

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

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Ink Slings.

—The Spanish situation thickens, but all the while the American blood is going up.

—The Easter bonnet will soon be here to trouble man and detract from the interest of church services.

—Chickens are stocking up the market with eggs that will be colored on Easter day and blamed on the rabbits.

—Emperor WILLIAM of Germany, having presented BISMARCK with a gold sword, will doubtless imagine himself at liberty to talk the new Reichstag to death as soon as it is convened.

—Germany will soon remove the prohibitive restriction on American cattle, having satisfied herself that they are free from disease. The dutchmen are tired living on frankforters and weinewurst, we suppose.

—The Bellefonte Presbyterians are at war among themselves. Verily the churches of the town are hot beds of dissension and wickedness. When congregations can't keep peace in their government the devil orders a few extra tons of coal.

—The Slatington girl who waited in vain for a husband to be, on Saturday night, didn't seem to realize that a bird in the hand was worth a dozen in the bush, until the hour for her wedding arrived and there was no one for her to get married to.

—MCKINLEY is off on a southern tour. Booming his presidential bee, no doubt, but after having said that he would desert his party if it declared for free silver, we'd like to know what he intends talking about to the silverites of the South and West.

—The two robbers who were summarily ushered into eternity while trying to hold up a train near Chatanooga, early Wednesday morning, had better not pull their guns on old ST. PETER if they get up there, for in such a game he has a great opportunity of doing effectual firing himself.

—HENRY GEORGE, the great American residuary legatee, hasn't been a single taxpayer for nothing. It has given him prominence among men and nearly every week some one who dies remembers him in their will. It is thus he has been dubbed the great American residuary legatee.

—The fight for the chairmanship of the Democratic State Central Committee seems to be a veritable case of dog eat dog. Either Mr. WRIGHT or Mr. KERR's man, who will more than likely turn out to be Mr. KERR himself, will do very well. What the State wants is some assurance that the fellow who gets left won't kick.

—The faction makers in the Democratic party of the State are still at work. Every day some new story is put in circulation as to the President's wishes regarding matters political in Pennsylvania. If Mr. CLEVELAND is really as solicitous about us as Mr. KERR is making believe why don't he address a letter to Pennsylvania Democrats?

—The shooting of LI HUNG CHANG, the Chinese peace envoy to Japan, was a most unfortunate occurrence for the Japanese. Though the Mikado's government is in no wise to blame for the work of a murderous fanatic, yet such acts are always accompanied by unpleasant circumstances that will live forever in the mind of an unfriendly country.

—The St. Paul would not slide out of her stays at CRAMP'S ship yard in Philadelphia, on Monday, consequently the steamer could not be launched. The reason that the tallow, with which the ways had been greased, had frozen was given out as the excuse. If a few banana peels had been slipped under her we'll bet she would have slid. Some pretty big barks have gone down on the latter already.

—The *Magnet* thinks Bellefonte ministers are not doing their duty because it knows a man who has lived here many years and has never been asked to go to church. Such a condition of affairs is not at all strange. That man has known where the churches are and also that any of their services are free and if an invitation is what he is waiting on ST. PETER won't take much stock in such an excuse when this slighted individual knocks at the Golden Gate and tries to slide in.

—It is said that HARRIETT BEECHER STOWE flies into a perfect frenzy when ever any one mentions her book, "Uncle Tom's Cabin," in her hearing. We are not surprised that she is tired hearing of Tom being clubbed to death and of little EVA winging her weary way heavenward, but then if she would see some of the many "great, double, mammoth, allegorical" theatrical productions of it now before the public she would either wish herself eaten up by the "ferocious, man-eating, Siberian blood hounds," or would straightway lie down behind the ass on which MARKS makes his *debut* and pray to be kicked into eternity.

The National Honor Safe in Democratic Hands.

Among the many commendations of the administration for its prompt and vigorous action in calling Spain to account for the firing upon an American steamer by one of her cruisers, was an expression of Republican Senator HALE that had in it a tone of surprised approval, as if it were something that was not to be expected. What else, in such a case, could he have looked for? Has it ever been the custom of Democratic administrations to let a national insult go unrebuked? All the instances of spirited action in calling foreign nations to account have occurred under Democratic administrations, including the celebrated case of France eating humble pie, in the claims question, upon the insistence of President JACKSON. We can assure the mackerel and codfish patriots of Maine and Massachusetts, who have been parading their cheap-jack patriotism and clamoring for the American eagle to engage in dirty business in the Sandwich Islands matter, that the honor and flag of the nation can be safely committed to Democratic hands.

It is hard for a Democratic administration to satisfy the Republican Jingoists. It would have been much more to their liking if Secretary GRESHAM had overlooked the Spanish insult. How eagerly they would have used it for political capital. And when Spain shall be compelled to make all the reparation which the laws of nations require, in such a case, which she certainly will be forced to do, these Republicans will still find something to carp about. This, however, will in no way detract from the credit that will be due the administration for maintaining the national honor.

Political Judicial Districts.

The evil effects of mixing party politics with the election of judges are becoming more apparent every year. Thoughtful men, who comprehend and fear its consequences, deprecate this evil and wish to restrain it. In districts where the practice of electing judges on strict party lines has not yet been adopted, well intended efforts are made to prevent such contamination of the judiciary by securing non-partisan nominations of judicial candidates, but such districts are rapidly disappearing under the pressure of partisan demands.

Under such discouraging circumstances, threatening a deplorable degradation of the judiciary, is it not astounding to see a Legislature deliberately and recklessly endeavoring to increase, intensify and perpetuate this evil by an appointment of judicial districts with the direct and avowed object of making the election of judges susceptible to political influence? The fell spirit of partisanship never inflicted a greater injury upon the people than would follow a judicial apportionment made with special reference to the politics of the districts and with the special purpose of securing the election of partisan judges. It would be a distinct announcement that the judgeship is a political office, and an object of party contention. It would be a declaration by the lawmaking power that the ermine is to be included among the political spoils, the capture of which would be facilitated by a partisan apportionment of the judicial districts.

Many harmful things have been done, and are proposed to be done, by the worthless and pernicious body that now constitutes the lawmaking power of Pennsylvania, but such a partisan judicial apportionment bill as is in contemplation, if it should be enacted, would surpass all of its other acts in harmful intent and effect.

—Governor HASTINGS appears in the unexpected role of a vetoer of pension bills. He sent to the House his disapproval of a bill granting a pension to HAMILTON SMITH for injury received in the service of the State. The Governor based his dissent upon the fact that it was difficult to establish the claim, inasmuch as more than thirty years had elapsed since the alleged injury was said to have been sustained. It is evidently the Governor's impression that there should be a limit to such claims, and he may be correct in such a view; but it is to be regretted that some weeks previous his mind was not led to the conclusion that there should be a limit to the Standard Oil Company's claim to a monopoly of Pennsylvania's oil products.

English Encroachment.

The English are furnishing another illustration of the grasping and bullying disposition for which they are noted in their attempt to seize and occupy territory that clearly belongs to the republic of Venezuela. The land upon which they have encroached and lay claim to is Venezuelan territory by right of succession to the Spaniards from whom that republic won it by successful rebellion and revolution. The treaty by which their independence was acknowledged admitted their claim and right to it. There was a clear line of demarkation between their territorial limits and those of adjoining British possessions, which was generally recognized and was not disputed by the English until eventually they saw an advantage in making encroachments. Valuable deposits of gold were found in adjoining Venezuelan districts which excited English cupidity, in consequence of which a claim was trumped up, founded upon pretexts utterly untenable in point of fact. The only right that England has in that region came from Dutch ownership to which she succeeded by treaty. The Dutch never owned a foot of the territory upon which this encroachment is being made.

The weak South American republic that is thus being imposed upon has made every possible resistance in the way of protest against this imposition, but of course is unable to prevent it by force. She has over and over again offered to submit the matter to the arbitration of friendly powers, but England, knowing that her only right in the case consists in her weight, and that her only reliance in the issue is brute force, refuses to submit the question to arbitration which would trump down her claim as a piece of impudent and overbearing assumption.

While this outrage was being practiced upon a helpless sister republic the Republican administrations which controlled the government of the United States for more than a quarter of a century made no objection to the wrong and no protest against so flagrant an infraction of the Monroe doctrine. They were impasive to this encroachment of the British lion on American soil, and only set the eagle to screaming in such petty jingoism as the miserable Hawaiian business. They have allowed the English to go on unchallenged until they have within their grasp the vast valley of the Orinoco river, with all the commercial advantages it will confer.

In contrast with this supineness, the action of Ambassador BAYARD, under the instruction of the CLEVELAND administration, is the first official step on the part of our government to halt the trespass of the English upon Venezuelan territory, and gives the American people encouragement to expect that means will be adopted that will insure a weak republic its right, and command European respect for the American doctrine that this continent belongs to the Americans.

General Walter W. Greenland.

It is to be regretted that the inexorable hand of death makes no distinction in cutting down its victims. It seems that oftentimes the most useful are called. The death of General WALTER GREENLAND, which occurred at his home in Clarion, on Saturday evening, after several months' illness, removes one of Pennsylvania's noblest sons. A true hero was he. His war record was emblazoned with deeds of the greatest heroism and the side of his life that the public knew was so bright and clear as to inspire more than admiration. It made the State honor him as its Adjutant General. In his funeral, which occurred Wednesday, the simple solemn services, attended by men of prominence from all over the State, the silent town in which all manner of business was suspended, and the many honest tears that were shed for him, told all too well the place he held in the hearts of those who knew him.

General GREENLAND's death is to be regretted, not alone as that of an honored man scarcely past the prime of life, but more, as being one of those few which occur by which there is a place left vacant that can never be filled.

"Leaves have their time to fall,
And flowers to wither at the north-wind's breath,
And stars to set,—but all
Thou hast all seasons for thine own, O death!"

Decreased Government Expenses.

Whatever may have been the shortcomings of the last Congress it must be said for it that it was comparatively economical. If it authorized the expenditure of public money it was not done extravagantly or recklessly, the expense being required by obligations previously imposed upon the government. Upon a complete figuring up of all the outlays authorized, the appropriations made by the Fifty-third Congress are shown to have been \$36,765,856.55 less than those of the Fifty-second Congress, and \$45,341,418.90 less than those of TOM REED's notorious billion dollar Fifty-first Congress. This very appreciable reduction was made without injurious cheese-paring, as no less than \$20,000,000 was allowed for the necessary and patriotic purpose of strengthening the naval defence of the country.

The natural inclination of a Democratic Congress is in the direction of economy. If it is seen authorizing large expenditures it is quite certain that it has been compelled to do so by the exigency of the government's liabilities. The last Republican Congress drew down upon itself popular condemnation for authorizing expenses to the astounding amount of a billion dollars. Great satisfaction was expressed by the Republicans when the appropriations of the succeeding Democratic Congress amounted to almost as much. But the fact was that the Republican Congress had established permanent liabilities which its Democratic successor could not avoid providing for. It was called upon to meet great expenses, largely increased pensions, for example, and other obligations imposed upon the government by Republican legislation, which it was bound to take into account when making its appropriations. Yet notwithstanding this legacy of liability, the fruit of previous extravagant legislation, it managed to make a considerable reduction in appropriations as compared with those of the REED Congress. The Fifty-third, which succeeded it, has done still better.

It will be a long while before the country shall get over the evil effects of the profligacy of the last several Republican Congresses, particularly that of the Fifty-first. The obligations they imposed will long be a dead-weight upon the government, and their extravagance depleted the Treasury, exhausted the financial reserve, impaired the public credit, and led to the monetary and industrial disorders which were made still worse by tariff laws that deranged and ultimately prostrated the industries, and by currency laws that destroyed financial confidence and ended in a general collapse.

This was the situation which a Democratic administration and a Democratic Congress had to encounter, and there are rascals who say, and fools who can be made to believe, that the Democrats are responsible for it.

—Among the many freaks for which the present state Legislature is chargeable is the introduction of a bill that is intended to establish petty criminal courts in every neighborhood. It proposes to authorize Justices of the Peace to try certain cases of crime before juries of six men drawn by the justices, and empower such officers, upon the conviction of the accused, to sentence the offenders to jail or the penitentiary. It is said that the object of such an extraordinary judiciary is to make the administration of justice convenient for the farmers. The Grangers are represented as demanding it. Nowhere would such judicial dogberrys and rump juries be more of a nuisance than in the rural districts where they would invite to prosecutions that could be avoided and lead to the disturbance of neighborhoods. The existing legal machinery is amply sufficient for all the ends of justice.

—After signing so many bills for the creation of new offices, the increase of salaries, and other lavish expenses, Governor HASTINGS might as well have put his name to poor HAMILTON SMITH's little pension bill and let that small expense go with the others. What's the use of concentrating gubernatorial attention upon the spigot while the contents of the barrel are allowed to run out of the bung-hole?

Dan Don't Practice as He Preached.

From the Greensburg Democrat.
Daily news from Harrisburg runs in this strain: "Bill apportioning the state into judicial districts and providing for six new judges has passed the house." "The bill proposing to retire and pension judges after a certain period of service will be passed." "Communications were read from the governor notifying the house of his approval of the bill providing for the election of additional officers and the appointments of additional employees of the house."

It will be remembered that the present executive and legislature were elected on the calamity and poverty wail. The manner in which new offices are being created almost daily, and the numerous extravagant schemes rushed through for draining the public treasury, are without parallel in the history of the commonwealth. The hollow insincerity of the poverty campaign of last fall, in the light of the freebooter methods now in vogue at Harrisburg, ought to be apparent to and have an awakening effect upon a good many of the deluded taxpayers of the state.

Death of a Prominent Man.

From the Doylestown Democrat.
Richard Vaux died at his residence, Philadelphia, Friday morning, after an illness of about a week, in his 77th year. He was the son of Robert Vaux, a well known philanthropist, and had been a conspicuous figure in the social and political life of his native city for more than half a century. He had filled divers public positions; including that of Secretary of the Legation at the Court of St. James, when a young man; Recorder of the city, 1842-7; Mayor, 1856-8; President of the Board of Prison Inspectors for many years; represented the Third district in the 51st Congress; and besides being a prominent Democrat was high in Masonic affairs, being Grand Master in Pennsylvania, and the author of several volumes. He was an agreeable man personally, and attached to his friends as with hoops of steel. His death was received with regret by a large circle of personal and political friends.

Why Bill What Could You Be?

From the Philadelphia Record.
Governor McKinley, who is the guest of Mr. Flagler at St. Augustine, Fla., is reported to have declared that "if the Republican party should declare for free silver I would decline to become its candidate, and I would quit the party forever." Of course, the party will not declare for free silver. But the currency bank in its national platform may, and probably will, have an iridescent finish, with a silver lustre when held up in a Western light, and a strictly bimetallic gleam when seen from other points all round the rest of the compass.

Democratic State Central Committee Meeting.

Headquarters Democratic State Central Committee, 15 and 16 South Market Square.

In accordance with the provisions of Rule V, Section 2, of the rules of the Democratic Party in the State of Pennsylvania, I hereby give notice that the members of the Democratic State Central Committee will meet in Harrisburg, on Wednesday, April 17, 1895, at 12 o'clock, in the Committee Rooms, 14 and 16 South Market Square, for the purpose of electing a Chairman for the ensuing year, fixing the time and place for the holding of the State Convention, and for the transaction of such other business as may be properly presented.

JAMES A. STRANAHAN,
Chairman.

Colonel Robinson Is Public Printer.

HARRISBURG, March 25.—Governor Hastings has appointed Colonel Thomas Robinson, of Butler, superintendent of public printing, vice Colonel W. Hayes Grier, of Columbia, resigned. Colonel Robinson was formerly engaged in the newspaper business at Butler. He is a friend of Senator Quay and has been for many years one of the foremost Republican leaders of Western Pennsylvania. He will assume his duties April 15.

Muruga to go Home.

The Spanish Government Has Accepted His Resignation.
WASHINGTON, March 25.—Senor Muruga, the Spanish minister was advised by his government this evening of the acceptance of his resignation.

A Rebel Defeat.

Spanish Troops Repulse 500 Cuban Insurgents.

HAVANA, March 25.—Colonel Santoscales, who commands the government forces at Mansanillo, reported that yesterday troops under Colonel Arazo attacked and dispersed rebel bands 500 strong. Fifteen rebels were killed and many others were wounded. The government force lost one officer killed and two privates wounded.

The same government troops also dispersed a party of rebels on March 22, losing one officer killed and three privates wounded.
A report from Holguin says that insurgents are approaching that place. The force is 300 strong and well armed.

Spawls from the Keystone.

—York has organized a vigorous historical society.

—Coal in large amounts is being stored at the collieries.

—Ashland and Centralia expect to be connected by an electric road.

—Mine cars at Locust Gap crushed lifeless Elijah Yarnall.

—An effort is being made to reduce the pay of Northampton County's Treasurer.

—Nothing but stockings and brushes will now be made in the Berks County Jail.

—Plans are shown for the new United Evangelical Church, at Reading to cost \$40,000.

—All the old liquor licenses in Monroe County—63 in number—were renewed Monday.

—Montgomery County's liquor license Court opened Monday there being 16 new applicants.

—The Reading Iron Company's works at Reading are now running full-handed with 2000 men.

—Judge Scott has put his foot upon the transferring of liquor licenses in Northampton County.

—Thousands went to the Wilkesbarre depot to welcome homefrom Europe Rev. R. A. McAndrews.

—Reading has awarded a contract for Welsbach street lights for five years, at \$30.50 per light per year.

—Bucks County Detective Association will hereafter serve warrants, landlord warrants and subpoenas.

—Metzgar Institute, the young women's college at Carlisle, wants to become a college and confer degrees.

—A branch of the Commercial Travelers' Home has been started at Reading, with W. J. Ewart president.

—Pneumonia and grip killed six people at Pottsville on Sunday, making the biggest death rate for two years.

—Allegheny County patriotic orders favor a more stringent compulsory education bill than the Farr measure.

—An injunction has been asked for to restrain Meadville from increasing its indebtedness to buy water works.

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—Proceedings by Lancaster County to recover \$75,000 from Lancaster city will be begun immediately at Lebanon.

—The Williamsport Boom Company expects between 180,000,000 and 200,000,000 feet of logs to float into its boom this spring.

—Street railway employes at West Chester loudly complain because they have not been paid for nearly two months.

—The wealthy Honeybrook farmer, C. H. Buchanan, who has been in Norristown Asylum two years, although sane, was set free.

—Allegheny's Court Monday ordered Pool-dealer George M. Irwin to hand over his books for inspection, and the order was obeyed.

—Aged Elijah Yarnell was crushed to death by the too rapid hoisting of a mine wagon, at Locust Gap Colliery, near Pottsville.

—A prisoner named Michael Sadd made his escape from the Huntingdon reformatory Saturday last, but was recaptured the same day.

—A stir was created at Berks County prison Monday when Warden Smith refused to instruct his successor on the duties of his office.

—Mrs. Josiah Harmon, aged 68 years, and Mrs. Catharine Norton, aged 75 years, two well known citizens of Newton Hamilton, died last week.

—Under the voluntary dissolution of the Monroe County Mutual Fire Insurance Company, Charles E. Staples has been appointed receiver.

—F. A. Diftenderfer, of Brooklyn, has been ordered to go to Lancaster to be tried for the alleged embezzlement of \$10,000 from his brother John.

—The very successful series of revival meetings in the First Methodist Episcopal church at Huntingdon closed with a jubilee meeting Monday evening.

—Suit for \$10,000 damages has been brought at Lebanon, by J. A. Miller against the Lackawanna Iron Company under whose employ he was injured.

—Pleading the protection of the Interstate Commerce law, four men arrested at Lancaster for peddling Rhode Isl and wingers without license will seek release.

—The Sunbury mill will be started the 1st of May and employment will be given to sixty-five or eighty-five men and boys. The monthly payroll will be from \$2,300 to \$3,500.

—The State Department has authorized the New Haven Copper Company, of Connecticut, and American Concrete Construction Company, of New Jersey, to establish offices in Philadelphia.

—W. A. B. Little, a prominent merchant of Loretto, Cambria county, has made an assignment for the benefit of his creditors. He was engaged in merchandising. The extent of his liabilities is not known.

—Rev. R. A. Fink, D. D., died at his home in Johnstown Monday morning at the age of 81 years. For twenty-four years he was pastor of the Franklin Street Evangelical church in that city, and until his health began to fail him ten years ago he was an active church worker.

—The newly elected board of directors of the Pennsylvania Railroad company met Wednesday afternoon for reorganization. No changes were made in the personnel of the organization and President Roberts was unanimously re-elected. The total vote cast at yesterday's election for directors was 93,633, the largest ever polled. Last year the vote was 73,338 shares.

—William R. Loner, aged 31 years, son of William Loner, one of the oldest residents of Hummelstown, met with a fatal accident at Brownstone quarry Wednesday afternoon while attempting to couple a train. His foot caught in a frog and threw him down, the engine and entire train passing over him. He was taken to Harrisburg where he died at 9 o'clock.