

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

VOL. 39. BELLEFONTE, PA., APRIL 13, 1894. NO. 15.

Spawls from the Keystone.

- It cost \$79,683.20 to run Schuykill county last month.
- An oratorio society with 60 voices has been organized in Pottsville.
- Farm hands were never so plentiful in Berks county as this spring.
- The Kirmess for the benefit of charity in Williamsport netted over \$1400.
- Lockjaw from a cut on the knee is killing Louis Herbst, at Hughesville.
- Luzerne County's Grand Jury has voted in favor of a new Court House.
- Congressman Beltzhoover, of Carlisle, is much better and may go to Florida.
- The Pottsville Young Men's Christian Association will invest \$3,000 in a gymnasium.
- Lee's surrender was celebrated at Pottsville Monday evening by Union Veterans Legion.
- John Andres, of Tamaqua, caught trout out of season and is in jail as the penalty.
- A Pennsylvania Railroad train Sunday ran down Frank J. Gallagher, of Elizabethtown.
- The law requiring semi-monthly pay to various classes of employes is to be tested in the Courts.
- For catching squirrel near Monaca, Warren E. Koch was fined \$3.20 by a Berks Justice of the Peace.
- Pennsylvania "Sixteeners," graduates of Soldiers' Orphans' Schools, will banquet at Pottsville on May 7.
- D. Franks, a Frederickburg tanner, has mysteriously disappeared with considerable money in his pockets.
- Bakers in many State towns have reduced the price of bread 20 per cent. but the size of the loaf is not given.
- Scranton hotel men have organized to oppose, and if necessary, boycott, brewers who sell to speak-easy proprietors.
- Judge Livingston has put his foot down upon the indiscriminate transferring of liquor licenses in Lancaster.
- Attempting to mount a running train at Gordonville, Lancaster county, Elmer Kilenberger was dangerously injured.
- Relatives identified and took charge of the body of Frank McGill, who blew out the gas and died in a Pottsville hotel.
- W. A. Lewis, a Philadelphia commercial traveler, is dying of a case of carbolic acid, which he took in a hotel at Scranton.
- Edward Swope, of Warminster, Berks county, was knocked against a circular saw and narrowly escaped having his head cut off.
- Secretary Benjamin Lee, of the State Board of Health, Sunday condemned the Oilfinger dam as a source of water supply for Reading.
- Misses Kate Hawkins and Lillie Snyder were sent to the Pottsville workhouse for 30 days for flirting with men in the post office.
- Shenandoah and Pottsville police want William Keegan, who was captured at Reading and is charged with numerous robberies.
- It is suspected that the man recently arrested in Reading with \$50 worth of surgical instruments in a satchel stole them in Williamsport.
- Divers Sunday tried to find the body of the long-lost Isaac Houseknecht, who was murdered at Muncy, but the river did not give up the dead.
- While boarding a freight train at East Liberty, Edward Cooke, Philadelphia, was caught and badly squeezed by a passing passenger train.
- School Tax Collector W. V. Schwoyer, of Richmond town-ship, Berks county disappeared leaving a note saying he couldn't get back \$200 he had loaned.
- A veracious farmer is authority for the statement that the plows were frozen fast in the furrows in Haycock township during the present cold snap.
- An ex-newspaper man and lawyer, Frank L. Murphy, of Reading, has been bound over to the Federal Court for the forgery of a postal money order for \$30.
- The name of St. Stephen's Church, at Pottsville, was Sunday changed to St. Paul's, and Rev. A. M. Misher preached the first sermon to the new congregation.
- Reading School Commissioners are wrestling with the question whether A. J. Frezeman, an unnaturalized foreigner, was properly elected one of their number.
- A quartet of youthful burglars, Simon Kessler, George Phillippi, Henry Keller and Ulysses Buccini, have been arrested in Reading charged with numerous recent crimes.
- Daniel Shepp, of Tamaqua, a wealthy coal land owner, has been announced as a Democratic candidate for Congress against Kelly, who is likely to be re-nominated.
- Coal and iron police are on the trail of Mahanoy Plane robbers, who abandoned a safe containing \$200 in postage stamps, and who are supposed to have looted many county post-offices.
- A "transproducer" has been invented by James A. Boyd, of Reading, who claims that it will extract sulphur and phosphorus from pig-iron to be converted into steel more cheaply than any other process.
- Scranton's lace curtain manufactory is running full time for the first time in a year, and the eight-hour schedule goes into effect Monday at the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western car shops, where the winter lull has been six.
- The low prices to which eggs have dropped remind farmers in the Schuykill valley of the times before the war, says Allentown Leader. In some sections of Berks county hucksters are offering eggs at eight cents a dozen. This, it is believed, is the lowest price they have attained for nearly thirty-five years.
- A number of members of St. Stephen's Reformed church, at Pottsville, which has been before the people for years owing to internal dissensions, have organized St. Paul's Reformed church, to be under the jurisdiction of the Philadelphia German Classis. They have secured the use of St. Stephen's church from the owner, and will hold their first service Sunday. A call may be extended to Rev. M. H. Misher, of Boyertown.

Ink Stings.

-Monday's snow ran the Spring poet into his hole.

-If you have a good temper, hold it fast. There is nothing so hard to get and retain in this work-a-day world.

-Unless business picks up and the average papa finds his investments a little more profitable, the vestment of the summer girl will undoubtedly be a shade of blue.

-The ground hog took his revenge on the fellows who discredited his sway over the elements. Revenge is just as sweet in a hole in the ground as it is any where else.

-The fight for the Republican nomination in this, the 49th, judicial District promises to be a lively affair. And there is a big move on foot to make FURST second in the race.

-The Supreme Court has decided that lager beer is not a spirituous liquor and we will now have to look up a new word to displace drunk, as describing the fellow who has taken on too much beer.

-The people of South Carolina will be glad to rid themselves of the whiskey espionage business, just as soon as they can. And Governor TILLMAN will more than likely go when the next house cleaning time comes around.

-Old Prob's printer must surely have made a mistake in getting out this season's calendar for him. Nothing will induce us to believe that he did not run the April page in ahead of March and in that way got the weather for the two mixed up.

-The government should discontinue the practice of supplying Congressmen with seeds for distribution among their constituents. It is expensive and its object is perverted, for the seeds are nearly always used for electioneering purposes.

-The COXEY army was snowed up at Uniontown, on Wednesday, and the "hobos" threatened to strike. Secretary MORTON and his weather bureau men will doubtless have to seek police protection if the "Commonwealers" ever get to Washington.

-Washington wants cheap gas. If such is the case they should have attached a receiver to HILL when he made his speech on Monday. That was cheap enough for everyone, except DAVID B. HILL, as it will cost him every mite of esteem the public ever entertained for him.

-Philadelphians arose in righteous indignation because the councils of that city were supposed to be attempting to dispose of the public gas plant to private parties. There was no need of kicking. So long as Philadelphia maintains her present council she will have all the cheap gas she needs, even if the original plant is sold to speculators.

-JOHN WANAMAKER is exciting the curiosity of Quaker city residents by enormous real estate purchases. They can't imagine where he gets all his money, unless he has sold his big store, as a late rumor has it. JOHN knows where to get all the money he needs. He has proven this fact already. The old Keystone bank officials can bear testimony to this statement.

-The Democratic platform of 1892 was mostly built on one prominent plank—"Tariff Reform."—In the campaign that was made on that platform DAVID HILL, the U. S. Senator from New York, was induced to make a number of speeches. In nearly every one of them he found occasion to say, "I am a Democrat!" On Monday this same DAVID HILL, in debate on the WILSON bill in the Senate, opposed its most Democratic features and tried to enlist opposition to it. The WILSON bill is the embodiment of that platform of '92. Is DAVID B. HILL a Democrat?

-It is generally conceded that when a District comes to elect a president Judge the contest should not in any way be affected by politics. "The judiciary should be beyond reproach" and must, therefore, be free from political intrigue. In this District such has not been the case, however, for the Republicans have, and intend to fight the question out on party lines, and of course the Democrats intend meeting them with a strong party front. The Centre Democrat surprised everyone, yesterday morning, by coming out with a double column portrait and a triple column sketch of JOHN G. LOVE, who has announced as a candidate for the "Republican" nomination for Judge. Whether the Democrat is determined to become a moral reformer and carry the question above politics and support Mr. LOVE, on his merits (?) or whether it has become a Republican paper altogether, has been a question in the minds of many who wonder at its boosting Republican candidates. If it waits a little while there will be a Democratic candidate whom it can support, if it cares to.

No Attention Should Be Given Them.

It strikes us that Senator McPHERSON, of New Jersey, is giving more attention to the high tariff supporters in that State than there is any occasion for. An association alleged to be composed of workmen, whose wages are represented as being involved in the questions, are urging him to oppose the Democratic tariff bill in the interests of labor, as they put it. The Senator wastes time in replying to them, or if a reply is necessary, it should be to the effect that the Democratic object is to secure a general benefit by its tariff legislation, and has no concern for special interests. It has been the custom of a Republican Congress to listen to the demands of those who look to tariffs for the boosting of their business, at the expense of the great mass, that are not benefited by protection; but it is certainly out of place to ask for such preferences from Democratic Representatives who have been instructed to legislate for the many and not for the few.

It is doubtful if the alleged wage-earners, who are pestering Senator McPHERSON on this subject, representing that McKinley tariff taxation is necessary for the maintenance of their wages, properly present the industrial situation in their State. Wages evidently have not been maintained in New Jersey under the McKinley tariff. Hardly had the measure been passed until the Trenton pottery manufacturers reduced the wages of their workmen, causing a strike, although the tariff duty was greatly increased in their favor. It was a conspicuous illustration of the greed of those who are especially getting the McKinley benefits. The same disposition to reduce wages was shown in other Jersey industries, favored with increased duties by that bill. This hardly substantiates the claim of New Jersey workmen that they must have a high tariff for their wage interests.

But whether it does or does not, it is not the business of the Democratic party to keep up the wages of specially favored industries. This is done only at the expense of others, and the industrial avocations that do not come under the head of protected industries, and derive no benefit from tariff duties, are far more numerous than those that do. The latter have been spoiled by favors granted at the expense of the majority of working people to whom high tariffs are not a protection, but an oppression. Those who have thus been favored have been taught to regard this as a right, and have become domineering and insolent in their demands that the tariff shall be let alone whenever an attempt is made to correct its abuses.

The Democratic party is convinced that the Republican tariff laws are injurious in their general effects. It has no other duty in the case than to act upon that conviction and change those laws by reducing their excesses. It is pledged to do this. The people, when they put it in power, commanded it to carry out its pledge; and as under such circumstances it is a piece of intrusive impudence for the beneficiaries of those laws to put in their protest against tariff reform, no attention should be paid them. Such should have been the tenor of Senator McPHERSON'S answer to the New Jersey McKinleyites who have asked him to oppose the WILSON tariff bill, if he thought it necessary to answer them at all.

—There is always a vast difference between figure and mere talk, so we take this opportunity to remind the old soldiers of the following: During sixteen years supremacy in Congress the Democratic party has voted \$1,000,000,000 for pensions as against \$670,000,000 voted by the Republican party, for the same purposes, during its eighteen years domination in Congress. As all appropriation bills must originate in the lower house of Congress it will easily be seen which party is the better friend of the veterans.

—It seems really too bad that the Love faction of the Republican party has been able to buy up all the papers in this county that have no particular party affiliation. Judge FURST is supposed to be hustling for renomination, but the Magnet and several of the Philadelphia papers are throwing mud from all they are worth.

Rampant Disorder.

The lawless disorder so alarmingly manifesting itself in various forms. That this is the fact is evidenced by news in the daily papers which, in the issue of a single day, within the past two weeks, announced a bloody outbreak against executive authority in South Carolina, a murderous demonstration of strikers in the Pennsylvania coke regions, an election riot in Kansas City, which resulted in the killing and wounding of a number of participants, and a fight at a ward election in Chicago in which blood was spilled and an extensive riot was with difficulty prevented.

This was a bad day's showing of the lawless spirit that seems to be rampant in the land. These occurrences can be traced to influences which conspire to bring about such a deplorable condition of affairs.

The disorder in South Carolina is the result of the attempt of an indolent Governor to enforce foolish legislation by arbitrary means. A more orderly disposition on the part of the people would have awaited the repeal of the obnoxious laws, a remedy that is always within reach of the people through the ballot-box, and it is the only remedy that can be applied to such wrongs without resorting to disorderly procedure. It shows a demoralized condition of public sentiment when there is forcible resistance to bad administration which may be corrected by the constitutional means afforded by the ballot.

The riotous proceedings in the coke regions are to be attributed to the presence of an ignorant and debased foreign laboring element, which the proprietors of those works have introduced for the advantage derived from the cheaper labor which such a class of workmen are intended to furnish. This element is a constant source of disturbance, and the lawlessness springing from it is chargeable to an interest which although it has been favored by tariff protection, seeks to enlarge its profits by employing a brutalized class of cheap foreign laborers.

The bloody election riot in Kansas City was the result of the interference of a prescriptive secret order, that is bringing religion into politics. Such scenes must be expected when the new form of Know Nothingism, designated by the initials A. P. A., assumes to prescribe citizens on account of their religion. The disturbance at the Chicago election was the natural result of the prevalence of the worst influences in the government of our cities.

With all these agencies tending in the direction of lawlessness there is little reason to be surprised at the disorderly demonstrations in all parts of the country.

Congressional Absenteeism.

Charges can be brought against Congress for much that is discreditable, but of all faults absenteeism is most to its discredit. It not only shows a culpable indifference to public duty, but it results in substantial injury to the highest public interests.

During the present session the business of the House has been suspended for days in succession for the reason that the absence of members had reduced the attendance to less than the number required for business. This was the cause of the delay in passing the Seigniorage bill, and it blocked the action of the House in determining recent contested election cases. In one instance the vote developed the fact that there were fifty Democratic absentees, although it was an occasion when a matter of importance to the Democratic cause was before the House. Instead of being on hand to attend to the duty which their constituents had assigned to them, most of these derelicts could have been found in the District court listening to the dirty details of the POLLARD-BRECKENRIDGE trial.

The people have been very patient—entirely too patient—with this form of congressional dereliction. They have not taken a sufficiently distinct view of the harm it is doing to public interests and of the gradual, but sure prostration of the legislative function of Congress that must attend such indifference to duty on the part of its members. Constituents have accustomed themselves, without remonstrance, to having their Representatives absent from their official posts, in pursuit of their private business or personal pleasure, the result being that such absentees think that they are doing an entirely permissible thing, although they are drawing high salaries for the supposed performance of duties which they habitually neglect. Representatives who are thus at fault naturally regard it as something with which their constituencies are not concerning themselves, as no disapprobation has been seriously expressed.

It is time that something emphatic be heard from the people in regard to this congressional abuse. There should be a demand, enforced by a popular determination that cannot be misunderstood and will not be disobeyed, that the pay of a Congressman shall be regulated by the time he shall be present at his post of duty. The offense of congressional absenteeism can be prevented only by docking the delinquent for his absence.

Not a Democratic House Dog.

From the Philadelphia Record.

Senator Hill's bark is worse than his bite. He sneers at the Hawaiian policy of the Administration, finds fault with the delay in calling Congress together, and makes much of every blemish or default he can discover in executive procedure; but he does not oppose the tariff with virulence in any detail of the bill under consideration except the income tax. He is sharp enough to see that this is the weak spot in the Wilson bill. The amendment proposed by the Senate Finance Committee, if adopted, would make the revenue to be derived from an income tax excessive and unnecessary; and Mr. Hill does not in the least impair his standing in party nor the breadth of his statesmanship by his denunciation of this odious form of taxation.

It is obvious that while Senator Hill is willing to embarrass the action of the Senate in formulating a revenue measure, he is not prepared to go to the extent of preventing Tariff Reform. He admits the vital necessity of redeeming the pledge of the party, and, to quote his own words, that "the failure of tariff revision at this time means the defeat, the demoralization, if not the division and annihilation, of our party."

Holding such views, Senator Hill is not likely to make himself responsible for the consequences of failure.

Where the Blame Will Be Put.

Republican obstruction of tariff legislation is having its natural effect, as shown by the result of elections all over the country. The people are dissatisfied with congressional delay, for which the majority in Congress is held responsible. The Democrats are being beaten at all points, and it is the purpose of the enemies of tariff reform to prolong this popular dissatisfaction, and have it continue as near up to the time of the next congressional elections as delay in passing the WILSON tariff bill can bring it.

A Democratic contemporary indulges the delusive belief that their persistent obstruction of the tariff bill will react against the Republicans; that the people will rise up in indignation against those who thus protract the business prostration for a partisan purpose. But this expectation is not likely to materialize. A very large class of people can easily be persuaded that the party in power is responsible for every defeat in the industrial situation. Popular condemnation will be rather against those who, having a majority in Congress, allow the obstruction of a measure which they promised to enact, but which is being trifled with and obstructed by opponents who are in the minority. The blame for delayed tariff legislation, and for the business injury it is doing, is more likely to fall on those who have the power to pass the tariff bill promptly, but procrastinate in the performance of their duty. They are the ones who will have to bear the principal weight of popular condemnation. The obstructionists are well assured of this, and are shaping their course to that end, but every true Democrat in the midst of his discouragement still hopes that their scheme may be foiled.

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The late election in Rhode Island brings to light a most outrageous instance of gerrymandering, a practice which the Republican press delights in charging to the Democrats.

The Republican vote in that State was only 2,000 more than half the total vote, which was 54,000; yet in the new legislature there will be 102 Republicans and 8 Democrats. So gross a disregard of the rights of the minority is seldom seen. However, New England is noted for its rotten boroughs and does not seem disturbed or embarrassed by the fact when claiming to be the most enlightened and advanced portion of the nation.

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From the Clearfield Republican.

The Right Man.—Bellefonte's new postmaster is David F. Fortney, Esq. If party service entitles a man to promotion, "Dave" has earned the office twice over.

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