

The Centre Democrat.

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EDITORIAL. The governor has over 600 bills to act upon within 30 days from the adjournment, and when disposed of he will take up appointments.

While the federal senate is idling away the time, the Democratic House of Representatives is taking the opportunity to consider important measures in the interest of the people.

After voting an increase of several thousand dollars to the judges in the state the Penrose machine ordered the bill granting a small pension to the old soldiers to be killed.

Centre county, in the good old days, before trusts were having all business pursuits in their grasp, had any number of tanneries where now we suppose there is not a single one.

The Pennsylvania legislature, on the night of its adjournment, put the cap-sheaf upon its work of the entire session, mainly discreditable, in addition to an ugly black eye for the row caused by Speaker Cox, a few days previous to the adjournment.

It seems, at this writing, that President Taft will not get his reciprocity treaty with Canada through the senate as the high-tariff standpatters of his party in the senate, will not favor it.

The lemon squeezer is still doing business, being through with the Standard Oil Trust. Minnesota has been investigating the express companies and the developments have been exceedingly interesting.

The legislature of 1911, which convened on Jan. 2, and which adjourned on 24th, has appropriated \$55,000,000, or the estimated total of the state's income for the next two years.

The Centre Democrat has frequently urged the matter of road improvement, removing disgusting breakers, and having the water from rain flow from top to gutters to be constructed along the sides of roads, etc.

The first salary of a Pennsylvania legislator, for a long term of years, stood at three dollars per day, and the session to last one hundred days—making three hundred dollars per session and mileage.

"DISGRACEFUL HOUSE."

Garvin Injured by Flying Book—Member Wears Bonnet. The final night of the Legislature was celebrated Wednesday night, of last week with the usual order, followed by the midnight lunches of the House and Senate.

At midnight recess was taken, The Senate had its lunch in the Senate caucus room, while the House members ate in the basement. Then the proceedings were commenced with more noise, more upsets, white and pink paper and more songs.

There is nothing intellect about throwing solid paper," said he, "and while I do not want to curb your enthusiasm, won't you remain quiet and orderly until the conference reports are adopted. Then you can go pretty much as you please."

Barney Ward, of Blair, then added to the gaiety of nations and the amusement of the gallery by donning a straw bonnet decorated with 5 and 10 cent store roses.

Shortly before 12 o'clock, recently while the House was waiting for unfinished business from the Senate, Mayor McClain, of Lancaster, a former speaker of the House, sang "When Sweet Marie Was Sweet Sixteen."

Shannon, of Luzerne, was called on for a song and refused, but was carried over desk tops bodily and perchance on a reporter's desk. He then sang because he had to.

This Legislature will go down in history as the most extravagant and wasteful of any in the history of the State. Increasing salaries and the creation of new officers was its main work.

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Pay as high as \$50 a day is the lure that draws Americans into the insurrecto army in Mexico, according to C. S. Wilson, a soldier of fortune, who arrived in Chicago, Ill., last week, after having seen four months of service with Madero.

The Illinois legislature abolished what its members termed "the cup of death" by framing a law prohibiting the use of the common drinking-cup in public schools, hotels, factories, railroad stations and trains and all public places.

A reunion of the Houser families will be held in the woods at Peru, five miles south of Bellefonte, on Friday, June 23rd. All the friends are invited to attend and help make the occasion a profitable and enjoyable one.

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF CENTRE CO. BAR

(Continued from last page) passed on by the Courts and would reason it out and come to a conclusion which he believed to be correct, and this remained with him during life and if the question ever arose in his practice he was ready to meet or use it as necessity might require.

Orvis came to the bench as additional law judge by appointment of Governor Hartranft in April, 1874, and was elected for the term of ten years in the fall of that year. As a Judge he was a conscientious and upright man, the consequence to him what the result of his decisions might be to him or anyone else. He did what he believed to be right.

In his address on the early Bench of Clearfield county the Honorable Thomas H. Murray refers to the fact that in 1875 there was a serious difficulty in protecting property in a conflict between the coal operators and their employes encountered in that county. A number of the miners were arrested. Simpson and Parks were the leaders and the two most noted defendants. Senator Wallace represented the operators and conducted the prosecution, and his friends feared the effect it might have on his political future and desired to know whether he had considered what the consequences might be to him.

Mr. Wallace answered by saying that the occasion required a lawyer of moral courage and that he proposed to assume the responsibility of doing his duty as he understood it and taking the consequences. These trials would have amounted to little in results but for the iron will and herculean courage of the man on the bench. He believed in maintaining the majesty of the law. Judge Orvis presided at both trials. One took place in June and the other in August, 1875, and each lasted a full week. When the trials had gone to the jury the judge desired to return home, and stated another judge would be there to take the verdict. Mr. Wallace objected and gave as a reason that the other judge's courage would fail him.

The arguments of Judge Orvis both before Court and jury were clear, clean cut, logic, indeed they stood like walls of granite and while they might be battered they could not be awarred. As a lawyer I do not think he ever had his equal among all the great lawyers that belonged to this bar. He justly stands at the head of the bar for the whole century and more, that he has existed.

There is one other man of this number who deserves all the good things that can be said about him and yet Judge Beaver gave him no space in his excellent historical address. The reason for this no doubt is that he is the man. As very young man, a member of the bar only about two years when the civil war came, and there was a call for volunteers, he abandoned the law, deserted his office and volunteered in September, 1862. I first saw him taking command of a regiment of volunteers (boys, most of them), all green in the military service, from which in a few months he was discharged, being sent to a machine that would go anywhere and do anything to be fought, and the Colonel ready to lead in and be where the fight was the hottest, wounded more often than he was shot, and, in fact, he measured up to the demands of the work he then had in hands.

As a lawyer, able, clear, full of good humor, ever ready to maintain his clients' cause with consummate ability. His arguments were forceful and great. His intercourse with his brothers of the bar most genial, always willing to encourage by word or deed younger members of the bar, the soul of honor and a character which added glory to the community in which he lives, the state of which he is a citizen and the country he suffered so much to save. As soldier, lawyer, governor, he stands first among the citizens of our great state.

There is one other member of the bar covering the period from 1839 to 1865 who deserves mention in this connection. That is Hon. A. C. Furst. He gave his whole time to the practice of the law, and in this he was most successful. He was a master in all the technicalities of the law, and his clientele by reason of his devotion to the law was very large. As a judge his grasp of the leading points of a case seemed to be intuitive and his knowledge of legal principles and decided cases was remarkable, and his charges to the jury although extensive and full of being carefully prepared. He served the people as Judge of the 49th judicial district for ten years, and on the expiration of his term took up the practice again. He was called to govern the courts in cases, involving great interests in all parts of the state.

Judge Furst lived and practiced and associated with the bar from 1867 to 1896, covering a period reaching from the second to the fourth generation of members of the bar. The men named, all of them connected to the members of the bar of the first thirty or forty years of its existence and who were admitted to the bar, and who constitute at least the third generation of lawyers of the county.

Beginning with John P. Mitchell who was admitted to the bar November 23rd, 1861, then came: S. Durbin Gray, September 8, 1866; John G. Love, August 27, 1867; David L. Krebs, April 30, 1869; David F. Fortney, April 30, 1869; Cyrus Gordon, Aaron Williams and Isaac Lytle, November 23, 1869; D. S. Keller, April, 1871; C. M. Bower, December 5, 1872; J. L. Spangler, January 28, 1874; D. H. Hastings, April 25, 1875; A. C. Clement Dale, 1876; W. Wesley Gephart, Dec. 12, 1878; Those who came next to sustain and practice at the bar of Centre County were:

W. F. Reeder, May 4, 1877; James L. Hamill, June 1, 1886; E. L. Orvis, January 1, 1881; C. P. Hewes, November 25, 1882; J. C. Meyer, and E. R. Chambers, December 26, 1884; John M. Dale, January 2, 1886; James L. Hamill, June 1, 1886; W. E. Gray, August 23, 1886; John Blanchard, March 21, 1887. There were some others admitted to the bar during this period (1865-1888), but they did not take up the practice in this county. Two of the best, Krebs and Gordon, located in Clearfield county, and each in turn became the president judge of the courts of that county and each was recognized as a good lawyer. They are now both dead. Charles P. Hewes located in the city of Erie and is making good. Of the others, twelve have passed away. The bar of this period may not have made as much fuss and done as much

fighting and snarling as those of the previous period, but in all things else I believe it to have been the equal of its predecessors. The members of the bar were generally men of good habits, industrious and studious. It furnished two president judges to wit, John G. Love and E. L. Orvis, to our courts, and two to the courts of Clearfield. A state Senator Hon. W. C. Heinle, a couple of colonels, at least one most worthy representative in the general assembly, the state to wit: Hon. J. C. Meyer, and one Governor, D. H. Hastings.

The practice in our courts has greatly changed during the period of which I am speaking. At the beginning nearly all suits were commenced by the issuing of the summons. After the panic of 1873 set in, the judgment exemption note came into use and suits are not now often commenced by summons. The nature of the cases have also greatly changed, the great legal contests from 1855 or 1860 to perhaps 1880 were over the location of valuable timber and coal lands. The cases involved much wealth and the trials would last from one to three weeks. Rarely do such cases now appear in the Courts. Before the act of 1869 allowing parties interested to be witnesses and testify in their own behalf, many of the fiercest legal contests arose over the question of interest of the witness offered. Such questions are not now the subject of dispute in the Courts. In the olden days, as the books show, there were frequent knock-outs because of defects in the pleadings which were very elaborate, and the technicalities were many. If there was an "X" where there should have been a "Y" a knock out was sure to come. This is now of rare occurrence.

The bar for which I speak has just as many knotty and difficult legal problems to solve and questions to answer as the former generation of lawyers though they are of a very different nature. The bar of the present is superior in many things to that of a generation ago. The cases are more promptly tried than at any period in the history of the bar. Their pleadings are more carefully and neatly drawn, their relations, I believe, to be more tender and kindly toward each other. Their preparations for trial is just as thorough and trials by reason of the presence of the stenographer, are now through much more rapidly and were never more satisfactorily disposed of than they are now and have been for nearly the whole period of which I speak.

It would be a delight to speak personally of all the men who became members of the bar from 1865 to 1888, living and dead, and even of those who have been admitted since, but need of time prevents. How the list of the dead in this period, especially the latter part of it, has grown and most of them have passed away suddenly and in the flush of their manhood. Among them are Hon. C. M. Bower, W. Gray, John M. Dale, J. Wesley Gephart, Governor D. H. Hastings, Col. W. F. Reeder, and the last to go was the Honorable J. C. Meyer.

I will surely not be misunderstood in speaking more at length of one who left us in August 1894 at the early age of fifty after a life of most suffering. It is but just that I should refer more at length to Col. D. S. Keller. For a time we were comrades in the command of Colonel Keller's regiment. He was wounded at Chambersville, and later discharged from the service on account of this.

He obtained a clerkship in one of the departments, (the war I think), at Washington, studied law while on duty, came to this place and became a member of the bar in April, 1873, and assiduously followed the practice of the law from that time until his death. A man of the most sterling character and an accomplished lawyer. The records will show that he not only drew the neatest, but the most accurate and complete pleadings of any lawyer at the bar. A man who thought and acted right, and of moral courage. In the trial of a case, while he gave his client the very best he could command and fought with skill and ability, he was courteous in his conduct toward and generous in his treatment of the counsel on the other side. Diligent, careful and thorough, in the preparation of his cases he was very successful in obtaining verdicts. A man brought up in the church, he believed in the Bible and died rejoicing in the salvation of God through Jesus Christ.

As already stated the bar of this period has furnished two president judges to the county, to wit, John G. Love and Ellis L. Orvis. In the case adopted by the bar it was said of Judge Love "That he served the people of the 49th judicial district for a period of ten years, with honor and credit as the president of their Courts, in all this time he was rarely reversed by either of the higher Courts. As a Judge he dispatched business in the trial of causes rapidly and correctly, and very promptly disposed of all matters brought before him at argument court." His knowledge of the law was correct. Possessed of fine analytic powers, he readily and very clearly distinguished between cases. Thoroughly posted in the practice he was always able to take care of himself and frequently worsted his adversary because of this thorough knowledge.

As to the other Judge, (Mr. Orvis) though he is no longer an active speaking man of the bar for a certain period, I can therefore with propriety speak of him. In all the history of the bar from the beginning down there was not a Judge presided over the Courts who enjoyed so general a reputation or who was so even tempered

and considerate of both attorneys and litigants than he who now presides over the Courts. Moreover, no Judge in the history of the bar presided over the courts so long and tried so many cases involving knotty and intricate legal questions and has had so few appeals taken from his decisions to the higher courts, or has had so small a number of reversals as Judge Orvis. So far has he been in all his rulings and decisions that lawyers and clients are satisfied with what he has thought, and clean in speech. Many of his charges to juries are models of standard English.

I am justified therefore in the claim that the bar from 1865 to 1887 has done, and what little of it remains is now, the equal of anything that has gone before. Of the men of this period John Blanchard was the last man to become a member of the bar and a peculiar circumstance is that he is a lawyer of the third generation and bears the same name his grandfather had, who was a member of the bar of the first generation of lawyers in the county. The young man is making good and the name is losing nothing at his hands.

A Word to Young Members of the Bar. There has been quite a number of worthy and honorable young men entering the bar in this county, including Harry Keller and H. C. Cugley, all of whom have been admitted in and since April, 1891. These men are now a good beginning of what will constitute the next or fourth generation of members of the bar, one or two of the second and a few of the third remain as guide posts by which they may be properly brought into line.

Those who have settled down and begun the practice of law at this bar give good promise of maintaining the reputation of the bar; they have, however, their reputations to establish and their honors to win, and I hope they shall succeed in doing both, and maintain the well earned reputation of the Centre County Bar. Young men, if in your thoughts, and in your plans, and in your efforts, you are seeking to gather to yourself, and for selfish purposes, if you seek to follow the law for the things which in this day of greed are considered desirable and essential to your present enjoyment and future fame, learn from the character of those who have gone before that they enjoy most who sacrifice most, and those who will be longest remembered who most faithfully served, not themselves, but the generation in which they lived.

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7,252,963 LONDONERS. Census Shows People Are Moving From Centre to Suburbs of City. Provisional figures returned by the census officers give the population of England and Wales this year as 36,675,269 compared with 32,527,843 in 1901. While most of the cities and counties show an increase there are many cases, particularly in Wales, where there has been an actual decrease. Greater London's population has increased to 7,252,963 from 6,581,462 in 1901. This increase is entirely in what is known as the "outer ring," showing that the people are moving from the more crowded centres. In fact many of the old metropolitan boroughs and the city of London proper have lost their population to the suburbs. Does this apply to the just-adjourned Pennsylvania legislature? "Matt, 21:12.—And he said unto them, It is written, My house shall be called the house of prayer; ye have made it a den of thieves."

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