

# THE DEMOCRAT

OFFICIAL PAPER OF THE COUNTY.

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The Pike County Democrat has the largest circulation of any newspaper published in Pike County. Advertisers will make a note of this fact!

THURSDAY, January 2, 1879.

PROMPTNESS will be agitated in the Indiana Legislature, this winter.

The New York Sun predicts that there will be no third party in 1880, but that all the elements opposed to the Republican party will be united to put that party out of power.

The Greencastle Banner publishes another double-leaded editorial urging Southern negroes to come North. It would please the Republican party amazingly to have about 15,000 accept the advice and locate in Indiana.

A WASHINGTON dispatch states that President Hayes has not as yet committed himself on the question of Bayard Taylor's successor. He awaits the return of Secretary Everts. It is believed, however, that Governor Hartranft has the inside track.

According to the Burlington Hawkeye, the State of Nebraska this year raised twenty-six million bushels of wheat; forty-six million bushels of corn; nine million bushels of oats; three million bushels each of barley, rye and potatoes, and shipped five hundred thousand head of cattle and seven hundred thousand head of hogs.

The Republicans are at their old tricks again, and will endeavor to get an appropriation of half a million or so, ostensibly for the department of justice, but really for a corruption fund to be used in the campaign of 1880. The Democrats should stay at Washington until the crack of doom rather than consent to the appropriation.

The Blaine Committee are trying very hard to get out of the scrape into which they have been led by the Maine Senator's "splurge effort," as the Cincinnati Gazette characterized Jim's bloody-shirt speech. They will take advantage of the Comptroller's decision that the appropriation for investigating the Presidential question is not available for other investigations, and ask to be discharged.

GENERAL GARFIELD, of Ohio, although one of the leaders of the Republican party in Congress, uttered a sentiment in a speech in Congress a few days ago, which every patriot will endorse, when he said: "The man who would attempt to get up a political excitement on old sectional issues is a disgrace to the country, but the man who wants to gain the good-will of the country must put himself in line with its leading thoughts, and that is the restoration of business."

The Mundo Politico, a Spanish paper, says: "It seems that General Grant was guilty of excess in the banquet given him by the premier Canovas Do Castillo, at his residence; so much so that he presented a much-to-be-lamented spectacle a few hours later in the interior of the minister's box at the royal theater. Such an exhibition was the only thing wanting to stamp him as unworthy of all the civilities showered upon him." Yes! dead beat, is representing the black Republican party in the world of statesmen.

The Potter Committee will commence an investigation of the cipher telegrams immediately upon re-assembling after the holidays. Mr. Potter would have brought the matter before the committee earlier, but for the fact that Ben Butler, who is supposed to know more about the Presidential crookedness than all the rest together, has been unable to attend the sittings of the committee until now. Tilden, Pelton, Marle, Coyle and all others who are supposed to know anything concerning the cipher telegrams will be put upon the stand. It is supposed that Butler also has a roll in pickle for the Republican visiting statesmen. Let us have the whole truth.

The trade dollar is doomed to go to the melting pot, and will be received only as bullion. The New York Express says that "the trade dollar is a fair illustration of the wisdom and skill the Republicans have shown in their financial dithering and tinkering. They have been doctoring the currency ever since they got into power. They issued the legal tenders under the plea of national necessity. They established the national banks, giving them enormous privileges and creating a vast monopoly. They inflated the currency till a dollar in paper was worth only thirty-seven cents in coin. They sold bonds payable in legal tenders, but afterwards, to increase the profits of large bondholders and capitalists, under a pretense of strengthening the public credit, they made the bonds payable in 'coin.' Then they demonetized silver, the money of the country from its origin, the money of the constitution, the money the first Congress made the unit of value, and hatched out this bastard coin for use among the heathen. The silver act changed the money standard of the country to gold, which it raised from fifteen to twenty per cent. in value, for the sole benefit of capitalists and large bondholders. The history of the national finance under Republican manipulation is one of mismanagement, confusion, bad faith and legislation in the interest of the monied class. It brought on the panic of 1873, from which the country has not yet recovered, and is not likely to recover until the government is placed in Democratic hands."

To the Victor Belong the Spoils.

The General Assembly of the State of Indiana has prescribed that county officers shall have certain matters, such as Sheriff's sales, delinquent taxes, notices of the sale of school lands, administrators and guardians notices, etc., etc., published in some newspaper of general circulation in the county, if there be one printed and published in the county; and also specifies the fees that may be charged for publishing the same. For a long time—so long, in fact, that the mind of man runneth not to the contrary—it has been the custom of officers to patronize the paper that assisted them into office, and of the same political faith. The public expect this, and it is right that it should be so, so long as the paper charges no more than the law allows. Newspapers are necessary; in fact we can not do well without them. They are the channel through which the people are informed of current events; that is the exponent of virtue and morality. Therefore they should be sustained by the public. And any newspaper man who is on the eve of suspensory, and has no interest in the journalistic welfare of others, but before going down himself, tries to put the price of certain work—which does not of right belong to him—down so low that it will not pay for one-tenth part of the trouble of setting the type and furnishing the material, ought to be kicked out of the profession. Such is the editor of the Petersburg Press. On the 8th of last October the voters of Pike county said, by their votes, that the Petersburg Press should not have the public printing for the next two years. The Press, not being satisfied with the voice of the people, and chafing under their strong rebuke, now has the unparalleled impudence to propose to publish the delinquent tax list for the sum of *thirteen* dollars, which would hardly pay him for the paper, counting nothing for his labor. He makes this proposition knowing that Mr. Bilderback would not let him have the job, and by this means hoping to make a little political capital, or "blow 'em up," as Harrell puts it. But this business of "blowing somebody up" has proved a little disastrous to the welfare of the Press.

Harrell proposes to publish the delinquent list for fifteen dollars. Now we desire him to answer a few questions. Stand up, Emory, and answer the following questions: 1st. If Mr. Crow had been elected Auditor would you have printed the delinquent list for fifteen dollars, would you not have thought it little and contemptible in us to make such a proposition? 2d. Did not the Press charge the county nearly one thousand dollars for publishing the delinquent tax list for 1872, and when the Commissioners refused to allow the bill, did it not appeal to the Circuit Court and thus compromised the matter by the county paying nearly seven hundred dollars? 4th. Did you not charge every cent the law allowed you for publishing Sheriff's sales, and then threaten to put the unfortunate people to additional costs if the fees were not paid by a certain time? 5th. Do you not charge administrators and guardians every cent the law allows you for publishing their notices? 6th. Can you not afford to work as cheap for orphan children, widows, and parties who have their lands advertised by the Sheriff, as for the county? If you can, ought not you to pay back to every administrator, guardian and every person whose land you advertised for sale on execution or decree at least seven-eighths of the amount you charged them? 7th. Are you a natural fool, or have you occasional spells of insanity?

Now we desire you to answer the above questions. If you answer them in the affirmative, which you are bound to do, it will show you to be devoid of honor or principle, as well as sense. The idea of charging widows and orphans one hundred times more for the same work that you would charge the county is simply ridiculous, and ought to cause you to hide your head in shame—if you be susceptible of shame.

When Mr. Ferguson was Auditor of the county Mr. Emory, then the editor of the DEMOCRAT, proposed to publish the delinquent list for about one-half the amount allowed by law; but Mr. F. scouted the idea, and said, "No, sir; to the victors belong the spoils." You should not publish it if you were to pay me fifty dollars, and publish it without cost to the county. You should be devoted to him and the columns of our paper, and it contains a reliable and comprehensive summary of all the cardinal point of the compass. She has direct and quick connection with Cincinnati, St. Louis, Chicago, Indianapolis, Cairo, Evansville and Terre Haute.

Here is Petersburg's and Pike county's chance, not only to get an outlet to easy freights, but a through road; for from Rockport to Owensboro is but two miles, where connection to Nashville and points South could be had.

We hope that the importance of this road will be duly considered along the line, and that active work will be begun immediately towards securing its construction.

In connection with the above we have received private letters from parties in Rockport and Jasper relating to the above mentioned project or rather so much of it as would come from Jasper to Petersburg and connect with the Worthington and Petersburg road at this place. We have every assurance that this road will be extended as far as Petersburg, should we be able to secure the completion of the W. & P. R. R., consequently it stands every farmer in Jefferson township to lend his assistance to the W. & P. R. R., as undoubtedly its completion will bring the other, forming a junction at this place.

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