Democratic Watchman.

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Bellefonte, Pa., Sept. 19, 1890

P. GRAY MEEK, - - - EDITOR

STATE DEMOCRATIC TICKET.

For Governor,
ROBERT E. PATTISON,
Of Philadelphia.

For Lieutenant Governor,
CHAUNCEY F. BLACK,
Of York County.

For Secretary of Internal Affairs,
WM. H. BARCLAY,
Of Pittsburgh.

FOR CONGRESS.
J. L. SPANGLER, Esq.
Subject to action of District Conference.

FOR SENATOR.
P. GRAY MEEK.
Subject to action of District Conference.

Representatives { J. H. HOLT, JOHN T. McCORMICK.

Sheriff.—WILLIAM A. ISHLER.

Treasurer.—JAMES J. GRAMLEY.

Register.—JOHN A. RUPP.

Recorder.—W. GAYLOR MORRISON.

Commissioners. { GEO. L. GOODHART, T. FRANK ADAMS.

Auditors. { JOHN B. MITCHELL,

Republican County Management.

In asking the voters of the county to elect STROHM and KUNES commissioners, the Republican county managers ask them to do something that for their own interest would be a risky piece of business. The Republican commissioners, whose terms are about expiring, set such a poor example of financial management that there is very little encouragement for the tax-payers of the county to try another experiment in that line. HENDERSON and DECKER have furnished a sufficiency of incompetent financiering without having more of it inflicted upon the county by STROHM and KUNES.

When the present Board got hold of the county treasury, a little less than three years ago, they found a handsome surplus, including available assets, amounting to between twenty and thirty thousand dollars. This gratifying balance was the result of the careful and conscientious management of Democratic commissioners, who had not only paid off a large debt that had been necessarily contracted, but had exercised such diligence in collecting what was due the county, without oppressing any one, that the treasury had an ample surplus, with the county entirely out of debt. Its finances were never in a more healthy and satisfactory condition.

This was achieved notwithstanding there were heavy demands on the treasury for bridge building and repairing, and other necessary improvements. Nor did it require an increase of taxation to accomplish these desirable ends. There was actually a gradual reduction of the tax rate while this was going on. And it was not a sham reduction for political effect, requiring an underhanded increase of land valuation to make up the deficiency. No such contemptible expedient was necessary for the Democratic commissioners to resort to for the deception of the people. There was no jugglery in their financiering. It was open, aboveboard, substantial and free from electioneering dodges.

There has been different management since the county affairs got into Republican hands. The surplus has vanished. The accounts are beginning to show the biggest balance on the debtor side. The Auditors' reports cannot be screwed into any shape that will make a satisfactory exhibit. HENDERSON and DECKER'S financial ability is found incapable of mastering the situation, and the pretense of having reduced taxation is resorted to as an explanation of the declining finances, while the organs are set to claiming that fabulous sums of money, amounting to thousands of dollars, were expended on murder trials and in restoring the bridges that were carried away by the flood, without giving any figures or vouchers to sustain the claim.

This is by no means an exaggerated picture of Republican financial management in the county, and to ask that it shall be continued by electing STROHM and KUNES is asking a good deal too much of the taxpayers.

——The docility with which the Republicans of Philadelphia have accepted the local candidates furnished by the machine managers is evidence that the discipline under which boss rule has brought the party in that city is in no way impaired.

——The people of Centre county can do themselves a pecuniary benefit this fall by relieving the county of the bad financial management with which it has been afflicted for the last three years.

The Miners and Robert E. Pattison.

The *Wage-Earners' Journal*, published at Philipsburg, a fair and able exponent and representative of the miners' sentiments and interests, and by no means a political paper, comes out strongly in favor of PATTISON for Governor. It could not do otherwise, considering the friendship which the ex Governor, in his former official capacity, showed for that class of working people, instances of which the *Journal* enumerates. Thus, it was Governor PATTISON who upon the earnest solicitation of miners, appointed a commission to revise the mining law. It was the first attention which the toilers in the mines ever received from an executive of the State, and if the present mining law is not as effective as it should be, it is still an improvement on that which preceded it, and it was not the Governor's fault that its provisions fail to give all that the miners could reasonably desire.

In the making up of the commission to revise the mining law, it was required by the act creating the commission that there should be a practical miner on it. When Governor PATTISON'S attention was called to the fact that the operators had succeeded in getting a person in their own interest on this commission, instead of "a practical miner," as directed by the act, he immediately removed the intruder and appointed THOMAS LLOYD, a working miner, who had a practical knowledge of what should be the provisions of a mining law, and who personally sympathized with the miners' interests.

The *Journal* shows another instance of Gov. PATTISON'S friendship for the miners in the case of the big strike in 1886. When they appealed to him to act as arbitrator he at once consented to do so and compelled the companies to take their books to Harrisburg and permit an investigation of them. Unfortunately for the miners they were without statistics of their own, and the Governor was prevented from doing what he otherwise might have done at that time had he had the facts furnished him, showing wherein the books of the companies did not show a true statement of the miners' earnings.

During his entire term as the chief executive officer of the State, ROBERT E. PATTISON refused to give his consent to the employment of the Pinkerton mercenaries to force workingmen into accepting the terms offered by employers. His opposition to the employment of such an outrageous agency was shown when he refused to allow it to be used against the coke-workers in Westmoreland county, the employees of the Cambria Iron Company at Johnstown, and in other instances.

Such conspicuous illustrations of Governor PATTISON'S friendship for the miners and other laborers, and his determination that they should be protected against oppression and extortion, justifies the *Wage-Earners' Journal* in calling upon them to vote for him for Governor.

——Mr. JOHN F. HARTER is a big, hearty, able-bodied man, has a home better than those in which nine-tenths of the people of the county live, and a good profession from which can derive a large income. He has never voted a Democratic ticket in his life, and since getting into office through the aid of Democratic votes, has subscribed largely to the campaign funds of the Republican party, and done all in his power to defeat the nominees of the Democracy. Why should any Democrat vote for him?

His opponent, GAYLOR MORRISON, is a poor man, unfortunately a cripple for life, is the better qualified of the two for the place, and has always been a straight-out, consistent, hardworking Democrat. He has spent his time and money when he had any, for the party, when HARTER was spending his for the Republicans. He has always done his duty toward every candidate the Democracy has placed in the field, and, above all, is one of the most competent men in the county for the place. Is there any question as to which of the two should be elected in a Democratic county?

A Self-Confessed Falsifier.

FIEDLER stands as a self-confessed falsifier in the matter of the $900 charge against Mr. ISHLER. His failure to produce proof—his silence when confronted by the affidavit of Mr. ISHLER—his slinking away from Mr. ROBERT VALENTINE'S testimonial to the excellent character of the man whom he has assailed—may be taken as a virtual confession of his guilt in making a false charge against the Democratic candidate for Sheriff, to serve a base and dirty political purpose.

This is a shameful spectacle and should make the Republicans of the county blush for the grinder of their party organ.

Potatoes as a Tariff Fraud.

A copy of the Des Moines, Iowa, State Register, headsman CLARKSON'S paper, has accidently gotten into our hands, and we observe that it is cutting some queer capers with that popular esculent, the potato, on the tariff question. It appears that potatoes are now bringing a pretty good price in the Des Moines market, and the headsman's paper, comparing it with the 10 cents a bushel which the tubers were selling for last year, exultingly calls the attention of the farmers to the effect which the McKinley bill has already had upon the potato market. Although that bill has not yet gone into operation—in fact has not yet been finally passed—CLARKSON'S journal wants the farmers to believe that the duty of from 15 to 25 per cent it puts on potatoes has already increased the price of that vegetable in the Des Moines market.

The circumstance that the potato crop is in a great measure a failure this year all over the country, and therefore the price is necessarily advanced, is coolly ignored, and the farmers, as if they were a set of idiots, are asked to believe that the increased price is due to a tariff bill that has not yet become a law.

It is for such humbug as this that the duties on agricultural productions provided by the tariff bill, are intended. The farmers having justly become exasperated at the tariff taxes on the articles necessary to their daily living, the scheme of the tariff extortionists is to fix up a bill that will have the appearance of doing something for them, and may be used in making them believe that they are being compensated for the gouge to which they are subjected in their clothing, implements and other necessary commodities. But there isn't a granger anywhere who is not sagacious enough to know that when their crops are abundant there is no competition with foreign agricultural productions, which are brought into the country only when their crops are short and they have nothing to sell, and, as sometimes happens, may themselves be purchasers.

A Dissatisfied Old Organ.

The Lewisburg *Chronicle*, the venerable organ of Republicanism in Union county, is far from being satisfied with the way the head bosses are conducting themselves and managing the politics which their followers are expected to accept. It not only displays symptoms of disgust in its own utterances, but allows considerable latitude in its columns to expressions of dissatisfied Republicans. Thus in one of its recent issues it finds room for an emphatic protest against boss rule and the condition of affairs which boss rule has brought about, from a life-long member of its party, from which we make the following extract:

> The coming struggle will be one of the most important since the struggle for our liberty and independence. It will not be a battle of sectional interest and party, but a battle between the oppressed and tax burdened farmer and laborer—against the moneyed corporations, monopolies and trusts; not a battle for political supremacy between the Republican and Democratic parties, but a battle for our rights, our civil freedom, and for a righteous form of government. I have been a life-long Republican; I have marched and fought in the Republican ranks, through its victories and defeats, until it has the political power to give justice to all people and to vindicate us from our enemies. But, my Republican brothers, what reward have we received? Our leaders have marched us blindly into the very jaws of hellish corporations and the damnable monopolies, and our destruction will be complete, unless we deliver ourselves.

This Republican certainly has a clear understanding of the issues involved in the present contest. Surely the "liberty and independence" of the people of the State depend upon the overthrow of a combination of corrupt and reckless political leaders who, for the benefit of "moneyed corporations, monopolies and trusts," have for so many years held them in thrall.

A Silent Organist.

The organist of the *Keystone Gazette* has adopted the silent policy of QUAY and DELAMATER. When challenged to prove the charge he made that the Democratic nominee for Sheriff had bought his nomination, he stands mute before the public which he had attempted to deceive by falsely accusing an honorable man. FIEDLER'S adopting QUAY'S silent tactics in this disgraceful business will not free him of the stigma of being a deliberate and premeditated falsifier. Sneaking inuendoes will not answer in place of proof. When facts are demanded to support his charge his utter failure to produce them amounts to a silence as damaging and damning as that of MAT QUAY.

—If the election were held to-morrow PATTISON'S majority would be 100,000. Later on the money of the corporations will begin to do its work in the campaign, and to that influence the patriotism and honesty of Pennsylvania citizenship should be prepared to oppose its stoutest resistance.

The Single Tax Theory.

HENRY GEORGE'S single tax theory embraces so wild a proposition that it is scarcely possible that its originator is in earnest in proposing it. This theory suggests that all revenue for federal, state and municipal purposes should be raised by a tax exclusively upon land values, without regard to improvements. According to his plan land upon which have been erected the most expensive improvements should not be taxed more than land that is entirely unimproved. That it would simplify taxation by drawing it from a single source, would certainly not be a sufficient warrant for its manifest injustice. It would make land owners the exclusive tax-payers, while other forms of wealth would be exempt from the tax burden.

That such idiotic injustice should have any advocacy at all among people of ordinary sense is a matter of surprise, and yet this single tax theory prevails to a considerable extent in practice in Pennsylvania. Under our tax laws land is made to bear the principal burden, the land owner being the chief victim of the tax collector. If this isn't the single tax theory put into practice, it comes very near to it. The arrangement is extremely advantageous to wealth, that consists of money and corporate investments, but it is mighty rough on the farmers whose efforts to have taxation more equally imposed has been frustrated by the Quay, Delamater and Beaver style of statesmen who have been quite successful in protecting the corporations from taxation at the expense of the farmers.

——The appeal of the fifty eight prominent and influential Republicans of Philadelphia to their brethren in the state, which we publish in the inside columns of this issue, makes interesting and instructive reading at this stage of the political game. They are men of the highest reputation, who have for years been more or less prominent in their affiliation with the Republican party, but who now feel themselves called upon to oppose their party's candidate for Governor because they believe that his election would be a public injury and disgrace. They give their reasons for the stand they have taken in calm and dignified language, basing their appeal to their Republican brethren as much upon the regard they should have for the credit of their party as for the good name and good government of their state.

In What They Differ.

They are having a lively and interesting contest in Illinois for United States Senator in which General PALMER, Democrat, is contending with the present Republican Senator FARWELL, who wants to be re-elected. The General goes before the people and advocates his own cause and that of his party in speeches which he is so capable of making. His opponent, FARWELL, is a millionaire who got into the Senate through the influence of his money. In a recent speech General PALMER drew the following neat comparison between himself and the affluent person who owes his place in the Senate to his dollars, and who expects that they will keep him there: "Mr. "FARWELL and I in old times were "Democrats. We went into the anti-"slavery movement together. I went "into the army; he didn't. He made "money; I didn't." The secret of the Republican preference for FARWELL lies in the fact that he made money. In the estimation of the g.o.p. it transcends General PALMER'S qualifications of patriotism, military service and civil ability.

PATRONS' PICNIC AND EXHIBITION

Grange Park a Scene of Excitement and Pleasure.

Grange Park, the picnic home of Central Pennsylvania's grangers, is a beautifully located plot of ground comprising twenty-six acres. It was purchased from Arney and Mingle, and Mrs. Curtin, for three thousand two hundred and fifty dollars and is on the line of the Lewisburg and Tyrone railroad about one mile from Centre Hall, Centre county. The park is on a slightly rising ground and from head-quarters looking down Grand avenue one of the most complete views of agricultural beauty meets the eye. Rolling off to the eastern horizon are seen the celebrated farms of Pennsvalley; looming up just in front of you one sees Brush mountain rearing its mighty head heavenwards, as though standing guard over the fertile fields; away off to the right Egg hill stands boldly out in front of the Seven Mountains, while the Nittany ranges sweep majestically away forming the northern boundary of this entrancing scene. On going to the rear of the quarters another view almost dazzling in its splendor was disclosed. The sun was setting; and there in the West it sank lower and lower until at last the whole vale seemed ablaze with its golden light and then, all of a sudden, the fantastic shadows began to chase each other o'er field and wood until they reached the horizon where their fitful playing on a field of golden corn gave it the appearance of the camp of some vast army. Then they disappeared and twilight reigned supreme.

The habitable portion of the camp includes one hundred and ninety tents, each averaging six persons. These living tents are along the north and west sides of the park and the space inclosed by them is filled up with the exhibits of machinery and implements of every description. Candy booths, picture galleries, and merry-go-rounds are in abundance and in fact everything to make both old and young spend an enjoyable week. Four large frame buildings furnish accommodations for some of the most extensive exhibits. An auditorium, right near head-quarters, seats one thousand people. Under that canopy the public speakers stood to address their crowds. fifty substantial and convenient exhibit stalls extend along the north-eastern part of the park for the blooded stock and a number of small pavilions are scattered over the grounds for general convenience. The park is beautiful, with its natural enhancements alone but if the grangers carry out their intentions regarding it, it will be far more beautiful in a few years. The lack of shade is not noticed, as the sun feels exceedingly good these cool September days, and then there is plenty of good water to slake the thirst of those whom it might affect. The streets are all illumed with powerful oil lamps so that night in camp is almost as bright as day. Most of the tents are occupied by parties of young people, whose only object is fun, and they have it, for during the day they make themselves sick with pop and peanuts and at night they forget their pains as they whirl about on the giraffe, or camel of the merry-go-round to the inspiring strains of Annie Rooney. The whole is a scene never to be forgotten. People of all types. Clothes of ever conceivable fashion.

Monday was spent in fixing up for the week, though quite a number of visitors were on the grounds. Tuesday was devoted to drying out after the big rain Monday night but Wednesday proved a delightful day. All morning crowds kept coming in and by noon there was fully ten thousand people on the grounds. In the afternoon the older people assembled in the large auditorium to her Mr. Benninger, of Northampton county, deliver a most able address. As his discussion of the subject he took was so complete and logical we take pleasure in publishing our stenographic report of it:

THE TRUE SITUATION OF THE FARMER.

Patrons and Friends:—I am glad and appreciate the opportunity of being with you to-day, to discuss the true and honest situation of the Farmers of this State, because there is no class that is similarly situated, occupying as they do such a pitiable and outraged condition, the instrument of political chicanery and intrigue for the past decade; and it behooves us as a class of non-political men, to study the present situation thoroughly in order that we may cast our franchise intelligently.

We have been voting for the past 20 years for outsiders, who have been shearing us continually, until there remains but a tuft; and in order to retain this little tuft, we have met here to-day regardless of party, regardless of any body personally, but to encourage one another in the firm stand the Grangers have taken.

The Farmers are well aware that we possess all the land, that we do the work, and that we are the majority of voters; we pay all our taxes and others besides, *but we have nothing to say.* The grain prices are made by N. Y. & Chicago Trusts, and in consequence we are forced to sell our wheat for 20 cents per bushel less than it costs to raise. We are not allowed to quote prices for one solitary article which we have for sale. This being the case, would it not be right and honorable to demand of our grocer sugar at one cent per pound? For I heard Gov. Beaver say, which should be certainly good authority, "that he gave the sugar question thorough examination and was convinced that sugar could be produced at one cent per pound in the State of Pennsylvania.

I want to say right here that our State Board of Agriculture has erred for the past several years in spending so much money and time on the Sorghum and Road Question. I will let you be the judges of the amount of good it has accomplished. Before I go further into explanation I will state that in case I make any false statement, or that will conflict with any opinions, I invite a discussion at once, for I come to speak the truth. For such is the position I occupy in Grange work since my enlistment in the noble cause.

The great question and the one paramount above all others is the direct Tax Question. Not the Tariff, or Internal Revenue, for these are only indirectly hurting us, and require deeper thought and a much wider scope of investigation, and which time, on this occasion, will not permit me to enter, and therefore I would advise all Brothers of the Order to read carefully from time to time the discussion between Senator G. C. Brown, State Lecturer, and Mortimer Whitehead, National Grange Lecturer, and decide when the articles in *Farmer's Friend* have ended, when I am satisfied you will not err much on the subject.

While there are differences of opinion on the Tariff question, on the Tax question we stand a unit. There are annually 41 millions of dollars collected for tax purposes. The valuation on Real Estate in Pennsylvania is 2 billion dollars. The valuation of corporate and personal property is two billion two hundred and fifty millions. Out of the 41 million taxes, the farmers of Pennsylvania, with a valuation of 2 billions, pay 34 millions, whereas the corporations, with a valuation of two hundred and fifty millions more, pay only seven millions tax, together with corporate property worth one billion, exempt from tax altogether. The farmers pay $10 tax to one dollar of the corporations. Of this we all understand and are unanimous. Now, allow me to ask the question, who made these laws? Master Rhone, Senator Brown and others have labored incessantly for the past ten years or more for the equalization of the tax laws of Pennsylvania.

These personages occupy the position of Gladstone to-day on this very subject, and Ex-Gov. Pattison, the first one who recognized the injustice of the measure, came to their assistance in his first inaugural with the following language:

'The ineffectiveness and partiality of the laws for the taxation of property must be confessed by ever unbiased student of our financial policy. Of the taxes raised throughout the Commonwealth for all purposes, both local and general, real estate contributes four fifths, while its assessed value is only about one sixteenth greater than that of personal property. If our laws were competent for an exact and truthful assessment of the value of personal property, it would, without a doubt, equal and most likely largely exceed the value of real estate. As a matter of fact, therefore, real property in this Commonwealth is burdened by taxation four times as heavily as personal property. If we should eliminate from this comparison the taxes paid by corporations, and for licenses and other privileges granted by the State, and consider only the taxes paid by individual citizens upon their private possessions, it would be found that the owner of real estate pays quite ten times more tax upon his property than the owner of personal estate. This inequality is a flagrant and indefensible act of injustice. The burdens of government should be equally shared—or at least as nearly equally as human laws can contrive. Since our legislative policy is to tax property rather than persons there can be no possible excuse for selecting the houses and farms of the people to bear ten times as much of the public burdens as personal property. If things, and not persons, are to be taxed common equity would dictate that the aggregate of a man's possessions, irrespective of their kind, and simply according to their value, should bear the infliction. What delinquency has real estate been guilty of that it should be thus unfairly discriminated against? It is the most productive, the most needful, and the most stable form of property. It adds most to our wealth, remains always with us, shelters and sustains our people, and at once attracts, and, if justly treated, retains and multiplies population. There is a baleful vice in the form of government that inflicts a penalty upon lands and houses, and makes their ownership difficult and burdensome. The farmer and householder has no right to any exemption from his fair share of the public expense, but he has a right to just and impartial treatment that cannot be ignored except at a cost to social tranquility that must sooner of later be reckoned with.

That the inequality referred to exists cannot be successfully denied. It is patent to every eye. There is not a citizen in the Commonwealth paying a tax upon his home or farm who cannot point to his neighbor owning many times as much in personal goods and idle capital, who yet pays an immeasurably less amount of tax. It is useless to answer such undeniable facts by any intricate theory as to the ultimate distribution of all taxation. Such unjust discrimination is working untold evil to our people; is oppressing the poor; is exempting the rich; is day by day establishing unfortunate social distinctions that are foreign to our principles of government, destructive of the happiness and energies of men, and blasting the hopes that we have all prayerfully entertained of our country becoming the home of a contented and happy people.

The time is ripe for the inauguration of earnest efforts to eradicate the evil complained of. The General Assembly should promptly and heartily enter upon the task of reforming the tax laws of the State. That the subject is beset with difficulties, and has heretofore been considered without successful result, is no reason for adandoning the attempt at this session. Some measure at least should be adopted as a stepping stone to the end desired. It was suggested in my last message, and is again urged, that, as a primary movement, a revenue law be framed by which the entire cost of the State government should be met by taxation upon corporations, and the receipt from taxes upon other forms of personal property be returned to the several counties, to relieve to that extent the real estate therein."

Are his work and his untiring efforts during his incumbency in office, not sufficient to answer us why the farmers of Pennsylvania are in favor of Ex-Gov. Pattison?

Why should not our worthy Master Leonard Rhone, who labored so faithfully during the past ten years, be qualified authority and in a position to know who represents the farmers grievances; and do not the pamphlets distributed at William's Grove in direct detriment to our worthy Master, show conclusively disguised corporation means, and he who had any hand in the contemptible trick is a wolf with a sheep's robe, and who in disguise and in an unmanly way desires the disruption of our noble order.

In compliance with the party message of Ex-Gov. Pattison, the committee of legislation appointed by the State Grange of Pennsylvania framed a bill, generally known as the Rhone Tax Bill.

This bill was eulogized by the press throughout the entire State, met with little opposition in both Houses, and was passed.

Unfortunately the President of the Senate, a Mr. Davis, who was undoubtedly a respectable gentleman and had respect for his character, was absent, and Senator Smith, ex-detective of Philadelphia, presided. When this bill, together with others, reached Gov. Beaver for his signature, this single bill failed to have the signature of the President of the Senate. They say it was an accident. We Farmers and Laborers say it was an intentional accident.

Many of us have repeatedly heard Gov. Beaver say, "I had pen in hand to sign, but to my great surprise this single bill failed to have the signature of the President of the Senate." When Beaver exclaims "this lets me out," we say *this lets him in*, because of a unanimous cry throughout the State for an extra session. The Governor, through corporation influences undoubtly, failed to call the extra session, and consequently we hold Governor Beaver personally responsible for the defeat of the bill; and not only for this, but we hold him personally responsible for robbing the laborer and farmer of nine tenth of all the taxes he pays.

We pay	$1.00	we should pay	but	10	cents.
"	5.00	"	"	"	50	"
"	10.00	"	"	"	1.00	"
"	20.00	"	"	"	2.00	"
"	50.00	"	"	"	5.00	"

For their expenses and other reasons, which I have not time to mention, he attacked our worthy Master Leonard Rhone in a political harangue at William's Grove, Pa., and he who can read between the lines can see the source whence sprang the order for withholding the distribution of the New York *World* at the Grange pic-nic.

(Continued on 5th page)