

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

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Ink Stings.
—The ticket is made. Now the next thing to do is for the Democrats to elect it.

—The Cuban revolution is still before the people, but the average Cuban revolutionist is usually behind a tree or a fence.

—The Legislature just adjourned appropriated \$817,000 for salaries for new officials and increases for old ones during the present session.

—When HARRISON visits WANAMAKER and then says there is no political significance in it, ordinary people are excused if they laugh.

—The sweet girl graduate who has sized up to an honor position in her class puts a few more yards of dimity in her sleeves and looks just as puffed up as the valedictorian.

—The fellows who had their pockets picked during the Centennial have some satisfaction, at least, in the thought that other people have been informed that they had some money on their clothes.

—“Two Students Shot” was a startling head line in Monday's papers and many readers were surprised, when they read the particulars, to learn that bullets, not rum, were the missiles of destruction.

—To-day is the anniversary of the adoption of the stars and stripes as the national emblem. Cumberland county people should pay particular attention to their Representative, BEN SPANGLER. A man who loves the flag as BEN does should not be neglected on an anniversary of this sort.

—The Legislature adjourned at noon on Saturday and signaled its completion of work by ousting Senator LAUBACH, of Northampton county, and giving HELLER his seat. Senator LAUBACH is to be congratulated that he has thus been freed from connection with such a disreputable body of law-makers.

—The Legislature adjourned on Saturday and the robbers left Harrisburg for their respective homes as soon as they could. While they all acted as though they were glad to get away everyone knows how much of an effort it must have been for them to let go the public text they have sucked so hard since January.

—The rate at which many State papers are cackling over the defeat of the apportionment bills at Harrisburg is enough to give their readers an attack of bilious colic. There is nothing that Republican Legislatures cannot be guilty of and this offense should not be looked upon as a crowning act of wickedness. It was only a case of dog eat dog, and QUAY carried off the canine bone.

—Seven Big Run girls were bathing in Mahoning creek, near DuBois, on Sunday, when all of them got in too deep and four were drowned. One of the girls could swim and was able to save two of her companions. They were all between 13 and 16 years old and came of well known families. There is a little moral attached to this sad story which should teach young women to stay out of the water when they want to go swimming on Sunday.

—Editor HARTER, of the *Gazette*, made a Decoration day speech at Philipsburg and of course it was one of his regular pyrotechnical effusions, larded over with cheap poetry. He managed to veer off at one place long enough to lie a little about ex-President Lincoln. He declared that the war time President had offered to settle the trouble without a fight by paying for all the slaves. Just where Mr. HARTER got a “scoop” on this bit of news we are unable to learn.

—President CLEVELAND has been invited to make the address at the formal opening of the new two million dollar CARNEGIE library in Pittsburgh. What, with giving all hands a ten per cent increase and having GROVER on this occasion, more could Democrats want to prove ANDY's affiliation for Democracy? Why it was only a short time ago that he declared that the WILSON bill would do the country good and now he is certainly proving his assertion in a way calculated to make the average Republican sick.

—There was something really pathetic in the appeal of the Mennonites, Dunkards, Moravians and Quakers, who appeared in delegations at Harrisburg, asking the Legislature not to pass the religious garb bill that would prohibit school teachers belonging to those sects from appearing in habiliments to which they are conscientiously attached. The purpose of the fanatics in the Legislature was to strike at a particular denomination by their intolerant measure, but its blind aim strikes at protestant denominations that have been among the best and worthiest people of the State ever since its settlement. The passage of that bill was as great an outrage upon religious liberty and personal rights as could be perpetrated by a legislative body.

The Close of a Disgraceful Session.

Last Saturday closed the session of one of the most disreputable legislative bodies that ever disgraced the annals of any State. It took its character from the majority that controlled its proceedings, the Republican party being responsible for its acts of commission and omission. No Legislature ever had the public confidence reposed in it to so great an extent, and none ever so completely betrayed that confidence. The people invested it with the power of an overwhelming majority, and there was scarcely an interest of the people that it did not trample under its feet.

This shameless majority, an aggregation of political henchmen and tools of a party boss, had hardly gotten together before it began to plan for the profligate expenditure of the public money by making more officers and increasing official salaries. This was required for the reward of party workers who demanded the substantial recognition which new offices and enlarged pay would afford.

The interest of the corporations and monopolies was next attended to. First and most impudent in its demands was the Standard oil company, which had no difficulty in having a pipe line bill passed that has removed the last vestige of competition with its grasping monopoly, and given it absolute control of what is left of the oil traffic in this State. In addition to this corporate favoritism bills granting exorbitant franchises to street railroad companies, and giving them privileges which deprive the public of the advantage of competing lines, were put through at the bidding of those corporations.

The end of the session witnessed the disgraceful passage of bills that are intended to create electric light monopolies, against which neither municipalities nor citizens will be able to protect themselves. These acts in behalf of corporate interests are such outrageous infringements upon public rights that they can be accounted for in no other way than that the beneficiaries of such legislation secured it by the use of money. Bribery is the only plausible explanation of such legislative conduct. While such probable corruption was in progress for the advantage of incorporated wealth, labor, which has no filthy lucre to extend for legislation, had to stand waiting for recognition, and failed to get it.

Religious tolerance and meddling sectarian bigotry helped to increase the offensive character of that Legislature, as manifested in the passage of a bill intended to increase denominational discrimination into the schools by regulating the garb of teachers for a sectarian reason. The religious garb bill is a blow aimed not only at religious liberty, but also at the personal right of citizens, affecting some of the oldest protestant denominations in the State as well as the Catholics; all this being the result of the domination of an intolerant and oath-bound secret organization over the law making body. The education force bill is also to be placed to the discredit of that body, a measure which uncalled for by the educational interests of the State, will encroach upon the personal authority of parents, furnish positions for unnecessary officers, increase the expense of the school system, and result in no appreciable benefit to the cause of education.

But the most shameful blot on the record of the past session is the outrage committed upon the organic law of the State by the deliberate refusal to pass the apportionment bills required by the constitution. The history of legislation can show no parallel to so flagrant a disregard for a clearly defined duty, no similar contempt for the obligation imposed by an official oath. The constitution, which these Legislators were sworn to obey, requires the apportionment of the State which has been wrongfully disobeyed; but the interest of the party and the bosses called for the defeat of apportionment. The constitution was kicked aside that the party interest might be served and the bosses obeyed.

In the meanwhile the financial condition of a depleted Treasury is neglected by the failure of legislation needed to furnish revenue. There is a deficiency of money for necessary State expenses; the appropriation for the

schools has to be cut down, the aid to charitable institutions must be curtailed, new outlays are incurred by new offices and bigger salaries, and in the face of this condition a prolonged session is allowed to come to a close without the passage of a revenue bill that would relieve this embarrassment.

We have attempted to picture some of the glaring iniquities of the worthless law making body that concluded its sessions last Saturday. We have not alluded to its levity, its idle waste of time, its insubordination to parliamentary restraint, and its want of self-respect as a responsible organization. But there is no use to continue the picture. That legislative body played its shameful part in full sight of the public. The people have been looking on with disgust, and they feel relieved when an adjournment stops the proceedings of such a Legislature.

The Proof of Its Good Effect.

It is announced that the CARNEGIE company are altering one of their mills at Braddock into a tinplate mill. This ought to be taken as one of the evidences that the WILSON tariff has put vigor and profit into the tinplate industry. When a business man of Mr. CARNEGIE's sagacity gives such an endorsement of the good effects of the Democratic tariff there can be no doubt about it.

The development of the tinplate business under the new fiscal regulations borders almost on the miraculous. It will be remembered that one of the industries that was to be especially promoted by the McKINLEY policy was the manufacture of tinplate, and for this purpose heavy duties were imposed upon everything connected with that line of production. That policy, adopted in 1890, had four years in which to show its effect and all that it could show in that time was a few one horse establishments employing a small number of imported workmen. The country was standing a heavy tax on tinplate for the supposed encouragement of this insignificant industrial development.

The WILSON tariff bill cut off the duties on tin and its products about one half, making the success of the tinplate industry in this country to be dependent upon the enterprise and energy of those engaged in it, and upon healthy competition, instead of McKINLEY coddling, and the result has been most wonderful. Since the Democratic tariff went into operation the starting of new tin mills, and enlargement of the little one-horse old ones, have altogether amounted to about fifty, some of them in size and capacity being first class establishments, and all doing an enlarged and prosperous business.

Impudent Assumption.

Among a batch of bills signed by Governor HASTINGS was one “to honor the United States flag and to protect it from domestic and foreign insult.” Of course this act represents nothing but wind. Its only object was the exploitation of cheap patriotism. Its absurdity displays itself in the idea that a set of roosters like the majority of the recent Legislature, who repudiated a constitution they were sworn to support, and bent their servile necks to political and corporate bosses, should assume the guardianship of the American flag as against domestic and foreign insult.

The offer to take this duty off the hands of the United States government, to which it properly belongs, would be ridiculous even if made by a reputable State Legislature, but when made by such a gang as that which recently exercised the law-making power at Harrisburg it is difficult to say whether absurdity or impudence was the more predominant feature of the proposition.

As a result of the liberality with which the recent Legislature looked out for the interest of the office holders, it was found necessary to appropriate \$817,000 more for salaries and contingent expenses connected with the new offices than was appropriated for such purposes by the previous Legislature. This increased and unnecessary expense was created notwithstanding the scarcity of money in the State Treasury for legitimate public expenses.

The Ohio Straddle.

The proceedings of the recent Ohio Republican State convention gave evidence of what the Republicans intend to do with the silver question. Their intention is to straddle it. The Ohio convention had not the mistaken candor of the extreme gold advocates in demanding an exclusive gold standard nor the honesty of the silver supporters in declaring for a restoration of silver to its proper monetary function. The bi-metalism which the convention dubiously squinted at is dependent upon such a remote and uncertain contingency that as an issue in the next presidential election it can be of no practical account. American politics can't wait upon the slow movement of international agreements. Such bi-metalism as that suggested by the Ohio Republicans in convention assembled can serve no other purpose than that of a straddle.

JOHN SHERMAN was the moving spirit and chief spokesman at the Zanesville gathering, and a nice man he is to take the lead in the question of an honest monetary policy. While the general effect of his statesmanship has been to favor the plutocracy that is interested in maintaining the gold standard, he was nevertheless the author of a silver bill that gave the finances of the country most serious trouble, and did more than anything else to bring into disrepute a metal which, if properly used, is indispensable to a well regulated monetary system. With such a record it is not surprising that “honest” JOHN is preparing to perform a straddle on the most important question that will force itself into the next presidential and congressional contest.

Causing Trouble Already.

The educational force bill is already showing its evil tendency in Philadelphia. A controversy is going on between the board of education and the sectional school boards as to which authority shall have control of the official patronage in the appointment of the transient officers. In the political machinery of the city it will be a great object to control the army of officials which this new law brings into existence.

There is no doubt that the full limit of the law will be taken advantage of by the appointment of two transient officers for each school district and in view of the number of districts in the city it is easily seen what a large official force will be brought into the political service of the party machine that controls the city elections. Not only in Philadelphia but in most of the localities of the State an office worth \$2 a day will be used as a reward and an incentive for party work. This in itself will be an evil not less objectionable than the expense that will be entailed upon the school districts.

It is to be regretted that in passing the Quay county bill the servile tools of the party boss, with no other object than to pay him a compliment, removed the restrictions which had been wisely set up against cutting the State into small counties to satisfy ambitious localities. The precedent set by this Quay county bill will encourage projects for new county formations that will cause local strife and entail upon communities the heavy expense that is always involved in such contests. Happily the State had been rid of this nuisance for a long while, but the impediment to the formation of new counties has been removed and a bad example set, in order that a compliment might be paid to a boss who owned a Legislature.

The superior court bill was a measure that should not have been passed. There was no urgent judicial necessity calling for it. Its chief object was to furnish lucrative places for ambitious Republican lawyers. The great attraction that induced its passage was the seven new judgeships with a salary of \$7,500 attached to each incumbency. The Governor is to appoint these new judges until the places can be filled by popular election, and with that porcine disposition that governs the Republican idea of apportionment, he is going to apportion these judgeships at the ratio of six Republicans to one Democrat.

Quay is Getting Foxy.

Senator Quay is, of course, in sympathy with the movement to make Senator Cameron the Republican nominee for the Presidency next year. He has not shown any opposition to Senator Cameron's silver views, and is looked upon as a friend of silver.

Mr. Quay is keen enough to see, however, that the more silver is talked about the weaker and weaker the cause of free silver grows, and he fears, and rightly so, that a whole year of active campaigning on the part of the sound money men will eliminate the free silver issue from practical politics.

That he believes this and is desirous of hushing up the present discussion is shown by his late interviews in which he deprecates all this talk about the silver question and declares that the Republicans ought to try to get the country back to the tariff issue.

These interviews are preparatory to a fight which is going to take place at the convention of the National League of Republican clubs soon to be held at Cleveland. Quay does not want the convention to say anything about silver. The western silver men, on the other hand, will insist upon taking advantage of the opportunity to commit the Republican party to as pronounced a position on the subject as possible.

This convention affords the only opportunity this year of having the party speak nationally. Of course none but a national convention can make a platform for the party, but a National League convention has come to be used as a mouthpiece of a party during the period between national nominating conventions, and while sometimes deemed a very valuable and useful part of the political machinery of a national party, yet at such times as this, for instance, it is considered a very dangerous thing.

It is said that the Republican leaders are so afraid of unwise action on the part of this convention that they will turn up at Cleveland in strong force. If this is true the country will attach all the more importance to what the convention may say.

All the Signs Point to a Characteristic Straddle.

Ships Without Sailors.

From the Doylestown Democrat.
Why will a great Government, like that of the United States, constantly be “pence wise and pound foolish” and exhibit it to the world? In view of the increasing number of our warships, an effort was made at the last session of Congress to add 2,000 sailors to the navy, which Secretary Herbert strongly recommended, but it was without avail further than to increase the number 1,000. Now it is found there are no sailors to man the four new battle ships, Indiana, Oregon, Iowa and Massachusetts, rapidly approaching completion, unless the Department shall put out of commission some other ships and transfer their crew to the new vessels. Unless the number of sailors be increased at the next session there will be a recurrence of this thing. Constantly building new ships but no sailors to man them is a species of Congressional tomfoolery our national Legislature should not indulge. The problem of new Congressional timber is a query that will force itself on the mind of citizens.

That Would Be an Easy Job for Him.

From the Pittsburg Post.
The western silver Republicans are strongly in favor of nominating Don Cameron for President. We do not see how Don, with all his agility, can run as a Republican candidate for United States Senator in Pennsylvania and a Populist candidate for President all on the same day. Failing in the Pennsylvania Senator, the silverites, who seem bent on separate nominations, are talking of Senator Teller, of Colorado, for President, and either Senator Morgan, of Alabama, or Daniel, of Virginia, for vice-president.

A Degree of Suspicion About This.

From the Westmoreland Democrat.
For some weeks past Senator Thomas H. Carter, of Montana, chairman of the Republican national committee, has been in the east boosting the free and unlimited coinage of silver and Senator Don Cameron for the presidential nomination. With facts like these staring one in the face, the truth of the statements by the organs that the Republican party is united for sound money, is not apparent to the naked eye.

A Word in Time.

From the Scranton Times.
If Governor Hastings really believes that he has a presidential boom he had better get it vaccinated against some of the politicians that are rubbing up against it.

—The COCHRAN bill to tax beer twenty-five cents a barrel passed the House finally on Wednesday. If it becomes a law the treasury will be \$800,000 richer per annum.

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

Spawls from the Keystone.

—Reading's public bath house will be completed this week.

—Forest fires in the region of Bradford were checked Tuesday.

—A new 10,000,000 reservoir will in a few days add to Reading's water supply.

—Carlisle's School Board will elect a City Superintendent of Public Schools.

—Michael Gears drank a fatal dose of laudanum in a Mahanoy City drug store.

—Caught by a runaway car in a Pittston mine, little Frank Davitt was ground to death.

—Forest fires in the western part of the State continue to destroy valuable timber.

—Founzo Levento blew out the gas in a Pittston hotel and it is doubtful if he shall recover.

—Eighteen mules were suffocated in a Pittston mine owing to a break in the ventilator fans.

—A son of Sheriff Fullmer, of Lycoming County, received a bullet, intended for a target, in the neck.

—A Lancaster Judge sent John Weaver to prison for 10 years for robbing S. P. Levy's store at Mount Joy.

—An unknown man was killed and Brakeman Renninger seriously injured in a railroad wreck near Kane.

—One hundred Catholic clergymen of the Scranton Diocese began their annual retreat Monday at Glen Summit.

—The annual convention of the Central diocese of the Episcopal Church of Pennsylvania is in session at Reading.

—To stop Sunday drinking at South Bethlehem, warrants are out for the arrest of half a hundred saloonkeepers.

—The Schuylkill region Mine Inspectors will examine applicants for mine foremen at Pottsville on June 14 and 15.

—The Lancaster Bar Association Tuesday formerly requested the County Commissioners to enlarge the Court House.

—Five big carloads of scrap were gathered up on the scene of the Reading's coal and freight wreck, near Ashland.

—C. A. Rittenhouse was yesterday appointed a fourth-class postmaster at Eleanor, vice John Nichols, removed.

—A National Guard headquarters order announces the appointment of Hay G. Trexler as an aide on Governor Hastings's staff.

—Samuel Street was killed and Robert Henderson fatally injured by the fall of a 1000-pound bloom at the Latrobe Steel Works.

—H. M. Smith, of Pottsville, was bitten on the hand while handling bananas by a tarantula, and amputation may be necessary.

—Agent Charles F. Hoffman, of the Pawnee Bill show, was arrested at Lebanon, charged with embezzling \$300 of the concern's funds.

—Work was resumed on the Pennsylvania Midland railroad from Bedford to McKees Gap on Thursday, after a cessation since January.

—As he sat upon a keg of powder in a Wilkesbarre mine, Joseph Smith struck a match and is now dying as the result of the explosion that followed.

—A keg of spikes was placed on the Philadelphia & Reading's track at Middletown on Sunday, and nearly resulted in the wreck of the Buffalo express.

—A spring from which they procured water has in several years caused the death from typhoid fever of five members of Edward Ketter's family at Reading.

—Owing to the low condition of the state treasury no appropriation will be made this year for the holding of farmers' institutes in the various counties of the commonwealth.

—An Altoona woman has had eleven hotel men arrested for furnishing her husband liquor after she had notified them not to sell him any, as he is a man of known intemperate habits.

—The State Board of Charities is expected to inspect the Schuylkill County Almshouse this week in response to charges made against the steward by a doctor and one of the directors.

—Altoona has taken a forward step in the matter of sidewalks. The laying of brick walks has been prohibited and brick, stone or cement will hereafter be used. Loose planks and rotten boards will soon cease to cause trouble and expense.

—Two men, giving their names as James Fleming and George Shultz, were arrested at Lewisport last night and lodged in jail charged with passing counterfeit money. The men had been following Pawnee's show and were arrested on the information of Chief of Police J. DeForest, of Huntington.

—At DuBois Sunday evening 5 year old Edna Fasset was badly burned by her clothing igniting from the flames of fire she had started in the back yard to smoke mosquitoes. The timely arrival of a neighbor, who succeeded in extinguishing the flames, prevented the child from being burned to death.

—A tramp called at the residence of Thomas Gorsuch, in Huntington on Saturday morning and asked for something to eat. While Mrs. Gorsuch was in the cellar preparing him some food, the ungrateful scamp spied Mr. Gorsuch's vest hanging on the wall from which he stole a valuable silver watch, and decamped.

—A Pennsylvania railroad train at Idlewild ran down an Italian, cutting his leg off. The man at once drew a pen knife and cut his throat. This act was performed before the scores of passengers on the train. The superintendent of the division was also on board. Ex-Postmaster Bido Wilde, of Hazleton, told the officials that they were committing an inhuman act by passing the unfortunate man. The train was not stopped, however, until Halifax was reached, and a physician was sent down from there.

—Robbers Sunday night entered the home of aged William Condon and wife, near Williamsport, bound the old couple with ropes and then compelled them to tell where they kept their money. The robbers got \$25 and then stole a horse and wagon and escaped. Mrs. Condon succeeded in freeing herself and fled to a neighbor's house a half mile away when an alarm was given. A pursuing party found the stolen horse in a barn fifteen miles away. One of the robbers threatened to kill the old man with a butcher knife if he made any outcry.