

The Centre Democrat.

CHAS. R. KURTZ, - - EDITOR & PROP

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DEM. COUNTY COMMITTEE, 1900.

Table listing names and positions for the Democratic County Committee, 1900, including J. K. Johnston as Chairman and various district representatives.

EDITORIAL.

PROVIDENCE RESPONSIBLE.

Providence can be held responsible for anything if you only have enough brass and ingenuity, as is shown by the following delightful poem by Howard S. Taylor:

A CASE OF PROVIDENCE. Oh, squire Lawd, don't be so quick! I claim my rights, I've wakened to klick! I tell you plain right to yo' face Dis ain't no common chicken case; Jes' stop an use yo' common sense, Dis is er case ob Providence!

The meanest thing the imperialists have done is their labored effort to make Providence responsible for their mania for grabbing other people's lands. These American imperialists cut a sorry figure when placed along side of that mighty imperialist Frederick the Great.

CAMPAIGN RESOURCES.

The Hanna-Payne ship-subsidy bill provides for a bounty of \$180,000,000 of the people's money to be given to this proposed government-fed monopoly.

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talism, but not in favor of unlimited coinage.

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Some claimed to be in favor of bimetalism, but not in favor of independent action.

After the advocates of bimetalism had been deceived again and again by pretended friends of the double standard they found it necessary to support an honest, explicit platform, and this they did when six million and a half of voters united in supporting the demand for the free and unlimited coinage at the ratio of 16 to 1 without waiting for the aid or consent of any other nation.

This platform said what it meant and meant what it said.

When a man runs for office on such a platform that people know where to find him, there are no mental reservations to deceive his constituents. Bimetalism must be restored by those who believe in it, and it must be restored at a fixed ratio. The ratio of 16 to 1 has the almost unanimous support of those who believe in independent bimetalism.

Money Trust Behind Industrial Trust.

There is no party, there is no group of men, working earnestly and diligently for the restoration of bimetalism at any other ratio. If the opponents of industrial trusts think that such trusts can be destroyed by making peace with the money trust, they deceive themselves.

During Mr. Cleveland's administration the gold Democrats were in control, but the trusts were not interfered with. Under the present Administration the gold Republicans are in control, but the trusts are not interfered with.

The trusts can only be destroyed by those who oppose the principle of monopoly wherever applied.

Mr. Charles R. Flint made a speech in Boston last May in defense of the trust system. I read a report of the speech in the paper next day, and was not surprised to learn that he had "an exceedingly sympathetic audience" when I saw in the same report that his audience was composed almost exclusively of Boston bankers.

The Times-Herald quoted Mr. Mitchell's declaration with approval, and added: "When the people come to understand that there are good and bad trusts, just as there are honorable merchants and shysters, then the shirk of the anti-trust demagogue will be turned against some other natural development of the times, which he has not the brains or the desire to comprehend."

Thus it will be seen that the advocates of the gold standard use the same epithets against the opponent of trusts that they used against the opponents of the gold standard. If a man opposed the gold standard in 1896 he was a demagogue; so, it seems, is the man who opposes trusts now.

It is suggested that some gold Democrats will return to the party if the party will give up silver and fight imperialism. Who are the supporters of imperialism? The same people, as a rule, who supported the gold standard, national bank currency and industrial monopoly.

The Republican party opposes the income tax because it is not willing to make the rich bear their share of the expenses of government. It favors the gold standard because it gives to the financiers an advantage over wealth producers. It favors national bank currency because it gives to national banks a valuable privilege denied to the rest of the people.

The position of the Democratic party on the money question will not prevent the return of gold Democrats who oppose imperialism, nor will it deter Republican opponents of imperialism from acting with the Democratic party in this election.

Those who see in the Democratic party the means of saving the republic from

the dangers of an imperialistic policy will have more confidence in the party because of its honest and courageous adherence to bimetalism than they would have if the party was willing to drop any principles or policy in the hope of securing votes.

The gold Democrats did not require the Republican party to drop protection in 1896. They did not require the Republican speakers to avoid the tariff question. They acted with the Republican party because they wanted to "help the Republicans defeat free coinage."

The advocates of independent bimetalism believe that the opening of the mints to the free and unlimited coinage of gold and silver at the present ratio of sixteen to one will restore the parity between gold and silver, increase the volume of standard money and bring the nations of the earth back to the double standard.

If our faith is confirmed by experience the objections to bimetalism will disappear; if our faith is not vindicated by results, the people will have a chance to apply a remedy in 1904. But if we enter upon a career of imperialism and substitute might for right, force for reason, and the uncertainty of conquest for the certainty of peaceful progress, it will be more difficult for the nation to retrace its steps.

The concessions must be made by the minority, not by the majority. Those who are responsible for the Administration which has involved us in the calamities of European colonial policy will not attempt to write the platform of the Democratic party. They will be content to act with the Democratic party this year, reserving the right to act as they please in future contests.

WHY WE ARE TAXED.

If it is true as Secretary Gage says that "the revenues are now largely exceeding disbursements from month to month, and seem likely to do so for some time," why does not the government reduce its revenues by repealing the Spanish war tax and by removing some of the other burdensome taxes which bear so heavily upon our people?

SETTLING DOWN.

While the situation in Kentucky is not entirely free from danger, yet the level-headed people appear to have command of the situation, and it now looks as though the political difficulties which have excited and divided the people, will be settled in a peaceable way by arbitration.

REPRESENTATIVE J. K. Hall, of Elk county, has been unanimously elected by his democratic colleagues from the state as the Pennsylvania member of the Democratic congressional campaign committee.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

A Chinese woman has applied for a divorce in Oregon.

A German Methodist church building in Milwaukee has been converted into a beer garden.

A Boston man who refused to pay a fine of five dollars for spitting in a street car went to jail for 30 days.

Funny names are borne by the two hotels in Sharpsburg, Ky. One is the Warehouse and the other is the Wood house.

The railroads in the United States give employment to about 800,000 persons. Nearly 40,000 of these are locomotive engineers.

Four new teeth lately appeared in the gums of Mrs. Julia Spence, of Claiborne county, Tenn. For six years previous she had been without teeth. Her age is 63.

Four cities in the United States have each an average of over 100 square miles. Greater New York, 295 square miles; New Orleans, 196 1/2; Chicago, 189; Philadelphia, 129.

In Portugal, when a child of poor parents dies, the mother converts a plain box into a coffin with a glass top. At the funeral she conveys the coffin to the cemetery, carrying it on her head.

A Chicago candy owns a ranch in Texas which contains 5000 square miles. Its herds of cattle aggregate 120,000 head, besides 1,500 horses, and the calf crop branded in 1897 exceeded \$1,000.

FOR MEMORIAL EXERCISES TO BE HELD FEB. 22.

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words are worth remembering. As making another very fit and appropriate declamation we give in full the latter part of the speech:

PRESENTATION OF FLAGS TO PENNSYLVANIA RESERVE.

"How is it," exclaimed the Governor, "that we Pennsylvanians are interrupted in our progress and development? How is it that our workshops are closed, and that our mechanical and agricultural pursuits do not secure their merited reward? It is because folly, fanaticism, rebellion, murder, piracy and treason pervade a portion of this land, and we are here today to vindicate the right, to sustain the government, to defend the constitution, and to shed the blood of Pennsylvania, if need be, to produce this result. It will do no harm to repeat here, in the presence of so many Pennsylvanians in arms, the words of our fathers, the principles of human liberty were first promulgated to the world, and there also, the convention met that framed the constitution, and Pennsylvania, loyal in the revolution, now stands solidly and defiantly to arrest the treason and rebellion that would tear into pieces the sacred instrument of our glorious Union of states. Should the wrong prevail, should treason and rebellion succeed, we have no government. Progress is stopped, civilization stands still, and Christianity in the world for the time, must cease—cease forever. Liberty, civilization and Christianity hang upon the result of this great contest. God is for the truth and the right. Stand by your colors, my friends, this day delivered to you, and the right will prevail. I present to you, today, as the representative of the people of Pennsylvania, these beautiful colors. I place in your hands the honor of your state. Thousands of your fellow citizens at home look to you to vindicate the honor of your great state. If you fail, hearts and homes will be made desolate. If you succeed, thousands of Pennsylvanians will rejoice over your success, and on your return you will be hailed as heroes who have gone forth to battle for the right. They follow you with their prayers; they look to you to vindicate a great government, to sustain legitimate power and to crush out rebellion. Thousands of your friends in Pennsylvania know of the presentation of these flags today, and I am sure that I am authorized to say that their blessing is upon you. May the God of battles, in His wisdom protect your lives, and may right, truth and justice prevail!"

The next great work of Governor Curtin was the conception and organization of the soldiers' orphan schools.

On his way to church on Thanksgiving day in 1863 he was confronted by two ragged little ones and asked for alms. In a childish way they told him that their father had been killed on the battlefield, of their mother's broken health and her inability to provide for them the necessities of life.

In that hour he resolved that as God lived, Pennsylvania should make the children of the men who had fallen, or died, or became disabled in the service of their country to be educated clothed and fed. In his purpose he met with opposition from the people, from the legislature, and at times, from the mothers of the children. The Governor did not waver, but insisted that in some way these children should be removed from the environments tending to seal them as paupers, and raised to that higher scale which should recognize them as wards of the state, entitled to its care and protection, not in payment, but in recognition of the great and loyal sacrifices of their fathers.

Governor Curtin's loyalty to the Union was unbounded and he was grandly supported by the people of the state. As the best evidence of this we quote from his message to the legislature in 1864. It will make declamation No. 3.

FROM ANNUAL MESSAGE 1864.

"It would be unjust to omit referring again to the loyal spirit of our people, which has been evinced in every mode since this war commenced. Not only have they sent 27,409 men for the general and special service of the government, and supported with cheerfulness the burdens of taxation, but our storehouses and depots have literally overflowed with comforts and necessities, spontaneously contributed by them, under the care of thousands of our women (faithful to death) for the sick and wounded and prisoners, as well as for our armies in the field. Their patriotic benevolence seems to be inexhaustible. To every new call the response becomes more and more liberal. When the intelligence was received of the barbarian starvation of our prisoners at Richmond, the garners of our whole state were instantly thrown open, and before any similar movement had been made elsewhere, I was already employed on behalf of our people in efforts to secure the admission through the rebel lines of the abundant supplies provided for the relief of our suffering brethren. Those of our citizens who have fallen into the habit of disparaging our great Commonwealth, and the unsurpassed efforts of her people, should blush when they look at this picture."

"That this unnatural rebellion may be speedily and effectually crushed, we lie—all under the obligation of the one paramount duty—that of vigorously supporting our government in its measures to that end. To the full extent of my official and individual ability it shall be supported, and I rely heartily on your co-operation. I am ready for all proper measures to strengthen its arm—to encourage its upholders—to stimulate by public liberality, to themselves and their families, the men who give it their personal service—in every mode to invigorate its action. We are fighting the great battle of good-of truth-of right-of liberty. The Almighty has no attribute that can favor our savage and degenerate enemies. No people can submit to territorial dismemberment without becoming contemptible in its own eyes and in those of the world. But it is not only against territorial dismemberment that we are struggling, but against the destruction of its very groundwork of our whole political system. The ultimate question truly at issue is the possibility of the permanent existence of a powerful republic. That is the question to be now solved, and by the blessing of God, we mean



The sea-shore is not the only place where the children's clothes wear out with no apparent reason. When they come from the wash with the colors faded and streaked and worn spots showing where there should be no wear, then something is being used besides Ivory Soap. You can save trouble and expense by using it and nothing else. The lengthened life of one garment will more than pay for the soap.

IVORY SOAP—99% PER CENT. PURE.

that it shall not be our fault, if it be not solved favorably.

"We have during the past year, made mighty strides toward such a solution, and to all human appearance we approach its completion. But whatever reverses may happen—whatever blood and treasure may still be required—whatever sacrifices may be necessary—there will remain the inexorable determination of our people to fight out this thing to the end—to preserve and perpetuate this Union. They have sworn that not one star shall be retched from the constellation, nor its clustered brightness dimmed by treason and savagery, and they will keep their oath."

One other event which shows Governor Curtin's devotion to the Union and the preservation of our government, and which had its origin entirely with him was the "Altoona Conference." This was a meeting of most of the governors of the loyal states, and was held in the City of Altoona, this State, on the 23rd and 24th days of September, 1862. Our armies had been driven from the James, into the fortifications about Washington. The only ray of light we had along the Potomac was McClellan's victory at Antietam. Foreign powers were threatening intervention between us and the rebels, when this conference met. This conference pledged to the "President of the United States, the most loyal and cordial support, in the exercise of the functions of his office," and next to the Emancipation Proclamation was the most important civil event of the war. "It taught the South that it must deal with a united North, it gave new strength and hope to our brave soldiers in the field that the cause of the Union would succeed. It was a noble and inestimable service, apt to be overlooked in the rush and roar of noisier events. And as Pennsylvanians we proudly and reverently owe it to the magnanimous, high-minded and undaunted Curtin."

In 1869, soon after Gen. Grant became President, Governor Curtin was appointed minister to Russia, which office he soon after assumed and filled with great satisfaction to his own and the imperial government of Russia. On his return from Russia he was elected as one of the delegates-at-large from this state to the convention which framed the constitution under which we now live. In this convention he was a great power and the knowledge and experience gained while governor of State made him one of the most able and useful delegates in a convention of very able and brilliant men.

After this he remained in private life until 1880 when he was elected a representative in Congress from this district and was reelected in 1882 and 1884. His public career closed with the session of Congress which adjourned March 4, 1886. In Congress he was the great advocate and friend of the soldiers and the laborers. Soldiers from every state in the Union called upon him to aid in saving their pension claims adjusted, and no appeal was left unanswered. As a member of Congress he did much to restore friendly relations between the sections of the country so long torn by war and overrun by the carpetbagger and the political tramp.

The few years of life remaining to him after his retirement from congress were spent in his home in the substantial little town which rests on the hills among the mountains. There the beautiful traits and the beneficent character of his life shone with great lustre in the circle of his family and friends and neighbors, until at five o'clock on the morning of October the 7th, 1894 he passed into the great beyond.

(The above biography was prepared for the benefit of the teachers and pupils, by D. F. Portney, Esq.)

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