

Democratic Watchman

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Bellefonte, Pa., July 31, 1891.

P. GRAY MEEK, Editor

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Annuling the Contract Labor Law.

The reckless determination to boom the tin industry without favorable natural conditions and at an immense public expense, is driving the supporters of monopoly to questionable expedients. Thus the Harrison administration has concluded to set aside the law that prohibits the importation of contract laborers so that the American tin monopolists may have the advantage of Welsh tin-plate operatives. This is a high-handed treatment of a legal restriction intended for the benefit of a merican labor. An attempt to explain and justify this violation of the law is made by the following announcement:

When the present conditions change, and the tin plate industry becomes established, or when there shall be found a sufficient number of skilled tin plate workers to carry on its manufacture with a reasonable degree of business facility, then the importation of such workmen will be in violation of the contract labor law.

This is setting a precedent of which the monopolists in any branch of business may claim the advantage. If the law can be suspended in favor of the tin-plate manufacturers, why will the iron kings and coal barons not have an equal claim to a free importation of contract laborers for their benefit? All they will have to do is to convince the authorities that they haven't enough native workmen for "a reasonable degree of business facility." This "degree" will be "reasonable" in the opinion of the employing interest only when wages have been reduced to a point that will best suit their profits.

The heavy duty on tin-plate was imposed ostensibly to encourage American labor, yet one of the first incidents of this imposition is the annulling of a law that was passed to keep out foreign pauper labor. A nice commentary on the protective feature of the McKinley law, isn't it?

A Good Man Endorsed.

A just tribute was paid to State Chairman KERR by the Democratic congressmen of Pennsylvania who at a recent conference in Philadelphia expressed their determination to support him for clerk of the next House of Representatives. It appears that ex-congressman MAISH would like to fill that important office, and he is abundantly able to fill it creditably, but our congressmen fully appreciate the superior claims of Mr. KERR who virtually gave up his seat in congress by devoting himself to the Democratic cause last year to the neglect of his own personal political interests. This circumstance must be recognized if there is anything like gratitude in politics or appreciation of useful service. Besides, he was first in the field, and is thoroughly competent to perform the duties of the office. An effort is being made to bring him out for Auditor General, but we do not know whether he favors such a movement.

McKinleyism is at a discount in the north western portion of these great United States. "The whole North-west," says Senator PITTREWEY, of South Dakota, "is ablaze for BLAINE, and the people will not listen to any other candidate." And why? Because, as the Senator says in effect, BLAINE's reciprocity scheme promises some relief from the burdensome exactions of the McKinley tariff. Free trade, disguised under the name of reciprocity, inspires the northwestern Republicans with hope and fires their hearts for BLAINE.

Definite Political Convictions.

A good deal of fun is being made of Uncle JERRY RUSK by his scheme of supplying the agriculturists with rain by means of dynamite exploded in the upper atmosphere, and for his employment of the microscope in searching for trichina in the American hog. This may be good cause for fun, but his head is level in believing that young men should have definite political convictions. As a practical illustration of this belief he made the following statement to a Washington reporter the other day:

"When I was in Chicago a few weeks ago picking out the force of microscopists for the meat inspection, there was one fine young fellow who had good recommendations from his professors. I said: 'These are all right. Now what's your politics?' It startled him a little, for he wasn't a voter, and he said so. 'Well,' I told him, 'your father's a Democrat, isn't he?' The young fellow said yes, and I might put him down as a Democrat, too. 'On your go,' I said; 'that's all I wanted to know,' and I appointed him. There was another young fellow who said he was a Republican. I found out the next day he was a Democrat and dropped him—not for being a Democrat, but for lying about it and saying he was a Republican when he wasn't."

Uncle JERRY acted exactly right in this case. A young Democrat—or an old one, for that matter—who for the sake of an office will represent himself to be a Republican, should have no favor shown him anywhere or from any quarter.

Pennsylvania's Agricultural Bonanza.

The State Board of Agriculture of Pennsylvania will be able this year to impart the most interesting information to the farmers that it has given out since its establishment. The bulletin of Secretary EDGE, just issued, announces the most remarkable crops ever produced in Pennsylvania. His estimate of the wheat crop puts it at 22,500,000 bushels, the largest that has ever responded to the skill and labor of our farmers. Potatoes will yield 11,000,000 bushels, which will be an unprecedented crop. Clover and timothy fell off a little, owing to dry weather in the early part of the season, but the later efforts of the grass lands make up the difference. Unfavorable weather in the spring gave oats a discouraging start, but nevertheless there will be a good crop of this indispensable grain. Corn presents a promising appearance. Especially in the way of fruit is the season remarkable. The crop of large fruits will be the greatest for years, while the yield of small fruits has been something phenomenal. Surely the State agricultural department has occasion to make a most satisfactory announcement.

The furious fight that has been going on for some time for the Presidency of the Republican League of Pennsylvania forcibly illustrates the power of an organization that has sprung up within the party with the original object of serving and strengthening it, but which has grown so strong that its service has grown into mastership. Leaders strive to secure control of this League, calculating that through it they can control the party, and it is with this object that DALZELL and ROBINSON are fighting to be President of this organization. A party is certainly in bad shape when it can be ruled through such an instrumentality. It indicates the perfection to which the machinery has been brought, which will be run in the Magee or Quay interest as the crank may be turned either by DALZELL or ROBINSON as President of the League.

France is a great country, enjoying the highest development of civilization, but it seems to be retrograding in point of population. The French census is taken every five years, and there is no question that it is taken in the most thorough and scientific manner, for that is the way the French do those things. The enumeration just completed shows a population of 38,095,150, as against 38,218,903 in 1886. Some attribute this standstill, or, in fact, decrease of the French population to the large enrollment of the young men in the army, but this reason does not hold good in view of the fact that in Germany the enrollment of young men into the military service is even greater than in France, and the German population is rapidly increasing. The French appear to have lost their grip as procreators.

Collector ERHART, of New York, has resigned, abandoning the most important position under the administration in sheer disgust. He complains of there having been too much interference with his duties.

Proceed With the Investigation.

The Democratic members of the legislative committee appointed to investigate the State Treasurer's and Auditor General's offices, are determined to go ahead with the performance of the duty assigned them, although the Republican majority of the committee hold back through fear that something may be unearthed that will be damaging to their party. The Democrats have therefore issued a call for a meeting of the committee at Harrisburg on Tuesday, August 4th. GEORGE HANDY SMITH, the Republican chairman of the committee, may allow the pleasures of a European trip to divert his attention from the performance of an unpleasant duty, and the other Republican members may be shy of the job, but the Democrats are determined to get at the bottom facts of the Treasury management. They will accordingly meet on the 4th of August, and should the Republicans fail to make an appearance, will nevertheless proceed with their investigation, will issue subpoenas and will appeal to Judge SIMONSON, of the Dauphin county court, to sustain their action. Should the decision of Judge SIMONSON be adverse, the responsibility of the committee to comply with the duties of their appointment will necessarily rest with the Republicans.

The people agree with the Democratic members of this committee that it is high time to lift the cover which has so long concealed the rottenness in the State Treasury.

The Raleigh Exhibition.

The exhibition of Southern agricultural and industrial products, which will be opened at Raleigh, North Carolina, in the coming fall, and continued during the winter, is going to be a great affair, and will do much to promote as well as display the material prosperity of that section. All the Southern states are preparing to put their products and resources on exhibition. One of the notable features at this exposition will be a department exclusively formed and managed by negroes. Each state has named a special negro commissioner, who will have control of the exhibits of his own state. This is putting the colored man to better use than making him a political machine in the interest of the Republican party, backed by bayonets. The Southern people are developing the negroes in the way that will be most beneficial to them and to the country.

There is not a paper in Philadelphia that supports the proposition for a constitutional convention, and we fail to find any advocates of that measure among the country journals. There may be organs of public opinion that favor that measure, but if there are, they certainly keep their sentiments very quiet. It is said that the railroad companies and other corporations want a new constitution, as the present one doesn't suit them, but as a matter of policy their representatives are not noisy on the subject.

An Absurd Report about Quay.

The Philadelphia Record prints a statement, made with an air of authority, that QUAY has announced his determination to resign the chairmanship of the Republican National Committee, and that, furthermore, he has declared his "unalterable determination to retire from the Senate and to spend the winters of the balance of his years in Florida." Declining health is given as the reason for his coming to this determination.

It is hardly necessary to say that most if not all of this is bosh. QUAY may resign his place at the head of the national committee if he shall be compelled to do so by an apprehension that his bad reputation will do the party more harm than his skill as a manipulator will do it good; but it is ridiculous to believe that he entertains the least idea of giving up his seat in the Senate. He will stick there until he shall go out with the general turning out of the rascals.

The supporters of high tariff monopoly take pleasure in attributing the closing down of the tin-plate factories in Wales to the effect of the McKinley bill. They say that it put a stop to foreign importation of tin and hence the stoppage of the Welsh factories. The truth is that the operators in Wales increased their production during the six months previous to the 1st of July, so that they should be able to run as much tin into this country as possible before that date when the McKinley law would go into operation. They are now merely resting from their over-exertion and over-production. But the tin which they sent over to us before the tariff duties became operative is now being sold to our people with the amount of the tariff tax added to the price. Speculators are making money out of the transaction at the expense of the American consumers.

A Great Scheme.

The pension scheme of Mr. W. R. VAUGHN, of Omaha, ought to strike the Republican party favorably. It has the breeziness of the West, although it is intended to benefit the darkeys of the South. He proposes that the Government shall issue \$400,000,000 in bonds, and with the proceeds of their sale pension the ex-slaves. He thinks that this provision would be justified by the claim which the colored people have for the work they did without pay before their emancipation. He advises the negroes to let the Republican leaders understand that they must have this bonus if the party expects their votes in the future. As the G. O. P. leaders regard pensions as a proper means of obtaining votes they are not likely to object to retaining the colored vote by such means.

The Pennsylvania Railroad's Double Lines to Atlantic City.

The Pennsylvania Railroad's twin lines to Atlantic City—the West Jersey and Camden and Atlantic Railroads—now operated as a double-track line, and famed far and wide as the Sea, have long been known as the old and reliable route to Atlantic City. The Camden and Atlantic Railroad was the pioneer, and for a long time the only route, to what has now become one of the most popular and attractive seaside cities of the world. Many Philadelphians will remember how in the earlier years of the first railroad they traveled slowly and in inferior cars to Atlantic City, when one or two trains a day more than sufficed to accommodate the entire volume of traffic, and many of them may also recall the ill-success of the railroad venture, which was so pronounced that at a meeting of the directors the proposition to take up the rails and sell them for scrap iron was gravely discussed. Wiser counsel prevailed, however, and from this humble origin sprang what is to-day the most complete and best appointed system of railway leading to any seaside resort in this country.

The West Jersey and Atlantic from Newfield to Atlantic City was built and inaugurated with conspicuous success under Pennsylvania management, the Camden and Atlantic was acquired, and the two lines consolidated into the Pennsylvania's Double Lines to the Sea. These lines are now operated with that skill and vigor for which the Pennsylvania Railroad is celebrated. The railway of each line is in excellent condition. Laid with steel rails, stone ballast, fitted with that greatest of time savers—the track tank—protected by the block signal system, its physical condition can only be compared to those blue ribbon sections of the main line track that attract the admiration of the chance traveler and provoke the unstinted praise of the railway expert.

For the complete equipment of this splendid road bed the great resources of the Pennsylvania System are freely drawn upon. The choicest passenger coaches, parlor cars constructed expressly for this service, and stalwart hard-coal burning locomotives, designated as the Pennsylvania Standard, are provided. The speed of such trains on such a road bed is whatever the management chooses to make it, but in the exercise of a wise and conservative judgment the maximum of seventy-five minutes for the run from city to sea has been adopted. This is as fast as the fastest trains in regular service in this country or abroad, and is quick enough to meet the wishes of the average traveler. These trains speed down to the sea over one track and up on the other, with no obstruction, but with a clear clean sweep of track always ahead. Safety is the prime essence of this plan, and comfort is assured by reason of substantial equipment, clean well ballasted, firmly established road bed without dust, and locomotives without cinders. These characteristics, briefly outlined, form the basis of the wide and well-earned popularity of this first-class route to Atlantic City.

The high favor in which this route is held is by no means local, but extends to all sections of the land where the influence of the Pennsylvania Railroad is felt. A large number of trains from the south, west, northwest, and south west deliver their passengers in Philadelphia at varying hours each day, and all of them may find a convenient connection at the foot of Market street (the central seashore station of Philadelphia) for prompt conveyance to Philadelphia's great seaside suburb.

By the provision of these unsurpassed facilities of travel, the Pennsylvania Railroad Company has not only developed in greater measure than any other agency this city by the sea, but has also nationalized it.

Sad Ending of a Picnic.

JOHNSTOWN, Pa., July 27.—There was a fight on the platform at the rear end of the second coach of the first section of the train one mile from Rockwood. James Kelly, a policeman of Johnstown, drew a revolver to quell the row. The crowd sprang upon him and forced him between the cars. Conductor Hord signalled to the engineer to stop the train. The coupling broke and Kelly dropped under the wheels and was killed. Gus Myers, of Latrobe, was thrown from the platform and killed. Milton Pyle, of Somerset, was hurled through the air and struck on the rocks by the side of the track. His skull was crushed and a leg broken, but he is still alive. The bodies of the two men killed were left at Somerset for an inquest. The train arrived at Johnstown at 12:20 a. m. The train was an excursion from Johnstown to Cumberland and return. There were fourteen cars and 1,500 people.

A Mussulman having served his term in prison is regarded almost as a saint, no matter as to the crime for which he has been condemned. For a Moslem to say that he has been confined in prison is to make a claim upon the respect and admiration of his fellow believers.

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Where Is This Thing to Stop?

New York Evening Post.

Twenty years ago the expenditures for pensions were only about \$30,000,000 a year, and General James A. Garfield, Chairman of the House Committee on Appropriations, said in a speech in the House: "We may reasonably expect that the expenditures for pensions will hereafter steadily decrease, unless our legislation should be unwarrantably extravagant." It is interesting to trace the reasonable decline which General Garfield predicted during the next few years after he delivered this speech, and the extraordinary growth of the pension roll as soon as Congress entered upon an era of "unwarrantably extravagant legislation." The "Statistical Abstract of the United States," just issued from the Bureau of Statistics, enables us to present the picture at a glance:

Year.	No. Pensioners.	Disbursements.
1872.....	222,229	\$30,167,341
1873.....	222,229	26,844,415
1881.....	323,756	57,263,536
1890.....	537,944	106,493,890

Where is this thing to stop? The number of pensioners at the close of the fiscal year ended June 30, 1889, was 377,000 larger than for the previous year, and the increase during the year closed June 30, 1890, was 38,000. These are the figures of net increase in each case, after making allowance for the large number of names removed from the roll by death or otherwise. Moreover, these gains were made before the new Pension Law fairly got into operation, and the report for the fiscal year ended June 30, 1891, must inevitably show a vastly larger increase. However large this increase may prove, it will not satisfy Commissioner Raum, who told an interviewer in Chicago the other day: "Affairs have been going altogether too slowly in the Pension Department, and I am going to hurry through and dump 350,000 original cases upon the various pension agencies of the country before the year is out. This would carry the number on the roll up to about 900,000, or more than four times the total so far back as 1878!"

Delightful Excursions to the Choicest Resorts of the New Jersey Coast via Pennsylvania Railroad.

The second of the series of the Pennsylvania Railroad's select tours to the resorts of the New Jersey coast was a grand success. Two large trains hardly sufficed to accommodate the party, and they are now enjoying a delightful visit to the shore. The next date is August 6th, which will enable the members of that party to reach the shore at the very high-tide of the season. The points available by these tours are Atlantic City, Cape May, Sea Isle City, or Ocean City, all of which are favorites with the people of Western Pennsylvania.

The excursion tickets good for ten days are to be sold at a rate of \$10.00 from Pittsburg, and at correspondingly low rates from other stations.

A special train of Parlor Cars and Day Coaches will leave Pittsburg at 8:50 a. m. for Philadelphia, stopping at all important junction points, where connections will be made with trains from branch lines. Passengers will spend the night in Philadelphia and proceed to the seashore by regular trains of the next day.

Tickets will be sold from stations named below, and train schedule will be as follows:—

Rate.	Train leaves.
Altoona.....	8.00 12.55 p. m.
Holidaysburg.....	8.00 11.10 a. m.
Bellows Falls.....	8.00 1.06 p. m.
Clearfield.....	8.90 9.40 a. m.
Phillipsburg.....	8.35 10.32 "
Ocean City.....	8.25 10.45 "
Bellefonte.....	8.65 10.25 "
Tyone.....	7.65 1.18 p. m.

Underscore the date August 6th, so that you will not miss this trip.

ADDITIONAL LOCALS.

—The Grange festival at Zion, which was prevented from being held on the 18th of July by rain, will be held on Saturday August 8th, the weather permitting.

—Pennsylvania this year will garner 22,500,000 bushels of wheat and pull from beneath the soil 11,000,000 bushels of potatoes. And who shall say that the old Keystone State will not have enough to eat?

—There is a probability of a prize fight soon between Tom McCarty, of Northumberland, and Joe Culp, of Sunbury. A forfeit of \$10 has been up in the hands of the editor of the Sunbury Daily for Culp, and McCarty is requested to put up or shut up.

A ROMANTIC WEDDING.—A young couple from Spring Mills has carried off the palm for novelty in getting married, that is so far as Centre county is concerned. On Saturday, July 25th, Mr. Edwin Ruhl pocketed his license, and jumping into his buggy, started for the home of his fair one, Miss Maggie Burrell, with whom he drove on the Lewistown Pike to the top of the Seven Mountains. There they were met by Rev. J. W. White, of Milroy, and, beneath the majestic oaks and chestnuts, were made one. My future be as bright and happy at all times as were the first hours of their wedded life.

—The picnic and festival of the P. O. S. of A., at Howard, last Saturday, came off in a most successful style. There was a large attendance and the town was handsomely decorated. The Pleasant Gap band was first in the procession, followed by the veterans, Flemington Drum Corps, Camps from Beech Creek and Eagleville, Beech Creek band, Howard Camp and band. After parading the streets the procession took up the march for J. Z. Long's grove, about one half mile above town, where the remainder of the day was spent in taking refreshments and having a good time in general. The festival in the evening was largely attended. Ice cream, cakes, etc., were disposed of in short order. The proceeds amounted to \$230.

—George W. Zeigler, Esq., of Sunbury, one of the oldest and most prominent members of the Northumberland county bar, in company with his daughters, Mrs. Geo. Keefe and Mrs. Pursell Smith, and his grandson George Smith, has been spending the past week in Bellefonte, the party being the guests of Mr. S. A. McQuiston, brother-in-law of Mr. Zeigler. This veteran Sunbury lawyer, who is a remarkably well-preserved old gentleman, of extensive professional and public experience, is a brother of the late Hon. Jacob Zeigler, so long and prominently connected with the State legislature. Both he and his daughters have been much pleased with their visit. The party was joined on Tuesday by Mr. Pursell Smith, a prominent business man of Sunbury, Mr. Zeigler's son-in-law.

MADE AN IMPRESSION AT DETROIT.—George T. Bush, of Bellefonte, popularly known as "Fatty," has returned from Detroit, after a two week's absence, where he attended the meeting of the League of American Wheelmen. That he made a decided impression and took an active part in the proceedings of the Hickory Club is indicated by the following remarks in the papers of that city. The Free Press says:

"Six hundred were initiated into the glories of the Hickory Club. One at a time the candidates were laid over Deacon Bush's knee and given a tap with the hickory paddle. The novice then received a Hickory badge. A few were given the 'Corey Hill bounce.' The Evening News of the same city speaks of Fatty thus:

"George T. Bush, the original 'one only' of Bellefonte, Pa., was busy to-day with W. W. Stell, initiating members into the Hickory Club. Mr. Stell acted as lord high executioner.

RAILROAD TO BE EXTENDED.—The Tyone and Clearfield railroad, which is a branch of the Pennsylvania road, just like the Bald Eagle Valley road, is to be extended to Pennville, and the Phillipsburg Journal says:

"It will be recollect that as far back as 1854 this road was graded from Curwensville to a point near the head of Bell's run, but never ironed. It remained in this condition for five years, when Mr. George W. Hoover, of our city, succeeded in persuading the company to lay the rails to a point about three miles beyond Curwensville, in order to reach his vast tracts of fine white pine timber.

"The company has now decided to lay two and a-half miles more of track which will reach Pennville, from which point several spur lines will be built to coal mines.

"Another important feature of interest to the traveling public is that this will shorten the staging distance to DuBois by about four miles."

TRIAL LIST.—The following civil cases have been put on the list for the first week of August court:

- Julia D. Kitz's executors vs. J. D. Hall & Co.
- L. F. Drake vs. A. J. Archey.
- Henry Shultz vs. Nathan Haugh.
- Wm. R. Etlinger vs. J. C. Motz.
- Chas. H. M. Swab vs. Walter Riddle & Bro.
- Daniel Butler vs. Jones Lumber Co.
- Jos. Eckley's administrators vs. Wm. B. Eckley.
- Harrisburg Beef Co. vs. Eureka Grocery Store.
- George W. Jackson & Co. vs. Eureka Grocery Co.
- Ephraim Gheen vs. the Buffalo Run, Bellefonte and Bald Eagle Railroad Co.
- C. H. Pearson Packing Co. vs. A. L. Katherman.
- John Donovan vs. Penna. Railroad Co.
- George Lutz vs. James Fanning.
- Catharine Mefford et al vs. Bellefonte Poor District.
- John and James McKellic vs. E. J. O'Leary.
- J. L. Huppert vs. Phillipsburg Manufacturing Co.

SECOND WEEK.

- Wm. B. Mingle vs. I. J. Grenoble et al.
- John McCloskey et al vs. D. B. Kunes et al.
- City of Philadelphia vs. W. F. Holt.
- Lehigh Valley Coal Co. vs. P. Ward, et al.
- Wm. F. Reynolds vs. Centre Iron Co.
- Jno. Hipple and B. Viedor vs. Dr. M. Stewart.
- E. C. Henderson vs. R. W. Richards.
- Bird Coal and Iron Co. vs. Berwind White Coal Mining Co.
- James I. DeLong vs. J. P. Findley et al.
- Geo. Noll and wife vs. Nancy Shope et al.
- P. F. Keichline vs. People's Mutual Ins. Association of Pittsburg.
- Spring Township School District vs. the Buffalo Run, Bellefonte and Bald Eagle R. R. Co.
- Markley & Dearing vs. J. A. Dillon.
- W. H. Markley & Co. vs. Michael Murphy.
- W. F. D. Noble vs. Irvin G. Gray.
- Wm. Wolf vs. W. P. Shoop.
- H. D. Yergler use of vs. Rev. Thomas McGovern.
- John McDermott vs. Etina Life Ins. Co.
- George Mensch vs. Penna. R. R. Co.
- D. W. Herring vs. A. M. Hoover and wife et al.
- Frank P. Blair vs. Carnegie Bros. & Co. Lim.
- Emeline Myers vs. Dale & Womer.
- Five cases of Barker & Henderson vs. Thomas & Strouse.
- Dr. J. W. Dunwiddie vs. Penna. R. R. Co.
- Lehigh Valley Coal Co. vs. Henry Crockett et al.
- Eolean Organ and Music Co. vs. Bunnell & Aikens.