

Democratic Watchman

Terms \$2.00 A Year, in Advance.

Bellefonte, Pa., June 6, 1890.

P. GRAY MEEK, Editor

A Republican contemporary is of the opinion that "Speaker REED has injured the Democrats in congress again by closing the bar of the House at which the members were in the habit of indulging." We scarcely believe that it was the Speaker's intention to injure the Democrats in this matter, but it was more likely his purpose to throw the bulk of the drinking custom of the House to Vice President Morton's whisky shop.

The women of the country have no reason to be pleased with the McKinley tariff bill, as it will materially increase the cost of their clothing. On women's dress goods it raises the tariff rate to 103 per cent, and worsted knit goods 147 per cent. This will make a considerable difference to the purchasers of such goods, particularly if their means are limited. It will be hardly possible to make the women believe that this is not a tax of a very oppressive kind.

The Philadelphia Record gives a list of 14 defaulters in that city during the past year whose stealings have amounted to \$600,000, besides bank failures, &c., with losses amounting to two millions more. Such cases of dishonest financing are common all over the country and seem to be increasing every year. Public morals may be improving in some respects, but the improvement doesn't appear to be running in the direction of honesty on the part of those who are entrusted with other people's money.

There was one thing which the McKinley monopoly promoters overlooked. Ice is scarce this season, and in order to realize enormous profits and fleece consumers the parties who hold the principal stock on hand have formed a combine to control the market. But there is a large amount of ice in Canada which can be brought over the line and be made to conflict with the scheme of the Trust. If the tariff committee had only thought of it they could have slapped a prohibitory duty on Canadian ice and thus protected another American industry.

The Farmers' Alliance in Minnesota, with remarkable unanimity, are using strong terms in denouncing the McKinley tariff bill. In addition to this display of hostility, nearly every newspaper in the State, of both parties, opposes the bill and demands tariff reform. The five Minnesota congressmen who supported the McKinley measure of monopolistic iniquity, did so in defiance of the popular sentiment of the State, and there is enough dissatisfaction to change the politics of Minnesota, which is likely to happen at the next election.

One of the latest political surprises is BAYNE'S declination of the renomination for Congress given him by the Republicans of the Twenty-third district last Monday. He gave as a reason for this course that he was worn out and could no longer work in the capacity of congressman. His last congressional work was done in behalf of the tin-plate Trust, and he will retire with the consciousness of having assisted in giving tariff protection to every monopoly that has grown up and robbed the people under the present high tariff system.

Putting the Tax-payers at the Mercy of the Money Lenders.

It doesn't take much of a mathematician to figure up the result of the county commissioners' political bunkum in reducing the tax-levy to two mills. After deducting the uncollectable taxes and worthless notes counted as assets in the last annual statement, and paying the indebtedness on the Karthaus and other bridges, the commissioners had a balance of a little over \$15,000 on hand. Add to this the entire amount of tax that will be realized from a two mill levy—\$23,000—and we have \$38,000, all told. From this, commissions for collections and exonerations of worthless taxes must be taken, which amounts to \$2,000, leaving a credit in favor of the county of exactly \$36,000.

Now the tax duplicates for 1890 are not ready for the collectors until about the first of August, and it will be impossible for them to collect more than one half of the taxes, before the first of January, 1891. But take it for granted that every cent of the taxes can be collected and paid over by the first of next January, the commissioners will have but \$36,000, counting the entire county surplus and every cent of assessed taxes, to meet the expenses of the year, which

they estimate at \$36,500, and then the county will be \$500 in debt, without a cent of taxes to be collected or a penny of income from any source whatever, to bear the ordinary public expenditures from the first of January, 1891, until the new duplicates are placed in the hands of the collectors on the first of August of that year.

Do you see where it puts the new board of commissioners and the taxpayers? Right into the clutches and at the mercy of the bankers and money lenders.

The county will have to have money. It will be in debt on the 1st of January 1891, under the most economical management, according to the commissioners' own showing, over \$500. It will have no taxes coming in, no taxes due until a new levy is made in April, and the duplicates for '91 are out in August. So that there will be but one resource, and this is to borrow at whatever rate of interest the lender sees proper to demand.

Will it pay the tax-payers in the end to be fleeced by bankers and money lenders, to furnish an incompetent and partisan board of county commissioners and a little ring of republican bosses, the political bunkum this two mill tax-levy is intended to make them? We leave this matter for the thinking and sensible tax-payers to determine.

As one of the results of the Pan-American conference Secretary of State BLAINE recommends congress to establish an international American bank, with its principal office in the city of New York and branches in the commercial centers of the several other American republics which were parties to the recent conference. Mr. BLAINE wants it to be understood that he does not propose that the United States shall furnish the funds for this institution, but only to give it a corporate franchise. Where the money is to come from is not stated, but probably it is expected that each of the Pan-American nations will chip in its share according to their respective means. But what use is there for such an institution?

An Effort to Fool the Taxpayers.

There is one thing that the Republican ring of this place and their board of county commissioners will find out at the next election, and that is, that the tax-payers of the county are not the idiots they evidently take them to be.

Three years ago when this same ring was making such desperate efforts to obtain control of the county affairs, without knowing or caring what it promised, only so that it could secure votes for its nominees, it pledged the people, if its commissioners were elected, that they would run the county, keep the public buildings and grounds in good repair, erect and keep in order the county bridges, and pay all the court and other county expenditures, and levy only a two mill tax. This pledge was made three years ago. The tax-payers took them at their word and gave them the control of the board of commissioners.

In January, 1888, when this Republican board was sworn into office, it found the county buildings and grounds in the best of repair, good iron bridges wherever they were needed, a costly but correct system of indexing county records adopted and paid for, the county without a single cent of debt, and a balance in the Treasury of \$24,098.83.

With all kinds of property belonging to the county in the very best of condition; with not a cent of indebtedness to pay; and with this balance to their credit they began their management. They levied a two and a half mill tax—the same as had been levied by their Democratic predecessors—and their first year's control showed that with this tax-levy they could not pay the ordinary county expenses without drawing on the surplus left in the Treasury by the preceding Democratic board. Their own statement for 1888 showed that they had expended \$40,082.65 without building a new bridge or expending anything on repairs to any of the county property. By resurrecting a lot of out-lawed claims for back taxes, that had been thrown out as worthless by the preceding board, and counting in as assets hundreds of dollars worth of worthless notes taken for costs and fines from prisoners who had been discharged from the jail under the insolvent laws, they were able to figure up the same balance in favor of the county that they found in the Treasury when they took possession of it.

Their second year, with the same tax-levy of two and a half mills, showed a worse state of affairs; the county expenditure running up to \$45,857.47 without counting a lot of unpaid bridge accounts, which they alleged was not due at the time the last county statement was made out, and the county surplus being reduced over \$1,000. If

the indebtedness for the erection of the Karthaus and other bridges, which were not shown in the statement, had been paid, the county surplus would have been reduced to less than \$18,000, thus showing that with a two and half mill tax they were unable to pay the ordinary expenditures of the county without drawing on the surplus left by the Democrats.

These are the financial facts as shown by the commissioners' own statement for the two years that they have been managing affairs.

The third and last year of their management is half gone, leaving them but six months time to care for the finances of the county, and at the tail end of their administration they suddenly waken up to the promises their bosses made, and cut the tax-levy down to two mills, and then raise a howl through their papers of how they are going to save the tax-payers of the county, and how economically they are administering county affairs.

They do not care what the future effect on the county finances may be, only so that they can have political clap-trap to use in the coming elections.

The tax-payers are not fools, and will see through this effort at once. If the county can be run on a two mill tax why have they not done it before now? When they came into office there was double the amount in the treasury there is to-day; there was no indebtedness outstanding; there was no unfinished bridges or dilapidated public buildings and grounds to repair, and yet they feared to try to pay the expenditures with a two mill levy, until they are about to go out of office, and load this experiment on the shoulders of the new board which will take possession of the office on the first of January next, while they imagine the tax-payers will give them great credit for cutting the millage down, without considering what the future effect will be.

That they have done this solely for political bunkum, is evidenced from the figures of their own statement as published last January. In that statement, they estimated the county expenditures for the coming year at \$36,500; they estimated the value of all the taxable property in the county at \$11,500,000. A two mill tax levy on this amount would, without exonerations, for collecting, amount to but \$23,000. Now admitting that they can cut down the county expenditures to four thousand dollars less than they were able to run it the first year they were in office and \$10,000 less than they did last year, how in the name of all that is sensible are they going to pay the \$36,500 of county expenditures with less than \$23,000 of taxes?

This is a question we leave for the Republican howlers about a two mill tax to answer!

This is a matter for them to explain, and for the Republican howler about reduced taxation to figure out for the tax-payers of the county, before they will see where the benefit will come in. Will either of their organs explain this or will they go on howling about what they have done, and attempt to deceive themselves with the idea that the tax-payers are such consummate fools that they cannot see through this trick, and idiots enough to believe that \$23,000 of taxes will pay \$36,500 of county expenditures.

Hastening Their Doom.

All the mean acts of the present Congress, which can be numbered by the score, was surpassed in the degree of meanness by the unseating of two Democratic members last week, both of whom were clearly elected by decided majorities, one of them being an Alabama Representative who had over 13,000 majority, his Republican opponent having had but 5000 votes, all told. The reckless disregard of the Republican congressional majority for even the appearance of fairness and decency would be beyond belief if it were not a shamefully obvious fact. They unseat their opponents at pleasure through the exercise of an arbitrary power, and those whom they permit to remain they gag. But by such conduct they are bringing on the speedy termination of their sway which an outraged and disgusted people will put an end to at the next congressional election.

Marked for Sacrifice.

Philadelphia Record.
One of the most promising among the younger statesmen of the country is Hon. William Wilson, of West Virginia. The monopolists who control the Republican party have, therefore, marked him for slaughter. Mr. Stephen B. Elkins is to be put in the field against him, and whatever may be done with "boodles" will be done to buy an election for Mr. Elkins. This was the plan of operation against Mr. Morrison by which he was defeated, and a nearly successful attempt was made to defeat Mr. Carlisle by a "boodle" ambulance. As Mr. Wilson's district is in a mining and manufacturing region, in which the vote is close, the Quay-Dudley-Clarkson gang have little doubt of their ability to capture it.

Deadly Wild Parsnips.

An Entire Family May Die from Eating Them.

New York, June 2.—An Ottawa special says: Dead in his bed, with a dying sister on either side of him, lay little Achille Campeau, of Lake George, a village forty miles from Ottawa, when a neighbor was attracted by feeble cries of help from the Campeau cottage. Another child was groaning in his death agony on the floor, and nearly dead lay their mother and the aged grandfather of the little ones, the latter relapsing into insensibility by the fearful visitation of torture and death which he had innocently brought upon the unfortunate household.

While raising the suffering woman from the floor into an easier position, the terrified neighbors heard her murmur the word "poison," and having thus learned the cause of the fearful situation at once gave the alarm. Soon the settlement was astir and a messenger was dispatched to bring a doctor. The village physician, Dr. Petty, made all the possible haste to the settlement. One little boy was dead, the other evidently beyond hope of recovery, while the mother, grandfather, and the two little girls, one an infant but 3 months old, were in a bad condition. Emetics were administered and before he left the cottage Dr. Petty was successful in saving the lives of three of the poisoned patients, although the others were, he feared, too far gone to rally.

On Wednesday old man Campeau went into the woods to dig roots to make up some medicine for a sick horse. He gathered a lot, both of the kind he wanted and of some others he knew nothing about. The latter, he said to the children, who gathered about when he returned to the cottage, tasted kind of sweet, and thinking they could do the little ones no harm, he gave them all as much as they wanted. The mother, too, took some and gave a little to her 3 months old baby. In a few minutes all were taken with fearful pains. The woman and her baby were lying insensible on the floor when the neighbor woman entered. The old man had fallen at the doorstep, and near the bed one little boy was rolling around in dreadful pain.

But when she looked into the bed she saw what made her heart stand still. In the middle was the oldest boy, about 9 years, dead. A little sister lay on each side of him. The second boy had died, and the doctor says the old man and the infant will follow. It will be a close call with the other three, he says, but he has hopes that he can pull them through. The root which the old man had given them is known as "wild parsnip," a deadly poison.

Suicide at Milton.

MILTON, June 2.—Harry Angstadt, aged about 38, son of the jeweler, is lying in what is considered a hopeless condition from the effects of a bullet fired into his breast with suicidal intent. The sad affair occurred Saturday evening. The man had been drinking his only failing, and was reproved by his father. He immediately went out back of the shop, drew a revolver, and fired, the bullet entering in the region of the heart. Dr. McCleary was hastily summoned, and after making an examination the wounded man was conveyed to the home of William Beck, his brother-in-law. All efforts to extract the ball have proved futile. His condition is regarded as hopeless. The unfortunate young man was well liked by hosts of friends, and but for his one failing would have had a promising future.

Original Package Decision.

An Iowa Judge Says the Supreme Court Has Reversed Its Own Ruling.

BURLINGTON, Ia., June 2.—Judge E. S. Houston, of this city, has discovered a decision by the United States supreme court in the case of Brown vs. Houston reported in 114 U. S., page 622, in which the court holds precisely the opposite opinion from that given in the original package case. The case cited is exactly similar to the original package case, being barge of coal mined in Pennsylvania and shipped to New Orleans by water. An attempt was made to seize the coal and sell it for taxes while it was still in its original state of shipment. In its decision the court held that the coal had become part of the general mass of property in the state the moment it arrived at its destination, and thus subject to taxation.

No Rebel Yell About This.

Editorial in a Paper Accused of Disloyal Utterances on the Dedication of Lee's Monument.

The State (Richmond, Va.)
The United States has a population of something like 65,000,000 people. There are a few Anarchists in the North and a few cranks and fools in every section of the country who dislike a republican form of government. But the great body of our voting citizens are Americans. They are thorough believers in American institutions, and they rejoice in American freedom. The different sections of the United States—North, South and West, are on the best of terms with themselves and each other, but they vie with each other in industrial pursuits, and the strides that each section is making are truly marvelous. All sections alike testify their loyalty to the United States government and march with pride under the stars and stripes.

Surely no people were ever more firmly united than the people of this great country of ours—the United States of America.

They Profit by Such Prejudices.

Atlanta Constitution.

As for the Republican party, every thoughtful person knows that a peaceable and an equitable adjustment of the race question is the last thing sought by that organization. Such a result would leave the party no peg to hang its sectional policy on. For twenty years it has distinguished itself as the breeder, not only of sectional, but racial strife, and is not by any means prepared to go out of that business just at this time.

Johnstown One Year After the Flood.

JOHNSTOWN, Pa., June 2.—The anniversary of the Johnstown flood was commemorated Saturday by solemn ceremonies in St. John's Catholic church. There was a mass, and Father Tabaney spoke of the good work of A. J. Moxham, J. B. Scott and many others. The town was draped in black. A large delegation of Pittsburgh newspaper men who were here during the flood was present. A number of churches held solemn services Sunday in memory of their members lost in the flood.

One year ago the world was startled by the news of a dreadful disaster. Ere residents of the valley of the Conemaugh were aware of their impending doom the South Fork dam had broken and the whole valley was swept by the deluge.

The citizen of this place who tries to remember the Johnstown of a year ago has many sad recollections and can note many changes. At that time there was an aggregation of continuous independent boroughs; now there is one united city under one government.

There are many property lines affected that yet remain undetermined. Woodvale, now the Eleventh ward, where 2,000 happy people had their homes, is yet a dreary waste, the streets not having been cleared.

All of the Second ward of Conemaugh borough, now the Tenth ward, was swept clean, and of the hundreds of houses there not one has been replaced. The ground there has all been absorbed by the Cambria Iron company, and a high fence, taking in all the territory and several streets, has been placed around it. The Gaultier department of the Cambria works will be rebuilt on a much larger scale than before.

Throughout other points around the town there are squares upon which no attempt at rebuilding has been made, except the erection of a few rough board houses for temporary use.

The beautiful public park, which was covered with velvet grass, lovely flowers and ample shade trees, is now a site where half a hundred buildings do service as store rooms of the washed out merchants of Johnstown, they having been erected by the relief commission.

In the center of the square piles of old iron and other material contrast strongly with the scene a year ago. But there has been material progress in the rebuilding of the washed out city, though it will be many years before the former beauty can be restored.

On Washington and Clinton streets many of the buildings destroyed have been replaced by finer business blocks than were there before the flood. A number of eligible sites however, yet remain, telling more plainly than words of the financial distress of those who formerly did business there.

The Cambria library, which was totally destroyed, is being rebuilt on a much larger scale, the entire cost of which is being paid by Andrew Carnegie.

The Cambria Iron works and the Johnson works are running full-time, giving employment to 4,000 workmen. An electric street railway is being constructed to take the place of the old horse car lines, the banks have more money on deposit than ever before, real estate is higher than before the flood, and altogether the people seem to be prosperous.

But the citizens as well as the strangers think of other things than the material prosperity of the place on the anniversary of the flood. They remember with a shudder all the untold horrors that have been encountered during the past year, and hundreds of relatives of the victims of the flood, whose bones yet lie undiscovered beneath acres of sand.

In Memory of Johnstown.

New York Reporters Boom Gen. Hastings for Governor.

New York, June 2.—Gen. D. H. Hastings, of Pennsylvania, was the chief guest of a crowd of newspaper reporters who dined at the Fellowship club Saturday night to celebrate the anniversary of the Johnstown flood, which they reported for New York and other papers a year ago.

Guests were present from Philadelphia, Pittsburg and other places. Gen. Hastings was in charge of the relief and military work at Johnstown, and is tenderly remembered by all the newspaper men who were there because he supplied them with blankets, food and sleeping places when these necessities were unobtainable elsewhere. For this reason all the reporters did obeisance to him Saturday night and made him the chief guest.

He made an eloquent speech on the services, trials and privations of the newspaper men at Johnstown, which he declared to be unique and unparalleled in the history of American journalism. Letters of regret were read from the managers and officers of all the railroads which were concerned in the floods of the Conemaugh, and a permanent organization was made.

Gen Hastings is a leading candidate for governor of Pennsylvania and the Johnstown reporters ended the celebration by inviting themselves to attend his inauguration at Harrisburg next year.

Hastings' Cause Betrayed.

Philadelphia Evening Herald of Tuesday.
The Republicans of this town will make a pretence of electing delegates to the district conventions, which will name the delegates to the State Convention, to-night. Of course it will only be a pretence, because Revenue Collector Martin was already chosen the delegates to the State Convention.

ADDITIONAL LOCALS.

DECORATION DAY IN NEIGHBORING LOCALITIES.—The soldiers' graves at the Fairview cemetery about three miles north of Curtin's were decorated early on Friday morning by a detachment from the Dr. G. L. Potter Post, of Milesburg, consisting of Col. Austin Curtin and Comrades Samuel Bathurst, Frank Holt, Wm. Keeler, Samuel Bryan, Constance Barger, James Barger, Edward Spear, John Crossinger, Henry Heaton, Wm. E. Encheizer and — Cox. The presence of a number of Sunday school children was a pleasing feature and many citizens and friends of the soldiers assisted in the ceremonies. Col. Curtin delivered an address. The soldiers buried in the Fairview cemetery are Abraham Heaton, of Co. F, 40th Reg., and John C. Watkins, of Co. F, 49th Reg., P. V.

After the services at this cemetery the detachment of comrades proceeded to the cemetery at the Advent church where the services at 9:30 a. m. were participated in by a large delegation of veterans from Milesburg, and many citizens of the neighborhood joined in the ceremonies. The large Advent Sunday school took a prominent part and assisted in decorating the graves. The Milesburg Band furnished patriotic music for the occasion. When the graves had been decorated the numerous company assembled in front of the church and were greatly edified by an address delivered by Rev. D. B. Cross, pastor of the Baptist charges of Bellefonte and Milesburg.

After these services the comrades returned to Milesburg where a lunch was prepared for them in the Post room by the lady friends of the G. A. R.

In the afternoon the cemeteries at Curtin's was visited by those who were intent upon honoring the soldier's graves, among whom members of the Milesburg Post and citizens of the neighborhood were largely represented. Wreaths and flowers were carried by the school children. After the graves at the church were decorated, the procession, headed by the Milesburg band, proceeded to the graveyard on the hill this side of the iron works, where the same honors were paid to the graves of the soldiers who are sleeping there. After the performance of this patriotic duty an address was delivered by W. I. Swoope, esq.

At Milesburg, which was the centre of the above memorial movements, the day was very appropriately and impressively observed, the arrangements and exercises being under the management of the G. A. R. Post. The parade was formed in the afternoon at the Grand Army hall and marched to the cemetery in the following order:

Milesburg Band, Company B of Bellefonte; Silver Cornet band of Bellefonte; Odd Fellows in full regalia; Order of American Mechanics in full regalia; Sunday Schools; members of the G. A. R. Post and citizens. After the performance of the usual ceremonies by the Grand Army comrades the four soldiers' graves in the cemetery were decorated with flowers by four young ladies dressed in white. This was followed by a salute fired by Company B, after which the oration of the day was delivered by W. I. Swoope, Esq., of Bellefonte.

At Howard and vicinity the Groye Brothers Post, G. A. R., of Howard, took charge of the memorial ceremonies. In the morning the Post, accompanied by the Howard band, proceeded to Jacksonsville, where they paid a floral tribute to the soldiers' graves at that place. In the afternoon a procession, consisting of the Post, the Odd Fellows and the P. S. of A., headed by the Howard band, marched to the Howard cemetery and decorated the soldiers' graves in that burial ground. In addition to the strains of the band, music suitable to the occasion was rendered by an excellent choir. The decoration ceremonies were followed by an excellent oration delivered by Clement Dale, esq., of Bellefonte. These exercises were followed by the decoration of the graves in Schenck's graveyard.

At Unionville the decorating took place at 3:30 p. m., and memorial ceremonies were gone through with by the G. A. R. in the church in the evening, where the oration was delivered by W. I. Swoope, esq., of Bellefonte, followed by an address from Rev. T. B. Gross, of the Baptist church.

MATRIMONIAL LICENSES.—During the past week the following marriage permits were granted by the Register of Centre county:

H. A. Sampel, of Pleasant Gap, Pa., and Martha E. Hunter, of Spring township; Wallace S. Karstetter, of Millheim, Pa., and Florence Alters, of same place; William B. Humpton, of Kylertown and Mertie B. Records, of same place; John Gabor, of Bellefonte, Pa., and Susan Drobzig, (both Hungarians) of same place.

Stephen Yoderick, of Potter township, and Mary Cessar, same place; Lawrence C. Bruner, of Brockport, Elk Co., Pa., and Annie B. Kline, of Phillipsburg.

A. J. Hockman, of Hublersburg, and Alice Brumgard, of Zion; Robert L. Scott, of Phillipsburg, and Myra S. Henshey, of same place; Charles W. Triplett, of Bellefonte, and Lida L. Furey, of same place.