

FOUR CENTS  
The Democrat will be at a special campaign for 15 cents until Jan 1st, 1900.

# The Centre Democrat.

FOR 15 CENTS  
The Centre Democrat will be sent at a special campaign rate, to any new address, for 15 cents until January 1st, 1900.

CHAS. R. KURTZ, Ed. and Prop.

BELLEFONTE, PA. THURSDAY, OCTOBER 19, 1899.

VOL. 21, NO. 41.

## FOR CREAMY AGAINST QUAY

Business Men's Republican League of Philadelphia

## STRONG APPEAL TO VOTERS

Why They Find it Necessary to Break Away From Party Lines—Machine Rule in Pennsylvania Must Cease—Why Creamy Should be Elected.

The following address to the voters of Pennsylvania has been sent out by the Philadelphia branch of the Business Men's Republican League of Pennsylvania:

"The unwavering effort of the Business Men's Republican League, since its organization in 1896, has been to improve the character of our state government by opposing within party lines the selection of improper candidates by the Republican party for state offices.

"It has never embarrassed its party by attempting to dictate nominees and has not urged the selection of particular individuals for office, but has restricted itself to suggesting types of men, always Republicans, fit to be standard bearers of their great party.

"The league has invariably, actively or by its silence, aided the election of Republican nominees, firmly believing that the rising sentiment against the abuses in the management of state affairs by the corrupt Quay machine would become strong enough within the party to overpower the machine, in spite of its high-handed methods and the frauds through which it has maintained control.

"Notwithstanding this machine's great power, the trend toward better government has given such promise of speedy triumph that, in a last desperate effort to avert its overthrow it has taken away from the Republican voters the only remaining means by which it was possible to remedy existing evils by action within the party. It has destroyed the power of the citizen's ballot at the primary elections by the adoption of Rule No. 7, which practically disfranchises anti-machine Republicans in congressional, senatorial and judicial districts.

"In the past this league has suffered unfit candidates to go unopposed for the sake of party regularity. But the time for such compliance is gone.

"A corrupt candidate for United States senator, after being repudiated by the chosen representatives of the people, is appointed by a servile governor in violation of the constitution and the party convention is packed to endorse this unconstitutional act.

"Candidates of conspicuous unfitness are thrust upon the ticket.

"Members of the legislature are offered bribes to vote for the notorious McCarrell jury bill in the interest of a criminally indicted senator.

"Members of the legislature are offered bribes to vote for the machine candidate for senator.

"The head of the machine is forced to the degrading necessity of pleading the statute of limitation to save himself from the penitentiary.

"In the interest of the tax escaping corporations, and the brewers, the appropriations for the public schools are cut down by unconstitutional acts.

"In the interest of the tax escaping corporations and brewers the state's insane wards and hospital patients are cruelly deprived of the money needed for their care.

"In the interest of the tax escaping corporations and the brewers, the tax-burdens of all unfavored citizens have been made heavier.

"In the interest of the tax escaping corporations and the brewers, the tax-burdens of all unfavored citizens have been made heavier.

"In the interest of the spoils-hunting machine, the cause of civil service reform, to which the Republican party is committed, is abandoned in the machine-made state platform of Pennsylvania.

"For the maintenance of a system of repeating at the polls, by which in the city of Philadelphia alone more than 50,000 fraudulent votes can be counted, constitutional amendments in the interest of an honest ballot are vetoed in defiance of the constitution.

"A state chairman is appointed who was dismissed from office for aiding in an attempted treasury loot, and who is notorious for complicity in the wrecking of a state financial institution—a man who has declared through resolutions prepared by himself and adopted by a county convention under his control, that those who oppose the machine and his shameful acts, are 'cowards and traitors.'

"For these and other crimes against the Republican party and the state, this league refuses to accept the ticket representing the Republican party.

"Therefore, The Business Men's Re-

publican league of Pennsylvania, while declaring anew its faith in the principles and policies of the Republican party, emphatically indorsing the wise and patriotic administration of President McKinley and unequivocally supporting his candidacy for re-election to the presidency of the United States, and supporting the candidacy of Hon. J. Hay Brown, Republican nominee for the supreme court of the state, who is believed to be an upright and able man, personally and professionally, does, in defense of Republican honor, appeal to the Republican voters of Pennsylvania to oppose the election of the unfit candidates put forward by this Quay machine. Their election, if accomplished, will be construed as an endorsement of the machine's pledge to aid to its utmost in an effort to elect M. S. Quay to the United States senate.

"And we further declare that the professional standing of Candidate Josiah R. Adams renders him unfit for any public office, especially for a judicial office where learning and integrity are essential qualifications.

"William T. Creamy, Democratic nominee for the treasurership, is known as an honest man, beyond the reach of the influences which must necessarily surround any machine chosen candidate. We commend his public record to the consideration of all Republicans.

"The time has passed when the defeat of unfit candidates for office can be construed as a defeat for the Republican party."

Business Men's Republican League of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia Branch.

WILLIAM T. TILDEN,  
Chairman Executive Committee.

## WHO IS RIGHT?

It's a frequent thing for persons to come to this office who have interviewed the Republican Commissioners, and all have reported the same reply from these gentlemen, to the effect that the assertions and statements made by the Centre Democrat, in reference to the management of that office, are not true. We have heard this from at least a dozen different persons who conversed with Messrs Riddle and Fisher. The Centre Democrat does not claim to be infallible, or incapable of error. Therefore, to either or both of these public officials, Matthew Riddle and Thos W. Fisher, we make the following reply: We most cordially invite you to come to our sanctum, or we will call upon you, at any convenient date you may name during the coming week, in your office, when and where we would be pleased to have you demonstrate, by any data you may possess, that this paper has in anyway misrepresented your careers as public officials. If what we have said in this direction is true, you certainly are not worthy of the office which you have filled the past three years, and to which you are again aspiring. If the statements made by us are incorrect, we pledge you to correct the same immediately through the columns of this paper, with the same prominence as the accusations were made. We desire that the exact truth be known to the voters of this county, and publicly make this proposition. If you continue these assertions, charging us with untruths, viz: "The Centre Democrat lies" often being the language, without presenting any proofs for same showing where we have erred, you can only be classed as a set of incompetent, unreliable officials and your course becomes nothing else than that of prevaricators. Be honorable, gentlemen.

## BULLET HIT HIS HAT.

An Unknown Hunter Deliberately Fires at John McGregor.

John McGregor, of Flemington, Clinton county, had a narrow escape the other day. He was going from his home to Karthaus, on the northern line of Centre county, and when passing through a dense part of the Alleghenies a stranger approached through the woods, who deliberately raised his gun to his shoulder and fired at McGregor, the ball fortunately just missing his head, though it passed through his hat and clipped a lock of hair from his scalp.

McGregor whipped up his horse and was soon out of danger. The stranger was accompanied by two large dogs, and had the appearance of a hunter. Constable Price, of Karthaus, is now on a lookout for the would-be murderer.

"Jolly Jake Herman is having a big time,"—Gazette.

## RIDDLE'S DEFENSE.

During the past two weeks the Centre Democrat gave its readers some information in regard to an overdrawn account of Commissioner Matthew F. Riddle. An examination of the Ledger and the Minute Book, made by the writer, indicated that he had overdrawn his account to the amount of \$309 on Aug. 14th, 1899, and on the 1st of October he still was overdrawn to the amount of \$205.50. The Minute Book contained entries of days engaged out of office—viewing bridges, delivering blanks, and such like. We have since been informed that some special time was not entered in the Minute Book as well as some expense account, which may make a slight reduction of the total, but in comparison is so small as to not materially change the amount.

While the public was startled at this disclosure, and some hesitated to accept it as final, none would pretend to deny the correctness of our statements, and many preferred to wait for the republican papers of the county and see if they could make a defense. Everybody seemed anxious to see what those papers would have last week in Mr. Riddle's behalf. There are many readers in this county who only saw the statement made by this paper, and we deem it only just and fair, to Commissioner Riddle that such should also read these replies. For that reason we devote considerable space of this issue in copying what the Bellefonte Republican and the Keystone Gazette had to say of Mr. Riddle's overdrawn account:

### Keystone Gazette says:

#### DISGRACEFUL ATTACK ON COMMISSIONER RIDDLE

#### YELLOW-BACKED JOURNALS RESORT TO SNEAK EVIDENCE

An Important Statement from Messrs. Thomas W. Fisher, Daniel Heckman and Their Clerk, Nelson Robb, which puts to Shame Mr. Riddle's Accusers.

On Saturday forenoon the editor of the GAZETTE went to the county commissioners' office to make inquiry about the alleged overdraw account of M. F. Riddle as commissioner of Centre county. We found clerk, Nelson Robb, and Thomas W. Fisher, and Daniel Heckman, commissioners, present, of whom we asked permission to see the minute book of the board for 1899, and were astonished to have them refuse us. But, upon being told that by a decision of Judge Gordon of Clearfield county, the minute book was the private property of the board until the end of the year, and that they could not allow us privileges which they would refuse to others, we gave them credit for their action.

"But," we asked "how did the editor of the Centre Democrat get hold of it?" "He and Mr. Dukeman, assistant recorder under J. C. Harper, came in during the absence of the board, and while Deputy Treasurer Orrin Kline and Thomas Donachy, the janitor, alone were in, who, thinking Mr. Dukeman was on official business, allowed him the freedom of the office."

"Will you, then, answer me a few questions?" we asked. "Yes," if they are not in violation to our rules."

"Then was the statement in the Centre Democrat as to Mr. Riddle's account correct?"

"No, sir."

"In what respect was it at fault?" "In that it did not allow him for a lot of extra work consisting of delivering election ballots, assessment books, tax duplicates, viewing bridges, etc., which had not been placed to his credit." (See note below.)

"Have any of you at any time refused to sign one another's vouchers for drawing your pay for services?"

"No, sir."

"That is all. Thank you."

We publish the above interview in full because it is all we know about the claim against Mr. Riddle. Whether Mr. Riddle had overdrawn his account we know not. If he did he simply did what Frank Adams, the Democratic commissioner, did before him. (See Mr. Adams' statement below in reply.)

and what many other public officers have done before them. It is what every business man has done with his bank account, or what every poor, but honest, man has been allowed to do with his employer. If he did overdraw his account, (which is a fact by no means established) there was no occasion for it, for the good reason that Matthew Riddle could have gotten ten times the amount he over-drew, the difference from half a dozen sources without note or guarantee—for though he is a poor man, no one has ever suspected that he is not an honest man and had these ghoulies, after violating the law by prying into the secret books, tax duplicates, viewing bridges, etc., which had not been placed to his credit, who, like midnight assassins, seek the destruction of the character of a man who has off times in the past ungenerously shown them a big heart by turning them kindly favors.

Do the people of Centre county mean to endorse such work? With such bounds on their track, will any clean man hereafter wish to run for office? Does it not appear to you that it is keeping with individuals who pride themselves on the fact that an exposition of the character of some of the candidates on their ticket would only elect them, as it has done before, because people could not be induced to believe half the iniquity they are guilty of.

That is what it has come to, and it is for the people to say whether the game of politics justifies any man or party to descend to the low level now occupied by the Democratic party in Centre county.

NOTE.—(The above interview is practically that of Nelson Robb, Com's Clerk, and he so stated to the writer. Mr. Robb in the above statement does not mean to imply that the Centre Democrat did not correctly report the contents of the Minute Book and Ledger. He said emphatically that he did not dispute the correctness of our figures taken from those sources, and meant that Mr. Riddle was entitled to some time for extra work that was not included in the Minute Book. Mr. Robb does not wish to have anybody misled by this interview, and very cheerfully made the above statement for publication.—ED. DEMOCRAT.)

Ex-Commissioner T. Frank Adams was seen in reference to the charge made by the Gazette, in the above article. Mr. Adams said: "I never drew a dollar from the county treasury, except what was due me. The Gazette's charge is absolutely false. This is the second assault made upon my character by this paper, and this time, will not seek vindication by a newspaper controversy."

### Bellefonte Republican says:

Mr. Riddle makes no denial of the circumstances published in the Centre Democrat and in the Watchman. IT WOULD BE ABSURD AS WELL AS USELESS FOR HIM TO DO SO IN THE FACE OF FACTS WHICH ARE IN BLACK AND WHITE IN THE COMMISSIONERS' LEDGER.

Though Mr. Riddle's action may be characterized by some as irregular and unwarranted, custom-long in vogue in public office—has made it permissible. His "overdrawn account" cannot be designated as an arrangement to defraud the county or a violation of trust. The fact that neither of his colleagues took advantage of the same official prerogative may, perhaps be ascribed to the reason that no contingency arose with them to require it. That Mr. Riddle's fellow-commissioners and his bondsmen cheerfully consented to the advance which the records of the office show him to have received is conclusive evidence that they, at least, did not deem the transaction irregular or a hazardous risk. Stern necessity forced the incident upon him and it is to be regretted rather than condemned. He could doubtless have received an accommodation at any one of our several banks or from some one of our moneyed citizens. Now that unexpected events have come to the front it is a misfortune that he did not do so rather than to have accepted the favor at the hands of his brother officials and his bondsmen. His error in judgment—which is pardonable since nine out of every ten men would have done as he did—has given to his political enemies the opportunity of making political capital of his financial necessities and if they can succeed in besmirching his character and dishonoring his integrity and thus secure his defeat at the approaching election they will have accomplished their purpose.

Perhaps it is well to recall at this time the senatorial contest waged in our senatorial district last fall when the political opponents of Senator Heinle sought to bring about his defeat by exposing to the public gaze his personal affairs and incidents of his private concerns. It is a matter of political history that this endeavor to injure and belittle him in the public mind had just the opposite effect and Mr. Heinle received sympathy and support where condemnation and opposition was expected. This style of political campaigning is the style that reacts. You cannot defeat a man by throwing mud at him. Mr. Riddle has done nothing to deserve the distrust or reproach of the citizens of Centre county whom he has faithfully and honestly served as one of their commissioners. His "overdrawn account" is merely an incident of the most unimportant nature. The county is amply protected from loss by his bondsmen who accepted from the beginning the responsibility of the negotiation, and they stand to-day as guarantors of the amount involved, in event of Mr. Riddle's inability to liquidate the account against him on the books of the county.

Mr. Riddle has yet seventy days remaining of his present term of office and in that period, it is reasonable to suppose, therefore safe to say, that his service to the county will more than cover the amount of his "overdrawn account." If after the expiration of his term of office he stands indebted to the county for any amount, large or small, then his honesty can be questioned, his character assailed.

This gives the reader Mr. Riddle's complete defense. From that each voter must draw his own conclusions. It is for him to decide as to whether such commissioners should continue to conduct the business of the county and handle the money he pays in the shape of taxes. If you approve of this kind of business you should vote for Riddle and Fisher for a second term. If you think a change should be made, it is your duty to vote for Meyer and Heckman. You pay the bills, in the form of taxes; and it certainly is your privilege to say by your vote who shall handle the same.

By all means go to the election and vote as your judgment indicates.

## SHARP REPLY TO M'KINLEY.

Expressed the Sentiments of King George.

## DIFFERENCE OF WORDING.

Principles of the Declaration of Independence Repudiated for the First Time by an American President—Era in History is Marked.

William Jennings Bryan at Chicago took issue with President McKinley's declaration, made at Minneapolis, that the United States ought to retain the Philippine islands. He charged the president with having repudiated the source of government as described in the Declaration of Independence. The president's recent speech at Minneapolis, Mr. Bryan said, marked an epoch in history. He characterizes it as the first address ever made by an American president that repudiated the people as the origin of government. Colonel Bryan dictated the following interview:

"President McKinley in his speech at Minneapolis stated that he believed the United States should permanently retain the Philippine islands, and in the course of that speech he repudiated the source of government as described in the Declaration of Independence. Near the close of this part of the address this sentence occurs: 'I feel assured that congress will provide for them (meaning the Philippine islands) a government which will bring them blessings which will promote their material interests as well as advance their people in the paths of civilization and intelligence.'

"If we change the word 'Congress' to 'parliament,' Mr. Bryan went on, 'and 'Philippines' to 'colonies,' the reconstructed sentence would exactly express the sentiments of King George in Revolutionary days. Again, if we substitute the word 'cortes' for 'Congress' and the word 'Cuba' for 'Philippines' that sentence would express the sentiment of the Spanish monarch when we interfered to put an end to centuries of oppression and tyranny.

"Every king, every emperor, every despot confidently believes that his government will provide for his subjects a government that will bring them blessings, promote their material interests and advance them in the paths of civilization and intelligence.

"Most of the kings, emperors and despots have asserted that they feel under divine obligation to provide for the blessings, etc., of their subjects. The Declaration of Independence, however, asserts that the people need not depend on the benevolence of a foreign king, emperor or despot, and it might have added congress or the president for the blessings of good government.

"Governments derive their just power from the consent of the governed, and from no other source. The president's speech marks an epoch in history. It is the first ever made by an American President that repudiates the people as the source of the government."

## DESPERATE PRISONERS.

C. Woodring and Harry McEwen, two prisoners, awaiting trial on charges of larceny in Clearfield jail by a daring piece of boldness made their escape from the Clearfield county jail Saturday evening.

Assistant Turnkey Fred Forcey had gone into the cell room with a basket of bread. Near the entrance stood Woodring and McEwen, who were given their portion. Forcey then proceeded to distribute bread among the other twenty prisoners. Miss Alice Shugarts, matron at the jail, came in after Forcey with other food for the men. Woodring asked her for some oil and as she turned to get it he dealt her a blow in the face, throwing her aside from the doorway. Woodring and McEwen then rushed out and fled down the front steps on to Second street.

Miss Shugarts recovered at once from Woodring's blow and ran to a drawer for a revolver. She then dashed to the street after the fleeing prisoners and shot at them four times, none of the shots taking effect. McEwen made his escape by crossing the river below town. Woodring ran to West Clearfield and took refuge in a building. He was discovered there and as his capture was about to be made he effected his escape by jumping from a second story window.

Allison Woodring, the young man recently arrested on the charge of stealing hides from the Phillipsburg Beef Co., and who has been in the Clearfield jail awaiting trial, is the Woodring who escaped from prison on Saturday evening.

FACT, FUN AND FANCY.  
Bright Sparkling Paragraphs—Selected and Original.

STOLEN.  
When I had and lass  
At school, one day  
I stole a kiss;  
'Twas just in play,  
But as we crossed  
O'er childhood's strand,  
One night at dusk  
I stole her hand.  
I felt so pleased  
At such a start,  
I promptly stole  
The maiden's heart.  
No wonder why,  
With stealth so strange,  
That when I sleep  
She steals my change.  
EDWIN M. ABBOTT.

A test case—sample beer.  
Blind people also get sea sick.  
Summer goes and autumn leaves.  
A boarding place—the railroad station.  
All a hen needs to set is to be egged on.

Its beats are counted—the heart of the city.

A flirt at 20 is apt to be an old maid at 30.

Afternoon would not be complete without its "t."

In the race of man, marriage is always a tie.

The latest thing out—the light before you go to bed.

The cobbler's first last lasts, but it is not his last last.

When a man's a bad penny, he is not fit to be a copper.

Some people are equally as disagreeable as the truth.

Ofttimes the married dentist has many little mouths to fill.

It is sometimes easier to check a dozen trunks than one grip.

If cold cream is good for a girl, vaseline is good for a chap.

When greatness is thrust at a man he never tries to dodge it.

A hole is the only thing a man can keep in an empty pocket.

When burglars break into a bank they go to work on the safe side.

A tight shoe is one thing that makes you acknowledge the corn.

One lie brings on another, but that is not saying that a lie is reliable.

The baker and the editor of a dull paper both need the staff of life.

The musical conductor need not get ahead of time in order to beat it.

A man's best friend and his next-door neighbor are seldom synonyms.

Woman is the only combination that can unlock the safe of bachelorhood.

The minister putting down his own carpet is doing the work of a layman.

A man finds himself in the hands of a hard creditor when he borrows trouble.

When men blinded by prejudice are just the wheel of fortune will be square.

The other half usually has to live on what the better-half knows how to cook.

When the expression wishes to propose, it is his business to express his love.

A man's reputation often depends upon the things that are not found out about him.

Even a sturdy man, like an eight-day clock, comes to the wind up in the long run.

A base ball "team" cannot afford to be too coltish or indulge in much horse-play.

At the seashore is the girl with witching ways what you would call a sand-witch?

Sometimes a man's life is broken after his demise and sometimes after his marriage.

A new broom may sweep clean; but it takes an old one to reach the dirt in the corners.

"I am well connected," said the pump. "Why shouldn't I have a handle to my name?"

Tunnels are largely responsible for the railroad business being run into the ground.

Rejected young men should remember that a flat refusal may prevent a heap of trouble.

Some times an employe who is taken on trial is let go because he proves too much of one.

Too often when a man's heart is in the right place there is something wrong with his head.

It's far easier to show another man his proper place in the world than it is to find your own.

Some men expect St. Peter will pass them into heaven on the strength of their wives' religion.

When a woman has the suspicion of a beard she thinks nature is inclined to be down upon her.

"Well, I'll be hanged!" said the new Door. "Yes," answered the Knob, "wouldn't it jar you!"

You've made your bed and you must lie in it" doesn't always apply to the chambermaid or the gardener.

The man who knows the world will never be bashful, and the man who knows himself will never be impudent.

Some men are so fond of an argument that they will dispute with a guide board about the distance to the next town.