

Democratic Watchman

Terms \$2.00 A Year, in Advance

Bellefonte, Pa., May 22, 1891.

P. GRAY MEEK, Editor

Democratic County Committee, 1891.

Bellefonte, N. W.	W. S. Galbraith
" "	S. W. Joseph Wise
" "	John Dunlap
Centre Hall Borough	John T. Lee
Howard Borough	H. A. Moore
Milesburg Borough	A. C. Musser
Milhelm Borough	A. C. Musser
Phillipsburg, 1st W.	A. J. Gorton
" "	C. A. Faulkner
" "	2d W. James A. Lukens
Unaloville Borough	E. M. Griest
Burnside	Eugene Meeker
Beaver	Harvey Banner
Boggs, N. P.	Philip Conder
" "	W. P. G. F. Adams
College, E. P.	W. H. Mokie
" "	W. P. James Foster
Church	N. J. McLooney
Forquah, E. P.	Daniel Drethelbis
" "	W. P. Geo. W. Ketchum
Greggs, S. P.	Chas. W. Fisher
" "	N. P. James P. Grove
Haines, E. P.	Isaac M. Oradoff
" "	W. P. Geo. S. Shaffer
Haltmoon	Ellis Lytle
Harris	W. V. Keller
Howard	W. T. Leaders
Huston	Henry Hale
Liberty	Alfred Bilmer
Marion	John A. Shaffer
Miles	James P. Frank
Patton	P. A. Sellers
Peen	J. C. Sover
Potter, N. P.	S. W. Smith
" "	W. P. Jas. B. Spangler
Rush, N. P.	John D. Brown
" "	S. P. Hugh McCann
Snow Shoe, W. P.	Thomas Turley
" "	E. P. John D. Brown
Spring, S. P.	Jerry Donovan
" "	W. P. James Carson
Taylor	E. E. Ardrey
Union	W. T. Hoover
Walker	Chas. H. Rush
Worth	D. A. Dietrick
	O. D. Eberts
	L. A. SCHAEFFER, Chairman.

Worthy Memorials.

A bill to erect monuments to MEADE, HANCOCK and REYNOLDS on the field of Gettysburg has passed both houses of the State Legislature and now awaits the signature of the Governor, who we believe will be influenced by the impulses of justice and patriotism, and will put his name to it. What a trio of heroes will thus be honored on the field of their greatest fame! These three names are indissolubly connected with the great drama of Gettysburg's bloody field. MEADE, the commander of the gallant army which interposed its serried front when Pennsylvania was invaded; REYNOLDS, who did not hesitate to lay down his life for the cause in which he had drawn his sword, the sacrifice of that gallant Pennsylvania soldier infusing a fierce determination into the Union host to meet the bloody struggle that awaited them. When REYNOLDS had fallen MEADE turned to HANCOCK, "HANCOCK the superb," and gave to him the key of the field to hold. We need not state that this was no misplaced confidence, for he is known of men, everywhere, how he held his post of honor and of danger. While the battle surged around him, and blood flowed from friend and foe, HANCOCK, the central figure of the Army of the Potomac, stood "without fear and without reproach," and rolled back the flood tide of Rebellion. When the day was won he was carried from the field bathed in his own blood.

For these three heroes the Legislature asks the Governor of the Commonwealth to join with it in authorizing the erection of monuments to their memory on the field they did so much to make immortal. They have gone to render their final account, leaving behind them a memory precious to Pennsylvanians. Shall the State do her duty to keep green their achievements in the great war fought by the people for the people? This is the question. It is a very little thing for a great State to do, but when done, will reflect great credit upon all concerned.

An Eight Hour Day.

The supreme court of Indiana has sustained the new law of that State making eight hours a legal day's work. The case was that of one GRISWELL, working for a corporation at Indianapolis worked eleven hours a day for ten months, and when discharged at the end of that time brought suit to recover extra pay for extra hours of work. The court held that unless there was an expressed agreement to the contrary, employes who are required to work more than eight hours a day must be paid for the additional hours. The decision merely means that if you say "day" in Indiana it means "eight hours" in hiring labor. You can say ten hours or twelve, or whatever length you may agree on. It is on the principle of the interest law, which comes in with its 6 per cent rate if a less rate is not set forth in the contract.

JERRY SIMPSON, the man who acquired notoriety by not wearing socks, and IONATIUS DONNELLY, who made himself ridiculous by his attempt to prove that BACON wrote SHAKESPEARE'S plays, are the leading spirits of the convention at Cincinnati that is trying to form a new political party. Such cranks are not the characters from whom sensible politics can be expected.

Questionable Journalism.

While we admire that friendly rivalry which legitimate competition in all business encourages, and are confident that upon it the success of every branch of trade is based, we are called upon to witness many breaches in social etiquette and honorable business relations, brought on by the most trifling circumstances.

Within the last few days we have noticed a little controversy, between the two daily papers of Bellefonte, grow, from issue to issue, until it has assumed the character of personal insult and abuse and overstepped the bounds of legitimate journalism. The field of the press is too broad and elevating to admit of any such articles as have appeared in the *Gazette* and *News* within the last week, and it is to be lamented that two writers should so far forget themselves as to allow petty jealousies to carry them beyond all sense of propriety.

We do not wish to meddle in their dispute, but for the sake of the profession we desire to call their attention to the fact that journalism must not be debased, and that the articles through which they are giving vent to their spleen, for personal satisfaction, are disgusting in the extreme.

The Michigan Electoral Plan.

The Michigan plan of choosing Presidential electors by districts is meeting with some severe denunciation on the part of the Republican press which declares it to be revolutionary. But this method is neither new nor revolutionary. Several States appointed presidential electors in this way until far into the present century. So late as 1828 New York and Maine in the North, and Maryland and Tennessee among the slave States, chose electors by districts, with the result of a divided vote. The experience of New York is interesting: Up to 1828 the legislature of that State, and in most other States as well, elected presidential electors, but preceding the presidential election of that year the legislature, yielding to a popular demand, passed a law allowing each congressional district to choose one elector, and the college made up of these district electors to choose the two for the State at large. Under this system 18 Jackson and 16 Adams electors were chosen in the districts that year, and the Jackson majority of these 34 chose two of their party for the electors-at-large, making the division stand 20 Jackson to 16 Adams. Maryland did not finally abandon the district system until after the election of 1832, in which year she chose three Jackson electors and five supporters of CLAY.

The innovation made by Michigan in the manner of choosing electors in vogue for the last fifty or sixty years, will be of great value if it direct public attention to the importance of appointing electors in all the States in a way that will give the minority in any State its just weight in the electoral college. This would be secured by the proportional vote plan of ex-Senator BUCKALEW, of this State. Under it the people vote directly for President, and the presidential vote of the State, corresponding with the electoral vote, is divided among the candidates according to their proportion of the popular vote. Thus if JONES, Rep., should get 550,000 votes, and SMITH, Dem., 450,000 in Pennsylvania, the former would be accorded 18 electoral or presidential votes, and the latter 14. And so on in like proportion in all the States: The benefit of such a change would lie in the fact that while it would make certain the election of a candidate who was the choice of a majority or plurality of the people of the whole Union, it would take out of these great national contests, growing more bitter and corrupt every four years, the factor of the pivotal States. There would be no inducement to concentrate extraordinary effort and expend millions in securing the electoral votes of New York, Indiana, or New Jersey, or any other State believed to be determining. It is the contest for these pivotal States that intensifies the bitterness and promotes the fraud and corruption which are a marked feature of our presidential elections. The proportional vote plan would moderate if not entirely correct this intensity and recklessness of effort by diffusing it over the 44 States of the Union, instead of concentrating it on two or three. The vote of the Democrat in Vermont or Maine and of the Republican in New Jersey or Missouri, would have its just weight in determining the election of a President. The discussion that has followed the adoption of the district plan in Michigan will be likely to bring up for consideration the "much better" proportional method of Mr. BUCKALEW, which would allow a more direct vote of the people for President.

Comparative Indebtedness.

The indebtedness of the United States, as compared with other countries, makes an excellent showing. The American debt, federal, State and county, is \$1,281,020,840. This makes a per capita debt of \$20.46, while the per capita debt of England is \$87.69; of France \$116.35; of Italy \$76, and of Spain \$73.85. France has the largest national debt and Russia comes next, but the larger population of the latter makes the per capita but \$30.70. Yet it is not the size of the debt that is of so much consequence as the ability of the people of a given country to pay it. Our own per capita debt has been reduced since 1880 from \$46.59 to \$20.46 in 1890, because the country has been reasonably prosperous and its resources are easily equal to the extinguishment of the indebtedness. But this pleasant prospect changes with the advent of the Billion Dollar Congress, with taxation that reduces revenues, and expenditures that exceed receipts.

Apportioning the Members.

The work on the apportionment bills in the Legislature have not progressed rapidly, but such progress as they have made has been in the interest of the majority. The bill for the legislative apportionment, which passed the House last week, reduces the membership from 204 to 201, the same as the first apportionment under the constitution of 1874. Philadelphia is made to retain her present representation of 39 members, while Allegheny's is increased from 16 to 20. No other counties gain more than one member, those making such a gain of one member each being Blair, Cambria, Clearfield, Jefferson, Luzerne, Lackawanna and Northumberland. Fourteen counties lose one member each, they being Adams, Bedford, Bradford, Chester, Clarion, Columbia, Crawford, Huntingdon, Lancaster, Lawrence, Mercer, Schuylkill, Somerset and Wayne. It is believed that the Senate will not concur in accepting this, but will hold on to the present apportionment.

—Strikes, as a rule, fail to accomplish their object, usually resulting in increased destitution on the part of the strikers, and besides they are attended with other evils. Thus, for example, there has been a strike going on in a certain department of labor in Pittsburgh, for the eight hour day. Some days ago a woman applied for the arrest of her husband, who was one of the strikers. Since the strike began she said that he had been drinking heavily and abusing her. At the same time another woman made the same complaint and attributed her domestic trouble to the strike. The husbands were idle and kept themselves soaked all the time. These, it is to be hoped, were exceptional cases, and yet it must be admitted that idleness is dangerous to many men who when employed are sober and industrious.

—The announcement that peace reigns in the coke regions; that the troops have been withdrawn, and that the civil authorities are now able to keep the peace, will be received with gratification. The calling out of the militia by Governor PATTISON, when the local authorities were unable to maintain order, was a wise and justifiable exercise of executive authority, for it kept the peace and prevented bloodshed. The record which the militia in this instance have made as conservators of peace and order is very much to their credit. The presence of the troops taught the ignorant and turbulent foreigners that they would not be allowed to set the laws at defiance. A strong hand on this class will prevent future trouble.

—The more we hear of the transaction of the Keystone National Bank, of Philadelphia, previous to its doors being closed, the worse its affairs appear. Bank examiner DRAY says that the institution is rotten to the core; the reports of its condition, as sworn to, were false; the books were tampered with, and, in some instances, whole pages were torn out. The story, as told by the Examiner and his assistant, reveals a condition of affairs that have been seldom equalled in the annals of the national banking system. In some cases liabilities were carried on the books as assets to make them balance. There is a defalcation of \$600,000 already discovered. Such irregularities as this creates a public distrust of the reliability of our banking institutions.

—A national convention to form a new national party, to which the Alliance people furnish the largest element, is in session in Cincinnati. The movement is being directed by disappointed and disgruntled politicians who are trying to take advantage of the discontent that prevails among the agricultural and laboring classes.

A Delusive Legislature.

After a session of five months duration the State Legislature will adjourn next week, with a probability that the most important business will remain unfinished. The fact is that the session has been a monstrous sham, which it could not fail to be when the majority were hostile to measures that were of the highest importance as measures of reform. They were the issues in which the people were most concerned; they were of pressing importance from the very first day of the session; there was ample time to act upon them; they should have been attended to at the start; but they were delayed, and the deliberate purpose of the delay was to kill them.

Ballot reform, a constitutional convention, tax equalization, anti-discrimination, the bill regulating pipe line charges, bills to make more effective the mining laws of the State in guarding human life, were issues presented when the Legislature met nearly five months ago. They have been juggled; they have been paltered with; those that have not been entirely killed have been subjected to such emasculation that they have been shorn of their original object and deprived of their original character.

Take, for example, the bill for an equalization of taxes, by which personal and corporate property was to be made to pay its just share of the public burden. Common justice demanded that this measure should be passed. Both parties were pledged to its passage. It was made one of the promises of the Republican platform—a delusive promise, as the action of the majority in the Legislature has shown. Two months ago a bill providing for the tax reform demanded by the people was passed by the House, but since then it has been subjected to the kind of manipulation in the Senate which experts in the devious ways of legislation resort to when they want to kill a measure that is obnoxious to them. The same tactics has been adopted in the treatment of the ballot bill, and the probability is that this Legislature will adjourn without the enactment of a single measure of reform that was promised by the Republican leaders at the last election.

—The President's stock of speeches with which he started out on his grand round held out pretty well, but occasionally he got one in that would have suited better somewhere else.

Salé of the Judicial Ermine.

The bribery practiced in the recent judicial nomination in Lancaster county is disgraceful as well to that county as to the State. If half is true that is reported about it, it was positively criminal, and the participants in it should be punished with imprisonment in jail. It is alleged that the two candidates were not connected with the illegal and disgraceful proceedings, but nevertheless a candidate who is nominated by bribery practiced by his supporters should not accept the nomination. It corrupts the judicial fountain at its very head. The Lancaster *Examiner*, a leading Republican paper of that county, in an editorial headed "Judicial Ermine to the Best Bidder," says of this disgraceful contest:

We are sorry and ashamed to state that a corruption fund, large beyond expectations, was expended in the contest. No one can tell how much, but it is safe to state several thousands were used to purchase the floating voters. It matters not who profited most by the use of money; the fact for the people to consider is that the corruption funds were actually used and that the judicial ermine was exposed for barter in the political mart. It is bad enough for the wild passions of factions to fight for judicial offices, but when to this is added the work of the briber and trafficker in votes, then it is high time for the moral sentiment of the people to rebel and either sweep the decks of all professional political combinations or else demand a change of the law which will remove the selection of the judiciary from the pollution of the popular ballot.

Lancaster's reputation for political morals has not been of the best for years, but in this contest she beat her record.

—The Bill to reimburse counties for bridges destroyed by the flood of 1889 and rebuilt by them, has been defeated in the House. There was a question as to the constitutionality of such State aid and the defeat of the bill may have saved it from the veto of the Governor.

—The Cincinnati convention finished its business by launching a brand new party on the troubled sea of politics which was christened the People's Party of the United States.

—"Sixteen years ago," says a Kansas contemporary, "a man in Reno county paid \$15 for trees, which he planted on his farm. A few years ago he was offered \$10,000 for them. They are black walnuts.

—If everyone knew what every one thought about everyone else the only real friend a man would have would be the little worthless yellow dog that never dies and refuses to be given away.

The Road Bill Vetoed.

Governor Pattison Says the Objections are Manifest.

Governor Pattison in the 13th inst. sent to the Senate his veto of what is commonly known as the Road bill. He said:

"The objections to this measure seem to me to be manifold. Its purposes are so numerous and diverse as to expose it to the constitutional objection of containing more than one subject. Whatever popular demand exists for the enactment of legislation on the subject of roads and road making will certainly not be satisfied with the provisions of this bill. If they are to become effective at all, they could be made so only by liberal appropriation of State moneys, for which neither this bill nor any other legislation, as yet enacted, has made provision. Even if such grant were made it is very doubtful whether the plan of distribution proposed by this bill would be equitable, satisfactory or constitutional. The basis of distribution which it proposes is the amount of road taxes collected and expended by each township for road purposes during the preceding year. This would put entirely within the power of rich and populous rural districts, such, for example, as join large cities and boroughs, to receive a large share of the State's bounty, which would be applied where, perhaps, it was least needed for the purposes of general road improvement, while remote, sparsely settled and comparatively poor districts, where road improvements were most desired, would receive little or comparatively nothing.

Moreover, the policy and propriety of the grant of State moneys raised by general taxation to particular districts or communities are extremely doubtful, if not absolutely forbidden by the spirit of the constitutional provisions declaring that there shall be no appropriations for benevolent purposes to any community, and that the Commonwealth shall not assume the debt of any city, county, borough, or township. The present enactment proposes to distribute to some of the districts of the State, for a purely local purpose—that of road making—moneys which have been raised by taxation upon all the citizens of the State. The roads of the townships only are to be conducted and repaired by the aid of State moneys, while those of municipalities are to be provided for by local taxation. This is a discrimination wholly unwarranted by the Constitution.

"Furthermore, I cannot ignore the fact that this bill passed the House of Representatives by a bare constitutional majority. The majority, it is notorious, was only secured with great difficulty, and I violate no confidence in saying that since its passage in the one branch of the General Assembly a number of members, whose votes were required to make that majority, have communicated to me their opposition to and protest against the bill in its present form. Of the 103 members who comprised this majority, barely one-fifth represent districts affected by the bill. It was imposed upon the communities affected by it against the votes and protest of a large proportion of their representatives.

"Finally, if there were no other objections to this bill, a sufficient one would be afforded by the fact that there are at present special and local road laws to the number of 700, governing a many townships of the State. If the present bill is to have any efficiency it must result from its operation as a general road law, binding at least on all the townships of the State. The section which proposes to repeal all special and local laws inconsistent with it is not sufficient for that purpose according to the decisions of our Supreme Court. If it remain, as they certainly will under the bill in its present form, it will utterly fail as a measure to secure uniformity of road law. Other reasons forcibly suggest themselves for a disapproval of this measure, but I deem those which I have set forth as ample to justify a veto of the bill."

ADDITIONAL LOCALS.

SUGAR VALLEY ITEMS.—David Reninger and wife and daughter fought the mountain fire until they were exhausted, in order that it might not burn down the fences around their mountain fields.

David Greak, an aged citizen of Nity Valley, died at his home near Rote on Monday, and was buried in the cemetery of Miller's church, near Logan Mills, on Wednesday.

WHAT ONE INDUSTRY WILL DO.—There is many a city and town that will appreciate the following: One manufactory employing a hundred men will support an additional 500 people. These hundred families will disburse annually on the average, \$800, or \$75,000 in the aggregate. This money will be drawn into the town from the outside, where manufactured goods are consumed, and the interest of this \$75,000 at ten per cent. would be \$7,500. These hundred families would require a hundred houses, thousands of pounds of agricultural produce, and thousand of yards of cotton and woolen goods; thus giving health and impetus to every branch of industry.

A BENEVOLENT SURPRISE.—About eighty people of Georges Valley treated one of their citizens to a very pleasant surprise one evening last week. Mr. Dunkle, of that section, had been on the sick list for several weeks and unable to work, when the generous and charitable citizens took upon themselves the supplying of a few necessities. Mrs. Samuel Harter, who is a very estimable lady, had the party in hand, and through her earnest and noble efforts, it was a perfect success. Goods to the amount of over fifty dollars were presented to Mr. Dunkle's family, who no doubt feel grateful to the donors for their benevolence.—Centre Reporter.

—Subscribe for the WATCHMAN.

BELLEFONTE'S 4TH.—After much agitation and booming on the part of the newspapers and a few of our citizens, we are pleased to inform our readers that Bellefonte will celebrate the nation's day of Independence with a rousing parade and an old fashioned good time for all. Three meetings have been held and sufficient funds guaranteed to insure the promoters ample resources to fall back upon. \$477.50 have already been subscribed and indications are that the amount will reach \$600 before the week is ended.

At the last meeting held in the arbitration room on Monday night the committees from the different fire companies reported their choice for guests. The committee from the Undine Fire Company is Ed. Woods, Mac. DeSylvia and Amos Mullen. They wanted to invite companies from Lock Haven, Tyrone and Hollidaysburg. The committee representing the Logan Steam Engine Company is Harry Jackson, Thomas Shaughensy and Mitch Cunningham. They will ask companies from Milton, Phillipsburg and Sunbury. Ed. Garman represented the Bellefonte Hook and Ladder Company, and said they would lend a helping hand toward making the event a success. Co. B was represented by Lieut. W. F. Reeder, Sergeant Frank Williams and John Kniesly. They are going to invite Co. A, of Huntingdon, Co. G, of Lewistown, the Sheridan Troop, of Tyrone and the Altoona Drum Corps. In addition to these they will invite Col. Theo. Burchfield and Maj. Micklely, of Lewistown, both officers in the 5th Regiment, to be present and take part in the exercises.

Treasurer Gramley and Robt Hunter were appointed a committee on public decoration. Geo. T. Bush, Harry Jackson and J. A. Feidler were made a committee on invitations, and Ed. Garman, George Bush, Mr. Holtz, Robert McKnight and Ed. Woods constitute the committee which will organize an industrial parade.

The 4th will be made a general gala day and it is to be hoped that everybody in the community will turn out to help make it a success. Let every one decorate his home and lend a hand to the gorgeousness of the affair. When so many visiting organizations will be here let us show them that Bellefonte does know how to entertain, and that royally too.

The P. R. R. club of Philadelphia will be here to play off the tie in the series of games that have been played here with them, and the committee of amusements will have a long list of enjoyments for the day.

Come one! Come all! Let the eagle scream and the band play, the cannon boom and the red lights flicker.

A SPRING RHAPSODY.—Oh I delectable, entrancing spring, gorgeous queen of the seasons, how the sweep of thy magic wand brings back from the sleeping years of the dreamy past, the gaudy vision of life's spring time. I am again a child, straying in the green meadows, or lingering by the crystal stream. I bare my youthful brow to thy gentle breathings, and feel as though passing angles fanned me with their wings. I inhale the commingled perfume of flower and blossoms, and dream that the fragrance of paradise has stolen back to earth, or that I catch the perfumefluted from passing seraphs' mantles. I look in youthful bewildered ecstasy upon thy gathering matchless beauties, and as I gaze upon sward and leaf and blossom and flower, I think I hear heaven's looms propelled by aerial beings as they weave the fabric of thy robes. I almost imagine I see celestial artists, floating on steady wing producing specimens of the taste and genius of the skies, painting on thy royal attire a galaxy of heaven's fine arts for the wondrous admiration of mortals on earth. K.

LAST WEEK'S WEATHER.—The weather report bulletin, issued by the Pennsylvania state weather service, has the following resume of the reports received for the week ending May 15, 1891:

"The temperature during the past week was nearly normal with a decided deficiency in rain fall. The drought is general throughout the state and its effect is beginning to be injurious to growing crops. Pasture lands are drying up and the ground is so baked that it is almost impossible to plow and prepare it for seeding. This has delayed corn planting in many sections. Wheat has not suffered much and most reports say that it is in fine condition. The oats and hay crop will be a short one if the drought is not soon broken. The damage to fruit during the late cold snap appears to have been very light, and the opinion is general that the prospects now are good for a large crop. An unusually large acreage of potatoes has been planted in many sections, and early potatoes are coming up. No tobacco has been planted yet."

—The finest and largest line of Foreign and Domestic wools for suits and overcoats ever shown by us. Full assortment of Ready Made clothing Hats, Caps, and Furnishing Goods. MONTGOMERY & Co. Tailors.