

Democratic Watchman

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Spawls from the Keystones.

Burglars have ransacked five Orwigsburg houses.

Typhoid fever has numerous victims in Lebanon.

Nearly 250 criminal cases are on the Berks county trial list.

Roger Kinzel tried but failed to commit suicide with a razor in Tanawaga jail.

Over 15,000 pieces of baggage were handled at the Reading office in Reading last month.

Harrisburg people have asked Attorney General Hensel to stop Sunday cars there.

The Fame Fire Company, of West Chester, will lead the firemen's parade at Lock Haven.

John D. Zehring, of Johnstown, Lebanon county, aged 77, walked fifty miles on Saturday.

The State Veterinary Association met at Wilkesbarre on Tuesday in semi-annual convention.

Half the street car companies in the State, are delinquent in filing annual reports at Harrisburg.

Reading Railroad trackmen near Phoenixville had Patrick Sheehan arrested for stealing their coats.

A mad dog in Chester township, Berks county, bit three cows, several dogs, and was then shot.

David Buffamoyer, residing near Lebanon, raised 101 bushels of potatoes on a quarter acre of ground.

Knights of the Mystic Chain to the number of 1000 paraded on Tuesday at Allentown and had a prize drill.

Thieves made a big haul of valuables from the store of Babo & Lieb, at Roaring Branch, above Williamsport.

The State Christian Endeavor Association at Williamsport on October 6, 7 and 8, will attract 1500 delegates.

Harrisburg petitioners ask to use the name of the State in a suit to stop the East Harrisburg street cars on Sundays.

Benjamin Frantz, wanted in Kansas for alleged forgeries of \$1000, has been captured at Doylestown.

The 3-year-old son of Paul Urdie, of Sugar Notch, near Hazleton, was drowned in twenty inches of water.

Pittsburg Republican manufacturers are being assessed for the expenses of the McKinley campaign in Ohio.

The State Sunday school convention will meet in Bethlehem on September 29, the time for convening having been postponed a week.

Lancaster county's best tobacco crop on record (the present one) covers 18,500 acres, and will yield 50,000 cases.

H. D. Avery, of Eagle's Mere, is the owner of a dog that gave birth to seventeen pups at one time, fourteen of which she raised.

Prospects are reported to be good for the building of the Reading and Chesapeake Railroad from Reading, Pa., to Havre de Grace, Md.

Mrs. Catherine Heintod died at Lancaster aged 87 years. There survive four children, fifty grand-children and 101 great-grand-children.

The Reading Railroad has purchased part of Mervine Hill, at Shoemakersville, where the big wreck occurred a year ago, and will cut away the bank to reduce the dangerous curve.

The Lancaster city School Board at its meeting last week shortened the school hours. Children will now be in school five hours each day instead of six.

Two hundred and fifty members and friends of Lincoln Post, No. 11, G. A. R., of Newark, N. J., arrived at Gettysburg last night on a three-days visit.

Angelo Volpi was fatally shot by Lewis Hoar while eating apples on the latter's farm near Soraont. Hoar was arrested and lodged in jail.

Charles Dietrich was shot in the face by Amanda Long, another boy, who mistook him for a squirrel moving through the foliage, near Altonah Church, Northampton county.

At Thursday's meeting of the Pennsylvania World's Fair Commission Benjamin Whitman, of Erie, will probably be chosen Executive Commissioner, in place of Charles S. Wolfe, deceased.

A harrow, one tooth of which fell on the foot of 60-year-old Charles Kutz, of Kutztown, and a splinter ran into Mrs. Oscar Becker's foot at Fleetwood, caused the two to die of lockjaw.

Patrick Manley and two other men are wanted on a warrant for knocking senseless and robbing of his month's wages at Pottsville John Dempsey, of Trenton.

Henry Leinger, of Schuylkill Haven, thrashed Lewis Boyer, who opposed Leinger's father's nomination for Poor Director. Boyer an employe at the Almshouse, stabbed Leinger in self defense, and was arrested.

Labor Day was generally observed throughout the State. Parades were held in St. Clair, Lancaster, Pottstown, Shermans, Pottsville, Altoona, Wilkes-Barre, York, and other cities, and business was suspended.

While a gang of Italian laborers were at work near Pottstown a tramp gathered an armful of coats belonging to the men and attempted to escape. The Italians at once gave chase and soon captured the man, who seriously stabbed several of his pursuers before being landed in jail.

The tobacco crop of Lancaster county nearly harvested is the largest ever grown, the acreage reaching 18,500 acres and the yield 50,000 cases. The damage by hail and rust is about 5 per cent of the whole crop, the quality of the remainder being very fine.

Trouble has arisen between the Philadelphia & Erie Railroad Company and the Williamsport authorities over the attempt of the latter to allow certain crossings which the company claims are not public highways. By an amicable arrangement the matter will be tested in the courts.

Warrants have been issued by the Uniontown Law and Order Society against the president and directors of the Fayette county Agricultural Association, on the charge of aiding and abetting gambling at the fair last week. Permits had been issued by them to the promoters of a number of games, who reaped a rich harvest on the fair grounds.

A defective main at Easton caused considerable damage to property. Streets caved in and the foundations of several buildings were badly affected. A new reservoir was put in service about three weeks ago when new pipes were laid.

All was quiet in Lebanon Sunday. Three men, Joss, Weidner, Edward McLaughlin, and James Ritter, are in custody, and further arrests will be made on account of Saturday night's riot. The better element of the strikers denounced the attack.

Too Thin a Humbug.

This year the American farmers are going to do a big and profitable business in shipping their produce to Europe. A Republican organ, speaking of this circumstance, says: "It is important for our farmers to remember that the millions that will flow to them through reciprocity will be the direct result of the Republican policy of protection."

It does not surprise us that the high tariff champions have cheek enough to credit the McKinley bill with the benefit which an abundant harvest will confer upon the farmers. If that bill hadn't passed probably there wouldn't have been any crops.

Fortunately the American farmers this year have an abundance to sell, but of this abundance they would sell no more than the usual limited amount to European customers if there had not been almost a total failure on the other side of the water. There is nothing in the McKinley bill or the Republican tariff policy that induces this foreign purchase of our products, but it is owing to the scarcity abroad. If it were not for the failure of the crops in Europe our immense surplus of bread, stuffs and provisions would largely remain on our hands, with no possibility of its being absorbed by the home market which is said to be created by protection.

And at this time when we are sending millions of bushels of wheat every week to Europe, in what light are we to look upon McKinley's putting a tariff of 25 cents a bushel on wheat to protect the American farmer against the competition of foreign growers? Was there ever a more transparent humbug designed to put the farmers under the impression that they are protected by the tariff? And when was it ever necessary, or ever will be necessary, for the products of American farms to have such protection?

Turn the Rascals Out.

The dishonest conduct of the Mercantile Appraisers of Philadelphia, who were in league with the Bardsley steal, had grown so apparent that their removal and punishment became imperatively necessary for the ends of justice and the protection of public interests.

Treasurer Wright had obtained such evidence of their guilt that he felt justified in calling upon Auditor General McCAMANT to suspend the inculpated Mercantile Appraisers and to bring criminal prosecutions against them. The Auditor General declined to do this, showing a disposition to shield these unfaithful public officers, but Mr. Wright, who was appointed by the Governor to succeed BARDSELY as custodian of the plundered city treasury, is zealous in the performance of his trust and determined that the guilty shall not escape. He has produced such evidence of the guilt of the Appraisers that there is no longer room for doubt, and even McCAMANT is forced to consent to suspend the dishonest officials and then prosecute them. The rascals must not only be turned out, but they must also be punished.

General HASTINGS has already opened the campaign with a speech at Allentown. In regard to his early appearance in the field the Philadelphia Record remarks: "General HASTINGS is no fair weather soldier. Despite the bedraggled condition of the Grand Old Party he has already begun to rub her down, smooth her tattered draperies and recommend the old harridan to the merciful consideration of the people who have been shamed and plundered in her name. General HASTINGS has undoubted talents; the more pity 'tis that he should use them in the support of a doubtful cause."

A Contrast.

After spending most of the summer in different parts of the country, away from their posts of duty, the various members of Mr. HARRISON's cabinet are straggling back to Washington to resume their official business which they had left in the hands of their clerks. They have had a nice, easy summer, recruiting at the popular resorts, without doing any work while their pay went on. They had the example set by their chief, who has been away from his post since early in the season. His transcontinental trip was commenced in the spring, which was followed by other excursions and a sojourn by the sea that have used up the summer pretty thoroughly without giving him time for public duty. There is a pretense of official work at Cape May Point, but that isn't the place for the performance of a public trust, and there is very little time for it when there are so many fish to be caught and reed-birds to be shot in the neighborhood. In fact, for the past year Mr. HARRISON's mind has been more occupied in intriguing for a second term than in attending to public matters calculated to benefit the people.

What a contrast with the conscientious discharge of duty on the part of President CLEVELAND, who restricted himself to about 30 days' leave of absence during each year he was occupant of the White House. His cabinet officers followed their chief's example, and gave their time and attention to the public business without spending two or three months of each year away from the seat of government. It was the strict business methods employed by the Cleveland administration which commended the administration to the people and helped to pile up a comfortable working surplus in the United States treasury which has since been squandered by careless management and reckless expenditures.

The South has made extraordinary progress in cotton manufacture with the last ten years. In 1880 there were 667,854 spindles operated in the Southern mills, while in 1891 the number reported is 2,130,823. This shows an increase of 240 per cent. The greatest improvement has been in the States of Georgia and North and South Carolina, which have two-thirds of the spindles in the South to-day. South Carolina, which has been laboring zealously and earnestly of late to develop its cotton industry, has advanced nearly 500 per cent in a little more than a decade. The bulk of the new cotton mills have been erected in the cotton producing States, and in the midst of the cotton fields. Arkansas and Mississippi, on the other hand, while large producers of the staple, manufacture but little of it into cloth.

A Good State Ticket.

The Democratic convention did exceedingly well in making the State ticket. Better men for the positions could not be found than ROBERT E. WRIGHT and A. L. TILDEN. Their records are clean. Their private and public lives have been such as to command the respect and confidence of the people. The harmony with which they were nominated was a proper tribute to the worthiness of their characters, and it promises the full support of the party. And the ticket composed of such material will be supported not only by a united Democracy, but also by thousands of citizen who are not Democrats.

The convention acted judiciously in basing the campaign wholly on State issues, presenting the question directly to the people whether the finances of the State shall continue to be corruptly managed, or whether there shall be a change to more honest management. The rottenness in the financial department of the State government can be exposed only by putting Democrats in the offices of Auditor General and State Treasurer, and WRIGHT and TILDEN are the men for the task. They will open the books and lay bare the rascalities of the past quarter of a century, and after this duty is performed, will turn the business of those departments into the channel of honesty and responsibility.

A Great Platform.

The platform of the Democratic State convention is a trenchant document. It speaks for itself. In its expression there is no mincing of words. Specific offenses are set forth in direct terms, and time, place and circumstances are given. It arraigns the Republican State officials who made BARDSELY'S robberies possible, and its condemnation of the corrupt and vicious practices in the treasury through which QUAY was enabled to be an embezzler, is terrific in its force, truth and directness. The Republican State Convention is righteously condemned for condoning the offenses of faithless Republican officials who sat in its councils, and this is followed by denunciation of "the corrupt and shameful domination" of Boss QUAY in the politics of the State, and the servile acceptance of his leadership.

This declaration of the representatives of the Democracy must have a profound effect upon the minds and feelings of the people. In trumpet tones it calls their attention to facts which already had aroused their alarm and excited their apprehension. It now challenges their consciences and places the responsibility of a continuance of these evils upon their shoulders. Thus appealed to, the people will not fail to discharge their duty by putting an end to the shameful control of the financial offices of the State by men who have stolen millions from the treasury, demoralized and corrupted legislatures, administrations and the policies of the State, and so dishonored the Commonwealth that it has become a reproach throughout the Union.

The platform clearly defines the issues upon which this war for honesty and good government will be waged. The champions of treasury corruption will endeavor to divert the public mind from their own misdeeds by springing issues that have no relation to State affairs, but the platform clearly defines the points upon which the enemy will have to be fought. The battle will not be allowed to dodge the vital issues of the campaign.

Mr. POWDERLY is not favorably situated as a candidate for delegate-at-large to the constitutional convention. Thousands of Republicans will not vote for him because he is a Democrat, and there are plenty of Democrats who won't vote for him because he is in bad company in being on the Republican ticket. And we have no doubt that there are Knights of Labor who will not vote for him because they see that the machine managers expect to work the labor vote for their State ticket through his name.

Ballot Reform in the Constitution.

When the Democratic State Convention declares that "the whole advantages of the Australian ballot system should be secured to the people of Pennsylvania," and proposes to secure them by means of a constitutional convention, it means something more substantial in its purpose than the spurious ballot reform law of the last Quay legislature that made easy the way of the briber and bulldozer. That law has no earnestness of purpose except the purpose of deceiving those to whom ballot reform has been promised. But the Democratic convention declared that the ballot law passed by the recent legislature "needs to be supplemented by measures to protect the secrecy of the ballot and to secure reform in registration. To this end, and for these purposes only, we favor the assembling of a constitutional convention."

There is no mistaking the purport of these words. They mean that if it can possibly be done by Democratic action and influence the Australian ballot system and honest elections shall be guaranteed to the people by constitutional provision.

The *Columbian Independent*, whose editor was a brave and experienced soldier during the war, entertains a correct idea of the situation. General GREGG would be in if elected Auditor General on the Republican ticket. He says: "GREGG in the saddle and under command of Gen. GEORGE GORDON MEADE could not go wrong, but GREGG in harness and in a tandem under the command of Gen. MATTHEW STANLEY QUAY would not be allowed to go right."

Not a State but a National Issue.

The New York Sun is of the opinion that the Pennsylvania Democracy have shown the way to be followed if the country is to be redeemed from the general corruption and maladministration which the Republican party has fastened upon it. Speaking of the action of the State convention last week it says:

The Democrats of Pennsylvania have pointed out the way to Democratic success, not in that State alone, but in the whole country. Casting aside all distracting and dividing questions, they have united upon a platform which appeals to every Pennsylvanian who is sick of the dishonor which financial corruption, assisted, manipulated, and protected by political corruption, has brought upon this State. Instead of bickering about the tariff or silver, they have set themselves to the task of restoring honest administration.

What the Pennsylvania Democrats are seeking to do for Pennsylvania, the national Democratic party should seek to do for the United States. It should strive to restore honesty, economy and efficiency to all departments of the Government. The Billions Congress is the Bardsley and the Quay for it to fight. The Republican party has been for years essentially what it is in Pennsylvania, extravagant, corrupt, the shield of malversation in office, the tool of speculators and thieves. Divided by insane and fruitless disputes as to questions of political economy, the Democratic party can not hope to break down the domination of extravagance or end the reckless use of the powers of the Government, stretched beyond all reasonable and constitutional limitation.

The National Democratic party must unite, as the Pennsylvania Democracy has united, to bring back the reign of honesty and economy; and the rejection or subordination of all issues upon which the party is not a unit is the indispensable condition of victory.

This is, in the main, an excellent view of what the people must do to restore honest government in this country. But, as advice to the whole country, it errs in representing that tariff reform is not an essential factor in the restoration of honest administration. It is true that in the immediate contest in Pennsylvania the tariff is not an issue, for the battle is to be made on questions of State government, but in the broader field of a Presidential contest tariff reform is the most vital issue, for upon it a large measure hinges the great question whether corruption in the administration of the government shall or shall not be continued.

It was by means of a tariff, taking the money from the people through unnecessary taxation and pouring it into a treasury where legitimate use did not need it, that a Billion Dollar Congress was enabled to practice its astounding extravagance. Through that agency has been derived the means by which every branch of the government has been corrupted. It has been the exhaustless source of public plunder. It has enabled the payment of pernicious subsidies. The money that has been thus supplied has given the pension sharks their opportunity to pervert the pension system from a beneficent object to a regular scheme of public robbery. The tariff beneficiaries are encouraged to contribute money for the corruption of our elections in return for the protection which a high tariff affords their monopolistic interests, and in every respect this system, of which the McKinley bill is the most recent product, tends to governmental and political corruption.

To overcome administrative extravagance in the general government and the reckless and corrupt use of governmental power, the surest and most direct way is to strike at the source—to stop that influx of money into the treasury through superfluous tariff taxation which furnishes the means of all this public demoralization. It is true, this is not an issue in our State contest, which can have no bearing upon the tariff question, but it will be an issue of the highest importance in the broader contest of next year.

Our Republican contemporaries are making ineffectual efforts to cast ridicule on the Democratic State platform. But that game won't work. They will find it no laughing matter. When a party is arraigned for speculation, embezzlement, treasury raiding and general theft, with the facts to prove the charges, there is no ground for ridicule.

The Williamsport Sun asks: "In what sense is Mr. HARRITY a boss? Can you point to any of his appointees, or appointees made through his influence, who are not men of integrity? Did he ever have a hand in robbing the treasury? Is he a thief? QUAY is a boss, HARRITY, a leader. Mark the difference."

Ink Stings.

Auditor General McCAMANT does not seem to be moved by an irrepressible desire to turn the rascals out.

The Democratic State platform sounds like a bill of indictment against a criminal in the dock, and the verdict of the people will pronounce it a true bill.

If the Appraisers of Philadelphia were appraised according to their merits they would find a lodgment in the penitentiary as the result of the appraisal.

Reedbirds are rather small specimens of the feathered tribe, and when a President of the United States goes out and shoots a dozen or two of them he engages in rather small business.

The whereabouts of WILLIAM LIVSEY, cashier of the Pennsylvania State Treasury, is becoming an interesting question. The interest is intensified by his loitering within easy distance of the Canada line.

The colored cotton pickers of the South have formed an organization, half a million strong, to control wages. There is no use to be solicitous about the education of those fellows. They are learning fast enough.

TILLMAN, the Alliance congressman from South Carolina, boasts that he never wore an overcoat and that it is a very cold day when he puts on an undershirt. It is evident that he wants to discount sockless SIMPSON.

The injunction "Thou Shalt Not Steal," as applied to high States functionaries of the Republican persuasion, illustrates the appropriate and forcible use that may be made of the decalogue as a campaign document.

When the telegraph monopoly tackles the telephone monopoly the people are not interested as to which one shall come out ahead. They are willing that the devil shall take not only the hind-most, but both of them.

The financial officers of the State of Pennsylvania are lingering near the borders of Canada, ready to step over on the safe side of the line if there should be too urgent a call on them to give an account of their stewardship.

Cashier LIVSEY of the State Treasury wants to resign. When difficulties overtake a man it is a great virtue to be able to meet them with resignation, but in Mr. LIVSEY's case it does not appear to be adapted to the difficulty.

The Harrisburg Patriot remarks that "vipers must no longer be warmed into venomous life at the public fire." The frame of mind which our esteemed contemporary has been in for some time led us to fear that it would soon begin to see snakes.

Complaint comes from Liberia that the American negroes who have migrated there are bossing the natives. Those intruding darkies are merely following the carpetbag example that was set them by the white scallawags in the South during the reconstruction period.

Chairman PATTON, of the Prohibition State Committee, expects that his party will do great things in this year's campaign. No one will begrudge our cold water friends the pleasure they derive from the hope that springs eternally in the breast of the Prohibitionist.

If, after such an exposure of Republican rascality as has been made in Philadelphia, that city shall give a majority for the larcenous old party, it will have to be confessed that she is tied to her idol by a band so strong that in comparison with it a hickory with its mere packthread.

The "grand old party" papers appear to think it something to brag about that Republican diplomacy has succeeded in getting the American hog into Germany, but the great need of the present period is some means of keeping the Republican hog out of the State treasury, in the contents of which he has had his snout for the last quarter of a century.

A Republican exchange believes itself of the following high-toned expression: "Our patriotic devotion and practical political shrewdness should take on all the enthusiasm and intensity of expression and action that belong to a dominating passion of the soul." This is a very neat way of putting it, but such fine words cannot disguise the fact that the dominating passion of the Republican soul is to loot a State treasury and knock the stuffing out of a fat surplus.

Popular amusements are among the chief causes of good government, as the people are never troublesome when happy," remarks the Reading World. If there is any philosophy in this it would be the part of good statesmanship to spend a liberal portion of the surplus in subsidizing BARNUM and FORFAUGH and furnishing everybody with free tickets to their great aggregations. Probably better use could be made of the public money in this way than by allowing it to be stolen by Republican office-holders.