

Democratic Watchman

Terms, \$2.00 a Year, in Advance.

Bellefonte, Pa., July 12, 1889.

P. GRAY MEEK, Editor.

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WM. C. HEINLE, Chairman.

The Constitutions of the New States.

In the constitutional conventions of the four new States that will soon become members of the Union, proposals will be made to introduce some new and improved features into their State constitutions. It is proposed to provide for an absolutely secret ballot. The great defects in the ballot systems of the old States serve as a warning to those that are about to assume the duties and responsibilities of statehood. A positively secret ballot is the only way to prevent their elections from falling a prey to bulldozers who intimidate voters or hoodlums who work them "in blocks of five."

The new States also propose to elect their United States Senators by a vote of the people. This is a movement in a very excellent direction. If generally adopted it would break up the nest of wealthy nabobs into which the United States Senate is degenerating, who are able to buy up State legislatures, but wouldn't be able to purchase a majority of the voters of a State. With a popular system of electing United States Senators Pennsylvania would never have been saddled with a Cameron dynasty and all the political evils that have sprung from it. Nor is it likely that the people of the Pacific States, if left to their own choice, would be represented in the Senate by Pacific Railroad officers and silver kings. It is said that the new States also intend to have single legislatures. They have learned from the experience of the old States the uselessness of Senates and the danger of small legislative annexes that can so easily be brought under the control of the money power and be made the strongholds of corporate and monopolistic abuses.

The new States are on the right track in forming their constitutions.

A Good Chance.

The Democratic State convention to nominate a candidate for State Treasurer will meet on the 4th of September next. There are reasons why the party nominee will have a good chance of being elected, notwithstanding the usual large Republican majority. Disension prevails among the leaders of the dominant party, which in an off year is most likely to develop its fruits. A large number of the working class of people who have voted the Republican ticket realize that they have been humbugged on the tariff question. The depression in the industrial pursuits which has increased since the beginning of HARRISON'S term, will greatly loosen their party attachment. The "model" Legislature, by its complete rejection of every measure for the benefit of the laboring people, has also done its share in alienating a large number of those who have contributed to Republican majorities. The defeat of the Prohibition amendment will also have its effect upon the Republican strength in the State. With all these favoring circumstances and a judicious selection of a candidate, the Democrats will have a very fair chance of electing the State Treasurer at the next election.

Trouble with the Johnstown Fund.

Millions of money were contributed by the overflowing benevolence of the country for the relief of the Johnstown sufferers, but it is withheld from them, or doled out in dribbles, by committees that have charge of the fund and for some reason or other are incapable of applying it to the purpose for which it

was so generously given. Most of it is idly lying in banks, bound up, as it were, by the red tape that hampers the movements of those who have been entrusted with its management and distribution. There seems to be a fear that it will be misapplied, and through this over-caution the afflicted people of the Conemaugh Valley are deprived of the prompt relief which their condition so imperatively demands. This money belongs to the sufferers by right; the people contributing it intended that it should go directly to them, and the committees in whose hands it has lodged should know that they are doing a great wrong in preventing it from going without unnecessary delay to the object for which it was so generously furnished.

Proposed Revival of the Greenbackers.

What is the matter with the money system of the country that some people should think it necessary to resuscitate the Greenback party? It was generally believed that it had ceased to exist because there was no reasonable excuse for its existing any longer, but GEORGE O. JONES, who claims the position of chairman of the national Greenback party, believes otherwise, and accordingly has issued an invitation to all persons who desire to aid in reorganizing a national Greenback party to meet in their respective congressional districts on or before the 4th of September next and appoint delegates to a national Greenback convention to be held on the 12th of the same month.

The old organization vacated its rather questionable place among political parties when it got so weak and insignificant that its leaders could no longer get a price for their political influence. Do the resurrectionists who now propose to take it in hand see anything in the present political situation to inspire them with the belief that boodle may be evolved from the manipulation of a resuscitated Greenback vote?

Following a Presidential Example.

Nepotism still goes bravely on under the Harrison administration. The President has liberally provided for all his relatives and for nearly all his relatives' relatives, and his subordinates are closely following his example. BLAINE has given the snug berth in his department to his son. TANNER'S chief clerk is his daughter, a subordinate doing the work and she drawing the pay. And now T. J. MORGAN, the new Commissioner of Indian Affairs, has appointed his wife his private secretary at a salary of \$1,000, and Dr. DOBNESTER, Superintendent of Indian Schools, has been equally kind to his wife in having her appointed Indian agent at a compensation of \$6 a day. This "model" administration is carrying out the practice of nepotism as it was never carried out before in this country, and is enforcing the maxim so generally accepted as the correct thing by Republican leaders that public offices are "private snaps."

It is not easy to forget the clamor that was raised last year by the Republican papers about the buying of blankets in England for the medical department of the army during CLEVELAND'S administration. This was declared to be clearly indicative of hostility to American industry, and all kinds of ugly things were said about it. But couldn't the same now be said about the order which under the present administration has been sent out to England for bricks which are to be used in the construction of the congressional library building in Washington? Isn't it as wrong to buy English bricks as it was to buy English blankets? The high tariff organs should not fail to give this matter their attention.

Politics in Johnstown.

A special dispatch from Johnstown says the people of that town have grown tired of the way things are managed there by the State and are now slow in expressing their indignation. They think there is too much politics entering into the work of clearing up Johnstown. General Hastings and Judge Cummin attended the last meeting of the local committee, and the men representing the people of the stricken district told them in plain terms that they had decided to appeal for aid to the national government and thus take things out of the hands of the politicians. Soon after the great disaster occurred it was plain that both factions of the republican party had carried their fight into the desolate valley of the Conemaugh, and it is small wonder that the unfortunate people are highly incensed. The politician who will seek to make political capital out of the terrible calamity must indeed be of a very narrow kind.

The body of Mrs. Henry Snyder, who was drowned by the late flood, was found in a drift pile Monday below Salona and was buried in Cedar Hill Cemetery.

WALL PAPER.—Large stock—must be sold. Prices astonishing, write for samples to JOHN M. DEAN & Co., Williamsport, Pa.

Plain Words.

From the *Presbyterian*, the organ and mouth piece of a very respectable and influential part of the Presbyterian church, we get the following, explicit views as to where the responsibility rests for the defeat of the Prohibition amendment:

The Hon. James McManes is reported in the *Press* as saying: "Some days ago I was interviewed on the question of Prohibition, and then stated that I thought that the Amendment would be defeated, but that it would be a great pity if the Republican party, with all its power in this State, would allow it to be defeated by a large majority. I said on that occasion that if it were defeated by a large majority I thought it would hurt the party. I simply reiterate what was stated in that interview. The defeat of the Prohibition Amendment by such a large majority cannot be otherwise than detrimental to the Republicans. The leaders and workers of both parties were against the Amendment."

"Did you favor the submission of the proposition to amend in the beginning, Mr. McManes?" "I did not. I was opposed to its submission when the proposition was presented in the Republican Convention in 1886 for adoption as a plank in the Republican platform. I was opposed to it because I could not understand the purpose for which it was offered. After the Convention adopted it, however, I assumed that it had been taken up in good faith. I considered that it was in accord with the sentiment of a considerable number of citizens of the State and felt bound to support it as a Republican. There was no secret about my position on the question. Acting under the conviction that it was a measure which would do good, I voted for it. I am now convinced that it was not offered in good faith and that such a sweeping majority will do harm to the Republican party in the State."

It is now the policy of the newspapers that have taken the lead in serving the rum power to treat the general conviction that the Prohibition cause was sold out, with a smirk of half disguised contempt. There are those who obtained no share of the rum spoils who are more serious over the subject, and who will not dismiss it so lightly. The minorities are the men who got no spoils; these men vote in the next convention, and have not had the profits of paid advertisements, and there are enough of them to defeat any party. Men with their pockets stuffed may be merry, but there is an unsettled account to be paid. Mr. McManes is no alarmist, and no man can doubt his foresight and devotion to his party; neither is he insincere; he put the case exactly as it was. It is a well-known fact that the Republican party feared the Prohibition vote and made a bargain for it and got it. The condition was not merely to pass a bill to submit it to the people. Prohibitionists were never so silly as not to understand the futility of such a service. They did just as Mr. McManes said. He was not to respect sincerity and sense of obligation to engagements whether he personally prefers them or not. To secure the Prohibition vote, overtures and promises were made not only to submit the Amendment, but to support it. Mr. McManes is honest and challenges respect for the statement so clearly made. The case for the Amendment is not to be kept by obligations and sense of responsibility cannot be jockeyed away, and all such efforts are only glorifying in shame. The high-sounding phrases about being the party of moral issues belong to the past—it has been and is his glory. But who can hold up his face now and talk of high moral issues? It is no higher to-day than any other party on the highest question of morals and humanity ever submitted to the people. The number voting against the rum power in each party was respectable, but the odium of the rum party can no longer be bandied as a hateful distinction. It must be divided equally between the two old parties. On that day Herod and Pilate made a deal, and the result was a side, cheek by jowl, soliciting votes to the same end—the support of the rum power. This rallying cry of "high moral issues" has been knocked into smithereens. Prohibitionists, like blind pigs, have gotten their eyes open—Tuesday, 18th, was emphatically an eye opener. The writer has always supported the Republican party, honestly believing it to be braced by conscience in morals. If we continue there will have to be a divorce from the late union so conspicuous on the 18th of June. Republican Prohibitionists take this subject to heart because they believe they had every assurance from their party. The Democrats had promised nothing and in no respect kept any moral obligations. The next time Sullivan fights he will want a man not afraid to stand up and give and take.

He Meant Business.

Mrs. Harrison—Benjamin, I think there is a burglar under the bed. Hoosier voice from beneath—No, ma'am, I've got ez good a reputation in Plumville ez any man, and I have a petition signed by all the leadin' citizens ter show th' cit'z'n in the mornin'. I want th' post-office, an' Lige Harford couldn't stav' me off with a bluff.

Leavenworth, Kan., has developed a notable epidemic sickness, but it alarms no one but the doctors, who are not consulted. The patients themselves just sign the certificates setting forth that they are ill, and leave them at the drug stores which are not permitted to sell liquor in the absence of such trustworthy data. Some wonderful health statistics will be made from these records day.

South Fork Club Responsible.

The *Coroner's Jury* Fixes the Blame for the Johnstown Horror.

JOHNSTOWN, Pa., July 7.—Coroner Evans, of Cambria county, and his jury last night found the members of the South Fork Fishing Club responsible for the awful loss of life and the destruction of property occasioned by the bursting of the dam at Conemaugh Lake. Only one witness, Mr. James Shoemaker, a Johnstown shoemaker who lost all his property, a wife and six children in the flood, was examined last night. At the conclusion of his testimony the jury deliberated about half an hour and then returned a verdict against the millionaire members, concluded in the following words:

"We, the undersigned, the inquest impaneled to investigate the cause of the death of Helen Hite on the 31st of May, after hearing the testimony, find that Helen Hite came to her death by drowning; that the drowning was caused by the breaking of the South Fork Dam. We further find, from the testimony and from what we ourselves saw on the ground, that there was not a sufficient waste vein, nor was the dam constructed sufficiently strong nor of the proper material to withstand the overflow; and hence we find that the owners of said dam were culpable in not making it as secure as it should have been, especially in view of the fact that a population of many thousands was in the valley below; and we hold that the owners are responsible for the fearful loss of life and property resulting from the breaking of the dam."

The Coroner says he fully coincides with the verdict, it being strictly in accordance with the evidence, and it is expected that speedy action will be taken by District Attorney Fendelow.

The following is a list of officers and members of the South Fork Fishing and Hunting Club: Colonel E. J. Unger, President; Colonel J. J. Lawrence, Vice-President; Louis Irwin, Treasurer; E. A. Meyers, Secretary; H. C. Frick, Louis Clark, E. A. Meyers, W. T. Dunn, W. A. McIntosh, Henry Holdship, John B. Jackson, Frank Bissel, John A. Harper, Oliver McCintock, William K. Woodwell, Durbon Herne, Hillery J. Bonnst, John Caldwell, Benjamin Thaw, Frank Semple, W. Chalfant and Ernest Schartz.

Sullivan Wins the Fight.

The Sullivan-Kilrain fight is over and the former, whom we are unable to whip, has again been declared the victor. The fight took place on Monday forenoon, and was an easy victory for Sullivan. From the first round it was apparent that Kilrain, after all the blowing and bragging of his trainer, Mitchell, and himself, was no match for the great slugger, who knocked his opponent down pretty much as his pleasure. Kilrain adopted Mitchell's tactics of running all over the ring in the endeavor to tire Sullivan out, but failed to do so, and at the end of the contest, which dragged out to seventy-five rounds, Sullivan was almost as fresh as when he entered the ring. Kilrain was terribly punished on the body, as well as in the face, the blood flowing from ears, nose and mouth, with one of his eyes badly bunged. Sullivan was cut a little on one ear and had a bruise over one eye, but didn't seem to mind it a bit. Kilrain cried like a baby because he had lost the battle, which he deserved to lose from the contemptible way in which he attempted to fight it. Sullivan now stands the acknowledged and undisputed champion of the world in the slugger business. He has proved this so often that hereafter when any man doubts it he will be looked upon as a fool. Now let John L. retire on his laurels and henceforth let us hope that a stop will be put to the brutal sport of prize-fighting for all time. It is a business that ought to be banished from American civilization, and relegated to England from the soil of which it sprung.

Kilrain having consorted with Charles Mitchell, who never fought a fair fight in his life, and having depended on him for success, now chews the bitter cud of disappointment. He would be much more thought of now had he stood up like a man and been knocked down in every round, instead of running all around to avoid being hit. But he was hit and knocked down often enough anyway. Kilrain has had enough of John L. Sullivan, although he weakly talks about fighting him again. The great bruiser will never bother his head anymore about Jacob Kilrain. The next time Sullivan fights he will want a man not afraid to stand up and give and take.

The Bread Supply.

Exchange. It has been decided that we are to pay high for our sugar this year, but we are likely to get our biscuits cheap. In the Southwest the wheat harvest is in progress, and careful estimates indicate that the yield will be fully as good or better than in any preceding year. In the State of Kentucky, should there be no misfortune, the harvest will reach twelve or fourteen million bushels. On the Pacific Coast this year the success of the wheat crop has been unprecedented. The yield of California, it is known will reach the immense amount of 72,000,000 bushels, which will exceed the record of any other State or Territory; the highest previous total being 61,000,000 bushels, produced by Illinois in 1880. Oregon will harvest about 20,000,000 bushels, and Washington more than half as much. From the Northwest come the same favorable reports. The two Dakota crops are a thresh 90,000,000 bushels, and the crop of Minnesota will be correspondingly large. With his immense wheat surplus this Autumn, the Northwestern farmer will begin to realize that reciprocity in trade is better for him than a high tariff. With the discouragement of foreign commerce, the market for our spare grain is yearly contracting. England prefers buying her wheat from subject India rather than from us, and Russia supplies much of the deficit that India can not provide for. Our foreign market is every year becoming more contracted by reason of our restrictive tariff and the home market is not capable of consuming our products.

General Cameron's Will.

Public and Private Bequests in the Disposition of His Estate.

HARRISBURG, July 7.—General Cameron's will has not yet been made public, but the following are known to be some of the bequests: Harrisburg Hospital, \$10,000; Home of the friendless, Harrisburg, \$10,000; his library and \$5,000 to the Young Men's Christian Association of Harrisburg as the foundation of a library for journeymen and apprentices; Mrs. James Duffy, of Marietta, \$5,000, in grateful recognition of her uniform kindness to his son Simon; German Reformed Church of Maytown, Lancaster county, \$5,000 and a passage; John Campbell, his servant, \$5,000; Old D. Congregational Church, \$2,000; Harris Park, Front street, \$1,000. A legacy of \$5,000 to his sister, Mrs. Bobbs, of Indianapolis, has lapsed by her death. The Home for the Friendless bequest is to be invested and called the Margaret Cameron fund, in memory of General Cameron's wife, the interest to be applied to the support of the institution. The Maytown Church bequest is to be invested by the church trustees, and the interest to be applied to the support of a pastor. The will directs that the collateral inheritance tax on all these bequests shall be paid out of the estate, so that they may not be diminished.

Among the private bequests are the following: His grand-daughters, Mrs. David Watts, Mrs. S. H. Chauvenet, and Miss Janet Cameron, \$30,000 each; his grand sons, Simon B. Cameron, S. Cameron Burnside and Thomas Burnside, \$50,000 each; the two first named of the latter also being given a farm each.

Avoidable Accidents.

A young man in this State, in a spirit of bravado, recently made a bet that he could put two billiard balls into his mouth at a once. He succeeded in doing so, but a surgeon had to be summoned to remove the balls; and in order to accomplish this it was necessary to make a slit in each side of the young man's mouth. All this disfigurement and pain for a foolish piece of darning.

Far more dangerous was the condition of another young man, who declared that he could put an open penknife into his mouth and close his lips.

He tried it. The nerves of deglutition were stimulated, the muscles respond, caught the knife, and in an instant it slipped down his throat. An open knife, with its sharp and pointed blade, is not a pleasant morsel to think of digesting.

A physician was hastily called. "His chance for life is small," said the doctor. "He must eat all the oatmeal mush he possibly can, and so ensue that dangerous knife-bite."

Fortunately, this expedient proved successful. The knife traversed the thirty feet of the alimentary canal without puncturing that delicate structure, and the foolish young man—a wiser man now, let us hope—escaped what seemed like almost certain death.

Recently, a boy thoughtlessly crowded a kernel of corn into his ear, and it passed beyond the narrow part of the auditory canal. Here it began to swell, causing the most excruciating pain. But worse than this, in rude attempts to remove the offending kernel, the tympanic membrane was punctured, and the boy's hearing may be permanently injured.

Slavery for Workers.

Philadelphia Evening Herald. President Austin Corbin of the Reading Railroad and Coal and Iron Company is trying the paternal act on the employees of the Reading Iron Works, which were bought by the Railroad company at auction a few days back. In order to get employment these men must sign a formal document agreeing not to belong to any labor organization or to indulge in drink. This attempt at evangelization business is quite on a par with Mr. Corbin's general policy, of which the destruction of the trades unions was the beginning and a fair sample. That men can be found who for the sake of bread for wife and children will submit to such officious interference with their rights only goes to show the complete dependence of our workers, which is the out-growth of our present restricted markets and fierce "home competition," the responsibility for which the war tariff people so gladly assume.

If the President of the Reading were to require men, as a condition of employment, to go to mass on Sundays or vote the Republican, Democratic or Greenback ticket, he could still find many who would do so rather than starve; yet this would be not a particle more unjust or tyrannical than what he has done. In fact, tyranny and lowering wages for workmen all around seem to be as natural outgrowths of our present system of trade restriction as a rain is of a hot and sunny spell of weather.

Just prior to the war a diplomatic representative of a foreign nation brought a cook with him to Washington. This culinary employe saved his money, bought land in the suburbs of the city, and became well-to-do. His daughter fell in love with and married a butcher.

The ox-killer also bought land, and shortly after the capital was beautified by Boss Shepley, real estate took a sudden boom and the cook and butcher each became very wealthy. They bought fine houses, furnished them richly, drove splendid equipages, and only needed the entree to Washington society to elevate them to the seventh or eleventh heaven of bliss. There was a society queen who needed money, and needed it very much indeed. The wife of the butcher, who was also the daughter of the cook, learned the facts, and gave \$5,000 hard cash to the society queen for the privilege of being placed upon her visiting list. It was done. Presto! Other ladies asked the queen why she had taken up with "that common creature," and were informed that "her ancestors are among the bluest bloods of the Old World. Temporary poverty made her father a cook. Honest toil, even by a nobleman, is no disgrace in America; besides, she is a charming little lady." In less than two years' time the daughter of the cook and wife of the butcher became one of the social leaders of Washington.

The Fight for the Championship.

The battle for the championship of the world, \$20,000 and the Fox championship belt, between Sullivan and Jake Kilrain, was fought last Monday near Riehnburg, Marion County, Miss., and was won by Sullivan in seventy-five rounds, occupying two hours and five minutes, the sponge being thrown up for Kilrain at the end of that time.

The battle was one of the hardest ever fought between big men in this country, but from start to finish Sullivan had decidedly the best of it. Kilrain did not prove to be the wonderful wrestler represented, for Sullivan threw him as often as he was thrown, and with far greater severity. The day was intensely hot and this added to the punishment of the men. John Fitzpatrick, of New Orleans, was referee. He is an honest man, but he is not fully posted on the rules of the London prize ring, and he exercised great leniency toward Kilrain, who went down repeatedly without a blow in the most deliberate manner. He equalized matters somewhat, however, by twice overlooking fouls of Sullivan, who once sat down on Kilrain's breast, and another time jumped on him with both knees.

The ring was of the regulation size, twenty-four feet square, and the eight pine posts were encircled by a double row of the finest inch and an eighth manilla rope. The ground in the enclosure was hard and level, covered here and there with a sparse crop of grass. The sun, which had not shown his face during the early hours of the morning, burst forth with great fury at 8.15, and umbrellas were at a premium, hats were removed in a jiffy and handkerchiefs were bound about necks. Two cameras were planted on stands on the Western side of the ring and two expert photographers began manipulating the machines to catch the men in all different positions as the fight progressed. Sullivan was seconded by Muldon and Mike Cleary. Tom Costello was time-keeper, and Phil Lynch was his umpire. Kilrain was seconded by Charley Mitchell and Mike Donovan. Burt Masterman was time-keeper, and Denny Butler was his umpire.

The first round was short and sweet. Sullivan led with his fist, but missed. Kilrain rushed in under his arm, caught him around the neck, twisted him over his hip and flung him to the ground.

In the second round there was some sharp hitting. Early in the round the men clinched and struggled for the fall. Sullivan was able to push Kilrain. After a sharp exchange of blows Sullivan grappled Jake and threw him hard and rolled him over and over after he touched the ground.

In the third round Kilrain three times struck Sullivan below the belt in a hand-to-hand rally, but no claim of foul was made. By and by Kilrain began going down without blows, and then Sullivan claimed the fouls three times again, but the claims were ignored, as were the two fouls he committed. Kilrain spiked Sullivan's feet in an awful manner and trotted away around him in a very provoking way. The only "professional" thing he did was to refrain from striking Sullivan during one of the rounds in which the big fellow was sick at the stomach. Kilrain was fully punished around the body. In fact, he took enough punishment to satisfy a dozen men. Kilrain was terribly beaten toward the latter end of the seventy-fifth round. Charley Mitchell went over to Sullivan's corner and asked him what he would give Kilrain if he would give in.

"Not a cent," was Sullivan's answer, "let the fellow get up and fight."

Mitchell went back, and then Donovan threw up the sponge in token of defeat. The instant he did so Sullivan was surrounded by hundreds of friends. He broke away from them and wanted to fight Charley Mitchell then and there, but he was prevented from striking Mitchell by Charley Johnson and Mike Cleary. Sullivan almost struck Cleary in his efforts to free himself from his grasp. The whole party returned to New Orleans by special trains.

Simply Knocked Out.

Clarified Republican. A huge effort was made in our Legislature last winter, to pass a law preventing dressed beef being brought into this State from other States. The measure was accidentally defeated, because such law would have been unconstitutional and contrary to good common sense. However, the Legislatures of Minnesota, Indiana and some other States passed the foolish measure, and placed it on their statute books. In President Harrison's State (Indiana) an appeal was taken to the Supreme Court by Chicago dealer, and the Supreme Court of the State of Indiana has decided that the Act in question is unconstitutional and therefore void. If the Legislature is wicked enough to pass an Act to prohibit meat from coming into the State, wheat, flour, corn, etc., would soon follow, and consequently an irrepressible conflict would soon break out between producer and consumer, the end of which no one could conjecture, as well as the evils it would entail. The men who advocate measures of this character need watching; they are not Democrats without guile.

JOHNSTOWN'S ESTIMATED LOSS.

The secretary of the Board of State Commissioners has prepared his report of the total loss as the result of the great flood at Johnstown. According to his compilation to date the amount is estimated at \$8,655,144 on actual losses reported and estimates based on them. Mr. Davies' work has been completed and he will be succeeded by Mr. Frank Cordon of Johnstown. The above does not include the Cambria Iron Company, the Johnstown Manufacturing Company, nor the Cambria and Westmoreland Gas Company.

WHAT'S IN A NAME.—An exchange says: "We are, indeed, a happy elegant, moral, transcendent people. We have no masters, they are all principals; no shopmen, they are 'helps; no jailers, they are all governors; nobody is flogged in prison, he merely receives the correction of the house; nobody is ever unable to meet his engagements; nobody is angry, he is only excited; nobody is cross, he is only nervous; lastly, nobody is drunk—the very utmost that you can assert is that 'he has taken his wine.'"