

# Democratic Watchman

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Bellefonte, Pa., March 6, 1891.

P. GRAY MEEK, Editor

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## The Hungarian Tax Bill.

The bill introduced in the Senate, imposing a tax of \$3 a year on unaturalized foreigners for the benefit of the poor fund in the districts in which they may be located, passed that body finally on Tuesday by a unanimous vote. It will now go to the House where, we trust, the equity and expediency of the measure will secure favorable consideration and action.

The promptness and unanimity with which the Senate gave its assent is evidence that its view of the bill was quite different from that taken by the constitutional lawyers of the *Centre Democrat*, *Bellefonte Republican*, and *Centre Reporter*.

## Caution Should Be Observed.

The project of the State going into the business of publishing school books for her public schools is a question that involves much that concerns the people. There are two bills on this subject now before the Legislature, differing in detail, but with the same object, that of authorizing the State authorities to have prepared and published the school text books. Where this has been tried the experience has not been encouraging. Hon. J. W. ANDERSON, Superintendent of Public Instruction in California, gives the following account of its working in that State where it has been tried:

The cost has been tremendous—over \$400,000 for an edition of 50,000 of each of the ten books published. The cost of the books, it is true, has been reduced, i. e., the private book publishers have been compelled to reduce the cost of their books. But now, the cost of books, as published by the State, is more than superior books could be purchased for in the open market, even without discount. The books are inferior in matter, adaptability and execution. In short, they have little to commend them. The superintendent of the State, at their biennial convention, held in this city on the second and third days of December, 1889, passed a strong resolution of condemnation upon all of the ten new publishers, except two.

Ohio has imitated California in this matter, but has found out that it is impossible to carry out the law. The "School Book Board," of which Governor CAMPBELL is the head, have just made a full report of the difficulties that beset them.

In contemplation of the passage of her school book law the State printer of California was asked for an estimate of the probable cost to the State of manufacturing a given number of text books to supply her schools. The estimate put the cost at 52.5-8 cents apiece, but after the law was passed and the books furnished their actual cost was \$1.05—almost double. The experience of California and Ohio should make our Legislature cautious in handling the same subject.

## Calculated to Make Trouble.

There is scarcely any occasion for the change of boundary lines of counties in this State, yet Representative JOHNSON, of Cambria county, has a bill before the Legislature on this subject which, it seems to us, can make a good deal of mischief in disturbing the present existing county limits. It provides that if at any time two-thirds of the resident taxable inhabitants of a township, or any portion of a county, shall, for any reason, desire to change the boundary lines and be set off into another county, the change shall be made upon petition to the Secretary of Internal Affairs, who, together with the Governor and Secretary of the Common wealth, shall consider the application and shall grant it upon recommendation of three commissioners appointed

by them to survey the territory and inquire into the advisability of the change. It is possible there may be a single case intended to be covered by this bill, in which the change provided for is proper and advantageous, but it is not the kind of law that ought to go on the statute books. There is no need of additional facilities for changing county boundaries, and a great deal of confusion, if not actual harm, might be easily created under this proposed law.

## How They Do It Out West.

Strange things are going on among the farmers of the West. In Kansas they are organizing societies to prevent the foreclosure of mortgages and the leasing of farms sold under foreclosure. In Minnesota they refuse to pay their assessments to a live stock insurance company and threaten to lynch the man who sues them. A St. Paul dispatch says: "The Minnesota Mutual Live Stock Insurance Company, of Fergus Falls, has sued a number of farmers in Norman County for assessments due, which the farmers had refused to pay. The suit came off yesterday, and the farmers were at Ada in a crowd to fight their case. JOHN ERICKSON, of Fergus Falls, secretary of the insurance company, was the man that worked up the insurance in the county. When the farmers found that he was there to fight them they were infuriated and decided to scare him into a relinquishment of his claim against them. They procured a rope and went to Mr. Erickson's room at the hotel. The leader told him what they came for, and after some parleying and flourishing the rope, Mr. Erickson threw up his suit and gave the farmers a release of the company's claims against them.

The bill prepared by the Ballot Reform Association, with some amendments by the Judiciary General committee of the House, is now before the House of Representatives at Harrisburg for its consideration and action. It should be regarded as supplementary to the definitive action of a constitutional convention, but still, as a temporary measure, its object is desirable. It is in the hands of the politicians whom it may not be safe to credit with being overzealous in the interest of honest elections. But the people are in earnest on that question, and it is a wise politician that will consult their wishes and act in accordance with them.

## The Coal Tax Bill.

There has sprung up from unexpected quarters opposition to the bill that is now before the State Legislature which proposes to put a tax of one cent a ton on all coal mined in the State, the revenue arising therefrom to be used for the relief of injured miners and for the pensioning of their wives and children. One of the members, who is himself a practical miner, opposes the bill for the alleged reason that it would do the miners no good, as it would lead to a reduction of their wages to meet the tax. The opposition of another member is grounded on the fear that such a tax would paralyze the coal trade. To these objections it may be answered that the coal barons must have hearts as hard as Pharaoh's if they begrudge the small amount of one cent a ton for the relief of injured miners and their distressed families, and the coal trade must be in a shaky condition if it can't stand such a slight tax. It would be interesting to know how many of these coal barons, who oppose this one cent a ton tax, besieged the halls of Congress when the McKinley bill was up, and clamored for "protection" against the foreign producers of coal.

—GEORGE F. WORK and JAMES S. DUNGAN, the wreckers of the Bank of America and the American Life Insurance Company, of Philadelphia, last Saturday were convicted in the Court of Quarter Sessions of that city of the offense charged against them. PEPPER, who was President of the Bank, pleaded guilty and was used as a witness against his partners in the offense. The convicted parties have not yet been sentenced, but they should receive punishment commensurate to their misdemeanor.

—The Press appears to antagonize Senator MEEK's Hungarian tax bill through an apprehension that it will drive that class of foreigners into naturalization. But in this matter it need not give itself any trouble on party grounds, for when ignorance gravitates to citizenship the Republican party always gets its full share of it. It will take, however, more than \$3 to induce a Hungarian to become an American citizen, particularly if he intends to go back to his native land to enjoy the money he has made in competing with American labor.

## Another Road Bill.

The general dissatisfaction in the farming community, in most parts of the State, with the road bill as drawn by the commission, has induced the introduction of another bill by Senator BROWN, of York county, which is recognized as the Granger road bill. It avoids the objectionable features of the other bill, the difference being on very material points. Senator BROWN's measure seeks to have the entire management of the roads placed in the hands of the township authorities. It dispenses with road engineers, and does not provide for a contribution from the State, providing the entire expense of improving the roads on the respective townships. We are not prepared to give an opinion on the comparative merits of the two bills, but one thing is certain, and that is, that no bill should be passed that is obnoxious to a majority of the people. But it is to be hoped that the Legislature will succeed in passing a satisfactory law that will lead to the improvement of the roads and highways of the State.

## The New England Outlook.

The Boston Advertiser hasn't any hope of keeping New Hampshire in the Republican line. It says: "Messrs. GALLINGER and CHANDLER must for four years be colleagues in the Senate representing the same party, and yet having a most bitter and determined feud with each other. How any one can expect that New Hampshire can be carried by the Republicans in 1892, after the developments of the last three months in Concord, is beyond comprehension. No matter whose fault it may be, the fact is evident that the Republicans of New Hampshire are hopelessly divided and with no prospect of any improvement in the future." The truth is, that if the Democrats do not make any serious mistakes the Republicans will carry only two New England States in 1892, Maine and Vermont.

## It Holds the First Place.

The Pennsylvania Railroad Company has made its forty-fourth annual report by its President, Mr. ROBERTS. It presents figures that are really colossal, equaling in magnitude the financial transactions of a nation. The Company includes 120 corporations, representing 7,915 miles of railroad and canal, with a bonded capital of \$700,000,000, and a gross revenue of \$133,000,000. To secure this enormous income 137,000,000 tons of freight were moved and 84,000,000 passengers carried. Through the able administration of its managers the Pennsylvania Railroad Company takes the first place among the great corporations of the world.

—Ex-Sheriff WILLIAM R. LEEDS, of Philadelphia, was unexpectedly appointed, last Tuesday, to the U. S. Marshalship of the Eastern District of Pennsylvania which was made vacant by the death of the late lamented ANDREW H. DILL. On account of Mr. LEEDS's somewhat damaged political reputation there was great opposition to his appointment, and it is said that it was principally through Mr. WANA-MAKER's influence that the President consented to give him the plum. Mayor FITLER and General HASTINGS were also among his backers. The appointment was promptly confirmed by the Senate.

—Congress adjourned finally on Wednesday, 4th inst. The resolution of thanks to Speaker REED for "the able, impartial and dignified manner in which he has presided over its deliberations and performed the arduous and important duties of the chair," was opposed by every Democratic member. The offering of it was an insult to the Democrats who had been outraged and tyrannized by REED, and they resented it by a unanimously negative vote.

## Letting a Man Alone.

That a husband is at times silent and preoccupied does not argue that he is indifferent to his wife, writes Mrs. Phineas T. Barnum in *The Ladies' Home Journal*; he may be depressed, and yet not feel that marriage, for him, is a failure; he may be captious and fretful, yet feel no irritation against his wife. I am not absolving men from the obligation to be agreeable to their woman, nor extenuating their frequent infractions of the code of marital amenities; I am only assuring you, for your own good, that these things are often the outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual discordance which you have not caused, and about which you would be unwise to grieve. Learn to wait, and out what the matter was, you will be thankful you did not weary him with foolish questions.

## Does Not Look Well.

Pittsburg Commercial Gazette. What is the country at large to infer from the statement that the managers of the Chicago Exposition have been compelled to enter suit against some 7,000 residents of that city to collect the first installment of their subscriptions? The amount delinquent is about \$700,000. When it is remembered that these subscriptions were voluntarily made and were heralded all over the country as an earnest of what the business men of that wealthy and progressive city intended to do in support of the enterprise, there is no escaping the conclusion that many of the subscribers either lost their heads in anticipation of rich profits to be reaped in case the big show was held in their town, or they subscribed with the expectation that they would never be called upon to pay.

Where projects are floated so largely on wind and froth, as was that of the selection of Chicago as the site for the fair, it was to have been expected that some of the subscribers to the guarantee fund would need prying to secure payment, but if it had been foreseen while the bill was pending in congress that in so short a time the delinquents would number 7,000, the ability of Chicago to carry on the fair at all would have been doubted, and a different result might have been reached. Senator FARWELL gave personal assurance to the special committee having the fair in charge that the subscriptions had been made in good faith and would be paid, which serves to show how badly he had been deceived.

The time is near at hand when the Pennsylvania legislature will take up the subject of making an appropriation sufficient to pay the expenses of the Keystone state in making a display befitting its position in the union and in keeping with its mineral, agricultural, industrial and commercial resources and facilities. There is no state, east, west or middle, that has more to gain by a proper display at the forthcoming World's Fair than Pennsylvania, and that adequate means will be provided for that purpose there can be no reason to doubt. But the present condition of affairs at Chicago is not encouraging. It is really depressing, and unless the managers pull themselves together pretty soon, select a sight and go to work in dead earnest the fair will not be the success which the country has been led to anticipate.

## Exodus of Mormons.

*The Saints and Their Wives and Property Bound for Mexico.*

SALT LAKE, March 1.—A regular exodus of Mormons from Utah to Mexico is taking place and within the next three months a large number of the Saints will have left.

Frank Wall, of Sevier, with two wives; Carl Olsen, of Mayfield, with three wives; William Bench, of Mant, with two wives; J. C. Petterson, of Ephraim, two wives; Andrew Nelson, of Chesier, two wives; Chris and James Jensen, of Meron, with two each; Henry Brown, of Mount Pleasant, with two wives; and Rev. J. W. of the same place, with two; R. Back, of Spring City, with two; Abram Acords, of the same place, with three; Philip Hunter, of Fairview, with two; Nelson Christiansen, of Castledale, with two; Joseph V. Roberson, of Filmore, with two, left about two weeks ago, and others will follow as soon as the semi-annual conference is over.

The Mormons have a tract of land in the State of Chihuahua, 125 miles long and 15 wide, which they are settling on. A colony of sixty will leave Provo early in April. All over the Territory the saints are preparing to go South "to live their religion."

The majority of those mentioned are offenders against the law who would not submit to the rule of government established by the United States and abandon their plural wives.

The head of the Church is said to be encouraging this emigration, and is putting up funds for those who have none. It is estimated that at least 2,000 families will abandon Utah this Summer and go to the new land of Canaan.

## Flirted With the Preacher.

*The Belle in a Covenant Church Chided from the Pulpit.*

KINGSTON, N. Y., Feb. 27.—Rev. Mr. Milligan, of Pennsylvania, who was recently disciplined by the Reformed Presbyterian (Covenant) Conference at Pittsburg as an advocate of Christians voting and exercising all the rights of citizenship, created a sensation from the Covenantan pulpit at Coldenham, where he recently preached as an applicant for the vacant pastorate, by saying:

"I regret to state that I am an exceedingly nervous man, and am annoyed by a young lady in the congregation who has been endeavoring to flirt with me this morning. I have neither the time nor inclination to return the compliment at this time, but may do so later on."

## A Desperado at Bay.

*He Has Killed Six Men and Has Five Wives.*

HUNTINGDON, W. Va., March 1.—At Ironton last night Ed Jackson, one of the boldest desperadoes of the West Virginia mountains, was surrounded by officers and captured after a fight in which he was shot twice. Jackson has killed six men, his last crime being the shooting of a man named Crouch for failing to do some work, and rewards aggregating \$5,000 were offered for his arrest. In 1882 he killed two brothers, Aikens, in a quarrel over land, and a year later he killed one man and fatally wounded another in a drunken fight. Jackson was also a gay man and boasts that he has five wives living within a radius of forty miles.

## Gasoline a Moth Destroyer.

"What shall I do with my fur cape?" an anxious damsel was overheard by a Pittsburg Chronicle reporter inquiring of a druggist lately. "I have been away on a visit and there have been moths in my friend's wardrobe, for first I found one little bare place in my cape where there ought to have been fur, and now there is another and I am in despair.

"It is useless to try to find moths in a fur cape," was the druggist's answer "but take a big bottle of gasoline and saturate your cape with it. Then roll it up in paper for a day or two, and you will find no more bare spots unless you go visiting and hang it in the same wardrobe."

"But I am afraid of gasoline."

"Yes, it is dangerous when used carelessly, but if you treat your cape to its gasoline bath in a room without fire and with open windows you are entirely safe, except from odor; there is no escaping that, for a few hours at least."

Gasoline seems to be about the only remedy which can be applied with despatch and certain effect when moths are discovered invading a valuable fur garment and in this season of fur it is well to bear the remedy in mind.

## Mystical Music.

It is pretty generally known that in the Pascagoula River, near Scranton, Miss., strange sounds are frequently heard, as of a musical instrument played at a distance, under the water. Boating parties often started at the distinctness of this music. They liken it to the sounds produced by the vibration of musical glasses or of harpstrings. The sound rises and falls as if watted by the wind, and is locally known as "the mysterious music." The origin of the sound is generally ascribed to a movement of sand at the bottom of the river, although there is no evidence of sand that the sand does move or any reason given why it should move. The explanation, doubtless, rests upon the fact that such a phenomenon as singing or barking sands is known to exist in several parts of the world. It is not likely that wet sand would produce the sounds mentioned. It is more probable that fish make these noises, for fish can sing, very nicely, too. It seems rather funny to speak of singing fishes, but many of them do certainly produce vocal sounds. Croakers get their name from the noise they make. Blue fish protest indignantly when they are pulled out of the water, but these are not such sounds as constitute the music of the fishes.—*Mobile Ala. Register.*

## A Baby Shoots Himself.

WILLIAMSPORT, Feb. 27.—A special just received here from Ridgway says: A 5-year-old son of Widow Gardner, residing on the Warren road about five miles from here, received a serious bullet wound yesterday. An older son had a twenty-two calibre revolver out to shoot a skunk, and bringing it in the house handed it to his mother, who placed it on a low cupboard, from which the baby brother reached for it, and turning the weapon towards himself he pressed it to his body, and with the childish remark, "Mamma, I am going to shoot myself," he pulled the trigger. The ball entered just above the stomach. Dr. J. T. Wainm, of this place, was called upon and rendered all the aid possible, and the unfortunate boy, though quite low, will be quite likely to recover from the effects of the shot, as no signs exist of the penetration of any vital organ.

## The Last of Puck Meyer.

*His Ashes Scattered to the Winds from Liberty's Statue.*

NEW YORK, March 1.—A committee from the Staten Island Schuetzen Corps appointed to carry out the request of Henry Meyer, proprietor of the Puck Hotel at Port Richmond, that his ashes be scattered to the winds from the top of the statue of Liberty, fulfilled their mission today, he having been cremated.

Four committees, each holding one of the bags containing the ashes in his right hand, pronounced these words together: "Here goes the last of Puck Meyer; Happy Days," and then scattered the ashes to the four winds. The ceremony was concluded by the opening of two bottles of champagne and the drinking to the memory of "Puck" Meyer.

## Millions for the Fair.

*Officials Claim That They Have \$32,000,000 Assured Therein.*

CHICAGO, Ill., March 1.—It is claimed by the officers of the Columbian Exhibition that they now have \$32,000,000 in sight for the World's Fair. This includes the capital stock subscriptions the \$5,000,000 voted by the city of Chicago, State and national appropriations for special exhibits, and appropriations by foreign governments for national exhibits. Director General Davis desires to conduct the Foreign Affairs Department himself, and in a general way the Directors approve of this arrangement, but reserve the right to supervise.

## The Kansas Alliance.

HUTCHINSON, Kan., Feb. 25.—The Farmers' Alliance editors of the state met here and organized the Reform Press association of Kansas with the following officers: Senator-elect Peffer, president; A. C. Pattee, of Salina, vice president; S. McLaughlin, of Topeka, secretary and treasurer. Resolutions were passed demanding the formation of a National Farmers' Alliance party, recommending the eternal severance from all other parties, demanding that all classes of labor be accorded equal privileges in the people's party, and that congress pass the service pension bill.

## Didn't Work.

*It Wasn't the Right Time and Mr. Diltz Gave It Up.*

"I'll do it!"

Polhemus Diltz laid down the paper he was reading, put his nose glasses back in his pocket, took his hat and overcoat down from the hook and started home.

"I'll do it!" he repeated to himself as he walked along. "I'll court my wife as if she were a girl again, the way the fellow did in that newspaper story. I expect it'll go pretty tough," he reflected, throwing away his cigar and wiping his mouth carefully as he approached his home. "I've been a good deal of a rhinoceros about the house, and it's hard thing to break off old habits all at once, but I'm going to give it a trial if it takes the hide off."

Mr. Diltz entered the house, hung his hat and overcoat in the hall instead of throwing them down in a heap on the sofa in his usual fashion. Then he went on tiptoe upstairs, put on his best necktie, combed his hair carefully, and came softly down the stairs again.

"Mary Jane!" he called out.

"Where are you, dear?"

"Out here," answered a voice in the kitchen. "Did you bring that package of chocolate I told you not to forget when you went down this morning?"

"Why, no," said Mr. Diltz regretfully, as he went into the kitchen. "I forgot it, dear."

Mrs. Diltz looked at him suspiciously. He hadn't called her "dear" for about eleven years.

"You forgot it? Hump! I just expected it. What are you up to now?"

This query, somewhat sharply uttered, was prompted by an unexpected forward movement on the part of Mr. Diltz.

"Don't you see I'm cleaning this chicken?" she exclaimed. "Look out! You'll make me cut myself. I'm working at the gizzard. A man has no business poking round in the kitchen when he can't do any good."

Mr. Diltz stepped back. He had intended to kiss his wife, but concluded to postpone the matter for a little while.

"Mary Jane," he said, "my dear!"

"What are you all slicked up for, anyhow? Going anywhere?"

"No, love. I expect to spend the rest of the day at home. I came an hour or two earlier, thinking"

"I wish you had brought that chocolate. That's what I wish."

"Darling," said Mr. Diltz, "I—that's no way to go to work at a chicken gizzard. Let me!"

"Maybe you know more about this kind of work than I do. Maybe I haven't cleaned hundreds of chickens since I've been keeping house? What are you snooping around out here for, anyhow, with your hair all plastered down and that smirk on your face?"

"My dearest, Mary Jane, I—"

"Polhemus," broke in his wife, laying down the portion of the fowl's anatomy she had been dissecting, and looking at him keenly; "what on earth is the object of this palavering? What new dodge are you trying to work up?"

"Why, Mary Jane, I've made up my mind to try to get along with you in a dif—"

"To get along with me? What do you mean? Do you tell me to my face I'm hard to get along with?"

"Not at all, Mary Jane; not at all. I was only going to say that we might live together more comfortably, you know, if—er—if we'd quit this quarreling and be sociable, you know, as we used to be. There's no need of us acting like cats and dogs!"

"Who says we act like cats and dogs, I'd like to know? Look here, Polhemus! you've been drinking!"

"It's a blamed—now, Mary Jane; don't you give way to that temper of yours!"

"Who started this fuss?"

"You did."

"I didn't. You did yourself."

"I didn't!"

"You know better."

"Tell your wife she lies, do you? Well, I ain't the first time. If you have any business to attend to at your office there will be plenty time for you to go and do it before supper. I'll get along, I don't need any help on this chicken."

"Diddledy-dad-ding the dog-gone old hen!" shouted Mr. Diltz, beside himself with rage. "Dad swizzle its everlasting dog-gone old carcass!"

It was out of the kitchen, slamming the door behind him, and in less than a quarter of a minute he was on his way back to his office, muttering excitedly to himself and crushing the offensive sidewalk hard beneath his vindictive heel as he strode along.

Mr. Diltz has not entirely given up the idea of courting his wife, about he has registered a castiron vow never to undertake the job again when she is anatomizing a chicken.—*Chicago Tribune.*

CHICKENS SPANISH STYLE.—Put two spoonfuls of whatever you use for frying in a large saucepan. The Spanish are always well lard, but either dripping or butter may be substituted. When hot, add two onions cut fine, and three large tomatoes cut in slices. Fry for a few moments, and add two young chickens, cut up as for a fricassee, seasoned and rolled in flour. Let these fry, turning them occasionally, for 10 minutes; cover with hot water, and simmer. When nearly tender add a pint of potatoes cut in cubes. Cook very slowly until all are done. Meats to be roasted or broiled, should be given the greatest amount of heat possible at first, that the surface may be hardened and the juices retained.

SWEET POTATOES FRIED WITH BACON.—Cold sweet potatoes are delicious fried with pork or bacon. Fry eight ounces of thinly sliced pork or bacon, transfer to a hot dish and fry in the drippings a quart of potatoes which have been boiled, peeled and sliced, rather less than half an inch thick.

APPLE AND TAPIOCA PUDDING.—To a teacupful of tapioca, add a quart of boiling water; let stand awhile and soften; sweeten a little, add a lump of butter the size of a walnut, then slice in tart apples, sufficient to make a layer over the top. Bake until the apples are tender. Eat with sweetened cream.