

# The Centre Democrat.

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Vol. 26. No. 37.

## "ARE YOU READY FOR A CHANGE?"

An Emphatic Answer Will Come From the People

### JUDGE LOVE'S SHORTCOMINGS

A Few Reasons Why a Change in the Centre County Courts is Deemed Advisable--Politicians on the Bench are out of Place

The Philadelphia Record contains the following comment that is singularly appropriate to Centre county, all that would be necessary is a change of names:

"The people of the Adams-Fulton Judicial district appear to have become tired of their accidental and experimental venture in taking an active political hostler and making him a Common Pleas Judge. Sometimes it happens that a bristling and pushing attorney, suddenly thrust upon the Bench, is so sobered and chastened by the grave responsibility of his position as to justify his election or appointment. This does not appear to have been the result in the case of Judge Samuel McCurdy Swope. He took his politics and personal preferences along with him ten years ago when he was made a make-shift nominee by his party and was unexpectedly elected in a district politically opposed to him. He has not since been able to divest himself of his partisanship, nor to so acquit himself professionally as to deserve re-election. The Bench is no place for a rank partisan, even if he is a fine fellow."—Record.

This is the exact situation in Centre county. For ten years we have had a politician on the Bench, in John G. Love. Not only that, his "favorites" prospered by his help, while his dislikes and personal spites were always in evidence—so noticeable as to be the open criticism of the attorneys at this bar, and the general comment of our community.

There always were two or three attorneys who posed as "court favorites," persons who seemed to have a "pull," around whom all the questionable liquor license applicants invariably hovered; while others with important litigation in the Centre county courts invariably would retain the "court favorites" to have the benefit of the supposed "pull."

These things are not written in haste or upon imagination. In more than one instance has Judge Love given persons whom he disliked, or political enemies, unfavorable rulings and such parties were compelled at enormous expense to carry their claims to the Supreme Court, and there he was reversed and rebuked in the most scathing terms. The recent case of Confer vs. the Penna. R. R. from Howard, (in which Burdine Butler was the real prosecutor) is a striking instance of Judge Love's course. So manifestly unfair was his course towards Confer, and evident his purpose to serve a great railroad corporation from whom he receives a pass, that many of the members of that jury to this day are disgusted with the manner of the court in that trial. It was the comment of the Bar that Love, in his eagerness to serve the railroad company, made his hand too evident. Nevertheless Confer, who is a poor man, had to spend over \$500 to carry an appeal to the Supreme Court and there was fairly heard and a sweeping reversal followed. Confer, who is poor and crippled, had loyal friends who unexpectedly came to his assistance.

About the same thing happened when the Jackson, Hastings & Co. Bank cases came before this court. Gen. Hastings, the chief litigant and Love's political enemy, got about the same ruling; and a higher court was invoked, and Judge Love was reversed.

There are many other instances that can be cited if necessary.

It is beyond all human capacity for a man—the head of a political faction, engaged in all the scrambles for office in the county, the dictator of nearly all the nominations and party tickets, the headquarters for doling out country post-offices and federal appointments, the instigator of intense political strife in his own party as he did when one of our honored citizens, Gov. D. H. Hastings, occupied the highest executive chair in our great State—we insist that it is beyond all human capacity for such a man, continually engaged in such unbecoming pursuits, to divest himself of all prejudice when he presides over our courts.

It is all wrong; has been so for years, and plainly evident to all who have observed in the least.

It is time for Judge Love to get off the Bench. He has demonstrated that his disposition, strong likes and dislikes, intense partisanship utterly unfit him for such a position.

If you think we have spoken harshly or from mere imagination, we beg to call attention to an editorial in the Philadelphia Press, which is edited by Charles Emory Smith, ex-postmaster General of the U. S. and a former minister to Rus-

sia. The Philadelphia Press is known as the leading republican paper in Pennsylvania. Note carefully what it has said of Judge John G. Love:

(From issue in July 1899.)

"JUDGE LOVE'S GREAT MISTAKE."

"The information is that Judge Love, who presides over the courts of Centre county, is showing what little appreciation he has of the delicate responsibilities of the judicial position by traveling over the county in the interest of Quay candidates for delegate, and doing it as a common township or ward politician."

"If Judge Love wants to engage in such business either for machine delegates or anti-machine delegates he should resign his place on the bench and give the people of Centre county a chance to elect some one who will not drag the judicial office in the mire of either partisan or factional politics. We have been reluctant to believe that Judge Love would be willing to discredit himself and dishonor the bench by engaging in a political buttonholing canvass, BUT THE EVIDENCE THAT HE IS DOING SO IS TOO CONCLUSIVE TO LONGER DOUBT IT. Any Judge on the Philadelphia bench who would do what Love is engaged in would be driven from his position by the righteous indignation of the people. No

such Judge would be trusted with the administration of justice. The people do not want the corruption of politics to taint the courts and destroy their usefulness."

"The judge who goes into petty politics as an active participant, seeking the help of voters here and there in his district, barters away his judicial as he does his personal independence. He loads himself with obligations to individuals in the future discharge of which many litigants must suffer. The Court becomes a tribunal for the dispensation of favoritism instead of justice. The Judge who involves himself in an acrimonious partisan controversy, whether it be for the usual gold brick or a reward in hand, necessarily feels in his official action the influence of the contest. It is a shameless and dishonorable use of the judicial office which no district in the State can afford to tolerate unless it is desired that the courts shall be degraded and made useless to the common people."

Judge Love not only wrongs himself by his methods but he wrongs all the people of the district upon whose bench he sits. We cannot believe the Republican voters in a single county in the State will permit anything of that kind without expressing their condemnation of it in the most emphatic way. Judge Love should be taught that a Judge must not dishonor his position."

For Eight Days a Milroy Business Man Wandered Subsisting on Apples.

James B. McManigle, the Milroy business man who wandered away on Sunday afternoon, August 28, while laboring under the hallucination that he was State Forestry Commissioner, has been found. For eight days he wandered about on the Seven Mountains in Mifflin and Centre Counties, subsisting entirely on apples. The spot where he was found is many miles from any habitation or traveled road.

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## SUDDEN DEATH OF SENATOR PATTON

Occurred at His Home on Last Monday Morning

### A PROMINENT BUSINESS MAN

Was Largely Interested in the Development of Clearfield County--Was Senator from this District, Prominently Mentioned for Governor

State Senator Alexander Ennis Patton, of Curwensville, representing the district composed of Clearfield, Centre and Clinton county, died at his home, at Curwensville, at 4 o'clock Monday morning. His death, quite unexpected, was due to heart failure.

He was taken ill last Saturday evening while he and Mrs. Patton were spending the evening socially at the residence of Roland D. Swope, counsel for Senator Patton in many of his vast business

in the Beech Creek Coal & Coke Company and also a director in the Clearfield & Mahoning Railroad Company.

He was a man of considerable wealth and did much in various enterprises to develop the resources of Clearfield county. He and James Kerr were closely associated in many of these enterprises. Recently his name was prominently mentioned as a possible nominee for Governor on the republican ticket of this State.

Mr. Patton and wife were in Bellefonte on Wednesday afternoon of last week to attend the funeral of Col. W. F. Reeder, and he then seemed to be in good health.

Senator Patton's sudden death adds another prominent man to the recent deaths in this part of the state. Mr. Patton was well known to our readers and had been identified with business interests and family relationships in our county. Col. John Patton, an ancestor, was born in Sligo, Ireland, in 1745, emigrated to Philadelphia, entered the Revolutionary war as Major of Col. Samuel Miles' battalion March 13, 1776. After the war he removed to Centre county, and built Centre Furnace. He died in 1804. John Patton, Jr., laid out Pattonville in 1815, (now Pinegrove Mills,) and in 1825 moved to Milesburg, and from thence to Clearfield county. He was the father of Gen. John Patton of Curwensville, and the grandfather of the late Senator Patton, who died on Monday morning last at Curwensville.

### FOSTER THE CHAIRMAN.

The Republican County Committee and the executive committee met in this place on Monday forenoon for the purpose of electing a County Chairman to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Col. W. F. Reeder. There was a large number aspiring for the honor, but all had to stand aside in deference to the wishes of the Court. In our last issue we intimated that Judge Love wanted the appointment of Phil D. Foster, the present County Treasurer, and he got it.

When the committee met there were forty-six present with a noticeable difference, not all satisfied with the decree of the Court for Foster. There were many who urged the selection of Hard P. Harris, or some one who represented Col. Reeder more closely and would be in harmony with his friends. Andrew Lytle, of State College, named Foster, and Frank McFarlane, of Harris, (who is a brother-in-law of the late D. H. Hastings) presented the name of Hard P. Harris. A secret ballot was taken resulting in Foster receiving 36 and Harris 10. And Judge Love's wish was gratified.

Harry Keller then reported resolutions upon the recent death of Col. Reeder after which Judge Love addressed the gathering.

### WILL HE RESIGN.

If we understand the statements of some who were present, the Judge made a complaint to the committee for the lack of support he had received thus far, and that in effect he did not propose to do any more legging around soliciting support. If they wanted him elected, it was their duty to indicate it. That owing to the loss of many leading practitioners at this bar it would be more profitable now to step down from the Bench and become an active attorney. We think there is much truth in all that the Judge is reported to have said, and that such a step would not only be advantageous to him, but decidedly acceptable to the people and all concerned. It was a timely speech.

In many ways we can commend Judge Love. He is an able attorney, a congenial, royal good fellow; a man of strong temperament which unfortunately has been his weakness and in so many instances has marred his judicial career.

Truly, if the people of this county, at this time, should summon another to occupy the judicial chair, it would restore Judge Love to a sphere of usefulness where he would win success.

### CONGRESSIONAL CONFERENCE.

Col. J. L. Spangler, Hugh S. Taylor, Ellis L. Orvis and N. B. Spangler left on the noon train Tuesday for DuBois to attend the congressional conference of this district on Wednesday. The Centre county conferees are: N. B. Spangler, Esq., of Bellefonte; W. G. Morrison, Roland, and Edward Jones, Philipsburg, and were instructed to support Geo. Dimeling, of Clearfield, who may not want the nomination. It was intimated some time ago that, in fear of Dresser's boodle, no prominent democrat in the district could be induced to take the nomination.

### CHAS. W. SHAFFER NAMED.

A dispatch from DuBois, Wednesday afternoon, states that Charles W. Shaffer, of Cameron county, was nominated for Congress. Mr. Shaffer is unknown to this section and at this time we can give no information as to his qualifications.

## RUSSIAN ARMIES IN FULL RETREAT

The Japanese Defeated Them in Battle of Liaoyang

### KUROPATKIN ESCAPES CAPTURE

Was Being Surrounded by Superior Forces and Flees Northward to Mukden--Japs Chasing to Flank Them--Continual Fighting

The Japanese completely overwhelmed the Russian forces at Liaoyang last Thursday and Friday, a complete description of which appears on page 1 of this issue, with an outline map on page 2. It was one of the fiercest engagements of the war, and in point of numbers the greatest battle in the world's history. With fiendish fury the Japs assailed the Russians all along the lines, while the artillery from the hillsides poured in a fire of shot and shell that made their positions untenable. While the battle was raging the Russian general received the news that a large portion of the Japanese army was moving to strike them from the rear, cut off their line of communications, prevent a retreat and was liable to be annihilated.

In this predicament but one course remained, to beat a retreat, and that was done with great difficulty. General Stakelberg's division came near being captured by the wily Japs, but made good their escape.

Before leaving Liaoyang the Russians burned an immense assortment of military stores and food supplies to prevent the enemy from seizing them. They also had to abandon many pieces of heavy artillery and seize guns which the Japs captured. In the battle at Liaoyang both sides suffered great loss; the dead and wounded may reach fifty thousand, and the respective losses at this time can not be approximated.

The Russians are retreating northward to the fortifications at Mukden and their line is spread out fifteen miles long. On the east and west of them are two divisions of Japanese racing to intercept them and cut off their retreat. At their heels the main body of the Japanese army is following engaging them wherever it is possible and bringing their light artillery into play whenever an opportunity is afforded.

General Kuropatkin has appealed to the Czar for reinforcements, but they can hardly reach him while in the present dilemma.

It is a humiliation to the Czar's army to be driven from Liaoyang, on which place they had expended enormous sums in fortifications and kept large supplies. Equally disappointing to the Japanese, to see the enemy escape and beat a retreat in good order.

An important engagement may take place at Yantai a point on this side of Mukden, where the Japanese hope to flank the fleeing army, with one of their side divisions.

The effect of the retreat is to carry the scene of future engagements farther north, in Manchuria. This is a disadvantage to the Japanese as it carries them farther from the seaboard and makes it more difficult to secure supplies for their immense armies, but then they can get them quicker and secure reinforcements more rapidly than the Russians. The defeat at Liaoyang has had its effect, but the Russians claim not to be discouraged, asserting that the war will be prosecuted until they are successful and the prestige of Russian arms is maintained in all the territory they have lost. They also have given notice to the other powers that no suggestion for intervention will be tolerated from any source, hoping to exhaust the Japanese by a prolonged war.

The Japanese government claims to be prepared for a continuance of hostilities for at least three years, and longer if necessary. At the present pace, and the close contact of the opposing armies with the fierce activity of the Japanese, a decisive action must come before that time.

There is little news from Port Arthur, neither side having gained any advantage, but they are continually engaged.

### SENATORIAL ELECTION.

Owing to the death of Senator Patton, of this district, a successor must be elected at the general election in November. Both parties have until September 27th to make nominations and file same for that office. The district comprises the counties of Clearfield, Clinton and Centre. This will necessitate convening at an early date of county conventions to vote instructions for Senator.

Lieutenant Governor Brown will issue a writ of election to fill the vacancy at the general election in November. Certificates of nomination for senator must be filed at the state department by September 27, and nomination papers by October 4, which makes the time for the selection of a candidate very short.

### FACT, FUN AND FANCY.

Bright, Sparkling Paragraphs--Selected and Original.

Sometimes they break their autos; Sometimes they break their specs; Sometimes they break the records-- But they rarely break their necks.

There was a man in our town, As blind as he could be, Who went to an oculist, And paid a great big fee. "You need an ocean trip," said he; And so the blind man went to sea.

The oyster will soon be in our midst. Something to acquire--a church organ. Money always goes faster than it comes.

It takes an hour to make a 10-minute speech. Milk is often but another name for a white lie.

The summer girl isn't such a warm proposition. It's an easy matter to be honest on a good income.

Two are needed to start a quarrel, but one can stop it.

It is better to have loved, and lost than to pay alimony.

Many an ill-feeling has been acquired by drinking well water.

Eating with a knife is not calculated to sharpen one's appetite.

When poverty comes in at the window love crawls under the bed.

It isn't always safe to tell a girl that you admire her blooming cheek.

A man's house is his castle, but he needn't get up in the air about it.

You can't size up a man's religion from the size of his family Bible.

A one-legged man may have a pretty good standing in the community.

One can never feel half as prosperous as their creditors think they look.

There are people who envy the fool because of his everlasting happiness.

### Goat Ate Dynamite.

A goat loaded with dynamite now roams at will through the Italian quarter at Wooddale, Del., and is receiving the best treatment of its life. Antonio Pasquell, a quarryman, returned from his work the other evening and brought with him two sticks of dynamite which he placed on the back porch while eating his supper. When he came out he was gravely informed by his small son that the goat had also had his supper, utilizing for that purpose the dynamite which he had evidently relished. There is talk of killing the goat to ascertain if the dynamite digested, but no butcher brave enough can be found. To hurt a stone at him, it is feared, might cause a terrible catastrophe. The animal seems to be enjoying his usual freedom and so far has shown no signs of being sorry for his lunch on "force."

### Blackspot Langed.

On Thursday last week "Black Spot" paid the penalty of his crime in the enclosed space at the Clearfield jail in the presence of a limited number of spectators.

The condemned negro was in a cheerful frame of mind Thursday. He wrote a long letter to his father, brother and sister in Virginia, in which he told of his conversion, his hope for the future, and necessity for keeping away from cards, bad women and strong drink. The letter was five pages in length and was a very pathetic epistle. In it he recounted the kindly treatment accorded him by the sheriff, deputy and turnkey and the public in general, the jail and surroundings and how he had been employing his last days.

### Col. Reeder's Successor.

A notice has been issued from J. A. B. Miller, Esq., that he has been authorized to close up the business affairs of the late Col. Wilbur F. Reeder. For several years Mr. Miller was employed in Col. Reeder's office as assistant, and for that reason is the only person conversant with Col. Reeder's legal business. Mr. Miller is a sensible, practical, capable young man, and is one of the prominent attorneys at this bar and anything entrusted to his care will secure prompt attention. He has secured the office, library, and all furnishings and will be glad to give all of Col. Reeder's former clients his very best efforts. Mr. Miller will succeed we know, because he has the energy and ability to merit it.

### Rural Carriers Meet.

The Rural mail carriers of Centre county met in Bellefonte on Tuesday evening, September 6th, and formed an association. All carriers were present but two; elected the following officers: President, F. B. Weaver, State College; vice president, Jerry Stem, Roland; secretary, W. F. Thompson, State College; treasurer, W. S. Gramley, Spring Mills; executive board--W. F. Keller, Centre Hall; Harry Reerick, Bellefonte; J. M. Hartsock, State College.

In the ten years that John G. Love has been on the bench he drew over \$50,000. He should have enough by this time.



Hastings' Vault and Monument.

The above is a good view of the Hastings burial plot in the Union cemetery, at this place. The large slab covers the opening to the vault, which is about nine by eleven feet in size and is filled with four crypts for caskets. In one of these now reposes the body of ex-Governor D. H. Hastings, which was transferred from the original grave upon the completion of the vault. The monument at the head of the vault is an imposing design. The material is Barrie granite, and makes a pleasing effect. The grave of Col. W. F. Reeder is about 30 feet directly back of the monument.

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ransactions. After dinner, while they were enjoying a social hour, Senator Patton was taken ill, but soon recovered sufficiently to be removed to his home, and Sunday night there seemed to be indications of recovery, though his relatives at a distance had been telegraphed of his attack.

Sunday he spent hopefully. About 4 o'clock Monday morning, however, the Senator roused up and talked with his nurse about the probable diet the physician would allow him, and a moment after he had ceased talking the nurse noticed that a great change had suddenly come upon him, and before she could call the doctor and family the Senator



HON. A. E. PATTON.

had ceased breathing. The time of the funeral was fixed for next Saturday at 1 o'clock, p. m.

Senator Patton was born at Curwensville on October 20, 1852, and was a son of the late ex-Congressman John Patton. Immediately after leaving school he located in Iowa, where he spent several years and was married to Miss Jennie Wright, of that State. His wife died and he returned East with a little son and entered the Curwensville Bank, principally owned by his father. This was in 1877. He married again, taking for his wife Miss Mary Dill, of Clearfield, and by this marriage has a young son and daughter.

The brothers and sisters of the Senator are ex-United States Senator John Patton, of Grand Rapids, Mich.; Charles A. Patton and Mrs. C. S. J. Russell, of Curwensville; Frank G. Patton, of Reading; W. F. Patton, of Kansas City, and Mrs. Nora Gros, of Paris.

Senator Patton was pre-eminently a business man, although called to a high political station. He was a banker and had for a number of years engaged largely in railroad construction work, and was treasurer and a heavy investor