

A good deal of contention has developed over the wholesale Liquor Bill in the Senate. It has been ever thus. Whisky has always been the cause of strife.

The Republican Legislature called on Senator QUAY in Philadelphia last Sunday to learn his wishes as to legislation and other matters about Harrisburg.

According to some of the political calculators at Washington, Representative CRISP, of Georgia, has the best chance of being Speaker of the next House, and Mr. KERR, of Pennsylvania is almost certain to be the next Clerk.

One of the objects of President HARRISON's tour is to persuade the American people to like the McKinley tariff extortions. As his re-election depends upon such a liking he is using all his power of persuasion in carefully prepared impromptu speeches.

Although the McKinley tariff has been in operation since the first day of last October, the only benefit it has clearly given the people has come from that free trade feature which has given them free sugar. In all other respects it has increased their burden.

The money people are now flocking to Harrisburg to explain to the Legislature why they should not stand their share of taxation. It is to be seen what effect their innuendo will have on a Republican Legislature which, if it is like its predecessors, has a weak side for the money interest.

It seems that Prince Bismarck failed to secure a majority in the Gerstemunde election, because he took no part in the election. So old a politician should have been aware of the fact that in Germany, as in the United States, the candidate who wishes to get elected must hustle around and get things up among the ward workers.

Signor REDINI, in his latest reported utterances, is singularly meek and mild and does not indulge in any senseless bravado. Even in case the United States shall refuse the redress that Italy demands, there will be no such serious result as hostilities between the two nations, and Italy will be satisfied with denouncing the injustice of the great American republic.

Among the appropriation bills before the Legislature is one providing \$10,250 for the expenses of the Appropriation Committee. As this would give each of the 38 members of the committee an allowance of \$5 per day for every secular day in two full months, besides his regular pay, the conclusion is that appropriation work is so exhausting that it requires high living.

A Washington correspondent estimates the cost of the Presidential trip at \$185,000, which, the Philadelphia Record thinks, has already earned its cost in "the demonstration of the utter extinction of sectional feeling." According to that view, should not the esteemed Record favor the footing of the bill by the National Government instead of leaving it for some railway millionaire to pay?

The report comes from Harrisburg that the Republicans of the Legislature contemplate working out a congressional apportionment bill that would give the Republicans twenty-five out of the thirty districts. The dispatch which gives this news says: "They have not submitted the bill to the Steering Committee yet, nor has it received the sanction of the committee of either House or Senate, but there are a number of stalwart Republicans who think it should be passed." Such a congressional apportionment would be a worse gerrymander than the one that now disgraces the State, and there is no question that the Governor's veto would knock it higher than a kite.

"It is very evident that Governor Pattison's strong right arm has not lost its veto power. It is a useful faculty to correct Legislative mistakes; but who shall correct gubernatorial mistakes?" remarks the Philadelphia Inquirer. If our esteemed contemporary will read a certain document— which Republican politicians are too apt to ignore—called the Constitution of the State of Pennsylvania, it will find provision made there which will go a long way toward answering its inquiry. In other words, a two-thirds vote of the Legislature can correct the gubernatorial mistakes—if the Legislature has sufficient mentality to detect the mistakes.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.
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Known By Its Fruits.

We have before called attention to the fact that since the McKinley tariff law went into effect the wages of working people have been reduced and discount has largely increased among the working classes. The last detailed reference we made to this subject was some months ago, and since then the cases of wage reduction have greatly multiplied. The situation becomes worse as the effects of this monopoly tariff are extended. It was the plea of HARRISON and McKINLEY that the people would like this extortion better after they had become better acquainted with it, but the experience they are having with it should increase their repulsion for it.

Here is a partial list of some of the occurrences in the labor circles of the United States during the months of February and March of the present year. It requires no comment or explanation:

- Miners of Belleville, Ill., strike for a uniform scale of 2 cents a bushel.
- Illinois Steel Works, South Chicago, shut down by the strike of the furnace men for higher wages.
- Pullman car joiners who strike for \$2 a day are notified to return to work or be black-listed.
- Chicago boss plasterers decline to accede to the demand of the Union for an advance of \$3.50 to \$4 per day after April 1, and the men will strike.
- Miners in Connellsville coke region strike for an advance of 12 1/2 per cent, and against a reduction of 10 per cent. Still on.
- Brooke Iron Company, Birdsboro, Pa., closed and 450 men thrown out, because they refused a reduction of about 7 per cent.
- Elis & Lessig Steel and Iron Company, Pottstown, Pa., closed. Seven hundred men refuse a reduction of 12 1/2 per cent.
- Sturtevant Blower Works, Jamaica Plain, Mass., reduction of from 10 to 20 per cent.
- Pottstown Iron Company, Pottstown, Pa., a reduction of 7 per cent.
- Bethlehem Iron Company, Bethlehem, Pa., reduction of ten per cent.
- Pennsylvania Steel Company, Steelton, Pa., reduction of 8 to 10 per cent.
- Otis Iron and Steel Company, Cleveland, O., reduction of 30 per cent.
- Coal miners, Duquoin, Ill., reduced 7 cents per ton.
- Ribbon weavers, Paterson, N. J., reduction of 15 per cent.
- Coal miners, Leavenworth, Kan., reduction of 7 1/2 per cent.
- Cocheco Manufacturing Company, weavers reduced 4 per cent.
- Buckeye Mower and Reaper Works, Akron, Ohio, reduction of from 20 to 30 per cent.
- Saxony Knitting Mills, Little Falls, N. Y., reduction of 20 per cent.
- Weavers in Hargreaves mills, Fall River, Mass., strike against low wages.
- Tenny's hat factory, Methuen, Mass., reduction of 25 per cent.
- Southern Steel Company, Chattanooga, Tenn., reduction of 10 per cent.
- Raney & Hergen, blast furnace, New Castle, Pa., reduction of 10 per cent. a day for labor and 15 cents for twelve hour men.
- Smithville cotton mills, Willimantic, Conn., strike against a reduction and succeed.
- Bates Mills, Lewistown, Me., reduction proposed in beaming department amounting to 3 per cent. Operatives strike.
- Strike in underwear mills, Jacksonville, against a reduction.
- Coal miners near Huntingburg, Ind., strike against a reduction of wages.
- Emma blast furnace, Cleveland, O., reduction of 10 per cent.
- Adelaine silk mills, Allentown, Pa., reduction of wages February 13.
- American Knife Company, Waterbury, Conn., reduction of 20 per cent.
- Fisher's pipe factory, Allentown, Pa., 5 cents a day on outside, and 10 cents on inside men.
- Three hundred and forty weavers in Wausauk Mill, Providence, R. I., strike.
- Crane Iron Company, Allentown, Pa., reduced wages 10 per cent.
- Employers in coke regions threaten to make a further cut of 10 per cent. in addition to the 20 per cent. reduction which caused the strike.
- Pottstown Iron Company, Pottstown, Pa., cuts puddlers from \$3.75 to \$3.50 per ton. Third out since February 1.
- Standard Steel Company resumes work with non-union men.
- Pennsylvania coke miners strike against a reduction of 10 per cent. and demand an eight hour day.
- Three hundred employees of the Labaste Glass works, of Ottawa, Ill., locked out by the proprietors.
- Eight hundred weavers employed at the Atlantic Mills, Providence, R. I., strike on account of excessive fines.
- Illinois Steel Company shuts down its Joliet works indefinitely on account of the strike in the rolling mill department.
- Work on coal mines at Rendville, Hooking, county, O., suspended several weeks. Miners in a destitute condition.
- Strikers go back to work at the Cochrane plant, near Rainey, Pa., at the old prices.

"A Coat May be Too Cheap as Well as Corn."

A policy that would reduce the number of our people engaged in mechanical pursuits or diminish their ability to purchase food products by reducing wages cannot be helpful to those now engaged in agriculture. The farmers insist that the prices of farm products have been too low—below the point of fair living and fair profits. I think so, too, but I venture to remind them that the plea they make involves the concession that things may be too cheap. A coat may be too cheap as well as corn. The farmer who claims a good living and profits for his work should concede the same to every other man and woman who toils. I look with great confidence to the completion of further reciprocal trade arrangements, especially with the Central and South American States, as furnishing new and large markets for meats, breadstuffs and important lines of manufactured products.

This extract is from President HARRISON's letter to the commercial Congress, at Kansas City, written before setting out on his "swinging round the circle" jaunt. While corn may be "too cheap" for the farmer, who has it to sell, a coat, which he has to buy, can never be "too cheap" for him. This is the most ancient of all "chest-nuts," for, from the foundation of the world, prices have never suited both buyer and seller, each wishing to sell high and buy low. This proposition confronts every attempt to equalize taxation, by tariff or otherwise. The President seems to forget, in his endorsement of reciprocity, that it is only another name for free trade. If this will be a good thing, so far as the South American States are concerned, because it furnishes "new and large markets for meats, breadstuffs and an important line of manufactured products," why not an equally good thing to extend reciprocity to the European States? The old adage, "It's a poor rule that won't work both ways," comes in here, but the President overlooks it. The protective system, as he well knows, and to which he has sworn allegiance, is the enemy of "new and large markets for meats, breadstuffs," &c, but narrows our foreign trade. To be consistent, Mr. HARRISON and his Premier will have to advocate the same liberal policy toward Europe as South America, and when this point is reached, as it surely will be, high protection will be a thing of the past, and tariff duties will be laid sufficient for an economical administration of the Government, and no more.

How It Works in Pennsylvania.

Pennsylvania of all the States in the Union, is supposed to be the particular beneficiary of the high tariff and of the "protection to American industry" that is supposed to result from a high tariff policy. Certain circumstances which have lately arisen in this most favored State would seem to cast a doubt upon the efficacy of this vaunted protection. Take the recent disturbances in the coke region and the impending great strike of the miners on the 1st of May. We will not speak of the numerous strikes which are constantly occurring among justly dissatisfied laborers in every occupation and calling throughout the length and breadth of Pennsylvania. The instances adduced of the aggrieved miners and cokers; how do these accord with the prosperity of workmen in a State which is more favored by "protection" than any other State? Does "protection" consist of forcing men back to work by the arguments of starvation and eviction from their homes, which is now being resorted to among the Connellsville cokers? The Republican press should explain how such conditions are possible after so many years of protection. It must be admitted that even the evils that are pictured as sure to result from the purest free trade could hardly be more severely felt by the miners and cokers than those which they are now undergoing.

The Troops Are Expensive.

Soldiering is a costly business to the State. The two regiments recently sent to the coke regions at an expense of over \$2,000 a day, aggregate more than \$20,000. Judge BLACK once said it would be cheaper to pay laboring men the advance wages demanded out of the State treasury than to send soldiers to quell strikes. The capitalists and railroad companies make most of the money out of the coal business, and just now they are fighting the tax bill before the legislature because it requires them to pay something nearer a fair proportion of taxes. They want the State to protect them against the lawless Huns they imported some years ago, because they would work cheaper than Americans, Irish, Germans and others. But at the same time these big coal and transportation companies insist upon the farmers continuing to pay more than their proper share of taxes, although they never ask or require any police or military protection from the State.

A Massachusetts military company, which was attacked on the streets of Baltimore at the beginning of the war, thirty years ago, visited that city during the past week and was feted and feasted as honored guests. The survivors of a confederate regiment are now visiting New York, assisting some of the Northern Boys in Blue to celebrate one of their victories. Evidently everybody in both sections has forgotten the bitter memories of the war except the Republican bayonette politicians.

It is now a subject of debate among the Republican organs whether they are to credit the Italian correspondence as "Secretary BLAINE's triumph," as one paper puts it, or as an exhibition of "true Indiana grit," as claimed by the President's special family organ. The family organ is generous in putting it as "Indiana grit." Of course it intends it to be inferred that it is "Harrison grit."

A Dangerous Beverage.

The danger of Maine prohibition is showing itself in an unexpected form. The announcement comes from that State and on high scientific authority, that the prohibition drinks now largely sold and consumed in that State and in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, contain a substance which is much more likely than pure alcohol to injure the system. Prof. F. C. ROBINSON of Bowdoin College, a prominent chemist, has recently made some careful analyses of the different sorts of so-called prohibition beer. They do not contain over one per cent. of alcohol, and he declares that it is far better for a man to stick to plain raw whiskey than to drink these kinds of beer. They contain salicylic acid, which is introduced for the purpose of preventing fermentation, and salicylic acid, according to Prof. ROBINSON, "acts with a very dangerous effect upon the kidneys, and its frequent use is almost sure to bring on Bright's disease." He adds that such beer is the most detrimental to health of all the beverages in the list.

After all, wouldn't it be better to drink pure whiskey and beer than a beverage that is likely to bring on a fatal disease of the kidneys?

A Mere Subterfuge.

Papers that are opposed to the pending tax equalization law object to it on the ground of its inquisitorial character. This is dishonest journalism; but it well becomes an organ that tells its deluded readers that a tariff is not a tax and that tariff reform is free trade.

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The Philadelphia Press didn't show any smartness in extracting a part of an article from the WATCHMAN, the meaning of which depended upon the context, and representing that it expressed our sentiments on the subject to which it related.

Speaking of the bad faith of the Republican Senators in the matter of confirming the Governor's appointments, we said that they had taken an unsafe position in the controversy, for if they could thwart the Governor's appointing power it would only be until after the adjournment of the legislature, when not only the persons nominated by the Governor could be inducted into office, but Democrats could be put in the places of the Republicans whose commissions have not been issued. The exigency, as expressed by us, was purely conditional, as we said in direct terms that the Republican Senators had no reasonable justification for their conduct "as there was no assurance that the commissions withheld would not be forthcoming in due time."

Disingenuously garbling our expression, the Press proceeded to declare that the editor of the WATCHMAN, a Democratic member of the Senate and on terms of personal as well as political intimacy with the administration, confessed that the intention was to withhold the commissions and then after the close of the session to fill all the places in controversy with Democratic officers.

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It is believed that Governor PATTISON will veto the bill now pending before the Legislature providing for the appointment of the State commissioner to the World's Fair. The bill was introduced by Senator THOMAS, of Philadelphia, and originally provided for the appointment of five members of the Senate, one of whom should be the president pro tem, and of six members of the House, one to be the Speaker. When the bill came before the House it was amended on second reading by adding the Governor and Lieutenant Governor to the commission. Such commissions are usually appointed by Governors of States, and Governor PATTISON has reason to be dissatisfied with this Republican Legislature's attempt to deprive him of that right and to make the commission a partisan affair.

The attempt to placate him by making him one of the commissioners is not likely to satisfy him.

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Governor PATTISON last week sent two vetoes to the senate. One was of a bill to validate private sale of real estate of decedents, heretofore made under authority of orphans' courts, for payment of debts not of record, on the ground of adverse decisions of the supreme court against such legislation. It was a general law for a special purpose. The Governor also vetoed a bill empowering boroughs to levy certain taxes on the ground that the people are demanding a reduction and not an increase of taxation.

Subscribe for the WATCHMAN.

Spawls from the Keystone.

- Coleman's furnace, at Lochiel, has shut down indefinitely.
- A Pittsburg physician has been fined for insulting his female patients.
- An old passenger car is doing service as a railroad station at Pineville.
- The Riverside (Allegheny) Penitentiary now has a cell for every prisoner.
- Thirty-eight fires in Allentown last year did damages to the extent of \$11,986.
- A 6-year-old highwayman has been arrested in Reading. He "held up" school children.
- Warren, which has been "dry" for four years will have thirty licensed bars this summer.
- The annual celebration of the American Mechanics is to be held July 4, at Connelville.
- A runaway horse at Lancaster had sense enough to stop in front of an approaching railroad train.
- A coal and iron policeman at Williamsport has got into hot water by arresting the wrong brother.
- Many Berks county farmers are holding their corn for \$1 a bushel, which, they believe, it will reach July 1.
- Rev. R. Daenger, pastor of the Ashland Reformed Church for twenty years, will retire. He is 82 years old.
- At McKeesport Susan Green attempted to murder George Russ by cutting his throat. Both parties are colored.
- United States detectives have been in Hazleton during the past week looking up dealers in oleomargarine.
- The corner stone of the new Methodist church, at Reading, will be laid next Sunday with impressive ceremonies.
- The killing of two dogs, supposed to be mad, in the same neighborhood caused considerable excitement in Reading.
- The Union Blues, the first company mustered out of Chester during the late war, had a reunion and banquet last night.
- After a delay of three months the electric light was turned on at Milton Saturday night and pronounced a success.
- William Berger, of Millersburg, will soon be 100 years old. He is active and still serving as sexton of the church there.
- Pittsburg people congratulated themselves a few days ago because not a single death from gripe was reported in one whole day.
- Michael Hiesler, of Shubert, Berks county is the owner of a German Testament, translated by Martin Luther, and printed in 1545.
- At Wilkesbarre a young man named Sharwood tried to commit suicide by taking Paris green, but was prevented by an acquaintance.
- A 13-year-old Sewickley boy, Walter Brush ran upon a railroad track at Freedon, where he was struck and instantly killed by a train.
- A minister at Humboldt, Luzerne county, has written to the District Attorney of the place to say that the town is going to the devil.
- The Presbyterian congregation of Elmhurst, organized February 23, with a membership of twenty six, is building a new chapel edifice.
- A number of Hyde Park boys who were gathering about near the Diamond reservoir discovered what to all appearance is a human skeleton.
- The warring trustees of St. Daniel's M. E. church, of South Chester, have been persuaded to open the church Sunday morning thus avoiding a law suit.
- A large cave-in took place on the Lehigh Valley Railroad at Ravon run yesterday, 4000 feet in dimensions. Tracks were laid around the excavation.
- Jacob Brader, an insane patient at the Lehigh county Almshouse, committed suicide by hanging. He was 52 years old and came from West Bethlehem.
- Reinhold Gehrick, a moulder employed at the Scott Foundry, Reading, was terribly crushed by an iron flask weighing 4,500 pounds falling upon him.
- Isaac Bagy, of Lansdale, was declared a lunatic after having fired three bullets into his head with suicidal intent, and was lodged in the hospital for the insane.
- An unknown tramp, aged 30, was found dead on the Lehigh Valley Railroad, near Lehigh Gap station. He was horribly mutilated and both legs were cut off.
- Miner & Co., the Pittstown Millers, in accordance with the usual custom, divided a certain percentage of the year's earnings with their employes last week.
- The Juniata county Republican Committee met at Millintown and fixed June 6, as the day on which to hold the county primary election, and June 8 the convention.
- William B. Smith, the Elk Grove man, arrested on suspicion of taking a registered letter containing \$25 sent to another person and using the money, has confessed the crime.
- A sixth robbery or attempted robbery, of the coal office of Horatio Jones, at Ninth and Laurel streets, Reading, has resulted in the arrest of William Roy and William Hennig.
- While a number of boys were examining a revolver at Altoona the weapon was accidentally discharged, and the bullet struck one of them in the right foot. The wound was dressed at the hospital.
- A stern post for the United States armored cruiser New York was cast at the Standard Steel Works at Thurlow last week. It will stand a tensile strain of 80,000 pounds and weighs 18,000 pounds.
- J. H. Lester, proprietor of "An Irishman's Devotion" company, played to a poor house Saturday night in Harrisburg, and tried to replenish his exchequer, by stealing and selling a diamond ring from a guest of the American house.
- The fair held by the ladies of the Christ Episcopal Church of Media, closed last night after a session of three days. It was in aid of the building fund for a new edifice and the result was that \$1,000 was turned into the treasury.
- The body of the man found floating in the river near McCaslin's Ferry has been identified as that of Thomas Carl, of Herndon, Northumberland county. He was 23 years old and had been missing from home seven weeks.
- At a speak essay in the mining town of Glenn Lyon, near Nanticoke, a row occurred Friday night, in which John Sluzitski had his throat cut and was otherwise horribly carved by Jacob King. The murderer is locked up.
- The largest Sheriff's sale ever known in Lancaster county was concluded in Columbia by the final disposition of the lumber and saw mill of N. Byers & Co. The mill which cost \$20,000 three years ago, was sold for \$10,000 to William R. Givon, and the proceeds of the sale of the lumber amounted to \$71,000, much less than was anticipated.