# Democratic Watchman.

*Terms, $2.00 a Year, in Advance.*

**Bellefonte, Pa., August 2, 1889.**

P. GRAY MEEK, - - - EDITOR.


**Democratic County Committee, 1889.**

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WM. C. HEINLE, Chairmam.

### How He is Getting His Revenge.

A few years ago when the Reading Railroad company was in tight papers, which it usually was under FRANKLIN B. GOWEN's administration, that gentleman secured the appointment of Mr. JOHN WANAMAKER as one of the trustees selected to effect a reorganization of the company. It was not intended that their functions should extend any further than the accomplishment of this object, and when it was accomplished all of them withdrew except Mr. WANAMAKER. He insisted that he should be elected one of the Board of Managers, much to the surprise and disgust of his associates, who couldn't bring themselves to admire his disposition to force himself in where he wasn't wanted. However, he didn't succeed in his design and has since been harboring toward the Managers bitter feelings that ill become a Christian and Sunday School Superintendent.

As long as he was in private life he hadn't a chance to wreak his vengeance on the offending company, but as soon as he got to be Postmaster General he found his opportunity. He took from the Reading railroad every bit of government patronage he could officially control and gave it to a rival company. He used his official power as an instrument of his personal spite, the same as he has used his office as a means of promoting his private business. Those who observe JOHN rolling up the whites of his eyes in his Bethany Sunday School would scarcely think that he is this kind of a man.

### A Candid Pension Raider.

Private DALZELL, who holds a high position in the Grand Army of the Republic, denounces in a letter to the New York *Sun* the treatment with which Commissioner of Pensions TANNER is threatened, calling it persecution, and warns the Administration against interfering with the course which TANNER has pursued for the benefit of the soldiers. He claims that the Administration is where it is on account of the promises made in regard to pensions. "We won the campaign," he says, "and elected General HARRISON expressly on the promise of larger pensions. This alone elected HARRISON; nothing else." Then with a fine burst of patriotic fervor coupled with a word of warning, he goes on to say: "Let TANNER redeem the promise, if he will, and Congress follow suit, or the Rupublican party must die in disgrace for betraying its poorest, noblest and most worthy supporters, the soldiers."

DALZELL is unquestionably a chucklehead and just the sort of fellow to blurt out the sentiments and purpose of that Prætorian Guard, the G. A. R., which assumes the power of pulling down and putting up the Presidents of the Republic for the plunder that may be in it.

——The German strikers recently tried at Breslau, were convicted, and thirty-two of them were sentenced to seven years imprisonment. Germany is a high tariff country and, as is the case in the United States which is blessed with the same beneficent system, there is discontent and disturbance among the working people. They are not having this trouble to any extent in free trade England.

—QUAY is unanimous for Speaker Boyer for State Treasurer, and when the Boss is unanimous there is a corresponding unanimity in the party he controls.

### Justly Indignant.

About as indignant a set of people as exist upon this globe at the present time, are the tax payers of Ferguson twp. The assessment in that township was made by two competent assessors, who, according to the reports, valued real estate in many instances at its full value, and in some at more than it would bring at public sale if time payments were allowed. To this valuation Commissioners HENDERSON and DECKER coolly added 8 per cent., and then fixed the place for holding the appeals away over at Scotia, in Patton township, thinking it would prevent citizens of Ferguson from attending. The different Grange organizations in the township sent committees to protest against this injustice, all the prominent citizens attended, and it was the universal opinion that the increase of 8 per cent. made by the Commissioners was not only unjust but illegal. When remonstrated with, Commissioner HENDERSON coolly answered that he owed Ferguson township nothing—that it had not voted for him, and that "by the heavens above and the earth beneath, the assessment should stand as it had been made." It stood, or has stood so far, and the insulted tax-payers of that township, upon whose property an increased valuation is placed because they didn't vote for HENDERSON when he was a candidate, are now considering the propriety of appealing to court. We sympathize with our friends up there, but sympathy doesn't do much good in a matter of assessment when there are two lunkheads of Commissioners like HENDERSON and DECKER. It is possible that by the time the people of this county get done paying these two incompetent officials for insulting them, and footing the bills they are fastening upon the county, they will have enough of Republican rule to last them the balance of their lives.

Valuing the property of farmers and others at more than it will sell for in order to increase taxation without raising the millage, is a little too thin to deceive any one. This the Republican managers will find out.

### The Wheat Prospect.

There is an improved prospect for American farmers who have wheat to sell. For some years past their profits in this line of production have been discouragingly meager, but if the signs are not misleading the price of wheat will make a considerable advance. The crop in Austria and Russia will be so deficient this season as to cut off exportation from those countries, while it is reported to be short in India some 15,000,000 bushels. These are the sources from which England, the great consumer of the surplus wheat of the world, draws the larger portion of her supply. The reports of the Agricultural Department represent that this year's yield of the great wheat producing States of the northwest will be less than an average. This fact, added to the foreign deficiency, is likely to put the price of wheat higher than it has been for some years.

——In looking over a Northumberland county paper last week the proceedings of the Republican Convention of that county met our eye. Among the resolutions adopted was one declaring the unalterable faith of the convention in the tariff as a means of protection to the working people of the country. It does not appear that there was any one present to ring a chestnut bell. The same stuff was worked into the resolutions of Republican conventions last year, and at this date it must have a provokingly familiar sound to those who are out of employment or have had their wages reduced after having been told a year ago that all that was necessary to furnish them with plenty of work and good wages was the success of the tariff party. The framing of a Republican tariff resolution at this time requires more than an ordinary amount of gall.

——The failure of the great mercantile firm of Lewis & Co. is the heaviest that has occurred in Philadelphia in many years. It involves losses amounting to millions, and is widely extended in its disastrous effects. Among other causes that produced this disaster, all indicating an unsatisfactory condition of business, was the failure of woolen manufacturing firms with which Lewis & Co. were connected, which were crippled by the idiotic policy of taxing the raw materials used in their business. Following closely upon this Philadelphia collapse comes the failure of BACHELOR & Co., one of the oldest of Boston shoe firms, with liabilities amounting to nearly a million and a half. In whatever direction one may look he finds it difficult to see that booming condition of business which was promised as a result of the election of a high tariff President.

### The Seal Fur Monopoly.

News from Alaska furnishes intelligence of the capture, by the American revenue cutter Rush, of a British vessel, the Black Diomond, which was found trespassing in Behring sea in pursuit of seals. The captured vessel belonged to British Columbia, and an effort is being made by the Dominion authorities to induce the English government to treat it as an offence to the British flag. It is not likely that John Bull will give it serious attention.

In 1887, under the Cleveland administration, the same revenue cutter Rush seized no less than seven British vessels, the Anna, Dolphin, Grace, Ella, Saywood, Mary Ellen and the Alfred Adams, which were caught in committing the same kind of trespass as that for which the Black Diamond was overhauled some week ago. The British authorities made no remonstrance in those cases, and it is not likely they will in this later instance.

In 1888 very little was done in overhauling trespassing vessels in Behring Sea. The activity of the present administration in this matter may be accounted for by the fact that the Alaska Seal Fur Company has a monopoly of the fur trade in Behring Sea, and there is nothing that a Republican administration would sooner defend than a monopoly.

### Good-by, Boulanger!

It is gratifying to hear the election news from France. Last Sunday the different cantons throughout the Republic elected members of the Councils General, and BOULANGER, whose partisans made a contest in most of them, carried scarcely a baker's dozen. It is difficult for an American to understand the nature of a French election, but it is declared by those who know how the peculiar thing works that the result on Sunday has completely used up BOULANGER as a political factor. One of the anomalies of French politics is that a character like BOULANGER—a thorough humbug both in a military and political sense—should have had any standing at all. He seems to be now at the end of his tether and out of the way for some other adventurer to bob up to the surface, which in French politics may be expected to happen at any moment.

——The Commission appointed to overhaul the Soldiers' Orphan Schools have decided to discontinue the Mount Joy, McAllisterville, Mercer and Chester Spring schools, which are known as the institutions run by the Squeers syndicate. For years they have served merely as a means of making money for a set of heartless speculators who have been banking on the patriotic sentiment of the State. They should have been discontinued long ago. In fact the entire system, as it has been conducted for the last decade, has not been creditable to Pennsylvania.

### Down in the Coal Mines.

Philadelphia Record.

Notwithstanding the vast wealth that flows in Pactolian streams from the coal regions of Pennsylavania, there is no portion of the State in which so much poverty and wretchedness prevail. Instead of securing a just share of the wealth created by their labor, the miners are the victims of a system of cupidity which wrings the last dollar from their toil. What with the low wages, the long intervals of enforced idleness, the company store iniquity, and other wrongs and extortions, the condition of Pennsylvania miners is not to be envied by their brethren in any portion of the globe. Although the nominal daily wages of the miners who recently organized the extensive strike in Germany is lower than the wages paid in Pennsylvania, the German miners secure larger yearly earnings through more steady employment, and are far better protected by the laws from the rapacity of their employers.

Apart from the demoralization and misery produced by the wage system, there is another gloomy phase of human existence in the Pennsylvania coal mines in the insecurity to life. A recent number of *Harper'z Weekly* contained a striking picture, in which two miners had come to tell a poor woman that she was a widow. The mining regions are full of widows, made such by disasters which with due precaution might have been averted. At best, the underground occupation of the miner is attended by constant dangers. He cannot tell at what moment he may be suffocated by noxious gases, engendered by the carelessness of superintendent, inspector or boss, or buried beneath a mass of coal brought down by the practice of robbing the pillars of the mine.

Yet the statute-book of Pennsylvania is covered with laws for the alleged protection of its miners. Most of this legislation has been in the interest of officialism, in providing a retinue of State inspectorships, and thus imposing upon the Commonwealth a duty and responsibility which belong to the mine-owners.

One of these inspectors, in a report upon a mine accident in which nineteen persons lost their lives last February, attributes the fatal accidents in mines in a large degree to the employment of unskillful and inexperienced superintendents. The inspector truly says that it is an absurdity "to place persons in responsible positions in mines who have had only a few years or a few months experience. "It is not merely an absurdity, it is a crime to put inexperienced persons in places in which their ignorance may cost the hundreds of lives intrusted to their care.

In a recent report of the State Bureau of Statistics it is admitted that the laws to protect the lives and health of miners are not enforced; and to this fact the report ascribes the numerous fatal disasters in the mining regions. But it is a grave question whether these laws themselves, in their blundering interference, do not cause much of the mischief which this report deplores. While the main object of legislation should be "to protect the innocent against the guilty," these mining laws, instead of fixing responsibility for willful neglect, have succeeded in subdividing and confounding it to such an extent that responsibility can scarcely be said to exist at all.

If the mine-owners and operators should be held responsible penally and in damages for accidents caused by the neglect of superintendents and bosses, they would be extremely cautious in the selection of their servants. When compelled to pay for the loss of life and limb resulting from the ignorance or carelessness of their mine superintendents, the coal corporations would find it ecomical to employ men of knowledge and experience. But when a disaster occurs, and a cononer's inquest follows, the responsibility is tossed backward and forward from State inspector to mine superintendent and boss, and in the confusion the guilty persons are sure to escape from prosecution, and their employers from damages.

By its blundering interference the State thus increases the danger of mine accidents. The State inspector trusts to the superintendent, the superintendent to the boss, and miners and mine-owners to all three. It is not strange that with this divided responsibility there should be so many disasters in the mines, and so many poor, helpless and dependent widows in the mining regions, like the victim in the picture above referred to.

### The Country's Crops.

*Summaries Show Their Condition to be Above the Average.*

*The Farmer's Review* this week will say: The majority of our crop correspondents report an excess of rain during the past week, which has interfered considerably with the harvesting of wheat, and inclined oats to rust and lodge. The great present need is dry, hot weather to bring corn forward and enable farmers to cut and harvest grain crops.

The prospects for potatoes are very flattering in all states covered by your report save in Minnesota and Dakota, and even in that section the crop promises to be a fair one. In most of the other states the present condition is considerably above the average. Corn prospects continue good in Missouri, Nebraska, Kansas and Iowa. The crop has improved considerably in Wisconsin, Minnesota and Dakota under recent moist hot weather. Quite a falling off is noticeable in the reports from Ohio and Kentucky, however. In Illinois and Indiana the present outlook is fair. On the whole the present situation is rather critical. If cool, wet weather prevails during the next fifteen days the result will be disastrous in many fields already saturated with moisture. With hot dry weather during that time the crop would probably be above the average.

The condition of spring wheat continues good in Iowa and Nebraska and fair in Wisconsin. The crop has improved since last report in Minnesota, but reports are far from encouraging. Dakota correspondents report a still further decline in condition, with prospects of only half a crop. A general decline is noticeable in the condition of the oat crop in Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan and Wiscoasin and Kansas due to the excessively wet weather. In Kansas many correspondents report serious damage from rust, but whether it will materially affect the yield for the whole state it is yet too early to determine. In Kentucky, Iowa, Nebraska, Minnesota and Dakota the condition has improved slightly since last reports. In Dakota, however, it is too late to restore even a fair average and the crop there will probally be almost a failure.

We summarize the report as follows: Per cent of conditions as compared with an average; Illinois—Corn 90, oats 91, potatoes, 107; Indiana—Corn 91 oats 91, potatoes 103; Ohio—Corn 83, oats 96, potatoes 104; Missouri--Corn 97, oats 100, potatoes 109· Kentucky—Corn 90, oats 100, potatoes 114; Kansas—Corn 105, oats 90, potatoes 109; Iowa—Spring wheat 98, corn 102, oats 103, potatoes 102; Nebraska—Spring wheat 96, corn 99, oats 92, potatoes 68; Michigan--Corn 66, oats 103, potatoes 95⅔; Wisconsin—Spring wheat 93, corn 78, oats 106, potatoet 103; Minnesota—Spring wheat 93, corn 88, oats 87, potatoes 87; Dakota—Spring wheat 56, corn 98, oats 44, potatoes 82.

### Determined To Have His Money.

Judge Wilson has a little story that contains considerable meat. The style in which he tells it is about as follows: A man in New York, named Levy, stood charged with murder. The case appeared to be decidely against him. A few of his friends collected $5,000, and finding a man on the jury who was known to be dishonest, they informed him that if he would succeed in having brought in a verdict of murder in the second degree they would give him the money. It was thought sure there would be a verdict of murder in the first degree. Well, the case finally went to the jury, which remained out forty-eight hours. Then a verdict was returned of murder in the second degree.

As the story goes, their man, whose name was Cohen, went to the friends of Levy and claimed the $5,000, which was paid him.

"Look here," said one of them; "how was it that the jury was out so long? Why we were almost frightened to death."

"Why there were eight of those d—d fools wanted to acquit Levy" said Cohen, "but you bet I had them bring in the second degree."

——The promise of "two dollars a day and roast beef" has failed to materialize.

### How Buying Goods of Wanamaker Facilitates Appointment to Office.

The Philadelphia clothing house of Wanamaker & Co. is, according to a story told by some of the Texas Republicans, again making hay while the sun of a Republican Administration shines upon it. On Saturday last Joseph W. Burke was appointed Internal Revenue Collector for the Third Texas district. The manner in which the appointment was brought about is to say the least, a little peculiar. He was endorsed for the place by only one man of prominence in Texas Republican politics, Chairman Degress of the State Committee. He has not been prominent in politics, and the leading Republicans of the State have been in some doubt whether he was a Republican or a Democrat. National Committeeman Cuney Brewster, defeated candidate for Congress in the Seventh Texas district, which includes the Third Internal Revenue district, and other prominent Republicans had endorsed for the place Lock McDaniel, former candidate for Congress in the First district, On account of the disparity in the backing of the two men, McDaniel's appointment was confidently expected by those interested. But Mr. Degress, it seems, knows a trick or two, and two weeks ago he proceeded to play his last card. Burke runs a clothing store in Austin, and is a respectable merchant, who has the reputation of paying his bills.

"Burke," said the astute Chairman one recent day, "it is about time to lay in your fall stock of clothing; where do you buy goods?"

"Sometimes in St. Louis and sometimes in Chicago," said the merchant.

"Well, if I were you," was Degrees's rejoinder, "I would try Wanamaker & Co. of Philadelphia. I hear they are a good firm to deal with."

So Mr. Burke took the train to Philadelphia. He bought a nice line of goods for his Austin store, and made arrangements for a continuance of the friendly relations thus begun. On leaving the store he said to Mr. Robert Ogden, the business manager:

"By the way, Mr. Ogden, I am a candidate for the Internal Revenue Collectorship at Austin, and as I am on the way to Washington I'd like to make the acquaintance of Mr. Wanamaker, the Postmaster-General."

"Certainly" was Mr. Ogden's prompt response, and he sat down and wrote a letter to his chief, warmly commending Mr. Burke as a man and merchant. Burke came to Washington with the letter, presented it to Wanamaker, and in a few minutes was on his way to the office of the Secretary of the Treasury with a letter of introduction from Mr. Wanamaker in his pocket. Though the Postmaster-General had never seen Burke before, and knew nothing about him, except what his manager, Mr. Ogden, had written, he commended Burke to Secretary Windom as a moral and religious gentleman, a high toned merchant and worthy Republican. That was on Friday. The next day Burke's appointment was announced at the White House.

To say that the Texas Republicans who relate this interesting story are indignant at the good merchant from Philadelphia would be a mild statement of the case.

### Sullivan's Sledge Hammer Blows.

The habitues of the Laclede hotel, St. Louis, have a lively recollection of the visit which John L. Sullivan paid to that hostelry some four years ago. He was there for several days, and during his stay was the observed of all observers. A number of gentlemen did their best to induce him to give an exhibition of his wonderful strength. This he declined to do, but at length yielded to their solicitations and performed a feat which none who witnessed it will ever forget.

Stepping to the bar, which is of hard mahogany, he laid a silver dollar on the counter. He then raised his right hand and brought his fist down upon the coin with tremendous force. Upon raising his hand it was seen that the coin was stamped deep into the bar and could with difficulty be extracted. Every letter and line of the device was reproduced in the hard wood and remained plainly legible for two years, in spite of the frequent scrubbings to which it was subjected.

### New Johnstown.

The Cambria Iron Company has learned a lesson by the recent flood at Johnstown and now propose to turn the lesson to account. They own a large farming tract of land on Yoder Hill, just west of the town and propose to lay out about 500 acres in pleasant building lots, which will have also streets and alleys, graded, paved and macadamized. They purpose to open out the property in sections, one after the other as they may be needed, for the benefit of their employes. The hilltop is 567 feet higher than the Pennsylvania railroad station, and fully 1,751 feet above sea level. The Company's plan is to build an incline plane from near the centre of the new town, and reach the lots from the works in about a stretch of half a mile. The town will have water and gas mains laid and an efficient sewerage system introduced, whilst stringent provisions will be made prohibiting the sale of intoxicating liquors. Religious and educational buildings will be erected, and a site provided for building thereon a large hotel. It will help to solve the problem of the future of Johnstown.

### The Act against Cigarettes.

The following is the text of the act passed by the late legislature concerning the selling of cigarettes:

That if any person or persons shall sell cigarettes to any person or persons under the age of sixteen years, he or she offending shall be guilty of a misdeameanor and upon conviction thereof shall be sentenced to pay a fine of not more than three hundred dollars.

——John McBride, of Johnstown, died on July 23, in that city, under circumstances which it was deemed advisable to investigate. A jury was appointed and on Wednesday evening the following verdict was returned: "John McBride came to his death from being hit with a stone, or stones, by the hand of Annie L. Frankhauser, and that this hitting was done maliciously and feloniously, and we direct that she be turned over to the court of quarter sessions."

### Blighted by the Tariff.

*Factories Closed and Offered in the Market for One-Tenth of Their Cost.*

New York Times, July 25.

The company operating the largest woolen mill in Connecticut went into bankruptcy on the 16th inst., its creditors having refused to accept a settlement of their claims at 10 cents on the dollar, which appears to have been the best offer that could be made by the embarrassed manufacturers. The founders of the company were men who had a thorough practical knowledge of the business, but in their struggle against adverse conditions their capital was eaten up, and although others came to their aid it was impossible to make the industry profitable. A large number of workmen suffer by the downfall of the company, for around the Versailles Mills there had grown up a village of employes. Mortgages now cover both the village and the factory, and a large sum is due to the workmen for labor.

The fate of the Versailles Mills has been like the fate of many other New England woolen mills in the last few years. The industry has been blighted. Factories have been closed and offered in the market for even one-tenth of their original cost. The condition of the woolen manufacturers was described as follows on the 27th ult. by the *American Wool Reporter*, which is not a "free-trade" journal:

"Here is the situation in a nutshell: The American woolen manufacturer today is in a position where the most that he cares about is to be permitted to make a living. Worried by wealthy wool-growers; choked, cheated and cramped by the commission-house system of selling his goods, and tormented by 'Trusts' among makers of card clothing, packers of teasels, and dealers in nearly every variety of mill supplies, the condition of the domestic mill-owner has become pitiable in the extreme. The wonder is, not that we are called upon to chronicle so many failures among woolen mills in New England and Philadelphia of late, but rather that there have not been more of them."

The industry has been depressed by high tariff duties that greatly increase the cost of such raw material as the manufacturer must import from foreign countries and at the same time enable dealers in other mill supplies to exact high prices by means of the combinations of which the *American Wool Reporter* speaks. And yet a great many of the manufacturers so heavily handicapped were induced by partisan feeling, by the threats of certain wool-growing politicians, or because they had not discovered the real cause of their melancholy condition, to vote at the last national election for the maintenance of the policy under the operation of which they were going into bankruptcy. Possibly the attempt of the Senate to make the tax on their raw material heavier by 10 per cent. has opened the eyes of some of them. With respect to the raw material of the carpet manufacturers the increase proposed by the Senate was even 60 per cent., and if this additional burden should be imposed they and the buyers of carpets would be forced to carry it, for the carpetmakers are compelled to procure almost all their wool in foreign countries.

If the manufacturers suppose that the intention to raise these duties has been given up, they should bear in mind this question recently addressed to certain complaining persons by the Protective Tariff League: "Is it necessary to remind them that the [tariff] legislation promised by Harrison's election is not yet enacted, but merely placed in the course of enactment?"

### Religion and Business.

New York Sun.

In church, people are constantly advised to carry their religion into their business. In the mind of the present Postmaster-General of the United States, it is evidently deemed no less important to carry your business into your religion.

This is apparent from the manner in which he proposed recently to aid a distressed Presbyterian church in New Haven. According to the pastor, "Mr. Wanamaker offered to stock a clothing store in that city for the Presbyterians, providing the church would manage the establishment. The pastor was to have general charge of the store, though he would not personally conduct it. The officers of the curch would also be connected with the establishment, and, in all respects, it was to be a church affair."

The project, however, did not please the congregation, one of whom objected on the ground that the church would incur the hostility of all the clothiers in New Haven, and even then would not be certain to make money in the clothing business. Therefore "the matter was immediately dropped," so far as this particular church in New Haven was concerned.

Whether Mr. Wanamaker intended to give the necessary clothing to the church or to sell it at trade prices does not distinctly appear. We infer, however, from the nature of the objections made by members of the society, that the stock was not a gift. The church was to become in part a retail clothing store, where Brother Wanamaker's wares were to be offered to the godly and ungodly alike, at low but remunerative prices. "Wanamaker's Presbyterian Clothing Store" as a sign would attract the attention of the humble but pious wayfarer in the City of Elms; and in the show window, "Blazers made by the Postmaster-General, only $2,50," would invite him to an expenditure presumably not greater than that warranted by his station in life.

As an experiment in the combination of business with religion the undertaking would have been most interesting.

### Just Dying for Gobin.

Lock Haven Democrat.

A correspondent of the Philadelphia *Press*, writing from this city, alludes to Gen. Hastings as an aspirant for the governorship on the Republican ticket, and says that while he has no objection to Hastings he don't think Bellefonte ought to be allowed a monopoly in that line. He suggests Gen. Gobin and says the latter is the man this section wants for Governor. Yes, indeed; if there is any man the people of this section are just dying for it is Gen. Gobin—in a horn.