

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

VOL. 40

BELLEFONTE, PA., FEB. 1, 1895.

NO. 5.

Ink Stings.

—Let a fellow fail in business for himself and he will invariably turn up wanting to manage for some one else.

—The man who spends most of the time pressing the gable end of his trousers is the one who has most to say in everybody's affairs but his own.

—FELIX FAURE, the new President of France, has a lucky name, since it is an alliteration, but from the trouble he has been having in getting a cabinet it begins to look as if there isn't much in a name in his case.

—Mexico wants to go to war with some one, but hasn't hit on the right party yet. If she still longs for new fields to conquer she might glance Texas-ward with a consciousness that she would get her fill very soon.

—JAMES H. BERRY, has been elected United States Senator from Arkansas. The telegraphic reports do not say what kind of a BERRY he is, but it is natural to suppose that so far as Republican legislation is concerned during the next session he will be a "do" BERRY.

—The preachers are happy again because the Pennsylvania railroad company has gone back to the former custom of hauling them for half fare. But do our ministerial brethren reciprocate as they should, are railroad men riding on the gospel train at half rates?

—Mr. SPRINGER has introduced a new currency bill in Congress. It is in conformity to the President's recent message and provides for the retirement of the treasury and other legal tender notes and for the issuance of gold bonds. It is looked upon with considerable favor and will possibly pass.

—KOLB, the would be Governor of Alabama, has addressed a letter to the Legislature of that State, but no one seems to know much about the contents of it. If he and WAITE and PENNOYER and ATGELD and Mrs. LEASE were all put in a bag and thoroughly shook up what a harmonious (?) whole they would make.

—The great Brooklyn railroad strike is about petered out, the militia is being withdrawn and the cars are beginning to run again with their old time regularity. As has been the case with many other strikes the men who made the fuss have found themselves the losers and now realize that it would have been better for them all had they presented their demands in a different way.

—The State Legislature is afflicted with the idea that the people want another edition of the "bird-book." The truth of the matter is that they want a means of making themselves solid with their constituents for another term, but if they only knew it the best bird book sent out from Harrisburg is the one WM. RODEKARML gets up annually and is called "State Departments and Legislature." It contains pictures of all the Legislators and what greater variety of birds could be collated in Pennsylvania.

—Representative MOORE, of Bradford county, has introduced a bill into the Legislature providing for the establishment of a State department of agriculture. There is to be a secretary at a salary of \$3,500, a zoological commissioner, a horticultural commissioner, a dairy and food commissioner and numerous clerks all of whom will draw fat salaries. If such a department is formed it will be a bone of contention over which the public can expect to see much snarling being done by ALMAN, BROWN, RHOZE and the other State agricultural leaders.

—So our Republican friend WM. I. SWOOPER, of Clearfield, has given up his law business and gone to Harrisburg to accept a clerkship on the ways and means committee, a fine berth, to be sure, for one who did so much (?) toward bringing about the victory for his party last fall. BILLY hasn't become so notorious, however, that the city papers know his right name. Why the *Inquirer* even calls him SHARPE, which is a great misnomer, to be sure, but when Monday's *Press* called him common "BILL SHORE" he must surely have gritted his molars.

—The judicial contest in the Indiana county district where Judge HARRY WHITE and Judge BLAIR both claim to have been elected is developing some interesting facts about the modern manner of electioneering. The one has already been proven to have put a thousand bottles of whiskey into his campaign, while the other does not deny that he has paid all the way from twenty cents to twenty dollars a piece for votes. When the election of a judge involves so much pollution as this case has disclosed one is naturally inclined to lose respect for the judiciary. Yet every Centre countian knows that the primaries that put Judge LOVE on the 49th district bench were characterized by about as much rottenness as is now being disclosed in the Indiana district.

Promises That Can Be Relied Upon.

Ex-Governor PATTISON, in his letter accepting the Democratic nomination for Mayor of Philadelphia, pledges himself to reforms in the government of the city which cannot fail to make a deep impression upon the citizens; but this impression is made stronger by the fact that they know he will do exactly what he promises. They know the kind of man he is; his record has given him his reputation, and there is not a citizen that can reasonably doubt that he will be true to his pledge.

It is an easy thing to make promises before an election. Politicians ordinarily indulge in them when they are after votes, and it is so usual for them to disregard their pledges after they are elected that the people are justified in not having much confidence in them; but when ROBERT E. PATTISON specifically mentions the abuses in the city government which he would correct, and pledges himself to do so should he be elected mayor, the people of the city, from what they know of him, and from what they have experienced of his administrative character, can be just as sure of realizing what he promises as if his word had been given in the form of a signed and sealed bond. If there should be enough to defeat him, it will not be because they would have reason to doubt his pledge, but because they would allow their party feeling to overcome their desire for good city government.

Municipal Indebtedness.

The bill offered in the State Senate by Senator FLINN, of Allegheny, to repeal the law that fixes the 8 per cent. limit to the bonded debt of cities and boroughs, may be entitled a bill to encourage profligate municipal government.

The disposition of incorporated communities to run into debt, and the unrestrained power of their authorities to increase the tax burden by extravagant expenditures, were the reasons for passing the act limiting the indebtedness they may contract. As a protection to the tax-payers this limitation has been beneficial in its effect. It has prevented municipalities from being overwhelmed with debt, thus protecting the material interest of the citizens, whilst shielding the authorities against the demoralization that always attends unrestricted expenditure of public money when the funds are limited and the expenses must also be limited, and many a town and city in this State would be a good deal deeper in debt to day if it were not for the act limiting their bonded debt.

This wholesome restraint does not suit some of the Republican statesmen in our State Legislature. They want to remove the restraint upon the contraction of municipal indebtedness, and thus afford a freer chance to those who profit from such sources of speculation. This doubtless is the object of Senator FLINN in presenting his bill for the repeal of the present law. He probably is acting in response to the wishes of the ringsters who control the city government of Pittsburgh and Philadelphia and whose interests require an enlargement of their power to bleed the tax-payers of those communities.

While PATTISON was Governor no one ventured to offer such a bill, for they knew that if it were passed it would certainly be vetoed. Is it now brought forward because they believe they have a more compliant Governor?

It Stands the Judicial Test.

The income tax stands the test of the courts into which it has been dragged by the wealthy men who do not want to pay their share to the support of the government. In the case that was brought before the Supreme court of the District of Columbia, the presiding justice turned the opponents of the tax completely out of court. Their contention was for an injunction to restrain the commissioner of internal revenue from collecting the income tax, but the case was dismissed for the reason that there was no injustice in laying the tax; that it was not unconstitutional; that there was no irregularity in the act of Congress that authorized it, and that as Congress had plenary power on that subject it was beyond the control of the judicial authority. The case, no doubt, will be taken to a higher court, but it is

not at all probable that this decision will be reversed.

It is gratifying to learn that the latest estimates show that the income tax will yield more revenue than the treasury department had previously estimated. After the law is in complete working order it will doubtless contribute materially to the public revenue, and to that extent relieve a class of tax-payers who have been bearing an undue share of the burden. In 36 out of 63 collection districts returns show that 243,510 corporations will be assessable under the income tax law. It is from this source, heretofore exempted by Republican laws, that the revenue from this tax will be principally derived. The individuals liable to it are comparatively limited in number, being only about 85,000, but they are of the class upon which a tax can be most equitably laid.

A Contrast Favorable to Democratic Journalism.

There is a decided contrast between the action of Democratic newspapers in New York and Republican newspapers in Philadelphia on the subject of municipal reform in their respective cities.

In New York it had become evident that corrupt practices prevailed in the city government. Bad men in the municipal administration had abused the power with which the dominant party had invested them, making it the means of personal gain. Although the Democratic party had to take the blame for this bad state of affairs, Democratic papers of that city were the most insistent in demanding thorough investigation, and the most outspoken in condemning Democratic officers who had been unfaithful to their municipal trust.

In Philadelphia it has become equally evident that its municipal government has grown to be thoroughly corrupt. A ring of politicians, by being invested with absolute power, have converted that power into a means of plunder. There is as much reason for turning out these rascals as there was for changing the municipal administration in New York, but the Republican newspapers of Philadelphia, without an exception, defend the combination of thievish ringsters who compose the city government and advocate their continuance in power, in the face of the popular conviction that they are plundering the city treasury.

This shameful journalistic abasement would be bad enough if it came solely from partisan subservience, but the disgrace is increased by what is more than a suspicion that a share of the spoils in the shape of extravagant city advertising is the consideration that corruptly influences these journalists to support the combination of dishonest Republican politicians who rule and rob Philadelphia.

Going Back on the Calamity Howl.

When Governor HASTINGS in his inaugural address congratulated the people on the fact that the country is happily emerging from financial and industrial embarrassment, he must have "winked his other eye" at the Republican leaders who stood around him at that moment. Both they and he had a very distinct recollection of how he had gone through the State before the election declaring that the country had been ruined by a Democratic tariff, and that proceeding must have appeared to them like a huge joke in the face of the fact that at his inauguration he could announce that business was improving and industrial activity was being restored, although the McKINLEY protection, which he had declared to be necessary for the salvation of the country, had been supplanted by what he had stigmatized as "Democratic free trade."

His deluded supporters, who swelled his majority to such huge proportions in consequence of the tariff scare, must be surprised to see him so soon go back on his calamity howl. The Democratic tariff is now in full operation; it went into complete effect but a few days before the delivery of the address in which the Governor expressed his congratulations on the improved business prospect. How those words must have brought to his mind humorous recollections of the calamity howl with which he had humbugged the voters.

Rather Cheeky.

A bill has been introduced in the State Legislature for an appropriation of \$500,000 to improve the Delaware river for the benefit of the commerce of Philadelphia, this amount to be a supplement to that which the general government has appropriated for that purpose.

Asking the State to render this service requires a large amount of gall in view of the millions which the city councils squander on worse than useless objects. The plunder which political contractors have secured from the city hall job, and the pillage that is enriching the ringsters who control the street paving and other jobbing schemes would have been sufficient to provide the harbor with excellent commercial facilities.

Though there is a glaring necessity for improvements that will help the commerce of the city, the governing municipal authorities are indifferent to appeals in behalf of a matter of such vital importance. While a small appropriation for this purpose is reluctantly given, exorbitant sums continue to be expended upon the public buildings; council chambers are furnished with the most lavish extravagance; projects to open unnecessary boulevards that would cost millions receive the approval of councils; paving and reservoir contracts are awarded with special reference to the enrichment of contractors who have an understanding with the politicians; and most valuable franchises are given away which, if a proper equivalent were exacted for them, would be a large source of revenue. When, therefore, the city allows its resources to be squandered in this shameful manner, permitting them to become the spoil of a combination of municipal thieves, it is rather cheeky for her to come before the Legislature and ask it to tax the people of the State for the improvement of its harbor.

Why does not Philadelphia follow the example set her by some of the commercial cities of Europe? There is Liverpool, for instance, that in addition to millions spent on her magnificent system of docks, is just now arranging to spend additional millions to enlarge her shipping facilities and maintain her commercial supremacy. In this great work she has depended entirely upon her own resources. The same has been the case with Antwerp and Hamburg which by their own means have made vast harbor improvements, to their great commercial advantage. Philadelphia might do this, without help from the general government or the State, if her resources were not plundered by a ring of political cormorants.

Hypocritical Surprise.

When in a recent debate in the Senate surprise was expressed by Senator ALLISON, of Iowa, that no communication had come from the Secretary of the Treasury or the President calling attention to the fact that the current revenues were falling behind the current expenses of the government, the expression was in keeping with the character of that political oily gammon. Both the Secretary and the President have given ample warning that the expenses were going beyond the income of the government, but it has been the object of Republican Senators to produce this deficiency by embarrassing the financial measures of the administration. The tariff and income tax laws; if their operations were not impeded by Republican opposition, would bring in enough revenue to meet even the enormous expenses permanently fastened upon the government by former extravagant Republican legislation.

If the expense is greater than the income, threatening a depletion of the Treasury, Senator ALLISON has no reason to express surprise about it, for it is just what such as he have been striving to bring about for the embarrassment of the administration. But the situation is not as bad as he hypocritically represents. The new tariff did not go fully into operation until the first of January, and since then the receipts of the Treasury have averaged a million dollars a day. After the new fiscal machinery, including the income tax law, has developed its full efficiency, it will prove amply sufficient to furnish all the revenue required under Democratic administration.

Andy Jackson's Reign.

From the New York Advertiser.

Andrew Jackson was an American from the bustling shock of hair that crowned his head to the slippers in which he lounged around the white house kitchen. His patriotism was part of his being. He never flinched or hired a substitute when summoned to bear arms in defense of his country, As boy and man he fought for the republic. He faced Indian or red coat, and plunged into Florida swamps or hastened to the lower Mississippi with equal alacrity in upholding the honor of "Old Glory." He loved his country because he knew from personal experience that a tremendous cost its independence had been bought. The chief magistrate of the nation Andrew Jackson never indulged in cant about "consecration" to duty, fearlessly and honestly according to his lights. He was a persistent champion of protection to American industry and gloried in the fact. He was the outspoken foe of monopoly and corruption. He did not solemnly announce that "public office is a public trust" and then turn over the service to a horde of spoilsmen. He did not sell ambassadorships in return for Democratic campaign contributions. He did not pose as the friend of popular rule and then use his great office to renege a savage despot. He detested sham and he took the people into his confidence. During his career as president the public debt was practically wiped out.

Finding Roosts for Republican Roosters.

From the Philadelphia Times.

The custodian of State supplies is a new form of humor in the proposed legislation of the day at Harrisburg, but the fun becomes positively exciting when it is known that John C. Delaney is to be the custodian. Delaney has all the custodian kinks. He knows just where and how State supplies have been given out in the past, and experience is always valuable. It does not matter that the creation of this new office, with Delaney in it, throws open the door to innumerable scandals. No thought is given the personal feature of the measure or that it creates a salary for a particular individual. Delaney must be provided for. But if Governor Hastings wants to do the State a service he will veto the scheme and Delaney, too.

Queer Work Being Done Already.

From the Pittsburg Post.

One of the Republican papers announces that a special order has been secured at Harrisburg for the banking bill, and that Gilkeson is rushing it. The bill increases Gilkeson's salary from \$4,000 to \$6,000 a year, and gives him additional clerks. The governor is holding back Gilkeson's appointment as bank commissioner so Gilkeson may rush his salary grab through, and so evade the constitutional provision that the salary of no official shall be increased during his term of office. The little game of hide and seek that the governor and Gilkeson are playing may be all right for Gilkeson, but it is rather hard on the governor of the State.

Cleveland Still Out for the Relief of the Treasury.

From the Altoona Times.

Mr. Cleveland has made an earnest appeal to congress to do something in the way of relieving the embarrassment of the government. It is doubtful, however, if anything will be done at the present session. There is a probability that relief legislation can pass in the house in the face of fierce opposition, but the rules of the senate or rather the lack of rules, forbid the hope that anything can be done there. If it should happen that there would be a financial enactment before the 4th of March, it will be much of a surprise to those who understand the state of the present situation.

A Source of Immense Revenue.

From the Doylestown Democrat.

It is now estimated that the amount that will be raised from the income tax, will reach \$50,000,000. When the law was passed it was thought from fifteen to eighteen millions might be realized, but those who have studied the question think it will reach fifty. It will only effect those who have an income of over \$4,000 and people of moderate means will not be affected by it.

It Will Take Wings and Fly Too.

From the Westmoreland Democrat.

A full treasury was left at Harrisburg by the outgoing Democratic administration. With a number of such jobs as \$100,000 for a "bird book," now before the Legislature, it will not be long before the state treasury will be in about the same condition that Harrison and the Billion Dollar Congress left the national finances.

—Subscribe for the WATCHMAN.

Spawls from the Keystone

—Pottsville citizens are looking around for a site for a hospital.

—Representative E. N. Tewksbury is seriously ill at Catawissa.

—The State Medical Council organized at Harrisburg yesterday.

—Robbers broke into Dr. Bealor's drug store, at Shamokin, and stole \$70.

—The Reading Press Club held its annual meeting on Saturday night.

—A. E. Zuern has been appointed an internal revenue ganger for the Shamokin district.

—Constable Ben Allen, of Newville, was struck by a train near Carlisle, and had a leg broken.

—Millstone is the only township in Elk county in which there is not a license to sell liquor.

—William Price died at his home in Pike township, Clearfield county, recent ly aged 83 years.

—Ex-Adjutant General Greenland is quite ill as a result of a cold he took on inauguration day.

—The Reading National Bank building, began last spring, will be ready for occupancy on February 1.

—Minor Packard, of St. Mary's had his skull crushed by a piece of timber while working in a saw-mill.

—York's molasses war continues, and the fluid can now be bought for three quarters of a cent a quart.

—Several residents of Heidelberg township, Lebanon County, have been swindled by lightning rod sharpers.

—Eleven-year-old Mamie Aiken, of Edgewood, Allegheny county, was killed by cars while going on an errand.

—The annual State convention of city and borough superintendents of schools is being held at Harrisburg today.

—Falling down the gangway at Springdale Colliery, near Ashland, Joseph Shultz, aged 32, was fatally hurt.

—William Frank Ritz, aged 60, a railroad engineer and father of 10 children, was killed by a train in Reading, Monday.

—Downmanite Evangelicals have sued to recover possession of churches at Bangor and Danieville, Northampton county.

—New York capitalists bought for \$200,000 the Hotel Riverside, a noted pleasure resort at Cambridge, Crawford county.

—Dependancy, caused by ill health, led Mrs. Michael Moore, of Midvale, Luzerne county, to commit suicide by taking arsenic.

—Scranton diocese T. A. B. societies will petition the Legislature to enact laws providing for State sanitariums for inebriates.

—To save Harry Spence, of Lancaster, from death by gangrene, due to a sprain of the ankle sustained a year ago, his leg was amputated.

—At Shamokin, by their sled running in to a fence, Miss Annie Murdock had a leg broken and George Hines was badly cut about the limbs.

—The guarantee fund of the Erie-Ohio ship canal has reached \$23,100 and as soon as it reaches \$25,000 engineers will begin the preliminary survey.

—Judge Miller, of Mercer, has directed that all barrooms must face on front streets, and that all screens and frosted windows must be removed.

—J. Knight Reeder, son of ex-Judge Reeder, broke through the ice while skating on the Lehigh River, at Easton, and narrowly escaped drowning.

—Isaiah Newsbige, at one time a prominent contractor of Wilkesbarre, died in a lockup, where he had been placed after his arrest for drunkenness.

—The State College authorities have determined to put a stop to hazing, and a student named Hien, of Allegheny, has been expelled for the offense.

—Thinking that a mail box was on another carrier's route, Max Sartories, of Youngstown, allowed nearly 100 letters to accumulate and was suspended.

—The centennial of Lycoming County will be celebrated on July 2, 3 and 4 next, and to defray the expenses a prorata assessment of \$25,000 will be levied.

—On the ground of lack of confidence in Councils, the People's Party, of Reading, will oppose the proposed city loan of \$200,000 for public improvements.

—Owing to the great volume of business before the present term of Civil Court, Judge Endlich, of Berks county, is helping the Schuylkill county Judges.

—Erie Endeavorers are erecting a special building to accommodate the State Convention of the Christian Endeavor Society, which meets there next fall.

—A fund is being raised by the Ministerial Association of Schuylkill county to continue the Auditor's investigation of the scandals at the county Almshouse.

—Russell Coonsman, aged 9, who was injured internally at Altoona on Tuesday night by the sled on which he was coasting striking a curbstone, died Thursday.

—Ebensburgers were yesterday gratified by seeing the first regular freight train pass over the Black Lick branch railroad. It was a coal train of twenty cars drawn by two engines.

—An Italian 22 years of age is a student in a primary room of the Jersey Shore schools. The *Herald* says he is determined to learn, and by persistent work is making rapid progress.

—George R. Taylor, aged 33, for 10 years captain of Company B, Fourteenth Regiment, N. G. P., slipped on the ice in front of a train at Edgewood, near Pittsburg, and was hurled to death.

—John Kodner, aged 75 years, for many years a resident of Hollidaysburg, slipped and fell on the ice on Thursday and when picked up it was found he was dead, the shock, it is supposed having killed him.

—Judge Craig, at a special session of the Monroe county court Monday, continued the receiver appointed for the Delaware Valley Electric Railway, and refused to allow the property to be sold at Sheriff's sale.

—Oran McKean was recently killed near Chaffee's siding, in Elk county, by the falling of a tree. In cutting down a tree the bit slipped from the stump, catching Mr. McKean as it fell, and killing him almost instantly.

—About 100 men in charge of Civil Engineer Micey, are at work on an extension of the West Branch from Bolivar to Sang Hollow, a distance of fifteen miles. One track is being laid and a township road being made alongside the line.