

The Democratic Watchman.

BY P. GRAY MEEK.

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BELLEFONTAINE, PA.

Friday Morning, March 3, 1871.

Governor Geary Attention!

Sir, your excellency, we desire a few moments conversation with you, through the medium of the Democratic Watchman.

In your last annual message you took occasion, in severe and manly words, to denounce the employment of United States troops at the polls to control elections. Your sentiments in that regard met with the universal approval of the people of this State, and, in fact, of the people of the whole United States. Why? Because they were the words of truth and soberness, founded upon Law, Justice and the Constitution, and were in accord with the feelings of a people who saw their liberties fast slipping away from them, and felt their own necks being trampled upon by the heel of an oppressor and tyrant.

But, Sir, timely as was that protest, and earnest and brave and manly as were your words then, they have not averted the crisis. You yet have a great and solemn duty to perform. And the people are now asking "Will he shrink from the ordeal - will he shrink the contest will he refuse to take issue between us and ruin?"

Sir, the liberties of the American People are again in great and direful danger. A partisan majority in Congress has passed an infamous and outrageous bill, taking out of the hands of the people the God-given right of free suffrage. Wherein our elections are to be controlled by the paid appointees of the Federal Government, and United States marshals are to summon soldiers to oversee the voters. The ballot boxes are to be presided over by Federal ruffians, and the will of the people is to be overruled and controlled by the armed forces of centralized power.

Sir, this People of Pennsylvania, and the Democracy particularly, do not propose to peacefully submit to such tyrannical and despotic usage. They know their rights, and, knowing, dare maintain them. They will not submit to see the cherished principles of liberty overthrown, nor the good old right of Free Elections abolished in this Commonwealth. In this trying hour, Sir, and recalling the brave words of your annual message, and believing that you mean to stand by them, when the time comes for interposing yourself between the people and oppression, we ask you to take measures to prevent the humiliation of the proud and independent Keystone State. We ask you, Sir, to come to our aid with your executive authority, and say to the Federal Government that it shall not trample this indignity, thus worse than outrage upon us. Let other States do as they may, but we beg of you, as our Governor and Representative, to exclaim for us, in the immortal words of Patrick Henry, "Give us Liberty or give us Death!" Repeat the bold language of your message, and again enter solemn protest against this renewed violation of the law and the Constitution. If no attention be paid to it, then, Sir, summon around you the brave hearts of this Commonwealth, and we will protect our liberty ourselves.

Sir, now is the time to prove yourself a Man and a Governor. Will you not do it? We await your decision.

The Lewisburg, Centre and Spruce Creek Rail Road.

Perhaps for years no local bill of more interest to the citizens of Centre county and especially those of Pennsylvania, has been introduced into the Legislature than the one now before that body, authorizing the issuing of three millions of dollars of first mortgage bonds against the road, and the issuing of three millions additional stock.

The entire length of the road from Danville - the point to which it is to be extended - to Spruce Creek is 86 miles. The highest estimate ever made by any one, for constructing and equipping, never exceeded \$25,000 per mile, making a total of \$2,150,000. Of this sum, the citizens of the counties through which it passes, under the arrangement entered into by the L. C. & S. C. Company with the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, were to furnish about \$8,000,000 - the cost of grading, amounting to \$688,000, which would leave the actual expense of completing the work \$1,472,000. The company under a previous act of Legislature have the power to mortgage the road for \$500,000, which would leave a little less than \$1,000,000 of the money invested by the Pennsylvania railroad company, uncovered by mortgage. Why they should have authority to mortgage the road for an additional \$3,000,000, when their investment uncovered by mortgage is less than \$1,000,000, is a matter that we are free to contest we do not understand.

With a mortgage of \$3,000,000, bearing interest at the rate of seven per cent - which interest will have to be paid first out of the earnings of the line, it seems very plain to us that our side stock would be about as near worthless, as anything in that line well could be.

The present board of directors, state, we believe, that it is not their intention to issue the full amount authorized, but only sufficient to complete the work. The present board may not, but who can tell, who will compose the next board, or what it will do? If authority is given to issue that amount no one will purchase these bonds only on the basis of \$3,500,000, because no guarantee can be given that the full amount will not be issued, and with a bonded debt of \$3,500,000 against the road, the actual value of which will be less than \$2,000,000, it is not at all probable that these bonds will bring in the market over 40 cents on the dollar. Capitalists of the country will purchase at that rate, and the result will be they will draw interest on the full amount of the face of the bond, when in reality they will invest but a little over one third. The interest on \$3,500,000 at 7 per cent, is more than any one can hope to be the net earnings of the line. This interest must be paid first out of its earnings. What, then, can subscribers to the stock expect their investment to be worth? They will receive no dividends; their stock will consequently be worthless and the \$3,000,000 subscribed by the farmers and business men of Centre county will simply be that much donated to build the road.

We are desirous of seeing the road built through from Danville to Spruce Creek or Tyrone, as any one in the county can be. We believe every interest of our county demands it, urgently and imperatively requires it, but we cannot see that with the original agreement, between the managers of this enterprise and the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, it is necessary for our people to completely sink their stock, to secure its completion.

We may be wrong in the matter, but this is our view of it. We would be sorry to do or say anything that would impede or delay the completion of the enterprise a single day, but we believe it to be our duty to give fair notice to those interested, and allow them to form their own conclusions.

Our people have done their duty. Let Union county, Mr. MILLER the president, and the Pennsylvania Railroad Company do theirs, as they have agreed to, and the work will be pushed ahead at once. And if they must have a mortgage, let them ask for authority to mortgage it for the amount of money they invest, and we do not believe a single objection will be made. However, if the stock holders in this county desire the bill, as it now is, to become a law, they should at once forward petitions favoring its passage to the member from this county, and if not they should remonstrate against it.

A man in West Huntingdon having cut first his right foot and then his left, with an axe, the Cambria Freeman assures its readers that the whole affair was purely accidental. Of course, but it was real wicked to add to the poor fellow's agony by making such a cutting remark about it.

The Centennial.

The bill authorizing the centennial celebration of American Independence to be held in Philadelphia, has passed the Senate, in spite of the New Yorkers to the contrary. How any other action could have been anticipated or desired, we do not understand. Philadelphia was the birthplace of our independence, and the first capital of our country. It was there that the iron tongue of the bell of old Independence first proclaimed "Liberty throughout the Land, and to all the inhabitants thereof." Yet New York dared to claim the right to hold the first centennial celebration. We have never had much to say in favor of Senator Cavengro, yet we do give him credit for this one thing - he headed off Coxkings, of New York, and by a direct appeal to the Senate, the justice of which that body could not gainsay, secured for our own metropolis this honored privilege. For this we thank him, as all Pennsylvanians, and, in fact, all Americans, ought to thank him. It is well that the old man has not done something to entitle him to the kind consideration of his countrymen. It partly atones for other acts, of which, the least that is said the better.

In 1876, therefore, the patriotic heart of the country will throbb with delight, in commemoration of the one hundredth year of our independence, in the great city of PENN. There, where bold JOHN HANCOCK and aged, paralytic Stephen Hopkins, signed the Declaration, will be held this great rejoicing of a free and independent people. And where else could it be held so appropriately? In all the land there is no other city or town that would awaken half the memories that are attached to Philadelphia. Why, then, should any other place have been thought of? Only the overweening ambition of New York, could have so far made her forget the proprietors of the occasion as to induce her to become a claimant for an honor that of all the cities of this country particularly belongs to our own metropolis.

"A Trick that is Vain."

Gen. NEALEY, a member of Congress from Pittsburg, is a second edition of "Truthful James." Recently he sent a speech of his to be circulated among his constituency, against the Income Tax, which purported to have been delivered on the 10th of February, in the House of Representatives. The truth of the matter is, the speech was not delivered in the House at all, and on the very day when NEALEY said he delivered it, namely, on the 10th, he voted in the House against considering the bill at all, and thus killed it for the session. This is a specimen of Radical impudence. He goes and has a speech published in the Congressional Globe, that he didn't deliver, for the sake of a seat at home, and then coolly walks into his seat in Congress and votes against considering the very measure which the speech purports to oppose! Such effrontery is astonishing, and would only be tolerated by a people in whom long familiarity with such contemptible practices has ceased to excite surprise. Gen. NEALEY, although a Radical, is a man of some ability and personal character, and why he should stoop to a thing of this kind, is a mystery to us. There must be something in the very atmosphere of Radicalism that tempts to a betrayal of manhood and honor.

Peace has finally been made between France and Prussia. The terms are of course humiliating to the former, but what else could she expect from an old tyrant and despotic King WILLIAM. With her armies beaten and disbanded, and the German hosts swarming like locusts through the land, she had but to choose between compliance and desolation. To save her people and recover her energies, she has for the present submitted to the terms of the conqueror, but the German statesman must be a fool who imagines that France will not one day wipe out in Prussian blood this great stigma upon her national honor.

By the terms that have been agreed on, France loses a portion of her territory and agrees to pay an immense sum of money to Prussia as indemnification for war expenses. Besides this, she is to allow the armies of King WILLIAM to make a triumphal entry into Paris. This, to the chivalric and sensitive Frenchmen, is more galling than all the rest. They can stand defeat and robbery, but spare them the shame of seeing their glorious capital trod by the feet of the spoiler!

King WILLIAM might have spared them this humiliation. Had he been a magnanimous or generous conqueror, he would have done so. But, puffed up with pride and vanity, and intoxicated by his unlooked for and wonderful success, he had not the manhood to refrain from displaying himself before

the eyes of the world, in the streets of Paris. But "pride goeth before destruction and a haughty spirit before a fall."

We think it is time for the Democrats of Centre county to begin to think of organizing our forces for the next political campaign. Nothing will be lost by an early start in this matter, and very much may be gained. We should have clubs formed in every town and voting precinct in the county, so as to keep up the life and spirit of the party. Our Radical opponents are indulging the hope of carrying this county next fall, and they base this hope principally on the disorganized condition of the Democracy. Let us show them that although we are quiet, we are not asleep, and that we are watching their maneuvers carefully, and will be ready to meet them when comes the tug of war. We think it would be a good idea for the young Democrats to move first. Don't wait on the old neck. They're scared up and stiff from the effects of former battles, and move not so briskly as in other days. Take hold at once, then, young men, and let your actions show that you are no degenerate sons of worthy sires. Get the ball in motion, at once, and keep it rolling until we roll up a magnificent victory next October.

PASSED THE HOUSE.--The bill repealing the Centre County Law Library act, passed the House on Wednesday last. We believe it is in the Senate, which is composed so largely of lawyers, that the attorneys are making their fight. They go on the principle that "dog won't eat dog," or rather that "one thief will not steal from another," and are very confident that the Blackstones of the Senate will do nothing that will interfere with this nice little county test, that was made expressly for the Blackstones of Bellefonte. We, of course, don't know how the little bill will fair in the Senate, but we do know that no man in that body now, who votes against its passage, need expect any favors from the people of Centre county hereafter.

It turns out that Madame SCHNEIDER, the actress, is not dead after all.

Newspaperial.

The Shippensburg Sentinel has passed into the hands of F. S. SINGESER, late of the Mechanicsburg Democrat. We thought Mr. SINGESER had retired from the tripod on account of his health, but it seems otherwise. Well, if he makes the Sentinel as lively as he made the Democrat, we shall not be sorry to see him back in the ranks editorial.

Our friends of the Clarion Democrat propose to expand to 8 column dimensions. We hope friend Browns will recollect the fable of the frog, which, by inflating itself, tried to approximate the size of an ox.

We are glad to know that Mr. BRAGGINS, editor of the Mercer Dispatch, is recovering from his late paralytic stroke, and will soon be able to resume work.

Once A Week, a new paper just started by FRANK LESLIE, and claiming to be "the young lady's own journal," has reached us as fresh and beautiful as clean type, good ink and tinted paper can make it. It is really a beautiful paper and handsomely illustrated, containing the latest and most attractive fashion styles, and filled with tales, sketches, poetry, &c., &c. If you want it, address FRANK LESLIE, 537 Pearl Street, New York.

Mr. J. W. McKINNEY has retired from the Altoona Sun, leaving Mr. MOORE sole proprietor. We hope the Sun may shine more and more brilliantly every day.

One of the largest and finest looking papers now in this State is the Clinton Republican, of Lock Haven, edited and published by our friend GEORGE D. BOWMAN, Esq. The last issue comes out in new type and enlarged to 36 wide columns. Although Radical in politics, it is ably edited and its selections show a discriminating and careful judgment. Barring its politics, we wish the elephantine journal continued success.

The Sprague investigation is not making much progress, nor is it likely to. The Radical Senate know that it will not do to inquire too closely into the cotton speculations of the loyal men, Ulysses and Jesse Grant and the Mack brothers in Cincinnati, did a little in that line.

A grand carnival took place in Washington on the 20th and 21st inst., to celebrate the completion of the wood pavement on Pennsylvania Avenue. The avenue was most brilliantly illuminated on both evenings, and the carnival wound up with a grand ball.

As usual, Uruguay, South America, is in a state of war.

Not This Man But That Man.

For President in 1872!

Who shall it be?

We have a candidate for that important position - at least we shall have one - after the National Democratic Convention shall have been held and the Democrats of the United States shall have spoken through delegates there assembled, speaking to the voters the people, the taxpayers everywhere.

It is not the man so much as the platform. It is not the select few Ringmasters of party politics and money-making politicians who are to be pleased - but the great multitude of voters who pay taxes, and whose bounden, patriotic duty it is to stand by each other - to protect their own and the interests of each other that the nation more than the National Bank owners and Bondholders may prosper and increase the power. It is not this man - or this favorite of some club or political organization duly weighed and marked "taken" by the satchels of Tammany or Agents of foreign banking houses - who can lead us to Democratic victories, but -

That man who is the best, bravest, truest Democrat -

That man who is the most honest and fearless in his defence of principle -

That man who is more in sympathy with labor than illness -

That man who cannot be bought, bribed, or driven from his devotion to the interests of the people who live by industry -

That man who is not the creature of those who by strange tricks and peculiar appliances control administrations with money.

And that man, to win, should come from the West - from beyond the exclusive reach of influences in or bordering upon New England. One who can look from the centre all around to the sea - knowing no East, North, West or South beyond the powers and protection of the Constitution; or the strict, honest disposition of places to honest men only, for the greatest good to the greatest number.

For such a candidate - New York State will lead off with one hundred thousand majority. It will give as great a majority for a candidate from out of her borders as within, so true and intent on Democracy are her voters and tax-payers.

This State is safe for such a candidate as we name. Let the candidate come from Ohio, or Indiana, or Illinois, or California, or anywhere, so he be not considered the property of the city politicians of New York, and the people will elect him.

But if he be the pet of a party of scheming political manipulators of this city - or the cunning friend of monied interests ever at war upon labor, it were better that a millstone be tied to his neck and he be cast into the sea, than to expect an election at the hands of those who now have on hand some think of more importance than the enrichment of those who have already stolen themselves rich from a too credulous people.

The candidate of the politicians will elect, reward the politicians.

If of the people, he will protect them. It is for the people to say who it shall be. The man is nothing. The principle is everything to the future of America.

Therefore let the people see well to it that when comes the convention they are represented by those who may be poor, grammarians, but pure, people loving patriots. - Pomeroy's N. Y. Democrat.

The News From Europe.

CONDITIONS OF PEACE ACCEPTED BY THIERS AND FAURE.

PARIS, Feb. 25. - Evening. - The preliminaries of peace were finally settled to day. The exact terms are unknown, but they are believed to be severe. Bismarck has been patient throughout the negotiations. The Kappell says, Thiers and the Commissioners of the Assembly will probably go to Bordeaux on Sunday, to submit the conditions agreed upon to the Assembly. It is hoped they will be immediately adopted, and that a further prolongation of the armistice will be unnecessary. Thiers was at Versailles all of today.

PARIS, Feb. 26, via London, 2 P. M. - The conclusion of peace is now certain. Thiers and Faure and the commission commissioners have accepted the following conditions:

- 1st. The evacuation of Alsace and Metz, but Belfort is to be restored to France.
2d. Payment of a war indemnity of five milliards of francs.
3d. A portion of French territory, with some fortified towns like Sedan, to remain in possession of the Germans until the conditions of the treaty are fulfilled.
4th. The German army to enter Paris on Monday and occupy the Champs Elysees.
5th. Peace to be proclaimed when the French Assembly ratifies these conditions.
Thiers and the delegation return to Bordeaux to-day.

THE TREATY OF PEACE SIGNED.

PARIS, Feb. 26. - (Special to the New York World.) - The announcement of the signing of the treaty of peace has produced a feeling of relief throughout the city. The reduction of the indemnity demanded by the Germans and the restoration of Belfort are regarded with gratification. Preparations have been made at Versailles for the entry of the German army into Paris, to-morrow, in brilliant array. The Parisians will close their houses and remain invisible.

It is said that the office of Commissioner of Patents will be offered to Wm. Bakewell, of Pittsburg.

Coal retails in New York at fifteen dollars per ton.

THE LAST ACT OF SCHROEPPE. - A petition signed by thousands of citizens of Cumberland county, asking for the pardon of Paul Schroepp, will soon be presented to Governor Geary. Schroepp has lately relinquished all his claims to the estate of the late Miss Stenebeck for benevolent and charitable purposes. The deed of assignment is dated Carlisle, February 11, 1871, and witnessed by J. Shyroock, St. B. Goreman and E. E. Beltzhoover, attorney-at-law. It disposes of the total amount of her property, which is valued at \$75,000, in the following manner: Six thousand dollars to the German Lutheran Church, of Carlisle, Pa.; thirty thousand dollars for the erection of a hospital within the borough of Carlisle for poor sick persons of Cumberland county and of the State of Pennsylvania; thirty-five thousand dollars, the interest thereof endowed as salary for a resident physician of the hospital, erected by the sum above mentioned, fourteen thousand dollars, the interest thereof to be expended for hospital purposes, according to the disposition of the board of managers of the said hospital, with the proviso, that any surplus of the interest of these fourteen thousand dollars which has not been used for hospital purposes, be invested in defraying the expenses of the medical education of a young man of Cumberland county, of respectable family and good character, who shall receive the first rudiments of his medical education in the hospital above mentioned and through the resident physician of the said hospital. - Harrisburg Patriot.

INDIANA - A DEAD LOCK IN THE SENATE. - INDIANAPOLIS, Feb. 22. - Considerable excitement is caused here to-day by the resignation, this morning, of 31 Republican members of the House, which prevents further legislation this session. The reason assigned is the attempt of the Democratic majority to pass a bill restricting the State in violation of the Constitution, which provides that the State shall not be distracted oftener than every six years. The last redistribution was four years ago.

Lieutenant Governor Cumstock expresses the opinion that it takes two thirds of all the members of each House to constitute a quorum, and will not recognize anything the remaining members do.

The Speaker of the House also gave the same opinion this morning, after receiving the Governor's message announcing the resignation of the Republican members of the House.

Some of the Democratic members differ with the Speaker and advocate continuing legislation. The appropriation bills, tax bills, and most of the necessary legislation was disposed of before the Republican members resigned. There is quite a commotion in political circles to-day, and a lively time is anticipated to-morrow. The constitutional limit of the session expires on the 6th of March. There is no time to elect members to fill the places of those who have resigned.

The Paper of Pittsburg says that the radical authorities of Allegheny, the banner county of radicalism has capped the climax of their devotion to the cause of radicalism by returning forty negroes to serve as jurors in the several courts of the county for the coming year. This is sufficient to constitute three full juries, with four to spare. But it is not the design to put them all together on the same jury, but to intersperse them among white jurors, in order to more fully display the beauties of radicalism and the harmonious working of the machinery of the radical party. Well, if the white men of Allegheny county who have suits to be tried in our courts, are willing to submit them to negro jurors, it is not our business to complain. All we desire to do is to call public attention to the fact, and to render unto Caesar the things that are Caesar's," so that the radicals may have all the glory and honor of the new order of things, all of which they are justly and exclusively entitled to.

A queer state of affairs exists in Arkansas. The House has presented articles of impeachment against Gov. Clayton. The Lieut. Governor attempted to exercise the functions of Governor, but was resisted by Gov. Clayton, who is sustained by the Supreme Court, the Chief Justice having issued an injunction upon the Lieutenant Governor. Upon this, the House promptly impeached the Chief Justice. The sixteen Republican members of the Senate, however, went off on an excursion, leaving that body without a quorum, making it impossible for the Senate to receive the charges officially. The Democracy, with whom the charges originated, express themselves determined to take possession of the Executive Department, and the Governor is determined to retain his seat, and pays no attention whatever to the resolutions of impeachment. There is danger of serious disturbances, and the President has directed the commander of the U. S. forces to preserve the peace.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE. - Letters of administration on the estate of George Meyer, deceased, late of Spring township, having been granted to the undersigned, all persons knowing themselves indebted to said estate are requested to make immediate payment, and those having claims against the same to present them, duly authenticated, for settlement. WM. MOYER, Administrator.

AUDITOR'S NOTICE. - In the matter of the sale of the real estate of George M. Beatty, to the Court of Common Pleas of Centre County. The auditor appointed by the Court to make distribution of the proceeds of said sale, among the parties entitled thereto, will meet the parties interested, for the purpose of his appointment on Tuesday, the 21st day of March, A. D. 1871, at two o'clock P. M. at his office in Bellefonte. S. D. GRAY, Auditor.

J. S. BARNHART, Attorney at Law. Collections and all other legal business promptly attended to. Office 2d floor over band of Wm. F. Reynolds & Co. 16 7/8