

# The Centre Democrat.

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## DEMOCRATIC STATE TICKET

### Closing Events of Last Week's State Convention

### GOOD MEN WERE NOMINATED

The Supreme Justice Comes From the Western Part of the State—Brief Sketch of the Different Nominees on Our State Ticket—Five Sessions Held.

The Democratic State convention closed with a rush last Thursday the 15th, after the nomination of a candidate for the Supreme bench. It required 23 ballots to reach this nomination, the plum finally falling into the lap of Judge S. L. Mestrezat of Fayette county, who was nominated from among nearly a dozen candidates for the place. It required two days to reach the Supreme Justice nomination, after which candidates for Superior Court and State Treasurer were quickly made. For Superior court Charles J. Reilly of Williamsport was named by acclamation amid the cheers of the delegates. For State treasurer William T. Creasy of Columbia county was named. It was a foregone conclusion that Mr. Creasy would be given this nomination. In many respects the convention was quite remarkable. It held five separate meetings during the two days that it was in session, and the contest for the Supreme bench nomination was perhaps as interesting a fight as was ever waged in a state convention here. As this nomination is equivalent to an election, the minority party being accorded representation in the court by the provisions of the new Constitution, the honor was worth fighting for, especially as the term of office is for a period of 21 years, at a salary of \$5,000 per annum.

**NOMINATION OF MESTREZAT.**  
The nomination of a candidate for the Supreme bench grew into a mighty interesting contest toward the close. Judge Ermentrout was among the leaders at all times and Judge Verkes was in the same position. Either one could have been nominated had they been able to make the supporters of Albright, Bechtel, Lynch and Smith realize that only by such a combination could the prize be won for an eastern man. After doing what they could for their geographical neighbor the Philadelphians gradually turned over into the Mestrezat camp, and when, on the twenty-eighth ballot, Chairman Donnelly swung his 65 votes over to the Fayette man, the end had come and there was a mighty scramble to get into the tent of the victor. York county, the last to vote, jumped into the Mestrezat camp and then the pent-up enthusiasm broke loose. Amid the din Congressman Ermentrout caught the eye of the presiding officer, and there were many expressions of regret over the realization that the gallant fight made by the men from old Berks had failed of success. Mr. Ermentrout thanked the convention for the support given his brother, Judge Ermentrout, withdrew the latter's name, and cast the 19 votes of Berks for Mestrezat. Colonel Spangler changed Centre county's five votes for Krebs. Ex-Congressman Kerr did the same with Clearfield's six, and Arthur G. Dewalt turned over the nine votes of Lehigh that had stuck to Judge Albright from the start. Then Judge Mestrezat's nomination was made by acclamation.

### SOMETHING ABOUT THE CANDIDATES.

**STEPHEN L. MESTREZAT**—The nominee for Supreme court justice, was born in Greene county, this state, on Feb. 19, 1848. He was graduated from Waynesburg college in 1869 and entered the law department of Washington and Lee University of Virginia, where he was graduated in 1871. The same year he was admitted to the bar of Greene county, and in December, 1872, was admitted to practice in Fayette county. In 1893 Mr. Mestrezat was elected judge of the then Green-Fayette district. In 1895 the legislature made a separate district of Greene county, leaving Fayette county as the Fourteenth Judicial district. This district has two law judges. In January, 1898, the term of Nathaniel Ewing, president judge of the district, expired, and Judge Mestrezat became president judge of the district, which position he now holds.

**CHARLES J. REILLY**—The nominee for Superior court judge, was born in Philadelphia in 1856. When 18 years of age his parents removed to Williamsport, where he attended school. In 1882 he entered the law offices of Candor & Munson, concluding his studies in the office of Judge John J. Metzger. He was admitted to the bar of Lycoming county in 1884. He was elected district attorney of Lycoming county in 1889 by the largest majority ever given a candidate up to that time. Mr. Reilly has been an active democrat since his majority, and served his party as county chairman

from 1884 to 1889. He was one of the electors on the democratic ticket in 1896. He has been admitted to the Circuit and District courts of the United States and the Supreme and Superior courts of Pennsylvania.

**WILLIAM TRENTON CREASY**—Of Columbia county, the nominee for State treasurer, was born in 1856, in Catawissa township on the farm he now occupies; was educated in the common schools, Catawissa academy, and graduated from the Bloomsburg State Normal school. He taught school at the age of 16 and followed it for nine terms. He is at present engaged in farming and fruit growing. He was mercantile appraiser in 1883, and is serving his fifth term as school director of his native township. He was a member of the House of Representatives, session of 1895, and was re-elected in 1896 and 1898. In the last two sessions of the legislature Mr. Creasy was the recognized leader of the democrats and the nominee of his party for speaker.

### A TERRIBLE DEATH.

Young Dorman's Head Cut Off on the L. & T. Railroad.

David Dorman, a boy aged about 14 years, son of Mr. Henry F. Dorman, residing a short distance west of Weikert station on the L. & T. R. R., was killed by the east bound passenger train on Wednesday evening of last week.

It is thought he was sitting on the track when the train struck him; but the engineer, Wm. Parks, we are informed, says he did not see him. His firemen, J. A. Winegarden, saw the boy just as the engine hit him. The car wheel passed over his head and neck, severing the head from the body, and slitting his left arm from the pit of the shoulder to the hand. His left leg was broken in several places. Immediately after the engineer discovered that his engine had struck the boy he halted the train. The remains were taken to Millinburg and placed in the care of undertakers.

### She Fired Pistol to Scare Him.

Officers Nitche and Brendel arrested Mrs. Mary Beck, who was going about the streets of Lock Haven, Saturday evening, with a pistol wrapped in a newspaper, after she had chased Robert Verney Watts, a mail agent, four squares and fired six shots at him.

Watts called frequently at her house to see her daughter Minnie, but she learned that he was a married man and notified him not to call again. Saturday Watts was passing her house, when Mrs. Beck sprang from the gate, pistol in hand, and fired at him at short range, but missed him.

Then began a race along the street, Watts gaining but little on his pursuer. She shot at him five times while she ran. Before District Attorney McCormick she declared that the cartridges she fired at Watts were blanks. She said she only shot at him to frighten him.

### Found After Many Years.

While working in his garden recently Henry Crouse, of Aaronsburg, struck with his hoe an article which, upon examination, proved to be a handsome, solid gold locket. Upon cleaning off the dirt it was bright and in good condition, excepting the wires in the hinges. It contains a photo of a man on one side and a woman on the other. The Millheim Journal says both faces are clear and distinct, but no one can remember any parties whom the pictures resemble. Both are dressed in neat but old-fashioned clothing and they are strange to the oldest citizens of Aaronsburg. How long the locket has been in the garden is a mystery. Mr. Crouse has been residing there for thirty years or more, and he thinks it must have been there before he took possession. It is a valuable as well as a most interesting find.

### A Snake Story from Tyrone.

A snake story from Tyrone says that Ira W. Cook, John Heverly and Isaac B. McNeal killed twenty-two snakes in the old Archey Dunlap stone quarry, at what is known as the Sidman place, on top of the Allegheny mountain on last Sunday afternoon. Of the twenty-two killed eighteen were copperheads. One was 20 inches long, one 21 inches, two 22 inches, three 23 inches, five 24 inches, one 25 inches, two 29 inches, one 31 inches, one 34 inches and one 38 inches, making a total 460 inches of copperheads. There were two vipers, one of which measured 30½ inches and the other 33 inches, making 63½ inches of vipers. One bark snake measured 15 inches and one garter snake measured 20 inches. In all there were 558½ inches, or 46 feet 6½ inches of snake.

### Elected Teachers.

The Centre Hall school board elected their teachers last week and fixed salaries as follows: Prof. Wagenseller, \$60; D. W. Geiss, F. A. Foreman at \$32; and Miss Anna Bartholomew, \$30.

## PLUNDERED BY THE TRUSTS

### Many Men Are Thrown Out and Prices Soar Higher.

### TESTIMONY OF A SALESMAN

Discharges Given Thousands of His Craft—Raises of From 5 to 100 Per Cent Have Been Made in the Commodities Manufactured by Combines.

Before the industrial commission at Washington, P. E. Dowe, of New York, president of the Commercial Travelers' National League, said the opinion of the commercial men at large was that the trusts were a menace. He estimated the traveling salesmen in the United States at 350,000. The formation of trusts was throwing a large number out of employment. In giving specific instances, he said:

"The National Enameling and Stamping Company has thrown a great many out of employment and those retained have had their salaries reduced. The great tobacco combines threw out about 3,000 salesmen; the Continental Tobacco Company telegraphed the discharge of 350 in one day; the baking powder trust has dispensed with all excepting half a dozen men; the bicycle trust will throw out 600 salesmen gradually; same rate of decrease in other lines.

Mr. Dowe said the trusts had raised the prices of the commodities they controlled from 5 to 100 per cent in almost every instance except coffee and sugar. In these they were still fighting for control of the field. The examples he gave were:

"Iron pipe, over 100 per cent; tinware and enameled ware, 33 per cent; brass goods, 60 per cent; chair trust, just formed, will advance prices 30 per cent; rubber overshoes, 14 per cent; American Tinplate Company advanced prices 30 per cent; newspaper ¼ to ½ cent a pound and a further advance in prospect; book papers, 5 and 10 per cent; an advance is expected in writing paper, in common soap, 25 cents to 50 cents a box; flint glass bottles will be advanced 10 per cent or more; jobbers and manufacturers of clocks have advanced the wholesale prices on account of the advance of metals 60 per cent; all metal goods have been advanced; brass pins, 25 per cent; pipes and brushes, 12½ per cent; combs, 7½ per cent; ribbons, 10 per cent; school furniture has gone up, as well as paper bags and wrapping paper. The umbrella trust failed four years ago, but it advanced prices while in existence.

This witness concluded by saying that before leaving New York he had been warned by a lawyer indirectly connected with some of the trusts that he was doing a dangerous thing in speaking before the commission, as he was liable "to be crushed like a caterpillar."

### THE MOTHER OF TRUSTS.

The political sensation of the last week was the testimony of President Havemeyer, of the great sugar trusts.

He is at the head of the greatest business and industrial combination, with the exception of the Standard, ever formed in the world—not in the United States alone, but in the world. He knows more about tariffs and trusts than any other living man. He has built up the greatest of trusts. Let us take his evidence of their close alliance. The remarkable disclosures he volunteers can be accounted for by the fact that he has more money than he wants and has independence and brains, and can afford to tell the truth, like Mr. Carnegie. Mr. Havemeyer started out by saying:

"The mother of all trusts is the customs tariff bill. The existing tariff law and the preceding one have been the occasion of the formation of all the large trusts with very few exceptions, inasmuch as they provide for an inordinate protection to all the interests of the country—sugar refining excepted."

"Economic advantages incident to the consolidation of large interests in the same line of business are a great incentive to their formation, but these bear a very insignificant proportion to the advantages granted in the way of protection under the customs tariff."

"There probably is not an industry that requires a protection of more than 10 per cent ad valorem, and it is to obtain what is provided over such percentage in the tariff that leads to the formation of what are commonly spoken of as 'trusts.'"

"Tariff for revenue need not be considered. The expenses of the Government must, of course, be provided for. Tariff for the purpose of equalizing against foreign bounties or foreign discrimination does not need to be justified. Beyond that there is no excuse for giving to one industry a protection of 100 per cent as against 4 per cent for another, or any more than 10 per cent.

"The result is that the Government fleeces the community at large in the interest of some favored industry.

"Tariff laws should not afford pro-

tection exceeding 10 per cent to any industry, so that irrespective of the form of doing business, individual or corporation, the people, that is, the consumer, would be protected. As the tariff laws are and have been it is the consumer, i. e., the great mass of the people, who has terribly suffered, to the great advantage of the few of the business community.

"The true 'communism of self' is the customs tariff bill. It says to the people: 'Here is the law we have enacted for your robbery. Do not complain of it, but do your utmost to attack and injure the machinery engaged in extracting from you what we legislate shall be taken from you. Keep up the clatter while the voters on the tariff bill take advantage of the noise to enact laws that cause your impoverishment, and thus contribute to the greed and avarice of the few.'"

"In fact, the tariff bill clutches the people by the throat, and then the governors and the attorneys general of the several States take action, not against the cause, but against the machinery which the people employ to rifle the public's pockets.

This is striking. The tariff is the cause. The trust is the effect. It is the business machinery the tariff sets a-going, promotes, maintains and protects.

If you would attack trusts successfully Mr. Havemeyer's argument is that the first assault must be made on the tariff, which fathers and mothers the trusts. The tariff is the fountain head from which they start. Any intelligent and capable manufacturer, or man of business affairs, can enumerate a dozen or more trusts that would go to pieces to-morrow were it not that they are held together by a tariff that shuts out foreign competition and invites and nourishes combinations to crush out competition at home.

Mr. Havemeyer summed up the facts and the arguments when he declared the Mother of All Trusts is the Trust and Monopoly Protective Tariff. He does not except his own all-powerful and oppressive Sugar Trust. When asked the direct question by Mr. Livingston, of the industrial commission, "Could you have built up your trust but for the protection afforded by the tariff?" he replied, "I could not." Mr. Havemeyer said: "It is the Government, through its tariff laws, which plunders the people, and the trusts are merely the machinery for doing it." The New York "Herald" corrects this, but leaves the sting more penetrating. It says: "The Government does nothing of the sort. When the trust, by legislative means that are but too familiar, has got its tariff fence to exclude competition it proceeds to plunder the people. Tariff legislation is the machinery; the trusts are not 'merely the machinery,' but the active plunderers." Still they owe their power to plunder to the tariff. John Sherman said the same thing when he favored cutting the tariff off trust products.

The tariff monopolists set up the plea that England, a free trade country, also has trusts. This is true only in a limited degree. The trusts in England have to face free outside competition, and therefore cannot fix prices as they please. Take two instances here: Remove the duty on tin plate or cut it to the revenue figure and the Tin Plate Trust would go by the boards. Cut off the duty on refined sugar and the Government would retain its revenues from raw sugar, but the Sugar Trust would be throttled. As it is the Government gets revenues from the duties on raw sugar and the trust pockets its millions from the duties on refined sugar. Not a penny does the Government get from refined sugar. The trust gets millions.

The Republican party must convince the people of its innocence of all responsibility for the growth and power of trusts while maintaining the righteousness of a protective tariff which is "The Mother of All Trusts."

### A Car Load of Deer.

A car load of deer passed through Sunbury the other day for Whetham, in this state. They were shipped by a Lock Haven gun club, of which George Good is president. The car load is from Kansas, and when they started numbered twenty-six. A strange thing about the shipment was that the number increased from twenty-six to thirty on the road, and the express company was cheated out of expressage for four, something that don't often happen.—Milton Standard.

### A Present for Judge Mayer.

At the Democratic state convention in Harrisburg the Lancaster delegation presented the chairman with a gavel made from an oak tree that grew on the "Wheat land" estate the home of President Buchanan. The same delegation also had a gavel the exact counterpart of the one presented to the chairman, made for Hon. C. A. Mayer, of Lock Haven, which was placed in the hands of the Clinton county delegations with instructions to present it on their behalf to Judge Mayer.

The citizens of Millheim are taking a day off, this Thursday, June 22nd, and will hold a basket picnic at Camp Thomas, Union county.

## NEWS ABOUT THE FURNACES

### Rapid Work Being Done on the C. R. of Pa. Bridge

### WILL BE IN BLAST JULY 15TH

The Furnace Will Be Put In Operation as Soon As Trains Can Be Run Over the Switch—Delay in Securing the Stone for Piers.

One of the busiest points about town is down at the C. R. of Pa. bridge across Spring Creek. During the past week some active work has been done. The masons have been delayed by the stone not arriving for one of the piers that support the long span across the Penna. railroad tracks. The iron girders and supporters are in place up to that point, and by the close of the week most of the bridge will be in place. The grading on the road bed is completed almost to the furnace, ready for laying the track. At the furnace the flues are being repaired and the machinery put in shape for immediate operation. Mr. Gephart promised to be making iron by July 4th, but the customary and unavoidable delay in such enterprises will make the time some later. It is an interesting sight to see the appliances and methods for handling and putting in place the heavy girders on the bridge. Thus far there have been no serious accidents.

The material for starting the furnace, the coke, coal and limestone will be shipped to the furnace as soon as the switch is completed. Some think that by July 15th the fires will be started.

The Empire Iron & Steel company's furnace is going right along putting out an excellent quality of iron, at every cast. The most encouraging feature is the fact that the price of iron is rapidly advancing and these establishments can be operated at a decided profit. The demand for iron is something unprecedented.

### A DEN OF SNAKES.

Monday Messrs Kline Woodring and Paul Sheffer had an interesting experience down in Curtin township that they will not soon forget. Mr. Woodring went down to locate the position for the abutments of a new iron bridge across Marsh Creek, two miles from Romola. They were accompanied by Henry Weaver, the supervisor of the township.

While they were walking about the place Shaffer stirred about the old abutments of the former bridge. Out came several copperhead snakes that were as lively as crickets, each one shedding its skin. After these were killed they forgot their work and began snake hunting and they were not disappointed either, for they stirred up a nest of rattlers next. In the same way each one shed its skin, actually crawled out of it in the attempt to get away. As a result of their hunt they killed eight large rattlesnakes and six copperheads, only one copperhead got away.

These snakes must have been in this nest or den over winter. The rattlers were sluggish, but the copperheads fought viciously jumping after the men, attempting to strike with their poisonous fangs. The boys say they had enough dead snakes to fill a half bushel measure.

### Eight Recruits.

During the past week Sergeant C. G. Rich of Harrisburg, who has had the recruiting office open in the Armory at this place, had quite a number of applications for enlistment. Of the lot only eight passed the examination, which is very rigid, and they are assigned as follows: Christopher C. Marks, of Port Matilda, and Joseph Beckley, of Yarnell, go to Cuba; Geo. C. Yarnell, of Yarnell, to Porto Rico; James Frank, of Milesburg, Samuel H. Switzer, of Coleville, Winfield M. Lose, Harry W. Martin and John Sourbeck, of this place, to Philippine Islands. The young men will likely leave on Friday for their different points. The recruiting office in Bellefonte will be kept open only until July 1st.

### Married.

Wm. H. Rumberger, manager of the DuBois Produce Co., and Miss Sana Dale, daughter of ex-Sheriff Dale formerly of Clearfield county, but now of Patton, were married at Erie, Tuesday 13th. Mr. Rumberger is a son of Register G. W. Rumberger, of Bellefonte.

### Dewey Independent.

Admiral Dewey has written to one of his friends that he will not accept the residence which was to be purchased by popular subscription and presented to him. He will request that the money be employed in establishing and maintaining a sailor's refuge.

The Logan Fire Company will go to Lock Haven on the 4th to help celebrate.

### FACT, FUN AND FANCY.

Bright, Sparkling Paragraphs—Selected and Original.

He's expecting no vacation  
In pleasant summer haunts,  
But his wife has gone away  
For a dozen weeks to stay,  
And he says, with jubilation,  
That is all the rest he wants.

### Some Old Buzz.

Now dot's the Presidential bee  
Improve each fleeting minute  
By seeking out each would-be's hat  
And laying eggs within it.  
And when the eggs begin to hatch,  
Each bee-let sings this sonnet:  
"Unhappy be the head that wears  
This Presidential bonnet."

Summer girl, with cheek of tan,  
Don't you wish you were a man?  
With your red lips, redder still,  
Kissed by Tom, or Jack, or Bill;  
With the sunshine on your face,  
And so me rogue in proper place;  
With the mischief in your eyes;  
With a love that's not too wise;  
With a chapman who's blind,  
Or who's always left behind;  
With the chances that you know;  
With such flowery ways to go;  
Direct him how and when to go;  
Don't you wish you were a boy?  
Blessings on you, Summer girl!  
Say, but you would have a whirl!  
Town Topics.

### A Prayer for Repentance.

God bless our wobbling president,  
Give him a new backbone,  
And grant him grace to have the nerve  
To say his soul's his own.  
Deliver him from Hanna, Platt  
And Alger's subtle power,  
We want no weakling at the helm  
In this precarious hour.  
Expert in ambidextrousness,  
He played fast and loose—  
A bird with eagle's piercing scream,  
But talons like a goose.  
Behold him blowing hot and cold,  
Assuming various grounds,  
And while he holdeth with the hare  
He runneth with the hounds.  
Nerve thou his feeble, faltering arm,  
Direct him how and when to go;  
And may the God of nations guide  
Our ship of state—Amen!

—Timothy Hay.

The only thing that gives weight to a fish story is the scales.

On shipboard, seasickness causes more uprisings than mutiny.

Girls shouldn't fret over their bathing suits; they are mere trifles.

A singer may have a fine range to his voice and still sing without fire.

Troubles and cyclones cause lots of worry, but they soon blow over.

Some girls make their gowns and the gowns of some girls snake them.

The train with a cargo of clocks needn't hurry; it has loads of time.

Some nurse girls seldom get a rest except when there's a kid napping.

When a man's business runs down the sheriff comes along and winds it up.

A jolly postman wouldn't object to being called a merry go round man.

Some men's incomes are limited only to the amount that they can borrow.

"I have a real taking way," said the pickpocket, "once I get my hand in."

People who are given to concealed fault-finding imagine it is intelligent criticism.

High collars are popular just now—that is, the kind that come on the beer glass.

When some girls have to wash dishes they would like to wipe them out of existence.

When we call a girl a "peach" we do not mean to imply that she has a heart of stone.

Little girls have to be introduced to each other; but all small boys are acquainted.

You'll usually find that there's nothing sharp about a dude, except the crease in his trousers.

Jeffries may challenge the earth, but he must acknowledge his inability to knock the spots off the sun.

There isn't much difference between an air brake and an heir broke—both things call a halt on fast traveling.

The overproduction of Cuban colonels is by no means strange. The same thing has happened in Georgia and Kentucky.

The Cincinnati man who was given 10 days for stealing an eight-day clock naturally feels that he got about two days the worst of it.

Farr Customer—"Are these eggs strictly fresh?" Grocer—"Yes, mum. The chickens that supply me with eggs don't lay anything but fresh ones."

These maxims are queer things. One man will tell you that silence is golden. Another informs us that money talks. Then a third comes along and says talk is cheap.

Love and marriage have no regard for the rules of arithmetic. First, one is won by one and then one and one are one. And then the divorce court makes two out of one.

On the morning of his famous battle Admiral Dewey stopped fighting to eat, but the indications are that when he returns to the United States he will have to fight to stop eating.

Abner—"This here paper mentions 'bout diplomatic relations with Spain bein' resumed. What air diplomatic relations, anyhow?" Josh—"Reckon they must be the kind that uses their vacation ter visit our farm."

It is the little words you speak, the little thoughts you think, the little things you do or leave undone, the little moments you waste or use wisely, the little temptations which you yield to or overcome—that are making or marring your future life.