

Democratic Watchman

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P. GRAY MEEK, Editor

DEMOCRATIC STATE TICKET.

For Congressman-at-Large.

JAMES D. HANCOCK
of Venango Co.

The Democratic Convention.

The Democratic State convention, which met at Harrisburg on Wednesday last, surprised all who attended it. It was bigger than the most enthusiastic Democrats hoped for; it was more harmonious than the most earnest advocate of harmony could have anticipated, and it had enough of enthusiasm about it to show that notwithstanding the 130,000 Republican majority with in the state, Democratic success is not entirely hopeless nor is Democratic determination to redeem the commonwealth discouraged or dismayed.

Every county in the State but one, (Greene,) had its delegates present and from every section there were delegations of earnest devoted Democrats in attendance to show their good faith in Democratic principles, and the determination to stand by the organization that is laboring to make those principles effective.

In size, harmony, enthusiasm and good work, the convention has not been excelled by any that has been held in the State for years. The number present attested the interest that has been awakened in the party all over the State; the harmony that prevailed shows that the party workers are united, and the enthusiasm manifested is an evidence of the hope that animates and a determination that will stimulate to active efforts in behalf of party success.

In the candidate nominated, Mr. J. S. D. HANCOCK, the party has a nominee to whose support every Democrat in the commonwealth can rally. He is known throughout the western portion of the State as one of its leading lawyers, a citizen of high standing, a Democrat whose principles are in accord with the efforts and purposes of the party, and a speaker and advocate of pronounced ability.

The appointment of RAYMOND E. SHEARER, of Cumberland county, and Senator GRANT HERRING, of Columbia county, to be Internal Revenue collectors for the ninth and twelfth Pennsylvania districts were announced on Monday. The final selection of these two well known party workers was made after a long and bitter contest for the positions by a number of other Democrats and the fact that they were the successful aspirants is conclusive evidence of their popularity and recognized worth in the party organization. Both are young men of marked ability, the former being a very prominent insurance man. Mr. HERRING is at present the representative of the 24th senatorial district and is a lawyer of repute. He is a recognized party leader whose counsels are always sought and have done much for the success of the Democracy in this State.

Mr. HUGH TAYLOR has announced his willingness to try another race for the tax-collectorship of Bellefonte and the voters of the borough will do well to make it a successful one. He is a young man of integrity and if elected would make a careful officer. What this borough needs is an active young man to look after the collection of its tax duplicate. One who will have money ready for council when it is needed, and not force continued borrowing at exorbitant rates of interest because of his negligence. Mr. TAYLOR would be such a man and he would prove the tax-payers friend by saving them the interest which they are always paying under the present Republican mismanagement.

The present administration is likely to be known in history as the most deficient one that the country has ever seen. This gibe is from a St. Louis Republican organ, and refers to the deficient means which this administration finds at its disposal for the running of the government. When it is considered that the deficiency under which it labors has been caused by the reckless and extravagant management of the party that preceded it, which found a full treasury and left an empty one, there is something peculiarly impish in the malevolence of the gibe.

The way Democratic Congressmen are sticking to their desks in Washington is certainly gratifying to their constituency. They were elected to serve in Congress and when they are needed there no excuse will be accepted for their absence.

An Object Lesson on the Laws of Trade.

On last Monday morning a man in Bellefonte, who had been celebrating the day before, offered one dollar for a good drink of whiskey. But he could not get it. Not because there were not barrels of the stuff in town, but it had been "stopped on him" and he could not purchase it anywhere. In other words as soon as he found the liquor scarce for him he began to go up in the price he offered for it. Now the same law that governs that man in offering a dollar for one drink of whiskey, which ordinarily can be bought for fifteen cents, is the law that has been responsible for the business depression we have been suffering. It is the law of supply and demand. When he found the supply of whiskey, upon which he could draw, not equal to his demand then he began to offer big prices for it.

Just so with trade. When the supply of a commodity is unequal to the demands for it then the price it will command will go up, because more persons want it than can get it. But take the same article and manufacture more of it than the people can consume, then the price is bound to fall, for no one cares to buy a thing he does not need.

Now such a condition of affairs as this latter has been brought about by the McKINLEY bill. Before that measure became operative we had a foreign market for many of our products and manufactures were fewer, but with the high protection it put on everything little manufacturing industries sprang up in every community, with the result that to-day we have more manufactured stuff than we can consume. Foreign markets are closed to us because ours are closed to them. The supply is greater than the demand, prices have fallen and there is a general stagnation.

The decision recently rendered by State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Dr. SCHAEFFER, that public school books purchased by the State dare not be used at subscription schools, after the close of the regular term, will have a tendency to put an end to what has been known as summer schools. Parents will not feel disposed to purchase books for their children for a few weeks use during the summer months. Dr. SCHAEFFER is right in his decision, for summer schools are the same as private and their teachers would have no responsibility for the State's property, and hence should not be allowed to use it.

The following choice morsel is from our obtuse contemporary, the Philadelphia Inquirer: "As the soup houses rise the fame of the untried Democracy goes down." Should not a Republican editor blush to mention soup houses as being in full blast under the highest tariff the country has ever known. That working people are compelled to resort to soup houses is a deplorable fact, but nothing better could have been expected as a winding up of the McKINLEY tariff policy.

The Philadelphia Press says that "GALUSHA A. GROW is one of the few public men in this State who stands for something beside himself in the public estimation." We do not exactly understand what is meant by this; but whatever Mr. Grow may now stand for there was once a time, in 1857, when he did not stand for tariff.

Shortlidge is Insane.

Judge Clayton Reserves His Decision as to Commitment to an Asylum.

CHESTER, January 9.—The Commissioners appointed by the Court to inquire into and report upon the sanity of Professor Shortlidge, of Media, who killed his wife a week ago, made their report to-day to Judge Clayton, sitting in chambers in this city.

The Commissioners find that Professor Shortlidge is now insane, but do not express an opinion as to his sanity at the time of the shooting. A motion was made in view of the report to have the unfortunate man transferred to the Norristown Insane Asylum, but an objection was interposed by District Attorney Schaeffer on the ground that the law did not admit of such removal until the prisoner had been arraigned in the criminal court.

The attorneys for the accused differed with the District Attorney in the interpretation of the law and insisted that the Court had the power to commit to an asylum without any arraignment. Judge Clayton reserved his decision.

The greatest offer being made by the Pittsburgh Dispatch to take the sixty teachers of the public schools in Pittsburgh, Allegheny, and other points in Pennsylvania, Ohio, West Virginia and Maryland, to Atlantic city in July is the talk of the hour. The additional inducement that the twelve teachers of the sixty who receive the largest number of votes will be taken on a supplementary trip to Philadelphia, New York and Boston after the Atlantic city trip is over is indicative of the liberality which govern the Pittsburgh Dispatch in everything it does. Give your favorite teacher the benefit of a splendid summer outing.

The Democratic State Convention.

A Sound Platform and a Strong Candidate.

The Democratic State Convention which was re-convened to nominate a candidate for Congressman-at-large to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Gen. Lilly met in Harrisburg on Wednesday. Every county in the state with the exception of Greene had its full complement of delegates present, and with them scores of interested party workers attended making the convention one of the largest that has been held in Harrisburg for years. Ex-Congressman Gillespie who presided at the convention of last summer, took the chair and called the body together at 12 o'clock. The officers of the September convention retained their old places. The committee on resolutions retired to the Commonwealth hotel to prepare a platform. During the wait the delegates and spectators smoked and listened to the music of the brass band stationed in the gallery. On the return of the committee, Chairman Herring, of Columbia county, mounted the platform and read to the convention the resolutions, which were received and adopted with loud cheers and applause. They are as follows:

The reassembled representatives of the democratic party of Pennsylvania reaffirm the devotion of the principles adopted in the state convention in September, 1893. They again declare their faith in the Chicago platform, on which the democratic party obtained control of the legislative and executive branches of the government in 1892. They express confidence in the leadership of President Grover Cleveland; they cordially endorse his administration and commend the courage, firmness and integrity of the government at home and abroad. They again and emphatically declare that they will support the honest administration of Governor Pattison, which has kept its pledges and has not betrayed the trust of the Commonwealth thereof. The issue involved in the nomination made to-day directly and especially relates to federal legislation, the present administration declares that:

First. The present disturbed condition of business and finances of the country is the result of the legislative and executive branches of the government in 1892. They express confidence in the leadership of President Grover Cleveland; they cordially endorse his administration and commend the courage, firmness and integrity of the government at home and abroad. They again and emphatically declare that they will support the honest administration of Governor Pattison, which has kept its pledges and has not betrayed the trust of the Commonwealth thereof. The issue involved in the nomination made to-day directly and especially relates to federal legislation, the present administration declares that:

Second. The extravagance of the republican congress and by a republican administration of the executive department, which has resulted in a deficit of \$100,000,000 which has been added to the treasury by a democratic administration, and left a deficit of over \$200,000,000.

Third. Evasive legislation on the currency by successive republican congresses, which has resulted in a depreciation of values, shifting and uncertain, disturbed confidence and wrought financial disaster, from which the people of this country are mainly due to the courage, fidelity and co-sincerity of a democratic president.

Fourth. The passage of the McKinley tariff bill has resulted in great business depression—wreck and ruin of manufacturing and mercantile industries. The result has fully justified the democratic opposition to that measure and the demand for its repeal, with its import duties shall be distributed with a view of lightening the burdens of the many instead of protecting the interest of the few.

Fifth. Every consideration of political expediency, and the expediency of the hour, require that the tariff be promptly passed by the Wilson bill reported by the ways and means committee, to the end that raw material and foreign goods shall be admitted free of duty; that the tariff taxes shall be lowered on the necessities of life, and that import duties shall be distributed with a view of lightening the burdens of the many instead of protecting the interest of the few.

SIXTH. We denounce, as a crime, against the business interests of the country; against the people, and against the welfare of the working men the effort of the republican minority in congress to delay and prevent the repeal of the McKinley tariff. We call upon our representatives in congress so to act and vote as to promptly determine this issue and to support the repeal of the McKinley tariff and the passage of the Wilson bill.

SEVENTH. A speedy and thorough revision of the tariff on the lines of the democratic policy enunciated by the last democratic national convention, and adopted by the democratic congress, shall be made. We call upon the American manufacturer, enhance the profits of the American farmer, increase the wages of the American laborer and enlarge their purchasing power; stimulate our export trade, and restore our supremacy in the commerce of the world.

The Papal Consistory.

Satelli Among the Six New Cardinals to be Created.

ROME, January 7.—Preparations for the consistory which will probably meet at the beginning of March, are already proceeding. It is now stated that it will provide for six new cardinals, namely: Mgr. Jacobini, the Papal Nuncio at Lisbon; Mgr. Nocella, secretary of the Consistorial Congregation; Mgr. Satelli, the Papal delegate to the United States; Mgr. Fausti, the Papal Auditor; Mgr. Salvati, secretary of the Congregational Council and Father Stembueber, the Jesuit.

The Pope is not willing that any Italian Bishop should be appointed while Italy refuses an exequatur to the Patriarch of Venice and twenty other Bishops.

Unfavorable to Hornblower.

The Senate Judiciary Committee Will Recommend Rejection.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Jan. 8.—The Senate Judiciary Committee to-day decided informally to report unfavorably on Mr. W. B. Hornblower's nomination to the Supreme Bench, on the ground of insufficient practice to qualify him for the position. In order to give an opportunity for withdrawal, no formal vote has yet been taken on the nomination.

The White City in Flames.

Casino, Peristyle and Music Hall Melt Before the Flames—Manufactures Hall Doomed—Thousands of Dollars' Worth of Exhibits Destroyed—Uncle Sam May Have to Pay the Costly Bill.

CHICAGO, Ill., Jan. 8.—Fire broke out at 6 o'clock to-night in the second story of the Casino at the World Fair grounds, and quickly wiped out that building, the Peristyle and Music Hall. Then the great Manufactures Building caught fire, and at 10:15 that immense structure was doomed. The roof fell in large sections, destroying many thousands of dollars' worth of property, not more than half the exhibits having been removed.

The fire started in the handsome Casino, which flanked the Peristyle on the right side, looking down the Court of Honor from the Administration Building. The inflammable material was almost instantly wrapped in the merciless flames.

When the flames broke out the solitary engine left of the Columbian Fire Department quickly responded. An alarm brought 20 city engines and later 20 more arrived. The wind was blowing a gale from the southeast and the water seemingly had no effect.

THE FIRE RUSHES ON.

Having made a shapeless wreck of the Casino, the fire sought an even more beautiful victim and attacked the Peristyle. Column by column the noble creation of art wasted before the destroying breath. The graceful crowning statues and splendid Quadriga group fairly vanished in air as the fire moved restlessly up to them.

By 7:45 o'clock the Peristyle was entirely destroyed. The flames swept fiercely at Music Hall, which flanked the Peristyle opposite the Casino, of which it was the twin. This building, likewise, was excellent food for fire.

Now appeared the real danger of the conflagration. From Music Hall the fire leaped to the opposite corner of the Manufactures Building. Flying embers also started fires on the lofty roof, on both the east and west sides, and that giant among the world's structures was doomed.

The firemen, who had been working like beavers, but in vain, to avert this calamity, now turned most of their attention to the interior of the Manufactures Building. There was still a large number of exhibits in the big building, and their destruction would mean great loss to the Exposition management.

The size of the building was too much, however, for even the array of fighting. By 1 o'clock one-third of the roof had fallen in and the firemen said they could not save the building from utter destruction.

There were eleven thousand cases of goods ready for shipment in the manufacturers building many of which were burned or damaged by water.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 9.—The fire at Jackson Park, Chicago, is likely to be the subject of Congressional investigation. There have been innumerable complaints to the Treasury Department and to members of Congress from foreign exhibitors and others because of the delay in the release and shipment of their goods, and a letter received here a few days ago from a prominent official of the Exposition asserted that at the present rate of shipment it would require ten months to clear Jackson Park of exhibits.

The Treasury Department has several times investigated complaints of delay and unnecessary formality on the part of the custom officers, but each inquiry has vindicated Collector Clark and his men from any desire or intention to retard the shipment of exhibits. Two or three resolutions of inquiry have already been prepared for introduction in the House of Representatives at the request of exhibitors, but they have been held upon assurances from the Treasury officials and others familiar with the situation that the people in Chicago were doing the best they could.

IS UNCLE SAM LIABLE?

The most interesting question involved is the liability of the Government of the United States for the safety of exhibits from foreign countries. The members of the diplomatic corps here all take the position that their Governments having received and accepted an invitation from the President of the United States to participate in the Exposition, the National Government is responsible for any loss or damage suffered by their exhibitors. While they admit that the local Board of Directors may be primarily responsible, they say that they know only the Director General, who is an officer of the United States, and that they hold him responsible for the good conduct of the local board.

It is this serious phase of the matter that will cause the Congressional inquiry, for the Congressmen want to know just how far the Government is responsible for the situation at Chicago. The National Commission has had this subject under consideration several times, and while it has never taken formal action its tendency has been toward the same attitude that the members of the Diplomatic Corps and the foreign Commissioners take.

WHERE THE DAMAGE IS WORST.

Two or three inches of water cover the floors in the French, Belgian and Russian sections east of the centre aisle and south of the clock tower. Few goods have been removed from this section, although all are packed. North of the clock tower traces of destruction gradually disappear. The northwest section is almost intact.

None of the buildings that were destroyed were insured. Hence last night's loss, so far as the buildings are concerned, is total, and falls directly upon the representatives of the city of Chicago, the South Park Commissioners.

The Manufactures Building cost originally \$1,700,000, the Music Hall \$200,000, the Casino \$200,000 and the

Peristyle (approximate) \$100,000.

Only a fraction of this could have been realized by a sale of the structures.

The French exhibit in the Liberal Arts Building, which was the first to succumb to the flames and where the destruction was worst, was originally valued complete at \$1,500,000. Among the more notable French losses enumerated are the bronze statue of war, the imitation jewelry display, Sevres china-ware display, Gobein tapestries, Bombelais' exhibit of mosaic and inlaid furniture, the Doré bronze vase, Bon Marche dress exhibit, and the library of French books.

The marvelous science of the engineers who designed the great steel trusses of the Manufactures Building was exemplified by the fire. They stood the test well.

Constructed mainly with a view to climatic changes in temperature, they stood a test many times in excess of what it was supposed they would ever be called upon to maintain, and in doing so gave a demonstration which from an architectural standpoint, was by all odds the greatest feature of the World's Columbian Exposition.

VERY LITTLE INSURANCE.

Speculation as to the probable cause of the fire occupied considerable attention to-day, but the main theory advanced was that tramps had started the blaze.

Fred S. James, who was chairman of the insurance committee of the World's Fair, stated definitely to-day that all of the policies on the buildings expired at the close of the Fair and that a large majority of the risks on exhibits expired at the same time.

Mr. James says there were very few of the foreign exhibits insured in American companies, the majority of the exhibitors insuring their property before leaving their native country. What responsibility, if any, the United States Government has in the matter of losses is an interesting question.

Da Gama Hopes to Win.

The Rebel Admiral Receiving Substantial Aid from Sympathizers. The Cruiser Tamandare Sends a Few Shots Daily at the Batteries of Niteroy and the Forts at the Mouth of the Harbor Resume the Bombardment After Being Silent a Week—Yellow Fever on Board Several Vessels at Rio de Janeiro and Also in the City. Fighting at Engenho Island.

LONDON, January 7.—The Times tomorrow will print the following dispatch from Rio de Janeiro, dated January 4, via Montevideo, January 7:

Admiral Da Gama still holds out, stating that he expects the Aquidaban and Republica with reinforcements tomorrow from the South. He appears confident of the ultimate result and received £12,000 on Saturday from sympathizers in order to pay his men.

The diplomats have refused to recognize the belligerent status of the insurgents, on the grounds that the provisional government has not a sufficient standing.

Admiral Chaves, the Minister of Marine, resigned his office on account of a difference of opinion with President Peixoto, especially regarding the imprisonment and general treatment of the naval officers suspected of sympathy with the insurgents. His successor Admiral Netto, is considered honest, though he has no special ability.

The past week has been uneventful. There was some skirmishing in the vicinity of Moengue, and occasional firing along the shore front of the city. The forts at the mouth of the harbor, which have been silent for the past week, fired again to-day. The cruiser Tamandare fired a few shots daily at the batteries of Niteroy, the latter replying.

AWAITING THE NEW WARSHIPS.

The government continues mounting artillery on the highlands within the city limits, and is awaiting the arrival of the new warships before attacking Admiral Da Gama.

The cruisers El Cid (Niteroy), Britannia (America) and Aurora are still at Pernambuco, and the latter is without a crew.

The news from Desterro states that there is some difference of opinion among the insurgent leaders on account of the appointments of the provisional Government.

Several cases of "yellow jack" have occurred on board merchant vessels, and also in the city, and it is feared that a continuance of the intense heat will bring a severe epidemic later on.

On Wednesday morning the insurgents attacked Engenho Island, opening fire from the ships at midday. At 7 o'clock they landed 200 men, and for half an hour there was sharp fighting. As a light check they captured a Krupp field piece and a seventy-pounder Whitworth.

The government loss was thirteen killed and five wounded, and five officers and sixty-three men and twenty-five civilians were taken prisoners. The insurgent loss was two killed and five wounded.

Prohibitionists Meet.

Henry F. Morrow Nominated for Congressman-at-Large.

HARRISBURG, January 9. The Prohibition State Convention to-day was attended by about sixty delegates and Henry F. Morrow, of Delaware county, was nominated for Congressman-at-Large after an hours contention over the party rules. Among the delegates were a number of women, who took an active part in the proceedings.

In the platform adopted an encouraging view of the Prohibition cause is taken because of the numerical progress it has made the past two years. The platform attributes it to the attitude of the Republican and Democratic parties on the liquor traffic.

The Prohibition party does not expect to poll a big vote in February but it is confident that it will exceed that cast for the proposed independent Democratic candidate for Congressman-at-Large.

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

Quorum Secured.

The House Takes Up the Consideration of the Tariff Bill—Wilson Begins His Speech.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8.—The house to-day, by a vote of 189 to 0—ten more than a quorum—refused to consider Mr. Bontell's Hawaiian resolution. The resolution from the committee on rules, amended so as to extend general debate to six days and debate under the five minute rule from Monday next to the 29th instant, was then submitted and agreed to—184 to 0.

At 3:15 Mr. Wilson, of West Virginia, rose to address the house on the tariff bill, the first reading of the bill being dispensed with and the time limit of an hour being also dispensed with on motion of Mr. Reed.

We are here, said he, with the commission of the American people to put into law that general reform which they themselves, in their constitutional methods of expression, have ordered at the polls.

He did not feel called upon in opening this debate to take up for examination the details and schedule of the bill now before the committee. The majority of the members of the ways and means committee did not profess dealing with a system which had grown up through thirty years of progressive legislation, or at one proposed stroke of legislation to free it of its injustice and to present a measure responding correctly to the demands of the American people.

FRIENDS WILL FALL AWAY.

They expected that friends in the country would fall away from them whenever they undertook to prepare any definite measure of legislation. They know from all of their experience in the past that not all who march bravely in the parade are found in line when the musketry begins to rattle. [Applause.] He would not stop to inquire into the causes that had brought about the present prostration of industry in this country, and demoralized, to a large extent, the active trade of the country: There seemed to be some recurring cycle in modern times about such depressions.

But from whatever cause, it was at least an embarrassment to them in the performance of their duty, if for no other reason than that it had been eagerly seized upon by the enemies of tariff reform to kindle hostility against that great and beneficent movement. But if there was ever a time when the burden of taxation should be lightened, it was at a time when men were struggling for the very necessities of life. [Applause.] a time when that trade was held in the paralysis of a commercial crisis [Applause.]

Prior to 1889, the Democratic secretary of the treasury, Mr. Fairchild estimated a surplus revenue of \$104,000,000. The report of his successor, Secretary Windom, showed a surplus revenue of \$105,000,000.

DISAPPOINTMENT OF THE SURPLUS.

When Mr. Fairchild left his seat at the head of the treasury department, he turned over to his successor, Mr. Windom, an available cash balance, stated in the present form of treasury statement of \$185,000,000. How was that gotten away with? Immediately by the purchase of bonds not yet due, immediately by going into the market and buying up bonds at a premium of from 5 to 8 per cent. on the bonds of 1891, and from 27 to 29 per cent. on the bonds of 1887.

Then congress gave back as a guarantee to certain of the states direct tax under which some \$14,000,000 have been paid to the states.

Mr. Wilson's speech was mainly a review of recent tariff legislation. He had not concluded when the house took a recess, and will finish tomorrow.

Colored Democrats Indorse the Tariff.

HARRISBURG, January 9.—The executive committee of the Democratic Colored State League of Pennsylvania met in this city this afternoon and adopted resolutions in favor of the Wilson tariff revision bill, of the Hawaiian policy of President Cleveland and the State administration of Pennsylvania.

How Deer Are Being Extirpated.

A Subject of More Than Ordinary Interest for Sportsmen and Legislators Both State and Federal.

EDITOR WATCHMAN:—I have read with some interest the various paragraphs that have recently appeared in the WATCHMAN respecting the preservation of deer in the Allegheny mountain region of Pennsylvania, and in the Tussey or Seven Mountains which form one of the borders of the far-famed Pennsylvania. My childhood and boyhood were spent in the central part of that valley at Boalsburg, and I have still a distinct recollection of some of the old deer hunters of that section. Among them was Mr. George Coble, who was one of the earlier settlers along Spring creek, and who when nearly eighty years of age, would mount his horse, grasp his rifle, and sally into what were called the "Barrens," over toward Buffalo Run, as late as 1857, and have no trouble in bringing home a fine buck across his saddle bow. I remember too, that it was no unusual thing in the winter of 1856-57, to see a group of deer pasturing, in the early morning, on the wheat fields of the James T. Hale farm, between Houserville and Kephart's, on Buffalo Run; but it seems now, owing to the want of adequate protection these fine game animals are rapidly disappearing, and will soon be only a matter of history. This has become the fact in Iowa where only a few years ago, great herds of red deer were to be readily found in the dense timber along the streams, where not a sign is even now observed.

In the winter of 1856, Iowa was cov-