

Democratic Watchman

Terms, \$2.00 a Year, in Advance.

Bellefonte, Pa., August 9, 1889.

P. GRAY MEEK, Editor.

Democratic County Committee, 1889.

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WM. C. HEINLE, Chairman.

Democratic State Convention.

The Democratic State Convention will assemble in the Opera House, in the city of Harrisburg, on Wednesday, September 4, 1889, at 12 o'clock, M., for the purpose of nominating a candidate for the office of State Treasurer and transacting such other business as may properly come before it.

The rules of the Democratic party of Pennsylvania provide that "the representation in the State Convention shall consist of representative delegates, one for each 1,000 Democratic votes cast at the last gubernatorial election, or for a fraction of 1,000 such votes amounting to 500 or more, in the respective representative districts; provided that each representative district shall have at least one delegate."

ELLIOTT P. KISNER, Chairman Democratic State Committee, (Secretary.) BENJ. M. NEAD.

A Distressed Tariffite.

We pity the Pottsville Journal. It is in a frantic mood about the designs of the "free traders" and is no doubt feeling very badly. Hear how it goes on:

Every indication proves that the treacherous "Tariff Reformers" are even now actively engaged in forming their lines for a renewed onslaught upon the breast-works of protection. The free trade organs are publishing long lists of business failures, labor strikes, reductions of wages, etc., with the object of showing that the professions of Republicans in the campaign of 1888 were a wild fraud.

What would this tariff organ have the Democratic papers say about these failures, strikes and reduction of wages? Can it reasonably ask them to say that all this industrial depression and disturbance is proof of the beneficent effect of protection and a verification of the Republican assertion last year that all that was necessary to insure the prosperity of the working people was to keep the tariff going right along? It may be that the want and distress that are now prevailing among large classes of the working people are evidence that tariff taxation is just the thing to make the wage-earners prosperous and happy, but it doesn't appear so to the Democratic mind.

A Kentucky Victory.

As a matter of course Kentucky went Democratic in her election last Monday, although the Republicans were foolish enough to believe that they had a chance of carrying the old Democratic stronghold. There were protection lunatics who thought that the tariff reform principles of her Democracy would drive the Kentucky voters away from her standard, but instead of that a majority bigger than has been scored within the last decade has been the reward accorded to the Kentucky Democrats for entertaining common sense views on the tariff question. The returns give the State ticket a majority of from 30,000 to 40,000 and a Democratic gain of members of the Legislature. The Kentucky result is the beginning of a succession of victories which will indicate the rapidity and thoroughness with which the voters are learning their tariff reform lesson. The school will be kept open until every vestige of the thieves' tariff sophistries is dispelled.

Death of Harry Frank.

Many of the readers of the WATCHMAN will regret with us, to learn of the death of Mr. HARRY FRANK, of Philadelphia, which occurred at his home on Wednesday evening. We have no particulars, nor do we know the cause. Mr. FRANK was well known throughout this entire section of the State, and wherever known was recognized as an intelligent, progressive citizen, and one of the truest and most honorable of men. Among scores of young men, whom he has assisted to start in business, as well as among his large circle of personal friends, his death will be sincerely mourned.

Unjust Valuations to Save an Increase of Millage.

The injustice of the recent assessment of real estate as forced upon the taxpayers by the county commissioners, is very plainly shown in a letter from citizens of Ferguson township, which we publish elsewhere. It is not only up in Ferguson that this wrong has been done the farmer, but in nearly every district in the county.

When property is valued at more than it will sell for, and taxes are based upon that valuation, the excess of taxation thus imposed is simply robbery, and robbery of the basest kind. It is robbing one class of citizens to lighten the taxation of another class, and this is just what the Commissioners are doing.

Three years ago, when a Democratic board of Commissioners were finishing paying off the county debt, building bridges by the half-dozen, spending thousands of dollars on needed repairs to the Court House and grounds, and paying the ordinary expenses of the county on a tax levy of but 2 1/2 mills, the Republicans raised the cry that this was too heavy a rate and that the county should and could be run on a levy of two mills. They pledged themselves through their papers and by promises to do this, and the tax-payers foolishly believing them turned the control of the county finances over to them. Last year without spending a single cent on public buildings without building a bridge, without a penny's outlay except the ordinary running expenses of the county, they managed to use up all of the increase from the fall 2 1/2 mill tax, and part of the Democratic surplus besides. Another year of the same kind of management would leave the county largely in debt, with the same basis of taxation.

This the Republican managers understood and the Republican Commissioners could not cover up, and to prevent an increase of millage they have unjustly, unfairly and unreasonably increased valuations to an extent that puts the tax value of farms higher than their real value.

This is the way they are squeezing out of the farmers an increase of taxes when they promised to reduce them. It is the way they are fulfilling their pledges to reduce the tax of the citizens and run the county more economically than it was run under Democratic control.

Ex-Secretary WHITNEY has gone to some trouble to let it be definitely understood that he is not and will not be a candidate for President in 1892. The late Secretary of the Navy did his country great service, and it is not surprising that many people should think that he would make a very available Presidential candidate and a good President, but he does not favor any movement to present him for that high distinction. It is probable that Mr. WHITNEY does not want to complicate the question of the next Democratic nomination, believing, as the large majority of Democrats believe, that justice, as well as the best chance of success, point to the nomination of GROVER CLEVELAND.

A funny incident was connected with the capture of the Canadian sealer Black Diamond. After the United States revenue cutter took charge of her an American sailor was put on board with directions to take her to Sitka as a prize. After she got under way the Canadian crew didn't fancy the idea of being the prisoners of one Yankee sailor and they accordingly laughed at his authority and ran the ship to the Canadian port of Victoria where she belonged. By this change of programme the captor became the captive and the British flag continued to flap defiantly at the masthead of the Black Diamond. The British lion can afford to laugh at this kind of tail twisting.

M. S. QUAY is urging the appointment of one of his political henchmen as Postmaster at Pittsburg, and a Republican paper of that city says that in asking for this appointment the Pennsylvania Boss told the President that "if you feel under any obligations to me for the work I did in the campaign you can repay me by doing what I want in the Pittsburg post office." Mr. HARRISON no doubt readily understood what campaign work the Boss alluded to. The President of the nation certainly occupies a disgraced position when offices can be demanded of him in payment of corrupt service rendered in securing his election.

Shortly after 9 o'clock Monday evening, says the Johnstown Tribune, a man by the name of James McCormick was shot and almost instantly killed by Harry Moyer in one of the tents of the camp in which the carpenters who work for Mr. M. V. Hughes are quartered, and of which Moyer is superintendent. He did the killing in self-defense. McCormick, who is a quarrelsome fellow, attacked him.

The Republican State Convention.

It is hardly necessary to publish what the Republican State Convention did at Harrisburg on Wednesday. Everything had been cut and dried weeks before, and everybody knew what it was going to do. The work had been prepared for it by QUAY. This is an advantage enjoyed by a party that has a boss. He said that Boyer should have the nomination for State Treasurer and nobody else thought of being a candidate or of setting anybody else up against him. The Boss enforced unanimity and the party papers print with pride to the unanimous spirit that pervades the party.

The platform is in keeping with the character of the boss-ridden and truckling aggregation of subservient henchmen and hungry place-seekers that composed the convention. Their utter lack of shame was shown in the resolution complimenting their master on the "honorable" manner in which he conducted the campaign that elected HARRISON. Their endorsement of the administration displayed a lively sense of anticipated favors in the shape of offices. Nothing could have more strikingly exhibited their inexhaustible supply of gall than their resolution which represents the tariff as "the greatest blessing to the American laborer" in the face of the fact that thousands of Pennsylvania laborers are either out of employment or working at reduced wages. Their resolution endorsing TANNER's indecent squandering of the public money was in ridiculous contrast to the administration's attempt to palliate his conduct through the instrumentality of the whitewash brush, and their abandonment of Prohibition for the High License law showed how easily they can shift their position on the liquor question.

Taking it all in all it was just such a convention and gave utterance to just such sentiments as could have been expected of a set of time-serving and office-seeking politicians who wear the collar of such a Boss as MAT QUAY.

French Resistance to Monopoly in Salt.

Rebellion against What Americans Tolerate Submit To.

Philadelphia Record.

It is interesting, in taking a survey of the history of France, to note the determined opposition that has always been made by the people to the salt on salt. In 1355, when John I, dived the States-General to meet the requirements of his courtiers, that body, in order to pay the men-at-arms, voted an impost of \$1,000,000 "on all folks," and the gabel, or tax on salt, "over the whole kingdom of France." The latter impost met with great opposition. Frossart says that when the news reached Normandy the country people were very much astounded at it, for they had not learned to pay any such thing. "The Count d'Harcourt told the folks of Rouen, where he was pisan, that they would be very serf and very wicked if they agreed to this tax, and that, by God's help, it should never be current in his country." The King of Navarre used much the same language. Close to Paris itself payment was refused. Toward the close of 1542 a grievous aggravation of the salt tax caused a violent insurrection in the town of Rochelle, which was exempted from that impost, it was claimed, by its traditional privileges. Not only was payment refused, but the Commissioners were maltreated and driven away. Francis I went to Rochelle with a large body of troops, and the people, terrified into submission, agreed to pay a fine of \$40,000.

But the ordinance as to the salt tax were still maintained in principle, and their extension led to a rising of the most serious character, and one which was with great difficulty suppressed. In 1548, hardly a year after the accession of Henry II, a general insurrection against the tax broke out in the Provinces of Guienne, Angoumois and Saintonge, in which Francis I had shortly before his death made the duties heavier. The most atrocious excesses of which a mob is capable were committed; the Director General of the gabel was killed, and two of his officers were strapped down naked on a table and beaten to death, and their bodies were cast into the river, with the remark: "Go, wicked gables, and salt the fish of the Charente." The King of Navarre's lieutenant attempted to summon the Parliament of Bordeaux, but was forced to take refuge in a chateau, and was killed whilst he was trying to get out and the President of the Parliament only saved his own life by taking the oath prescribed by the insurgents. Montmorency offered to put down the insurrection, and was as good as his word. He entered Bordeaux by way of a breach which he had opened in the walls, and ordered the inhabitants to bring all their arms to the citadel. Nearly 200 persons were put to death, and when the executioner had in his hands the three insurgents who had beaten to death and thrown into the river the collectors of the gabel, he cast them all three into a fire which was ready on the spot and said, "Go, ruid hounds, and grill the fish of the Charente which ye salted with the bodies of the officers of your

King and sovereign lord." Nearly all of the inhabitants suffered the loss of their civil rights; many of them, on account of their youth, were simply whipped, and astounding fines and interdictions were laid upon the Parliament, the Town Council and private individuals.

And so the story goes on. Revolt followed revolt; the power of the monarchy was assailed; there was rebellion in the very atmosphere, and the tax undoubtedly tended to hasten the revolution of 1789. History has a strange way of repeating itself; and even in America the men who are to-day enforcing like imposts and combining together to grow rich out of the necessities of the poor, might study with profit the story of a people who, while suffering greatly themselves, wrought dire punishment on their oppressors.

How a Congressman Made Himself Useful to His Country.

Tanner's Crooked Business Discovered by an Indiana Representative.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 3.—There is no love among Corporal Tanner's employees in the Pension Office and his special friends among the pension attorneys for the Congressman who originally made the stir which brought out the scandalous condition of affairs in Tanner's office. Not many of them have known, however, who the Representative was. It has leaked out that his name is Joseph B. Cheadle and that he represents the Tenth Indiana district in Congress. Mr. Cheadle, who is a Republican, happened to hear one day that some queer things were being done in the Pension Office. He paid several visits to the place and kept his eyes and ears open. He found that it was the settled conviction among the employees that one could not get into trouble by reporting claims favorably, but that

TO REJECT A CLAIM WAS TO RUN GREAT DANGER

of incurring the Commissioner's anger. He found also that under this impression all hands were hard at work grinding out "medical opinions," in favor of applicants with mighty little regard to the evidence on file, which were approved by Tanner as fast as they could be laid before him.

Mr. Cheadle discovered that "forty-eight-hour cases" were being rushed through by wholesale for the benefit of Brooklyn and New York pensioners in general and a

NOTORIOUS LOCAL PENSION ATTORNEY

in particular. In addition to all this he learned that certain attorneys were in the habit of naming the employees they wished to write opinions on claims prepared by them, and he obtained some hints about the rating of each other's pensions by these employees. It did not take long for Representative Cheadle to conclude that this sort of thing had better be stopped. He laid the matter before the President and was told to put it in writing. He did so, and by the President's direction the communication was referred to the Secretary of the Interior.

In Mr. Noble's office the Cheadle letter appears to have been pigeonholed and to have remained unacted upon until Dr. Charles McMillan was appointed to his present position in the Pension Office. Dr. McMillan soon made similar discoveries to those made by Mr. Cheadle. He was alarmed as the Congressman had been, and as the result of his report the Cheadle letter was

PUSHED OUT OF ITS PIGEON-HOLE,

and its allegations were investigated. Then followed the dismissal of a number of medical experts in Tanner's absence, the exposure of the rottenness which had come in with Tanner, and the appointment of an "investigating" committee which is now engaged in preparing a thick coat of whitewash for "Corporal" Tanner.

Personal Popularity of Mr. Cleveland and His Wife.

Philadelphia Telegraph (Rep.)

The personal popularity of the Cleveleys is something phenomenal. The president dropped out of the White House into his law office with the easy rapidity and comfort of a philosopher, but he retained a wonderful hold upon the personal regard of the American people, and it is evident that he still has a good steady grip upon the average citizen, regardless of creed, race or politics. And the nation's bride is still the one looked for everywhere, and her appearance the signal for the heartiest welcome. The pleasant little story that comes from the quiet seaside resort on the New England coast referring to the reception at Marion) will be read with more than passing interest, and the feeling is general that it could and would be duplicated at any point in the country, North, South, East, or West. This must be highly gratifying to Mr. and Mrs. Cleveland, but it is also to the infinite credit of the American people. It shows that we can rise above the petty jealousies and animosities of politics and honestly and manfully appreciate the service and worth of those who have acquitted themselves in high place with ability and honor.

Leap of an Insane Man.

Last Friday when the Western Express was nearing Huntingdon, Michael Ryan, who belongs to New London, Conn., jumped from a car window. He was on his way to Dayton, Ohio. The man is evidently partially insane. He says that when the train was near Huntingdon he heard a voice telling him to throw his money out the window and then jump out himself. Believing it to be the voice of God he obeyed the command by throwing his money out and going head foremost himself through the car window. The train was going at the rate of about 30 miles an hour. The man was immediately stopped and the crazed man picked up and taken in the car to Huntingdon. He was afterwards taken to Altoona and conveyed to the Hospital. His head was badly cut and no doubt he has received internal injuries. He has about \$80 which is in the hands of the railroad officials at Huntingdon and which will begin him upon his recovery.

Stronger Than It Was a Year Ago.

Philadelphia Record.

So far as the issue of the Presidential campaign of 1888 is concerned the position of the two great political parties of the country remain unchanged. Both parties stand in their old tracks—the Republicans resolved to prevent any substantial revision of the tariff; the Democrats more united and determined than ever in the demand for free raw materials and for a reduction of the oppressive duties upon the necessities of American households.

In New England the workmen in the shops and factories have not ceased agitation, even in midsummer, but are making active preparations for discussion in the coming fall and winter, when the opponents of Tariff Reform will be invited to defend their views.

Leading Eastern manufacturers have issued circulars in which they demonstrate the detrimental influences of taxes on raw materials, especially upon the woolen and iron interests.

In numerous cities and towns of Massachusetts "Question Clubs" have been formed for the purpose of making inquiries relative to the operation of the tariff, and some of these questions have proved extremely embarrassing to the statesmen to whom they have been sent.

As the great object of discussion is to elicit the truth, these methods of agitation in season when party passions and prejudices are lulled cannot but prove advantageous to the cause of Tariff Reform.

In the fury of a partisan conflict there is neither time nor opportunity for a calm consideration of economical questions. The best arguments are unheeded or their meaning perverted by the "spellers" whose chief task is to misrepresent the issue of the campaign. But in quiet times, when the people have leisure to reflect, the cant phrases of tariff-mongers have slight influence, especially when illustrated by daily reductions of wages in the most highly protected industries. The forged extracts from English newspapers, the pay envelope legends, and similar devices, more or less fraudulent and dishonest, for misleading the public mind would be treated with the contempt they deserve on any occasion except the storm and excitement of an electoral conflict. In such a time the average citizen, instead of considering the issues of the contest, becomes converted by the demon of party into a combatant bent only on victory.

The unshaken firmness, activity and confidence of the party of Tariff Reform throughout the country in the face of recent reverse are not hard to account for. What was an apparent defeat by a strain upon the elective principle was not a defeat at the hands of the American people. The election revealed as plainly as the votes could proclaim it that a majority of the people of the United States are in favor of Tariff Reform on the lines laid down in Cleveland's famous December message.

The Best Snake Story of the Season.

The following snake story is from the Tyrone Herald. Its truth cannot be questioned.

The other day some railroad men on the mountain near Tyrone noticed a large snake with a mouse in its mouth. As the snake crawled along the observers thought it looked like a rattlesnake but saw that it had no rattles. The men concluded to follow the reptile and see what it would do with its prey, and after while they saw it reach its nest where several little snakes were in waiting. The old snake tore the mouse into small morsels which it fed to the little ones, and while they were busily eating, it gathered up their rattles and put them in their place on its tail. It was then evident that the old snake had given its rattles to the young snakes for playthings while it had gone in search of food. This is a tough story but railroad men always tell the gospel truth.

Look Out for the Comet.

The comet recently discovered will probably be visible in this latitude in a few days. When seen by Pro. Davidson, of Queensland, Australia, on the 21st inst., its motion was rapidly north-east, equal to over three degrees a day, which will bring it into the celestial equator about the end of the month. Its motion indicates nearness to the sun and its direction shows that it has completed the circuit of that orb and is now on its return to space. It is probably approaching the earth, and, as it is described as a "bright" comet, it may possibly be seen with the naked eye. Observers hunting for this celestial visitor should direct their attention to the south-west horizon, where the comet will make its appearance. A report from Southern Maryland says the comet was seen indistinctly on Monday evening.

The Tramp Ahead.

A dressy young man went to a secluded portion of Rutter Grove shore, at Scranton, for a moonlight bath in the river a few nights ago, says an exchange. His ecstatic splashing caught the attention of a tramp, who softly divested himself of his seditary robes, and then vanished from the moonlight scene. When the swimmer came out he was speechless for a minute, but having no other recourse, he put on the tatters and stole homeward through cornfields and across barb fences.

The other day the people who attended the weekly market in a certain French town were surprised to see a peasant woman who was offering for sale a horse, which was tarified at \$4. The same woman was selling a dog for which she demanded \$20. They thought she must be mad, and told her so. "Be that as it may," she said, "the man who wants to have a horse for \$4, must first take the dog at \$20." A purchaser eventually secured the dog, and afterwards would have the explanation. It transpired that the deceased husband of the artful peasant woman had charged her in his will to sell his dog and his horse. The price of the dog was to be hers, and that of the horse she was to pay over to his family.

For all the news read the WATCHMAN.

Rich Pension Beggars.

Nobody begrudges a pension to any old soldier who was disabled in the country's service and is in need of help. On the contrary, every right minded man wishes that the pensions of such might be more liberal than they are.

The reason that they are not more liberal is that a great host of men are borne upon the pension rolls who are not disabled and not in need of help. These make long division of the pension fund, and cut down the amount, it is possible to pay to the really needy and the actually disabled.

We have already cited the case of General Spinola as one of them. A recent news dispatch directs attention to another illustrative case. It is related that Senator Manderson, who has long been in receipt of a pension, has discovered that the amount paid him is not so great as to which the law entitles him, and so his case has been passed through Tanner's hands, and in addition to an increased pension for the future he is to receive the sum of \$4,000 as arrears.

Manderson is neither a disabled man nor a needy one. As compared with the great majority who pay the taxes he is rich. He is a Senator of the United States at a salary of \$5,000 a year. He ought to be ashamed to be a beggar, a pensioner upon the bounty of men poorer than himself. Every dollar of his pension is paid by the working people and not one in ten thousand of them ever had an income of \$5,000 or half of it.

The thing is monstrous. The whole pension system should be reformed. Every disabled and really needy veteran should have a sufficient pension to keep him decently, and to that end every mere beggar, every man who has money or the capacity to earn it in sufficient amount for his support, should be stricken from the rolls. When such men accept pensions they not only "spunge" upon the substance of poorer people, but they rob the actually needy and disabled veterans of what is justly their due.

Every member of Congress knows this. But members of Congress are mostly cowards and self-seekers and they fear to offend the "soldier vote," by opposing any pension measure whatever.—New York World.

Excursion to Niagara Falls via Pennsylvania Railroad.

The excursion to be run to Niagara Falls under the auspices of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company on Thursday, August 15th, will afford the residents of this section a grand opportunity to visit America's greatest wonder at a nominal cost and under the most favorable circumstances. This excursion will be conducted on the same high grade that all the other personally-conducted tours of the company are carried out. It will be run under the direction of the Tourist Agent, and the party will go by special train of day coaches and Pullman parlor cars through to Niagara. The date is without doubt well chosen, as the ten days contemplated in the limit of tickets will cover a period of the year that people like to indulge in a little rest and recreation. Stop off at Watkins, with an opportunity to visit the famous glen, will be allowed either going or returning.

Excursion tickets good for ten days will be sold from Washington and Baltimore at \$10.00, and from principal stations in the following territory at extremely low rates. Stations on the main line between Conteesville and Tyrone both inclusive; Frederick Division between Hanover and Wrightsville, both inclusive; stations on Cumberland Valley Railroad; stations on Sunbury and Lewistown Branch and Lewistown and Tyrone Branch; stations on the Northern Central Railway between Harrisburg and Williamsport, including Shamokin Division; stations on Philadelphia and Erie Railroad between Drifwood and Williamsport, including Tyrone and Clearfield Branch. The special train will leave Washington 7.10 A. M., Baltimore 8.15, Harrisburg 11.15 A. M., stopping at principal stations and junction points, where connection from stations off the main line may be made by regular trains.

Protection and Horse Flesh.

Boston Globe.

A year ago, when Benjamin Harrison was a candidate for Illinois, a delegation of miners from Illinois visited him at Indianapolis. They bore a banner on which was inscribed "Protection and Beefsteak." Gen. Harrison complimented them on their understanding of the situation. If they wanted beefsteak they must have protection, he said—the Republican party's peculiar kind of protection. Gen. Harrison was elected, as the miners hoped he would be "Protection" was saved. But about the beefsteak. The newspapers have lately been relating the ghastly sufferings of Illinois miners who have been since May 1 on strike against their protected employers. And the other day the papers told how a horse dropped dead in the mining district, and before the body was cold the raw flesh had been literally stripped from the bones and devoured by the ravenous multitude of strikers. Perhaps among those poor fellows were some of the same men who paraded the banner before Candidate Harrison a year ago. They made a mistake in the inscription, that was all. Instead of "Protection and Beefsteak" it should have been "Protection and Horse flesh."

Crushing Out the Rebellion.

One of the things President Harrison was elected for was to crush out the Rebellion. It is true there has been a long prevailing notion that the ugly thing was about crushed by the apple-tree conference at Appomattox, but the office hunters never believed this. Gen. Harrison in the campaign before his election agreed to crush out what was left and the last blow given by him was that of the appointment a few days ago of an ex-Rebel soldier and ineffectual, Elam, to a high position in the Land Office. Such death-dealing blows must much gratify all Union veterans.