

Democratic Watchman

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Spawls from the Keystone.

—A new school house to cost \$14,300 is to be erected at Ebensburg.

—Trolley charter franchises in Bucks county are a drug in the market.

—There are in Pennsylvania over 6000 members of the Sons of Veterans.

—Congressman Mutchler, of Easton, is seriously ill at a Pike county summer resort.

—Cars near Columbia cut to, pieces the body of James McCarty, of Fall River, Mass.

—S. L. Schoonmaker was elected second vice chairman of the Carnegie Steel Company.

—Sixty men in the Wayne Iron Works, Allegheny county, struck Friday and the mills are closed.

—On June 14 Bristol will celebrate the 116th anniversary of the adoption of the Stars and Stripes.

—The coke ovens of the Rockhill Company at Orbisonia, were operated Monday with non-union men.

—A premature explosion in a Jeddo colliery snuffed out the lives of Daniel Marley and James Mahan.

—A succeeding Treasurer Lamb was reelected, at Scranton, by order of the American Machinists.

—The Clearfield and Mahoning Railroad, from Clearfield to Dubois, was opened Monday for business.

—Rev. J. D. Coady, formerly pastor of St. Titus' Church, Tinsville, is lying at the point of death at Erie.

—Seven members of Henry Michael's family, of Reading, are seriously ill from eating potted sausage.

—The Philadelphia and Reading on Sunday ran no coal trains, and that policy will hereafter be pursued.

—At Harrisburg the body of Henry Rothermel, of Chattanooga, Tenn., a suicide, has been fished out of the river.

—Doylestown stockholders in the defunct National Bank of Newton, Kansas, have been assessed 75 per cent.

—The new Revenue Collector for the Twenty-third district, Kearns, entered upon his duties Monday at Pittsburg.

—The Scranton Times was recently purchased at Sheriff's sale by Ex-Congressman Connelly for \$2,507.32.

—Scranton is debating the matter of erecting a new armory for the Thirtieth Regiment, to cost \$125,000.

—A syndicate to build a fine hotel for a summer resort in Ligonier valley, near McKeesport, has been formed.

—The new United States Consul to Stuttgart, Alfred C. Johnson, entertained 100 friends at Doylestown, on Saturday night.

—A decree ordering the sale of the Brady's Bend Iron Company's property has been filed at Kittanning, Pa., by Judge Mithard.

—The skill of Philadelphia physicians at Wills Eye Hospital cured William Ayres, of Sharpsburg, who had been blind for six years.

—George Clapper, residing near Hollidaysburg, was so badly injured by an explosion in a stone quarry that he will be permanently blind.

—James A. Bailey, of the Barnum & Bailey shows, telegraphed Saturday night that E. J. Davis, pretending to be his agent at Lancaster was a fraud.

—A charter will shortly be applied for by the Shearer's Creek Water Company, to supply mines and villages in Branch township, near Minersville.

—Adjutant General Greenland, who is working hard to have the National Guard go to the World's Fair, will visit Chicago and select the site for the encampment.

—A 12-pound coguehell fell on the head of Mrs. James Heckman at the Reading Hospital, where she was employed, Saturday. Her skull was crushed and she is not expected to recover.

—Sixty-six members of the Amalgamated Association are on strike from the Wayne Iron Works, of Pittsburg, because they objected to waiting too long on a heat. An amicable settlement is expected.

—Eli Harvey, of Chadd's Ford, has a collection of relics of the battle of Brandywine and a letter on parchment signed by William Penn while he was yet in England in the year 1678 and directed to a meeting of Friends in that country.

—The statement of the Pennsylvania line's relief department for April, just issued, shows that there was a total of \$13,570 benefits paid as follows: Death accident, \$3,500; natural, \$3,066; disablement, accident, \$7,449.50; sickness, \$3,755.20.

—In the case of Mrs. Lenhardt against Pardee & Co., mine owners, at Hazleton, for \$20,000 damages for the loss of her three sons in the Laurel Hill disaster, the plaintiff was non-suit, as no negligence on the part of the company could be proven.

—Investigations are being made of the "flea infested" districts of Lancaster county. Secretary Thomas J. Edge says that this species of flea can be found in every Hungarian camp, and it seems to be peculiar to them and their mode of life and would disappear when they left the country. The same plague infested Bucks county when the railroad there was in progress of construction.

—Samuel Steckel, of Doylestown, a few days ago received a money order from Patrick Tobin, of Beloit, Mich., in payment of a debt incurred by Tobin at Mr. Steckel's store, in Durham, Bucks county, forty years ago. Mr. Steckel has no recollection of the man or the circumstances, says the Democrat, and as the books used at that time have long since been destroyed, he can not verify Tobin's story. He says that Steckel was kind to him, and he paid the debt with interest.

—A few days ago Henry Frankhouser, of Peacock, Lancaster county, caught in the Conestoga, at Shelby, a carp twenty eight inches in length and eleven pounds in weight. Joseph Klessinger, of Lexington, while walking along Hammer creek, noticed three large German carp in shallow water. He waded in and managed to secure two of them, which weighed together ten pounds. One of them was twenty-eight and one-half inches long.

—Official returns received at the office of the State Board of Agriculture indicate that the recent wet and cool weather has caused considerable rotting in the early-planted potatoes and that there will necessarily be a loss to the crop. Similar causes have, in some few sections of the State, so delayed the oats seeding that this crop has been abandoned and Hungarian grass and other fodder crops will, at the proper time, be substituted. Corn planting has been delayed; that which is planted is not coming up regularly. There is a prospect that a loss will ensue from this cause. The backward season has made it too late to replant with any prospect of a crop, and the vacancies in the rows cannot now be filled up.

The Recent Legislative Session.

It is customary to find fault with the State Legislature, and as soon as that biennial body of lawmakers adjourns, on all sides is heard a chorus of condemnation in which its sins of commission and omission are amplified to the fullest extent. The Legislature whose session closed last week could not expect to escape this usual overhauling. In some respects it has deserved it, but it must be admitted that, as a body, in point of ability, intention and achievement it was of the quality customarily found in Pennsylvania legislatures.

It having become a habit of the people to condemn their State lawmakers, there is an insistence that a deterioration is apparent at each succeeding session. This depreciative view has prevailed for years, yet the fact is that recent State Legislatures, including the one just adjourned, have not displayed such comparative deficiencies as would justify this habitual and wholesale fault finding.

The chief defects of the past session were of a partisan origin. Its faults of this character are of course attributable to the party dominating the legislative body, whose actions gave the determining complexion to its proceedings. To this source must be assigned the disgraceful rulings in the Andrews case, and other contested election cases in which partisan advantage was the deciding factor. Partisan unfairness is also chargeable with the failure of the apportionment bills, the majority preferring to disregard the requirements of the constitution rather than lose the advantage of their present gerrymander. The abject subserviency of the Legislature to the dictates of a boss in its organization and general line of partisan conduct was also one of the blemishes for which the ruling majority was solely responsible.

In the matter of legislation affecting the general interest of the people the result of the sessions was about the average outcome of legislative effort in this State. Some acts of general importance were passed and others failed to be enacted. Some things that should have been done were left undone, while others that should not have been done met with favorable action. But this is customary in the record of every legislative body. It always has been so and always will be.

The amendments regarded as necessary to perfect the ballot law were not made to the extent that was demanded by the friends of honest elections, but still some amendment was made in spite of Republican enmity to ballot reform. This law will be perfected, or a different method of voting and counting will be adopted, only when the Democrats can exercise legislative as well as executive control. The passage of the bill relieving the people of Philadelphia of the Building Commission was due more to the fear of Republican dissension and the dictate of bosses, who desired the control of the patronage heretofore enjoyed by the commission, than the virtue of the Republican legislative managers.

There was a failure of legislation in regard to road improvement, but this is a subject of such wide difference of opinion as to means and methods, that the failure can not be justly charged to legislative indifference or incapacity.

It goes without saying that there was a convergence of lively interests from all parties in the passage of appropriation bills. It was ever thus and always will be so. Notwithstanding a most liberal pull was made on the State Treasury, dissatisfaction naturally exists among those who did not get what they wanted, and also among those who got, but not as much as they asked for.

It is not the Legislature doing the most work that does the State the most good. There are measures proposed for enactment the failure of which is a benefit to the public interest. Much of the abortive action of the last session may be placed in this class, and it can be said that the Legislature just adjourned served the State best, not by what it did, but by what it did not do. This, however, is the case with most legislative bodies. It is believed by sound thinkers that we have too much legislation. If this is a correct view, the legislative gentlemen at Harrisburg certainly deserve some credit for not overburdening us with unnecessary laws.

Put the Responsibility Where it Belongs.

While the ire of the tax-payers is justly aroused over the failure of the late Legislature to give them some relief from the oppression of unequal and unfair taxation, and while the newspaper press is pouring down upon the members of that body its bitterest denunciations for doing that which it did, and failing to do that which it might have done, it should not be forgotten that for the legislation of 1893, the Republican party is alone responsible. With a majority of over two-thirds in the House, and within one of a two-thirds majority in the Senate, the party of QUAY and MAGEE, of BARDSELY and DAVE MARTIN, is to be charged with the short comings as well as the successes to whatever credit is due to the actions and work of a legislative body. More positively Republican, and more disgustingly obsequious to the demands of its bosses, than any that has ever drawn pay for services rendered the State.

It may have been, as the Republican press of the State has charged, the "most open and notoriously corrupt body of legislators that ever met," but if it was, it was also the most unanimous and overwhelmingly Republican body of legislators that ever convened at Harrisburg. What it was the leaders and bosses of the Republican party made it. What it did these same leaders and bosses dictated and commanded it to do.

For the failure to furnish the people with any beneficial legislation during the five month's session that has just ended; for the vicious measures attempted; for the continued refusal to obey the mandates of the constitution and apportion the State, into judicial, congressional and legislative districts, as well as for the generally disgraceful reputation it earned, the Republican party, as a party, is to be held to account.

It elected the men its newspapers now denounce as unworthy and corrupt; its leaders and bosses pointed the way they should go; its authorized head, the chairman of its State organization, personally dictated to them on the floor of both Senate and House the course they should pursue, and they pursued it. And now when the results are made manifest; when the work of the session is before the people for their approval or condemnation, to attempt to shield the organization that is responsible, and place the reproach that properly belongs to it, upon the shoulders of individuals, who did its bidding, is not only unfair to its members, but is unjust to the Legislature generally, and cowardly in its purposes.

Let the Republican party stand to its work. It would have taken the credit had the late Legislature done a single creditable act. It did not, and its disgrace and failure should be placid just where the credit would have fallen, had there been any.

—The people who have all along been predicting that the President would ignore entirely the desires of Tammany Hall democrats will have to reconstruct their theories, and re-write their predictions, since the appointment of CHAS. W. DAYTON, as post master of New York. Mr. DAYTON had been for years, and now is, an active member of Tammany Hall and the fact that a member of that organization has been named for the most important office within the State, shows that the president and the Democratic workers of New York are not as far apart as some people thought and hoped they were.

—There is no use of people tearing their shirts because a sentiment is growing among the people in favor of a graduated income tax. After all, when you come to think about it seriously, there don't seem to be such a terrible wrong in making the fellow who has the largest income pay the most tax.

—The Democrats of Blair county have performed their usual feat of making fool's of themselves, by fighting and dividing in their county convention. After the election they will wonder why they are in such a hopeless minority and will be too idiotic to understand that it is the result of their own actions.

No Reason for Alarm.

It would be well if our valued and valuable contemporary, the Philadelphia Press, would buckle up its belly-band, adjust its crupper and try to calm down a little, or there may be an exhibition of idiocy, brought on by over excitement and undue fright about the finances, that will be neither creditable to itself nor interesting to its readers.

The fact that some one has whispered that somebody else got it from an unknown source, that Secretary CARLISLE is contemplating a new issue of "greenbacks," to provide for the necessities of the business interests and to prevent the gold-hoarders of the country from cornering the money market, has thrown that usually level-headed journal into a paroxysm of excitement that threatens the direst results to both its judgment and reputation, unless relief of some kind is forthcoming.

Whether Secretary CARLISLE has ever thought of an additional issue of greenbacks as a method of tiding over the present financial difficulties, or whether he has considered the demands of bankers and money-lenders for more interest bearing bonds, as the surest remedy for existing troubles, are matters that few if any know. Which ever of these courses he adopts, if either is believed to be necessary and feasible, will be adopted only after the most careful consideration, and when facts show conclusively that it is for the best interests of the public, for the business welfare and for the credit of the government, to do so.

The Press should remember that Secretary CARLISLE is no visionary. He is a cool, clear headed, statesman whose judgment can neither be warped by the clamor of those who demand an unlimited supply of paper money, nor the designing propositions of bond-holders and speculators in money. He is the representative of no one particular interest, nor can he be made the tool of those whose only purpose is to benefit selfish ends.

While in the hands of the party to which the Press gives its allegiance, the Treasury department of the government was simply a shuttle-cock for gold-gamblers, stock-holders and that horde of non-producers which thrives most when public prosperity is least promising. They played with it as they pleased and as their greed or necessities dictated, until these interests came to believe that it was their special department created purposely to assist them—and then only.

A new power has taken hold of that department, and it is a question with it now, what policy is best for the best interests of the country and for the prosperity of the people. This is the question that Secretary CARLISLE is struggling with, and whether he sees that the right road is through an additional issue of greenbacks, which would give to the country a larger percentage of circulating medium, or whether through an other issue of interest bearing bonds, as demanded by Wall street and money lenders, or whether it be through some other policy, the public and the Press can rest assured that the decision will be honestly reached and will be made in the interests of the people and of public prosperity.

Under any circumstances the country is not going to the dogs. We are compelled to suffer for a while from the effects of evils that come as a consequence of Republican legislation and Republican methods, but prompt repeals of vicious legislation, and a vigorous setting down upon of the methods and policy that have brought the Treasury and the financial situation to the condition they are now in, will right these matters.

There is no sense in getting discouraged. There is no reason for being discouraged. There is no excuse for exciting public fears or attempting to create public distrust. Our finances will be righted by the Treasury department; our prosperity will right itself, and the farther and faster we get away from Republican methods the sooner these righting processes will begin.

—Now that Governor PATTISON's term has come so near to its close we would advise the Harrisburg Patriot to take time for the fore-lock and look around for another object for its vile calumnies.

Great Statesman Must Have Great Pay.

From the Look Haven Democrat.

The Harrisburg Patriot has gone to the trouble of figuring out how many hours each house of the legislature was in session each week, and how much each member received an hour. By this process it is shown that one week the pay was \$68.18 an hour, while the last week of the session it was reduced to \$2.06 in the senate and \$1.66 in the house. The total number of hours the senate sat during the five months was 210 and 43 minutes, which would make 27 1/2 days of eight hours each. The house put in more time. It sat altogether 383 hours and 15 minutes, which would make 47 1/2 days of eight hours each. Had the legislature made better use of the time it foiled away two months of the session, the flurry, rush and tumble hours of the last days of the session would have been avoided. It seems almost incredible that the supposed intelligent men who sit in that body do not profit by the experience of the past and effect a reform in this direction.

—The Reward of Wisdom.

From the Williamsport Times.

Dr. Briggs has been suspended from the Presbyterian ministry until such time as he may give satisfactory evidence that he has repented. If the doctor is made of the stuff his course so far has shown him to be, he will probably never repent. Men who know a thing cannot very well repent. Such has been the case with every heretic who has been arraigned before a church tribunal. Dr. Briggs, should he live, will see, as have other heretics, to the gradual and general acceptance of his views. He is unfortunate only in having advanced to a theological position to which his church dare not at present follow him, but if he continues his work and demonstrates his honest convictions, he will gain adherents, and in the end become a victor; and this without endangering genuinely true religion.

—And the Returns Not All In.

From an Exchange.

That versatile and industrious statistician, Edward Atkinson, has made a calculation as regards the "bill for our Civil War." He figures up, as the expenditure for war purposes and reconstruction, some \$4,000,000,000; and as to the probable cost of war, in money, to the South of \$2,300,000,000. To these he adds the pension roll at \$1,800,000,000, and the estimated cost of future pensions, according to life tables, at about \$2,000,000,000 more. This, together with the interest allowance of about \$2,000,000,000, swells the total cost of the Civil War to the sum of \$12,000,000,000.

—Two Kinds of Favoring.

From the Harrisburg Call.

Preparations for the gubernatorial election next year have already been begun by the Republican party. Gen. D. H. Hastings, of Bellefonte, is an active candidate for the nomination and has the advantage of being early in the field. Congressman C. W. Stone, of Warren, is also an aspirant for gubernatorial honors and has a strong support. Senator Quay is represented as favoring Hastings, but his personal choice has not yet been announced.

—The Right Kind of News.

From the Columbia Independent.

Secretary Carlisle is said to have informed congressmen that he intends to discharge every Republican in the treasury department who is not protected by the civil law. He says he has given the officials of the department to understand that this will be his policy and that they will not be dismissed on any charges, but solely for the reason that they are Republicans and that the places are wanted for Democrats.

—Reason to Be Glad.

From the Easton Argus.

The people are always pleased when the state Legislature adjourns. There is too much tinkering with our laws. While there is some new and remedial legislation always needed, the sessions of the Legislature bring forth a large number of measures, many of which are impracticable, on all sorts of subjects.

—Send it to Maxwell.

From the Wayne County Herald.

France, not to be outdone by Ireland, which has sent its Blarney stone to the fair, has sent over the guillotine which cut off the head of the lovely Marie Antoinette and of the thousands of other victims of the first revolution.

—Good Enough for Such a Party.

From the Altoona Tribune.

A Pittsburg brewer and a Philadelphia "rooster" are already in the field for lieutenant governor. It is to be hoped the republican party will turn both down and select a candidate who is engaged in a reputable calling.

—If you want printing of any description the WATCHMAN office is the place to have it done.

Ink Slings.

—Now the Governor of Rhode Island is a truly original fellow.

—If you have tears to shed, save them until you get robbed in Chicago.

—What manner of men are we, that we are all so willing to take the last cent from a friend?

—"It's an ill wind that blows nobody good" say the Democrats of Ohio as FORAKER continues shooting off.

—The next big day will be Fourth of July. Will the next big head be necessarily deferred until the day after?

—Has any one heard of VERAGUA since EULALIE'S arrival. Truly the Americans are but a fickle and inconstant lot.

—Now doth the busy candidate, improve each shining minute; by claiming every one as friends, and telling them he's in it.

—Philadelphia's epidemic of suicide, Media's fire-bugs and Lancaster's lice make up a particularly incongruous jumble of State notorieties.

—It is evident that Chicago bankers are not sharers in the World's Fair plunder. Else there would not be so many of them going to the wall.

—Whoever it was that started the scare about the failure of the natural gas out in Ohio evidently didn't know that FORAKER is still alive.

—Dear, oh dear, how many there are who would have loved to have been a coast mosquito so they could have buzzed in GROVER'S ear while he was fishing.

—Heresy, according to the modern interpretation of the word, all comes from being too smart. It is equally as unfortunate to be ahead of the times as it is to be behind.

—A French statistician figures out that there are eight hundred million gallons of beer annually brewed in the United States. He doesn't say where it annually goes to, however.

—The United States has another victor in FRANK IVES, who won the international billiard match, London, on last Saturday. A few more years and we will lead in all things.

—Pittsburg is crazy because her base ball team stands at the top of the League. There is a little saying about "he laughs best who laughs last" that may contain more truth than poetry for them before the browning October days have come.

—Republicans are mad because Secretary CARLISLE inclines a little more toward the old spoils system than towards civil service reform. The question that bothers us, if there be grounds for their wrath, is who do the spoils belong to if we are not to have them?

—This thing of styling newspaper men "D. Hs" wherever they go is decidedly unjust. The average writer does more to pay his way as he goes than any other class of persons. Besides jeopardizing his chance of eternal rest by lying about every fake enterprise undertaken.

—And Mr. WANAMAKER'S waiters had the audacity to strike too. It strikes us as a trifle ridiculous that waiters should strike their boss for better food by going on a strike. Now a Pullman car porter wouldn't be forced to such an extreme. He is usually master of the situation.

—Only fifty thousand persons visited the Fair on last Sunday and the management now looks on the Sunday opening plan as a failure. Attractions failed to attract, and the hordes, "who nearly battered the gates down to get in" on the preceding Sabbath, when they knew they couldn't, were not on hand to drop their half dollars in the slot.

—Pittsburgers are mad because Chicago authorities put the police from the Smoky city, who went out to catch Fair thieves, at watching cattle. After the way murderer FITZSIMMONS slipped through the fingers of Pittsburg officers it is not much wonder they should be deemed only fit to guard things which would neither be carried off nor run away of their own free will.

—The Philadelphia Times accuses the State Legislature of "reprehensible ignorance" in passing the Pure Food bill. Since one of its principle features is to guard against impurities in beer we are rather of the opinion that the Times is troubled a little itself with ignorance, for when it comes down to a question of beer who can gainsay a Legislator.

—While it is true that remarkable advances have been made in medical science within the past quarter of a century yet the ambition of physicians often leads them to experimental procedure with cases for which tried and prescribed remedies are known, often resulting in fatalities. While medicine now claims that it can do anything but make a perfect human being its desire for practice has led to many sad ends.