

Democratic Watchman

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P. GRAY MEEK, - - - Editor

The County Treasury Exhausted.

The facts that are being developed by the county audit now in progress, confirms what we have repeatedly said that the Republican Board of Commissioners had not only wiped out the large balance which the Democratic Commissioners had left in the Treasury, but had actually run the county in debt again. It appears that when Mr. GRAMLEY took possession of the Treasury he found that there was not a dollar of county funds in it, and he moreover made the discovery that about \$7600 of township money, specially designed by law for township purposes, had been used to pay county debts.

While Treasury GRAMLEY found no county funds in the Treasury, there was still remaining on hand some \$9000 of township, road and school funds which the Republican Commissioners had not yet misapplied for county purposes, and Mr. GRAMLEY was fully justified in refusing to pay it out on county orders. An act of assembly expressly prohibits such misapplication of funds, making it a misdemeanor punishable by fine and imprisonment. The Republican Commissioners deliberately violated this act when they directed township funds to be used for the payment of county liabilities.

The condition in which the county treasury is found when handed over to a Democratic officer, is an entire exhaustion of a balance of about \$30,000 that was available when the last Democratic Board went out of office, and an unlawful misapplication of nearly \$8,000 of township money to swell the county deficiency; and, in addition to this disgraceful condition, from the appearance of the audit as far as it has gone it looks as if the county will be shown to be nearly \$20,000 in debt. In the face of this deficiency money will be needed for the expenses of the January court and other purposes, rendering it necessary to borrow about \$10,000 to meet immediate necessities.

What excuse can the Republican county financiers give for this astonishing and disgraceful shortage? If they had made extensive and valuable county improvements there would be some reason for this disappearance of the money. But no reason of this kind can be advanced.

The financial condition of the county furnishes a nice exhibit of the effects of Republican management, and is a beautiful commentary on HENDERSON and DECKER's attempt, for political effect, to meet county liabilities with a two mill tax.

Cameron Re-elected.

No one could have seriously believed that Senator CAMERON would fail in being re-elected to the Senate. There was a sufficient majority of Republicans in the Legislature, and he had so managed before the election that, with few exceptions, they were obligated to give him their support. Therefore the attempt to draw away from him enough of the Republican representatives to prevent his re-election, could not be anything else than a futile endeavor. On Tuesday afternoon a vote for United States Senator was taken in both Houses, which resulted in CAMERON receiving in the Senate 31 votes and BLACK 15; in the House, CAMERON 113, BLACK 77, TAGGART 7, and 1 each for Dr. FLOOD and HARRY WHITE. On Wednesday the two Houses went into joint convention and re-elected CAMERON for another six years' term in the U. S. Senate.

In the final vote in the Senate last week on the free silver coinage bill the Democratic Senators were almost unanimous in favor of unrestricted coinage of silver dollars, Mr. WILSON, of Maryland, being the only one recorded in the negative. The bulk of the opposition came from 25 Republican Senators. When the bill passed the Senate the vote that passed it consisted of 24 Democrats and 15 Republicans. From this it would appear that the Democrats want more silver coinage and are not afraid that it will have an injurious financial effect. It is a question, however, on which a difference of opinion can not be condemned.

The re-election of Mr. KERR to the chairmanship of the Democratic State Committee was a just recognition of the eminent ability with which he conducted the last State campaign, and a tribute to a Democrat who has done the party great service and displayed capacity for leadership that promises future usefulness.

Bidding For the Granger Support.

INGALLS' speech in the Senate last week is generally considered a bid for his re-election as Senator which will be determined by the granger vote in the Kansas legislature. In his effort he attempted the sham brilliancy which has characterized his oratorical flights in the Senate, and which with some has gained him the reputation of being a great orator. The speech in question was in some particulars a departure from his usual line of oratory. It had been his custom to support every monopoly that was nurtured by Republican legislation, the tariff which taxes the many for the benefit of the few being among the measures that received his strenuous support. But the expression of the Kansas farmers last fall warned him to change his argument, and accordingly his last speech was a fierce philippic against the monopolies which owe their origin and growth more to Republican tariff legislation than to any other cause.

The millionaires who have accumulated their colossal fortunes under the working of Republican financial and economic policies, came in for a large share of his denunciation, but the Kansas farmers are not likely to be fooled by such assumed hostility, as they are pretty generally aware that INGALLS has grown very rich through such methods as he condemned in his speech, and that he is President of a company which has made big money by taking mortgages on farms at 16 per cent. He may succeed in being re-elected, but it will not be through any sense of obligation to him on the part of the farmers of his State.

—GEORGE BLANCHARD, the eminent American historian, died at his residence in Washington last Saturday at the extremely advanced age of ninety-one years. He was the oldest of the literary men of the United States and was one of the most eminent. He began the writing of his admirable history of the United States when he was a young man, a work which employed his best literary efforts during most of his life. Always a member of the Democratic party, he recognized in its principles the true basis of the republican government whose history was the subject that employed his able pen. He was Secretary of the Navy under President POLK, and Minister to Great Britain and Germany under other Democratic administrations.

Governor Pattison.

The triumph of the honest people of Pennsylvania in electing a Governor last November was fully consummated on Tuesday by the inauguration of Governor PATTISON. His induction into office was attended with becoming ceremony and with public rejoicing befitting an event so auspicious to the interest of Pennsylvania.

The issues involved in the recent gubernatorial contest are still fresh in the public mind. The sovereignty of the people was challenged by a political boss who presumed to dictate the choice of the highest officer in the state government, with the flippant declaration that he intended to own him.

It was an issue between the power of the boss and the power of the people, and in overthrowing the former many honest members of the Republican party assisted.

The election of PATTISON was also a declaration for ballot reform, for a more just and equal imposition of taxes, and for a restraint of the corporations that have assumed unlawful privileges. It was a triumph of popular rights and interests which was mainly brought about by Democratic effort, but to which Republicans largely contributed.

The officer who was called to his high position under circumstances so hopeful to the people of a character that warrants the assurance that he will be faithful to his trust. His inaugural address outlines the objects of reform to which he will apply his intelligent and conscientious endeavors.

—It is prudent to prepare for future contingencies whether in politics or in other lines of effort, and therefore it is gratifying and encouraging to observe that the Democratic National Committee has determined to open permanent headquarters at Washington. This will enable the party workers throughout the country to keep in constant touch with the party managers on all matters pertaining to national politics. The decision of the committee to begin at once the preparatory educational work of the next Presidential campaign is a wise one and will be productive of votes. This activity on the part of the National committee is an assurance of Democratic success.

—INGALLS' denunciation of millionaires will not blind the Kansas farmers to the fact that he is getting 16 per cent from mortgages on Kansas farms.

Governor Pattison's Cabinet Officers.

No surprise was occasioned by the official announcement of the names of the gentlemen who will constitute Governor PATTISON's cabinet, as it was quite generally believed, in advance, that they would be Mr. HARRITY, Secretary of the Commonwealth; Mr. HENSEL, Attorney General, and Mr. McCLELLAND, Adjutant General. These names were handed in immediately after the inauguration and were unanimously confirmed by the Senate.

The Democrats have reason to be well pleased with these appointments. The gentlemen who have been chosen to be a part of Governor PATTISON's administration are comparatively young in years, but their experience has been amply sufficient to fit them for the discharge of their duties.

Mr. HARRITY, who is a citizen of Philadelphia, has for some years been a Democratic leader whose services put him in the front rank of the young Democracy. He did good work in the election which placed CLEVELAND in the Presidency, and he was one of the moving spirits in the campaign which so happily closed with the election of ROBERT E. PATTISON. In the profession of the law he holds a high position in the city where he resides. He is a man of excellent reputation, vigorous mind and good principles, and in point of intellectual, political and moral qualifications is well suited for the office to which the Governor has appointed him.

There couldn't have been a better selection for Attorney General than that of Mr. HENSEL. He has from his boyhood been in the harness working for the promotion of Democratic principles and for the success of the Democratic party, having commenced to stump the State before he was twenty years of age, with a natural eloquence which at once gave him a foremost place among the young orators of the party, and he has been keeping up this kind of work every since. The name of HENSEL has become a household word among Pennsylvania Democrats, made so by his active and effective work in the cause to which they are devoted. As chairman of the State committee he headed many a hot campaign, one of which resulted in a victory that gave him a national reputation. He is an able and experienced lawyer, holding a high rank in one of the strongest bars in the State, and in this very essential respect is well equipped for the Attorney Generalship. The integrity of his character, the urbanity of his manner, and his professional ability bespeak for him an honorable and useful career in the office for which he has been chosen.

In appointing Captain WM. B. McCLELLAND Adjutant General Governor PATTISON selected an experienced soldier for that important office. He served his country bravely during the war of the rebellion, going into the service a private and coming out a commissioned officer. His knowledge of military affairs was obtained on the field of battle, which adds greatly to his accomplishment as a soldier and increases his efficiency as the chief executive officer of the National Guard. He is a lawyer by profession and has had public experience as a congressman, in municipal offices in Pittsburg, and as Secretary of the State Democratic Committee. There is no question that his immediate predecessor, Adjutant General HASTINGS, was an active, energetic and efficient officer, but there is every reason to be confident that under Adjutant General McCLELLAND's management the National Guard will maintain its present high condition of discipline and efficiency.

The Governor made such a selection in the choice of his cabinet officers as can be fully approved by the Democrats of the State.

—A bill will be introduced in the Legislature this winter to reimburse counties that lost bridges by the great flood of 1889. This is a proper movement, for the loss sustained by the destruction of bridges at that time came from a cause that was extensive in its character and over which human foresight or effort could have no control. The State has been liberal in coming to the relief of individual sufferers from that calamity, and there can be no objection to her giving pecuniary assistance to counties that suffered loss from the same cause.

—Governor FLEMING, of West Virginia, urges the enactment of election laws that will prevent the recurrence of such frauds as were attempted last fall in the gubernatorial contest in that State. Something in the shape of the Australian ballot system would be the remedy. West Virginia has for years been persistently made the object of Republican conspiracy and it is about time that effective measures be adopted to head off such reprehensible designs.

A Deserved Honor.

In nominating Hon. CHAUNCEY F. BLACK as their candidate for United States Senator the Democrats of the State Legislature paid a merited tribute to a good man, a distinguished citizen and a staunch Democrat. It was a proper endorsement of the qualities which have made him a leader among the Democrats of Pennsylvania, and which fit him for such a position as that to which the nomination would assign him.

There is no man in the State whose politics is purer or whose public services have been more intended for the public good. Mr. BLACK is a natural Democrat; his democracy is hereditary and has not degenerated from that which made his father the illustrious champion of popular rights and constitutional government. During the dark period through which the Democracy of Pennsylvania has passed since the war he never faltered in his service to the party and never despaired of the ultimate political redemption of the State. His voice and pen were ceaseless in enunciating Democratic principles and in inspiring Democratic effort.

The situation has been such as to return but little reward for such service, but there has been no abatement of his work on that account. One of his most useful services was the conception and organization of Democratic Societies intended to keep alive the spirit of Jeffersonian and Jacksonian democracy and to propagate the principles which constitute the difference between a constitutional party and one whose aim is to effect political centralization. In this movement Mr. BLACK has displayed a patriotism far above the motives of the ordinary politician and party manager, and that his conception was susceptible of producing the most wholesome fruit was evinced in the assistance rendered by the Societies in the educational campaign which was followed by so splendid a Democratic victory. He deserved the honor of a nomination for United States Senator, and there is no Democrat in the State who does not regret that the circumstances were such that his nomination could not result in his election.

—Mr. HARRISON has recently been talking very philosophically about what a President's duty is in exercising the veto power. He says that a President should not be too free with his vetoes. Unless he is positively sure that congress has gone very wrong it isn't right to interpose his objection, and that the mere fact of a President entertaining an opposite view should not be held by him as an evidence that congress is wrong. This, in effect, is what Mr. HARRISON has said about the veto, and by some it is looked upon as indicating that he is weakening on the Silver Coinage question, and that he will sign the free coinage bill, if passed, although he has expressed himself strongly against it. It need surprise no one if BENJAMIN should hedge on his previous anti-coinage expressions.

—The attention of the present State Legislature will be urgently called to the subject of revenue which is engrossing a large share of public attention. The Tax Commission appointed in 1889 to consider the subject of taxation and to devise a method of equalization, will submit four different reports. They no doubt have their defects and will be susceptible of improvement and amendment, but their combined suggestions should render assistance in framing some measure which, while combining the necessary revenue measures and imposing reasonable burdens on the people, will at the same time be framed in as equal a manner as possible, so that all the property and wealth producing interests of the State may pay their just share of taxation, and no more.

A Rational Campaign.

The plan of campaign outlined to the Democratic Congressional committee by Chairman KERR, of Pennsylvania, is a rational one. It looks to a "campaign of education" extending over all the year, whereby the voters are to be informed as to Democratic principles and policies through the medium of their local newspapers. This is obviously better than the old plan of dumping a lot of speeches and documents into the mails a month or two before the election. But while the committee is telling the party editors what Congressmen are doing, they should themselves keep an eye on the Independent Democratic press to learn what the public is asking and expecting. Elections cannot be carried from Washington.

The State Base Ball League Organized.

HARRISBURG, January 19.—The State Base Ball League was permanently organized this afternoon by the election of H. H. Diddlebock, of Philadelphia, as President, Secretary and Treasurer. Altoona, Harrisburg, Lancaster, Reading, Lebanon and Williamsport were represented. It is understood that Wilkesbarre and Scranton will be admitted. It was agreed that each club shall place a guarantee of \$500 to finish the season.

Governor Pattison's Inaugural Address.

The following are the salient points of the address delivered by the Governor at his inauguration on Tuesday:

Gentlemen of the senate and house of representatives and fellow citizens: Chosen by the people to undertake, for a second time, the duties of the chief executive of the commonwealth, I make use of this occasion which custom has established to declare to what and I shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed. A deep sense of the responsibility attends the assumption of this obligation. At such an hour it is meet to look to him from whom cometh every good and perfect gift, and, with devout thanksgiving for the blessings bestowed, to seek for a continuance of his favor.

Four especially important problems confront us: First, constitutional enforcement; second, the purification of elections, involving ballot reform, personal registration and the prevention of the misuse of money in politics; third, taxation; fourth, municipal government.

The present executive will zealously strive to maintain the constitution and the laws.

BALLOT REFORM.

The constitution requires that all elections shall be free and equal, but such elections are not secured by existing laws. Nor is our ballot secret. Fierce political conflicts between parties have given birth here as elsewhere to many phases of corruption.

The Australian ballot system is the best agency yet devised for purifying elections. It is neither an untested experiment nor a questionable expedient. Upward of 85,000,000 people conduct their elections by its machinery. It is not the method of any one country or people, but finds a home wherever a free and accurate expression of conviction is desired.

Under this system all qualified voters have equal facilities for voting, and all candidates have equal facilities for receiving votes.

Wherever tried, the Australian ballot system has completely changed the aspect of the elections. It secures tranquility, purity and freedom of choice and there is abundant testimony that it is the best, the most rapid and facile mode of obtaining the unbiased wish and mind of the voters. It offers a method of nomination that is open to all, and frees us unmistakably from the rule of political bosses. I will heartily favor any well considered legislation which will secure these or any portion of these results.

A CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.

But it is manifest that the deep reaching and effective ballot reform for which the popular mind in Pennsylvania has been fully prepared by recent discussion must go beyond the present restrictions of the constitution. The complete advantages of what has so widely approved itself as the Australian system should be realized while the ballot numbering provision remains in the constitution.

To reform the abuses in question a constitutional convention is necessary. There is no reason why such a convention should not be assembled at an early day, its deliberations completed and the result submitted to the people and approved or rejected within the present year.

Additional warrant and necessity for this are to be found in the demand for a system of compulsory personal registration. Such a system cannot be secured without an elimination from the constitution of the provision that "No elector shall be deprived of the privilege of voting by reason of his name not being registered."

TAXATION.

Of scarcely less importance is the equalization of the burdens of taxation. For many years there has been a well grounded complaint against the insufficiency, the inequality, the ineffectiveness and the partiality of the tax laws of the State.

The burdens of the government should be equally shared, or at least as nearly so 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 incision.

The people demand that the greatest protection be given for the safety of the public funds. The places in which the treasurer shall deposit the public money should be designated by law. The decennial census has been taken. The constitutional period for action is at hand. There will not be a more important measure for the consideration of the assembly than that of apportionment. It touches government in its most vital parts. Fair and just representation to all sections of the State in the general assembly and in congress underlies the whole fabric of our political system.

A Blue Cross on His Forehead.

PITTSBURG, Pa., Jan. 17.—Charles Buss, of Saxon, a suburb of Pittsburg, is the victim of a peculiar species of persecution. A few months ago he was separated from his wife. After that a number of anonymous notes warning him of impending evil found their way into his rooms. On December 17 last he received a long letter telling him he would be sorry if he did not leave in a few days. Last Sunday night he heard some noise. That was the last he remembers until the morning, when he was almost struck dumb to see a large blue cross imprinted upon his face. He had been chloroformed by his unknown enemies, and the large cross pricked with Indian ink. Last night he found in his room a letter advising him to leave home with in twenty-four hours or he would be killed.

—The Sultan of Sokoto, who rules over 12,000,000 subjects in West Africa, has presented Queen Victoria with an elephant. The animal has arrived at Liverpool, and will probably be taken care of at the Zoo.

Governor Pattison's Inauguration.

The Democratic Governor is Installed With an Imposmg Demonstration.

Shortly before noon on Tuesday the governor's party were escorted from the executive mansion to the capitol by the Eighth regiment, the governor's troop, and the Ringgold band, of Reading. The party included Governor Pattison and Governor Beaver, the governor's staff, the judges of supreme court, the joint inaugural committee, Adj. Gen. Hastings, Maj. Gen. Snowden, Brig. Gens. Gobin, Wiley and Dechert, together with their staff officers.

ADMINISTERING THE OATH.

The party proceeded to a platform erected over the steps of the portico, where Rev. Dr. T. C. Swallow, of the Ridge Avenue Episcopal church, opened the ceremonies with prayer. Then Chief Clerk Smiley, of the senate, read the certificate of election, after which Judge Clark, the senior Democratic judge of the supreme court, administered the oath of office to Mr. Pattison. The new governor then delivered his inaugural address, the ceremonies closing with the benediction.

The party then adjourned to the senate chamber, where the oath of office was administered to Lieutenant Governor Louis A. Watres and Secretary of Internal Affairs Thomas J. Stewart. At the conclusion of these ceremonies the governor and party took a position on the reviewing stand, facing State street at the foot of Capitol hill.

THE PARADE.

There the new governor reviewed a procession of about 5,000 enthusiastic citizens of the Keystone state, under the generalship of the Chief Marshal Asbury Aul. The line, while including a few military organizations, was principally composed of political clubs, most of them neatly uniformed. The following clubs were conspicuous for their fine appearance:

Pattison club, Danville, 60 men; Central Democratic club, Harrisburg, 125; Democratic Colored State league, 40; Young Men's Democratic club, Lancaster, 200; Young Men's Democratic association, Philadelphia, 150; Robert S. Pattison club, Philadelphia, 250; Young Men's Democratic club, Philadelphia, 100; Cobcock club, Philadelphia, 200; Twenty-ninth Ward Pattison club, 200; Jefferson club, Philadelphia, 100; Randall club, Pittsburg, 200; American club, Reading, 150; Central Democratic club, Scranton, 75; Young Men's Junior Democratic club, York, 50 to 75; Pottsville battalion, 75.

FESTIVITIES OF THE EVENING.

In the evening there was a display of fireworks on Market square, and from 9 till 11 o'clock Governor and Mrs. Pattison gave reception at the executive mansion. They were assisted in receiving by Lieutenant Governor and Mrs. Watres, Secretary of Internal Affairs and Mrs. Stewart, Speaker Thompson and wife, President pro tem. Penrose, W. U. Hensel, Mr. and Mrs. HARRITY, Humphrey D. Tate and wife, and ex-Lieutenant Governor and Mrs. Black. The day's festivities were concluded with an inaugural ball at the Armory of Company D, on North second street.

Cleveland in Danger.

An Insane Skulker Is Caught Hanging Around the Ex-President's House.

NEW YORK, Jan. 17.—A rumor that an attempt had been made to assassinate ex-President Cleveland spread over the lower part of the city Tuesday afternoon, together with the statement that the would-be assassin had been arrested and sent to Bellevue hospital for examination as to his insanity. On Wednesday afternoon a citizen walking up Madison avenue saw a man acting in an unusual manner in front of Mr. Cleveland's house. It was not far from 4 o'clock, and the citizen called the attention of Policeman Gannon to the matter. Gannon walked around that way and then the man, seeing a policeman, started down the avenue.

The policeman followed him through Sixty-sixth street to Fifth avenue and on toward the wall of Central park. Here he started to remove his clothes. The policeman made him desist and asked him what he was doing. He replied, "I was trying to see a friend of mine round in Madison avenue."

"Who's your friend there?" "Don't you know? He's at 816, It's Grover Cleveland, but don't say anything about it; don't let anybody know of it."

Then, with a confidential air, the man continued, "But he's no good now. I'm laying for him, and if I get a chance I'll get even with him."

He was taken to the station on Sixty seventh street, and talked so incoherently that he was sent to the Bellevue hospital. He grew violent, and it took three men to keep him from rushing out of the car. On the way to the hospital he couldn't give any satisfactory account of himself. Dr. Douglas, who examined him at Bellevue, said Friday night that he was clearly insane, and had been much excited all day, trying very often to tear his clothes off.

Burning Their Furniture for Fuel.

TOPEKA, Kan., Jan. 20.—Governor Humphrey has submitted a message to the Legislature calling attention to a dispatch sent him from Rawlins county, telling of extreme suffering from cold and hunger there and asking the Legislature for assistance. He suggested that an emergency bill be rushed through authorizing the Warden of the State penitentiary to furnish all the coal necessary from State mines near Lawrence. The Representative from Rawlins county read a telegram, saying that many farmers are burning their furniture for fuel.

—As the result of an altercation over the settlement of wages Robert Boyle, a cow boy, of Holbrook, A. T., was shot and instantly killed Sunday night by J. E. Ketcher, foreman of the Pleasant Valley cattle ranch.

—Sunday morning the dead body of Mollie Woods, who bore an enviable reputation, was found near an abandoned coal shaft south of the Gulf Railroad, near Galena, Kan., with two bullets holes through her head.