secretly felt in his pocket got two \$5 bills and slipped them into his hands. As soon as he got the money he started as if he suddenly remembered something and said:

"'Ah! I just remember something I had forgotten and must withdraw. I hope you will pardon me for this sudden departure and that you will continue to enjoy the play,' and with a bow he went out. Next day Wallace said he would kill us if we ever sent a man after him again.

"But when his money began to run short Wallace had to hide from us. He moved into a house once occupied by John D. Ward, and we couldn't find him for several weeks. And when we did we couldn't get near him. The girl was put up to lie and say he wasn't at home. But about this time he was having trouble to find a man to dig a field of potatoes for his aunt, and one of us took advantage of it. Nine of us were in the crowd and eight of us hid behind a tool house while the ninth went to the door. He had his coat over his arm and a spade in one hand and a hoe in the other. When the girl came to the door he didn't ask if Wallace was at home, but said:

"'I want to see Col. Wallace about diggin' them potatoes.'

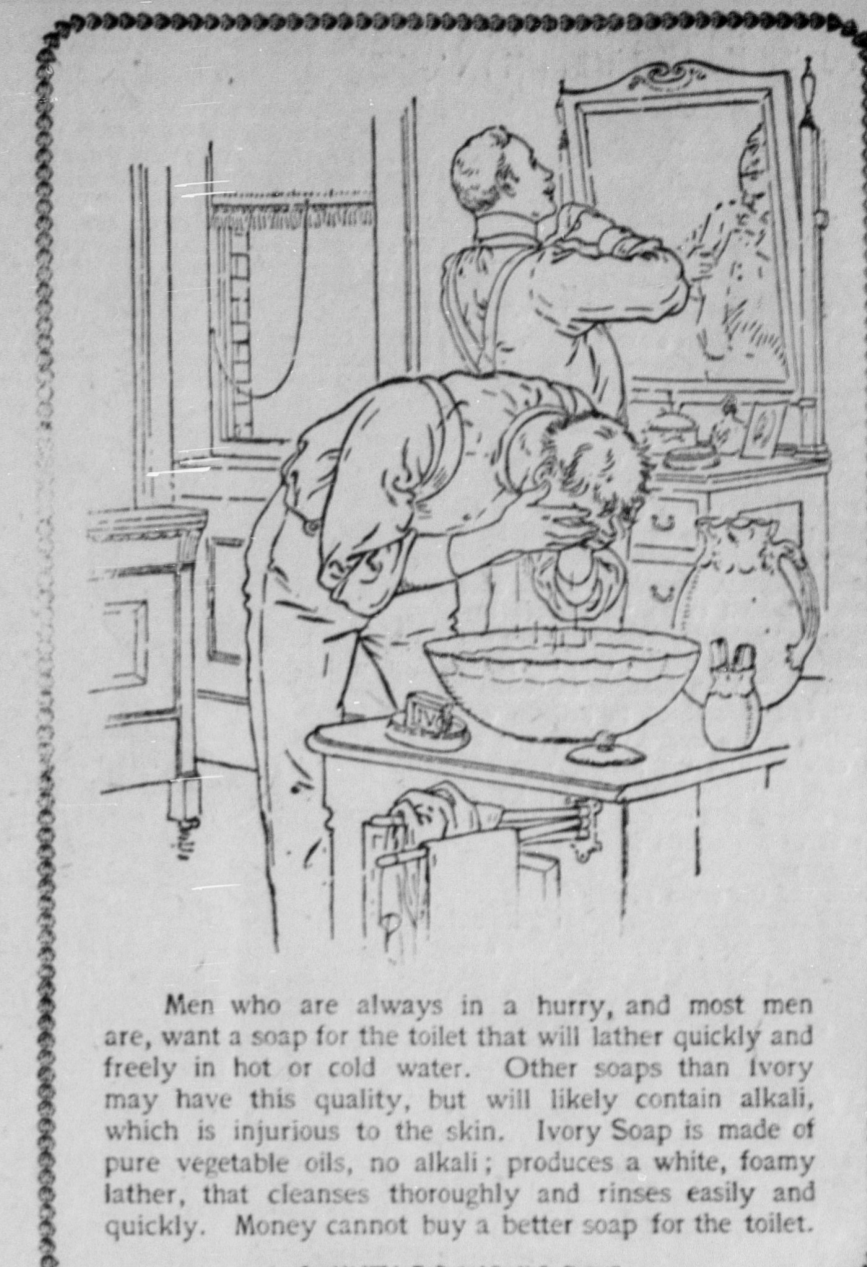
"The girl was all smiles, for she knew how much Wallace wanted 'them' potatoes dug, and she invited him in and called Wallace. He came downstairs, and, as he saw who it was, began to swear.

"'So you have dug me up at last, have you, and brought a spade and hoe to do it with?'

"'We all made a dash for the house, and it cost him just \$45 to get rid of us. 'Pay him back? Of course we did.'

### A Cheap Parliament.

The German Reichstag is said to be the cheapest of all the parliaments of Europe. Its total expenses for last year have been only \$170,000.



Men who are always in a hurry, and most men are, want a soap for the toilet that will lather quickly and freely in hot or cold water. Other soaps than Ivory may have this quality, but will likely contain alkali, which is injurious to the skin. Ivory Soap is made of pure vegetable oils, no alkali; produces a white, foamy lather, that cleanses thoroughly and rinses easily and quickly. Money cannot buy a better soap for the toilet.

**Sneezing Season Here.**  
When you see a man or woman for the next six weeks with watering eyes and an appearance that tells of physical torture you may rest assured that the pitiful creature is the victim of hay fever. The day for this most annoying of all human complaints dawned about August 20, and the malady will continue with more or less severity until about the 25th of September, when the first frost is due. In some cases the victim and sufferer is obliged to abandon his business. The fever is attended with incessant sneezing, the whole inside of the head constantly itching. There are a number of men, women and children in town who are victims of hay fever, most of whom keep on with their daily duties as if they were well.

**Wedding Months.**  
There is a popular idea that June is the favorite month for weddings, and that the young woman who loves romance and wishes fortune to smile upon her nuptials in every way must choose this of all months. Cold and unromantic fact, however, shows that the three most popular marriage months are October, November and December. Fifty years' records show this to be true, and also demonstrates the fact that the most unpopular months for marriage are January, February and March.—Philadelphia Times.

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