

# Democratic Watchman

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P. GRAY MEEK, Editor

## An Amendment That Wouldn't Amend.

An attempt will be made to amend, or at least to change, the license law now in operation in Pennsylvania, known as the Brooks law. A bill has been offered in the Legislature proposing to make considerable alteration in its provisions, one of which is to take the power of granting licenses from the courts and place it in the hands of three license commissioners in each ward, borough and township, to be elected by popular vote and to hold office for three years.

It is easy to see the objection that can justly be brought against such a measure, which would throw the question of license into our elections and make it, more or less, a political one. The liquor men would have an interested motive for influencing these elections, with an effect that would be far from promoting their purity or advancing the public welfare.

The bill further provides that there may be an appeal to the courts from the decisions of these license commissioners so that after all there would be a fight before the judges over the licensing of objectionable applicants, as every one would be certain to be appealed, causing more trouble and expense than under the present system, and no end of contention and confusion.

There may be defects in the present license law that need amendment, but the remedy is not furnished by the provision authorizing the election of ward, township and borough license commissioners.

## Protection of the State Treasury.

There is no duty more urgent upon the present State Legislature than the enactment of a law for the better protection of the State Treasury. A concurrent resolution has been adopted for the appointment of a committee to make a thorough investigation of the present method of conducting the treasury business, but unless this investigation be divested of partisanship, and has for its sole object the protection of the State's interests and not the advancement of private schemes in the depositing of the State funds, an improvement cannot be expected.

Nothing but a complete divorce of the treasury from the banks will bring about the greatly needed reform. Treasurer BOYER evidently is not alive to the urgent necessities of the case, for he makes no recommendation in his annual report that meets the danger to which the State funds are exposed by being placed in unsafe hands. His own case should have suggested to him the remedy. He should have been taught wisdom by the Delamater and Jamison defaults.

It is true, he recommends that only one fourth of the State tax be applied to the sinking fund; that one-half of the personal tax collected by the State be surrendered to the counties to further the scheme of tax equalization, and that the revenue of the liquor licenses be also given to the counties. These are good suggestions so far as they go, but what he should have emphasized was the necessity of the State money being put in such a situation that the people could be assured that it was not being used by favored partisans and bankers.

When Mr. BUSH, of Lackawanna, the other day introduced in the House a bill requiring railroad companies throughout the State to fence in their lands and tracks, there was a visible excitement among the agents and friends of those corporations in and about the capitol, who hastened to arrange an opposition to it. The bill is intended to be a general one, and in this connection we may allude to the fact that in Centre county the railroad companies have for some years been compelled by special act to fence their roads or pay damages for killing cattle or other stock, with the effect of affording a much appreciated public protection.

There is no reason for any one to be surprised at the neat coat of white wash which the investigating committee have applied in Pension Commissioner RAUM's case. Although evidence was not wanting of RAUM's official misbehavior, the investigation was intended more for the purpose of ignoring the evidence than of bringing out the facts of the case.

The American people would be pleased to see an extensive American merchant marine, but they prefer to have it built up on correct commercial principles, and not by the stimulation of government bounties.

## Counteraction to Republican Revolution.

The Philadelphia Record points out the effect which the revolutionary proceeding of the Republicans with their force bill may have in influencing the Democrats to resort to counteracting measures, irregular, if not as revolutionary in their character. The force bill has no other object than to perpetuate the political power of the Republican party. To head of this scheme the Democratic Legislatures in such States as Wisconsin, Michigan, Ohio and Indiana could change the present method of choosing Presidential electors on a general ticket to election by districts, as congressmen are chosen. The effect of this would be that States which usually give all their electors to Republican Presidential candidates would give as many Democratic electors as there are Democratic districts in them, and this would make the election of a Republican President impossible.

The State Legislatures have a right to make such a change, for the Federal constitution provides that Presidential electors shall be appointed in such manner as the State Legislatures may direct. The revolutionary action of the Republicans with their force bill may be followed, for the purpose of self-defense, by revolutionary counteraction on the part of the Democrats. It would be entirely justifiable, and, moreover, would be a step toward a better method of choosing Presidential electors.

## No Cause for Glorification.

The glorification over the production of American tin plate as the result of the protection afforded by the McKinley bill, is surely a waste of enthusiasm. Both at Chicago and at Pittsburgh where two tin-plate plants have sprung into existence under the fostering influence of a high tariff, nothing that is of American production is employed in the industry. The iron plates are imported from Wales; the tin into which they are dipped is also imported, and the dipping is done by imported Welsh workmen. There is no tin ore in this country and no appearance that any will ever be discovered. So, for the profit which protected monopolists may make out of the employment of Welsh workers in coating imported iron plates with imported tin, every housekeeper in the United States finds the price of his tinware increased, and the canning trade is made to bear an unnecessary and unjust burden. Such is the equity of protection.

## Criticism Without Cause.

The Philadelphia Press indulges in remarkable criticism of Governor PATTERSON last inaugural address, condemning it for containing a repetition of what he had said in his first inaugural. There was certainly no impropriety in the Governor repeating the recommendations he made eight years ago, which he found disregarded when he came into office again. If he uses pretty nearly the same language it should be shown that other language would have been more expressive and would have answered the purpose better, before he is condemned for the repetition. The fact that they are his own words reproduced to do the same duty they did eight years ago, renders the charge of plagiarism absurd. When he gets back to his old post of duty he finds the old abuses still unremedied and in operation, and if in renewing their condemnation and recommending their correction he employs the old language, nothing could be more suitable.

The employees of the Cambria iron works at Johnstown, which in number run into the thousands, have been notified that their wages will be reduced 15 per cent. The friends of the McKinley bill have all along protested that it will be liked the better as people become better acquainted with it; but if this is the sort of acquaintance with it that the workmen of the Cambria works are going to have, it is not likely that it will become the object of their love and admiration.

Concerning the State's reimbursing Wm. H. KIMBLE the amount he advanced for the relief of the Johnstown sufferers, a contemporary suggests that while it is the duty of the State to refund the money furnished for that emergency, there should be a careful audit before the Legislature shall make an appropriation for this purpose. It will certainly be prudent to go a little slow in this matter.

Bills have been introduced in the State Legislature for the more effectual suppression of the use of cigarettes by boys; for compulsory attendance at school; for the prevention of treating to intoxicating liquors and sparring in public halls and other places for money. Such fancy legislation seldom materializes.

The ballot reform bill is making rapid progress through the State Legislature, it having advanced to a third reading in the House, and there is a probability that it will progress with equal celerity in the Senate; but it is well enough for its friends to look out for snakes which its enemies may have concealed in the grass. So far it seems to have fair sailing.

## A Pregnant Truth.

New York World.  
No more striking utterance has been made in any State paper this year than Governor Pattison's epigrammatic saying: "When money shall be king at the American polls, money will be king at American capitals."

Money was king at the polls in the general election of 1888, and money has been king at the Capitol since that time. On the day that Harrison and Morton were inaugurated as the result of Dudley's buying of votes in "blocks of five" in Indiana, and Quay's purchase of the electoral vote of New York, with money contributed for that purpose by Wanamaker and other pharisees, the World arrested the attention of the country by its editorial on "Triumph of Plutocracy," declaring that "to-day, at the capital of the Republic, Money seals and celebrates its triumph in the election."

In further illustration of the sordid nature of the plutocrat in politics, witness the spectacle of a Senator from that seat of monopoly, Pennsylvania, voting for the free coinage of silver as an aid to his miserable speculations!

Witness a Vice President, nominated and elected as a reward for and a stimulus to enormous contributions to his party's campaign funds, ruling and giving casting votes in favor of gag rules and force laws to perpetuate the reign of the money power in the Government!

It is time for the American people to consider more seriously than they have ever done before whether men or money shall rule in this Republic.

## Bancroft's Democratic Career.

George Bancroft, the eminent historian who died last week, was for many years of his life a prominent member of the Democratic party. In 1835 he drafted an address to the people of Massachusetts at the request of the Young Men's Democratic Convention, and in January, 1838, he was appointed Collector of the Port of Boston by President Van Buren. Six years later he was the Democratic candidate for Governor of Massachusetts, but was defeated, though receiving a larger vote than any member of his party before. Mr. Bancroft became Secretary of the Navy under President Polk and signalized his administration by the establishment of the Naval Academy at Annapolis and by other reforms and improvements. During his term of office he also acted as Secretary of War for a month, during which he gave the order for the first occupation of Texas by the United States. From 1846 to 1849 Mr. Bancroft was a Minister to Great Britain. He embraced the opportunity thus afforded him to renew his acquaintance with his old friends in Germany and to become well acquainted with the copious manuscript materials in the public records of London for the history of the American Revolution. In February, 1866, he delivered before Congress the official commemorative oration upon the life and career of President Lincoln, a production warmly admired, but which did not escape severe criticism. During the great reconstruction agitation of the following year Mr. Bancroft heartily supported the administration of President Johnson. He was appointed in 1867 Minister Plenipotentiary to Prussia, a title which was exchanged for that of Minister to the North German Confederation in 1868, and Envoy to the new German Empire in 1871. The most important act of Mr. Bancroft's diplomatic career in Germany was the signature of the celebrated treaties with the North German Confederation and various smaller States upon the rights and privileges of naturalized German citizens of the United States, measures which called forth widely differing expressions of opinion.

## Disappointed Workmen.

Workmen in search of employment should keep out of Chicago at this time. That city is overrun with idle workmen who went there with their families in the expectation that the World's Fair would give them abundance of work at good wages. But up to this time not a stroke of work has been done on the Exposition grounds, and more mechanics are in Chicago now than will be likely to obtain employment when the work shall have actually been begun. At any rate, it will be prudent for all concerned to await the demand for more labor in that city.

Five years ago the two Faulkner brothers, of Danville, N. Y., were prosperous bankers and influential citizens. But they fell victims to the accursed thirst for gold; and one died in the shadow of a seven years sentence, while last week the other was sent to the Albany Penitentiary for five years. The Faulkners were prominent in New York State politics, and the scandal of their misdeeds is still a lively memory in Western New York.

The new Idaho Senator, Shoup, is getting himself talked about because of his wild and woolly expressions. He approached Morton during the night session last week in one of the cloak-rooms, and slapping the Vice President on the back, said: "Mr. Vice President, shake; your ruling awhile ago was dead game."

## A Forecast of the Weather in February.

Rev. Irl R. Hicks, the St. Louis weather prophet, has this to say for February's weather:

The general storm movements organizing during the last two days of January, will grow in violence as they sweep eastward, reaching their worst between the 1st and 3d, inclusive. On the last day of January, Mercury passes its disturbing point, combining on the same day with a regular Vulcan period, and on February 1 with a disturbing moon phase. A warm wave, developing rainstorms and attended by electrical phenomena is sure to result. On the south side of storm areas, dangerous storms need not surprise, while to the northward destructive sleet and snow blizzards are apt to result. Prepare for the period to end in one of the most general and bitter cold waves of the Winter. The wires will suffer woefully during the perturbations of this period, Mark our warning for heavy sleet. The cold will generally relax, and much local storminess will follow on and next to the reactionary 6th and 7th.

The 12th is the central day of the next regular storm period. This period will begin to feel severely the disturbing power of the growing Venus perturbation. Very warm temperature—enormous rainfalls with thunder and lightning in many places, turning to snow, and followed at the close by extreme cold, will be the natural order for this period. We name the 12th, 13th and 14th, as the days of greatest activity and danger. The extreme East may not feel the full force before the 15th. Phenomenal fluctuations of temperature—warm here and zero yonder—with astonishing rapid changes, will characterize all the disturbances during the remainder of the month. Low lands and narrow, gorged water channels are apt to be suddenly and dangerously flooded. Regions to the northward will have heavy snows and blizzards, with extreme and sudden drops of the mercury that will call for prudent vigilance. On and next to the 18th higher temperature and reactionary storms will be due.

Venus is at the center of her disturbing period on the 25th; about the same day a Vulcan disturbance will reach the central parts of this continent, with moon at its full on the 23d, Vulcan's central day. At this time the earth's vernal equinox, also, will to send its electric, equatorial currents northward to battle with Boreas. Therefore, the period running from about the 23d to the 25th, inclusive, is one that will bear watching. All we have said of characteristic storms and temperatures for February will apply especially to this period. Keep your eye on it.

## It Would Cut Both Ways.

The London Times says that the exportation of pocket cutlery to the United States has been seriously interfered with by the McKinley bill, which, perhaps, a good thing so far as the American makers of cutlery are concerned, but the Times also says that the English manufacturers are proposing to cut down wages. This will affect us two ways. These English workmen are large consumers of American produce, and the reduction of their wages will be the reverse of a benefit to the American farmers. If a few of these English workmen come to this country the American cutlery manufacturers will shave wages down, and the American workman will get beautifully left.

## A Washington Society Lady.

Among the recent acquisitions to society at the National Capital is a lady of great wealth, who less than a year since experienced a stinging retribution in the end of a cowhide. The story goes that while a resident of the Palace Hotel in San Francisco the fair dame made some remarks of a most uncomplimentary nature concerning another lady guest. A first the aspersion passed unnoticed, but upon the repetition of the offense the injured woman armed herself with a cow hide and, without further ceremony, repaired to the rooms occupied by her traducer, to whom in the most approved fashion she then and there proceeded to administer condign punishment.

## France and Russia United.

PARIS, Jan. 23.—General Lansdorf, the Czar's confidential Court Chamberlain, is to day quoted in this city as saying that Russians and Frenchmen have so many affinities of character that the former sympathize with France and have a profound antipathy for the people of England and Germany, whose characters are different. Every year, he added, sees the financial success of Russia and France assured, and their union renders war impossible and restrains Europe, though a feeling of great tension recently existed between Germany and Russia.

## Eight-Hour Conflict for 150,000 Miners.

PITTSBURG, Pa., Jan. 23.—A conflict between the 150,000 miners of the Federation of Labor and the mine-owners for eight hours as a day's work, will, according to General Organizer W. J. Dillon, of the Federation, take place on May 1. Mr. Dillon divides a portion of these prospective strikers thus: In the Pennsylvania anthracite region, 25,000; 12,000 in the Pittsburg district; 10,000 in the Clearfield region, and 75,000 in the West and South.

A wag at Wilkesbarre wrote to a traveling passenger agent at Tyrone to come to that town, giving the street and number, stating that fifty persons "would like to go west." The agent hurried to the town, hunted up the place and found it to be the jail—fifty prisoners inside. The agent saw he was fooled, and then sent other agents there for the party to sell them tickets. The fifty will not go west this winter, and for the past two weeks the hotel men were wondering what was bringing so many passenger agents to Wilkesbarre.

## Lymph Enough for 7000 Doses.

A vial containing enough of Dr. Koch's lymph to inoculate 7000 patients was received last week by Mayor Fitch through the State Department, and will be used at the Philadelphia Hospital.

## Recent Changes at Niagara.

Formerly the Canadian side of the Niagara falls was U-shaped, which caused the name of Horseshoe falls to be given. But for the last ten or a dozen years the fall has been V-shaped instead of U-shaped, the change being caused by a wearing away of the ledge over which the waters pour. On Jan. 4, 1889, a further displacement of rocks occurred, and the great Canadian cataract is again a "Horseshoe fall." It is, of course, known that the falls of Niagara are gradually moving to the south. The deepcut through the solid rock marks the course they have taken in their backward movement. It is a wonderful excavation, a cavity dug out by the sheer force of water. Not less astonishing has been the removal of the debris.

The rocks have been thoroughly pulverized and swept out into Lake Ontario. Once it was thought that the falls would ultimately wear back to Lake Erie and degenerate into a second-class rapids. The latest idea is that the fall will recede two miles farther and then stop still, as far as the farther backward tendency is concerned. The cause of the stoppage will be a more solid foundation for the limestone ledge over which the waters pour, the present foundation being very shaly. Two miles of a wearing back will make the falls but eighty feet in height instead of 160, as at present.—St. Louis Republic.

## Fierce Fight to the Death.

LEXINGTON, Ky., Jan. 27.—A battle to the death took place in Mercer county between a valuable saddle stallion and a jackass belonging to William Thomas, a stock raiser. A few days ago a mad dog bit Thomas' little boy and the horse. The horse went mad, kicked down the door of the jackass' stable and began biting him. The jackass retaliated, and for fifteen minutes they fought, using their teeth, heels, and forefeet. Finally the jackass tore loose the stallion's ear with his teeth, and the horse then bit a piece from the jackass' neck. This seemed to make the jackass more furious than ever, and, grabbing the lower part of the horse's neck in his teeth, he tore out his windpipe; but the high meted stallion did not give up, and before falling he kicked the jackass' hind leg breaking it just below the hook. He then fell dead. The jackass uttered a long, loud bray and went to his stable. He was covered with blood and so fearfully wounded that his master killed him to put him out of his misery.

## She Surprised the Englishman.

A young Englishman the other day was relating his first experience at an ice cream table with a Philadelphia girl. He said: "I was utterly broken up and astounded, don't you know, when, finding a strawberry in her half-finished plate of ice cream, she fished it out on her spoon and offered it to me."  
"Won't you have it?" she asked.  
"No, indeed," I replied, no doubt looking the horror I felt in my soul.  
"Why not?" she demanded, seeming to be hurt by my refusal.  
"Why, my dear girl, don't you know, I explained, 'you have had the spoon in your mouth.'"  
"Well, what of that?" she pouted prettily, as she made her perfectly paralyzing reply. "You'd kiss that mouth if I'd let you, wouldn't you?"  
I confessed that I would be only too glad to do so, and since then I have made it my business to get better accustomed to the ways of the place.—Philadelphia Press.

## New Jersey and Illinois Against the Election Bill.

TRENTON, Jan. 27.—Both branches of the Legislature met last night. A resolution was introduced into the Assembly and made the special order for Tuesday next, denouncing the Elections bill and declaring that the State would withhold its appropriation for the World's Fair if the bill becomes a law.  
SPRINGFIELD, January 27.—In the House to-day the resolution instructing the Senators from Illinois to vote against the Federal Elections bill was passed by a strict party vote—77 to 73—the F. M. B. A. men not voting. Representative Springer, on behalf of the Democrats, gave notice that if the Senators from Illinois should vote for the Federal Elections bill the Democrats in the State Legislature would not vote a dollar in aid of the World's Fair.

## Stabbed in the Huntingdon Reformatory.

HUNTINGDON, Pa., Jan. 23.—Paul Mitchell, of Butler county, a monitor in the Huntingdon Reformatory, to-day directed Henry Larkin, a fellow prisoner from Philadelphia, to attend to certain work when the latter furiously attacked Mitchell with a shoemaker's knife, stabbing him in the neck and severing the main artery. It is not thought that the injured lad can recover.

## Returning from the Indian War.

OMAHA, Jan. 21.—Four companies left the Indian reservation to-day to return to Fort Douglas, and the Seventh Infantry starts from Pine Ridge to-morrow for its old station at Fort Russell, Wyoming. The order for twenty days additional supplies at Pine Ridge has been cut to ten days supplies.

An extraordinary incident occurred in the court of the deputy commissioner of Hoshangabad, Japan, recently. A man walked up to the dais where the magistrate was sitting hearing a case and handed him something wrapped up in a pipal leaf, which when opened, was found to contain his wife's nose, the husband having come in to take the consequences of his act.

The Press regards CAMERON's vote against cloture with unalloyed delight, although it assumes to be very mad about it.

## ADDITIONAL LOCALS.

Last Sunday fifty-one new members were admitted into the Bellefonte Methodist church as the result of Rev. Mr. Houck recent spiritual efforts.

The Centre Iron Company's property at this place was put up at Sheriff's sale on Saturday. The highest bid was \$21,000 and the sale was postponed until Monday, when there was a further postponement.

On Wednesday a man giving his name as J. B. Saunders, was arrested at Williamsport on suspicion of being John Wilson, who escaped from the Bellefonte jail, but he didn't prove to be the man wanted.

Our local scribe last week, under the impression that the township and borough elections came off on the second, instead of the third Tuesday of February, erroneously said that they would take place on the 10th of that month. The 17th is the day.

AN ANNOUNCEMENT.—Mr. Leander Green hereby announces himself a candidate for the high and exalted office "Lord High Constable of the Borough," subject to the decision of the voters of the town—not having decided on which ticket he will run. He assures us of his undoubted selection to the mighty office—provided no other candidate appears to dispute his claim, but he warns all aspirants to stay off the ticket lest they suffer an overwhelming defeat. Leander would make a careful and conscientious official if elected.

ANOTHER FIRE.—On Thursday evening last, the cry of "Fire" again aroused Bellefonte from the lethargy she has been in for some time, and as the alarm was sounded for the north ward a WATCHMAN reporter hastened thither and found that a party of boys and men had just succeeded in drowning out a slight blaze in the corner of the stable attached to Mr. Daniel Garman's residence on High and Spring streets. Had it not been for the exceeding rapidity with which the Logans got a stream on the place, a disastrous conflagration might have ensued, as it was in a bad locality. It was of incendiary origin.

THE NAIL WORKS RESUMING.—The Bellefonte Nail Works are now in the first stages of a general resumption of work, that is, the rollers and heating furnace men are busy getting a stock of nail plate ahead for the consumption of the machines. It is hoped by the time enough stock is gotten, the mill men will have accepted the reduction of 25 per cent, which effects every department of the works. The nailers had a meeting yesterday, Thursday, morning and decided to accept the cut, so the factory will go into full running on Monday morning next. They have been running very irregularly of late but it is thought that their record for '91 will far exceed that of '90 for steadiness.

CHURCH DEDICATION.—The new United Brethren church, corner of High and Thomas streets, this place, will be dedicated to the worship of God, Sunday, February 1st, at 10:30 o'clock, a. m., by Rev. J. Weaver, D. D., of Dayton, Ohio, senior Bishop of the church, who is considered one of the finest pulpits orators of the day. A cordial invitation is extended to all to be present and participate in the exercises. A special meeting for the children will be held at 3 p. m. The Bishop will deliver a lecture in the church on Monday evening, the 2d., subject, "Life a Contest." Tickets 50 cents, for the benefit of the church. 25.

SCHOOL REPORT.—The following is the report of the grammar grade of Snow Shoep school for the month ending Jan. 23rd: Number enrolled, boys 18, girls 28, total 46. Average boys 16, girls 25, total 41. Percent of attendance boys 94, girls 94, total 94. Pupils who did not miss a day were Blair Yarnell, Herbert Walker, Samuel Budding, Frank Haynes, Boyde Shank, Annie Calhoun, Celia Hays, Grace Cheeseman, Bolla Graham, Lida Hill and Sallie Laurie. Guy Lucas received the honorary mark of honor in History this month. In Geography Samuel Budding, George Marks, Guy Lucas, Paul Irvin, Robert Keeb, Harry Gates, Frank Bing, Edward Hays, Charles Reeser, and Boyde Shank received the honorary marks. M. PILE, teacher.

THE COLLIN'S FURNACE TO BE BANKED TO-MORROW.—To-morrow, Saturday, the last run for some time will be made from the plant of the Bellefonte Furnace Co., in this place. The Furnace is to be banked indefinitely, owing to the increased freight rates over the Pennsylv. lines, and nothing more can be done until some concessions are made by the Railroad Company. This increase in the freight tariffs has been the cause of the shutting down of a large number of furnaces in Pennsylvania and Ohio, which can not continue under the advanced and exorbitant rates. Bellefonte will feel keenly the loss occasioned by the shutting down of this large concern and it is really deplorable that the P. R. R. Co. should add to the present depressed condition of trade, another burden which its industries cannot support and will not tolerate.