

Democratic Watchman

Terms 2.00 A Year, in Advance

Bellefonte, Pa., Oct. 9, 1891.

P. GRAY MEEK, EDITOR

Democratic County Committee, 1891

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Democratic State Ticket.

FOR AUDITOR GENERAL,
ROBERT E. WRIGHT,
of Lehigh county.

FOR STATE TREASURER,
A. L. TILDEN,
of Erie county.

DELEGATES TO CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.
Chas. R. Buckalew, Chancery, Black.
Geo. A. Jenks, Geo. M. Dallas.
Sam'l. G. Thompson, David L. Sellers.
Henry N. Scott, Robert E. Sellars.
Wm. McLean, F. M. Vandling.
Jno. Latta, Rodger Sherman.
William Weihe, Thos. Lazare.
Samuel Griffith, Grant Weidman.
Geo. W. Zeigler, R. Morgan Root.

DEMOCRATIC COUNTY TICKET.

FOR DELEGATE TO CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.
ELLIS L. ORVIS—Bellefonte, WM. BIGLER,
Clearfield.

Jury Commissioner—GEORGE BOWER.

Get Ready for the Election.

The Democrats of this county realize that it is but little over three weeks until the election? Whether they do, or not, we want to impress upon them the importance of going to work and arranging to poll every vote in their different districts. To many the coming election may not seem of very great importance, but the individual who stops to think about the demoralized condition the State offices, which are to be filled, are in; who can realize the extent of the debauchery and crookedness that exists in the Auditor General's office and State Treasury; who is sensitive enough to feel the disgrace that comes to all Pennsylvanians through speculating, ring ridden officials, will recognize at once the great necessity of a change, and the greater importance of getting out every honest vote, to insure that change.

We know that the county ticket is small and unimportant, but what influence should that exert when the honor and integrity of the State is at stake, on any one worthy the right of franchise in this old commonwealth. There are important duties for every freeman to perform this fall, duties that no honest man will shirk, and those duties are: To be prepared to vote himself and see that his neighbor, who wants as he does an honest administration of the public offices, is also fixed and ready to cast his ballot. And if this is already done, his next work is to see that his own and neighbors' ballot is cast and cast on the right side.

Every good citizen knows which is the right side this fall. There always has been and always will be, differences of opinion among honest men as to the right and wrong of certain political principles, but when it comes down to a question of whether we will have a continuation of the present rotten, robbing, ring-rule,—whether an Auditor General and State Treasurer who have wilfully permitted the people of the State to be robbed of over one million of dollars, are to be endorsed—whether an infamous, thieving ring that has had its hand in the Treasury of the State and controlled the acts of the officials of the commonwealth, for years, is to continue to rule and rob, there can be no division among good men, or no question as to how any man should vote.

It is a full vote of the people that the state ring fears. It is the coming out to the polls of the honest, robbed and disgraced citizen that it dreads. It understands, only too well, how deeply it has wronged a people that has entrusted it with power time and again, and its only hope is that this same people may close their eyes and refuse to see the same that has been saddled upon them.

Do the good people of the county, and we speak truly to honest Republicans as well as to Democrats, recognize the necessity of earnest work from now until election day, if they would have these State robbers rebuked and repudiated? Will they not waken up to a sense of the duty they owe to themselves, as well as to the State of which all should be proud.

Remember that a listless campaign and a small vote means a victory for those who would cover up the roguery and rascality of a ring, the equal of which has never disgraced any other commonwealth.

The Only Way.

We have a letter from one of the leading citizens of Frenchville, Clearfield county, asking us to prepare petitions and forward to the several voting districts in that county, favoring the re-enactment of the fence law. If he had read the WATCHMAN of September 18th, he would understand why, any efforts, under our present constitution, to secure the benefits of the measure he wants, by legislation, would simply be a waste of time and money.

The fact is there can be no fence law passed or re-enacted until the present constitution is changed or amended.

The situation on this question is briefly this: No general fence law can be passed for the reason that the populous counties of the State, and which have a majority of the members of the Legislature do not want one; no local fence law can be passed for the reason that the present Constitution prohibits it; so that farmers, laborers and others, who believe we need and should have some legislation on this subject, are left without any way or hope of securing the measure wanted, except through the action of a Constitutional convention, which would so amend our Constitution as to allow of certain kinds of local legislation.

The time is ripe for action. This nefarious business must be stamped out and no man who values the real principles of Republicanism can hesitate an hour as to his duty. Citizenship must rise above partisanship. The public welfare must be preferred to mere party success. No man becomes a Democrat or renounces Republicanism because he refuses to cast a vote in favor of a corrupt machine, no matter how respectable the candidates are who are presented as shield against the wrath of the people; nor does he array himself to any evil influence by refusing to demean himself by casting a ballot which may be construed as an approval of wrongdoing and systematic villainy.

Neither the tariff nor the free coinage of silver, nor the issues of the Presidential campaign of next year are involved, however studied the efforts may be on the part of campaign speakers to convince the people that such is the case. Honesty of Administration is the need of the hour. This is the sole question. We must secure honest administration of our government at any cost. Those who prefer material prosperity at the price of our moral degradation, and shirk at the tariff at such a time as this, are simply conducting a dance of Anaks.

It is the duty of all men, whether Republicans, Independent Republicans, Protectionists or Democrats, to save Pennsylvania from the fate of Acteon, who was devoured by his own dogs.

Ex-President Cleveland on Ballot Reform.

In a letter to A. B. Farquhar, Esq., of York, Pa., Ex-President CLEVELAND, leaves no doubt as to where he stands on ballot reform, or how he would vote on the question of a Constitutional Convention to secure that reform, if a resident of Pennsylvania. To the halting, doubting democracy of this section, who don't exactly know whether they are controlled by the corporations or the bar, or whether they can stand the cost(?) of a convention, to give as a fair ballot, we commend the mauly words of one who has never shown a hesitancy in supporting the right no matter who opposed it. Here is the full text of the ex-President's letter:

816 MADISON AVENUE,
September 27th, 1891

A. B. Farquhar, Esq.—I have received your letter relative to ballot reform in your State.

I cannot be supposed to understand the peculiar conditions which prevail in Pennsylvania, and it would appear to be presumptuous in me to intrude advice without such understanding.

In my Boston speech I endeavored to announce that government by the people, and in their interests as against tremendous aggregation of favored classes seeking control for their exclusive benefit, depended largely upon the adoption of the secret ballot.

I have faith in the intelligence and patriotism of your people; and I hope to see them remove the barriers which prevent ballot reform, in the way which is speediest and most effectual and at the same time safest.

There certainly should be no halting nor hesitancy in taking the step necessary to thus secure the purity and freedom of the ballot in your great commonwealth.

Yours very truly,
GROVER CLEVELAND.

Not In That Business.

After the experience they have just gone through with, North Dakota farmers will probably learn that it is not profitable to shew to much responsibility onto the shoulders of the Almighty. He blessed them this year with one of the most abundant harvests that ever gladdened the eyes or fattened the pocket-book of man, and the lunk-heads thought that in addition to giving the wealth of grain, He ought to take care of it for them, and refused to either stack or provide shelter for it. The consequence is, they now mourn an aggregate loss of \$10,000,000 in wheat that has been spoiled by the rain, and the only thing many of them have for the excess of crops of the present year, is the experience that proves that Providence is not a pack-horse on which to place all the vexations, cares and costs of running a western farm. It is eminently proper to "trust in the Lord," as the preachers say, but the safest course, when you have a crop, is to take care of it yourself, as the Dakota farmers should now know.

This is Mr. Monaghan's theory, and says everything he learned in New York went towards strengthening it.

Mr. Monaghan carried \$20,000 life insurance \$10,000 in the Penn Mutual Aid. Both these companies have set detectives to work on the case, and as they have a very decided incentive to discover the missing man's whereabouts it is hoped some light may be thrown upon the matter soon.

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Governor Campbell boldly challenged

Major McKinley to name a single protected industry in the state of Ohio

wherein the wages have been increased

by the operation of his tariff law.

The governor made the fair proposition to his opponent to "give him the votes of

all the men whose wages have been in-

creased by the bill if he will give me

the votes of all the men whose wages

haven't been increased by it," and "on

that basis," he declared. "I'll carry

Ohio by 750,000 majority."

The tariff was raised on the pretense of paying higher wages to American workmen.

It has proved a fraud. Monopoly takes

all the increased profits, and labor can

bite its thumb.

—If ever there was a time, when Republican ring rule could be defeated in Pennsylvania, that time is now. Democrats are you awake to the situation? It will require but the getting to the polls of the Democratic vote, and the good work will be accomplished. Don't wait until it is too late to do what you can, and then regret the fact that you failed when the opportunity was offered you.

The Prostitution of a Great Party to Fraud and Theft.

Hampton I. Carson Ind. Rep.

The present condition of public affairs in Pennsylvania justifies revolution. Fraud, corruption, theft, collusion, ignorance and neglect of duty, evasion of law, hard swearing, shallow inventions, concealment of books and papers, and feeble as well as foolish efforts to delay or resist investigation, have supplanted honesty of administration, integrity of conduct, protection of the people's rights, observance of the law, truth, honor, fearlessness and a bold challenge to public scrutiny. These were virtues of which Republicans could once proudly boast, but now apology, excuse, cowardice, superstition and paralysis have afflicted the leaders. On all sides the figures of officials are observed skulking in the dark, crouching from the public gaze behind hastily constructed barriers or burrowing beneath heaps of registered letters containing "neckties" and silk handkerchiefs.

Each day reveals more clearly the system which has existed for many years, by which millions of dollars of public money have been lost or stolen, either through the direct collaboration and confederacy of State officials with county officers and their subordinates or through supine neglect and careless performance of duty.

The time is ripe for action. This nefarious business must be stamped out and no man who values the real principles of Republicanism can hesitate an hour as to his duty. Citizenship must rise above partisanship. The public welfare must be preferred to mere party success. No man becomes a Democrat or renounces Republicanism because he refuses to cast a vote in favor of a corrupt machine, no matter how respectable the candidates are who are presented as shield against the wrath of the people;

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