

# Democratic Watchman

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## Hastings Shown Up By a Republican Organ.

The Evening Telegraph, Philadelphia's leading Republican afternoon publication, unmercifully berates Governor HASTINGS for surrendering to QUAY and endorsing the boom that has been started in support of the Boss's presidential candidacy. There is no form of language that the Telegraph does not employ to make the Governor appear mean, base, cowardly, and generally contemptible.

While all that this Philadelphia Republican journal says about Governor HASTINGS may be true, it hardly becomes it to appear against him as such a sweeping accuser. There was no paper more zealous in support of his election as Governor, when it knew, or ought to have known, that he would turn out to be exactly the kind of executive officer that he has proven himself to be, and is charged with being, by the journal that has changed its hearty support into bitter condemnation. It knew that all his public qualifications were shams, and above all it knew that the issue upon which he was elected, and about which he went through the State bellowing calamity, was the greatest fraud ever perpetrated upon a gullible population, yet it supported him in it, and had not a word of reproof at a time when reproof would have been more to its credit.

It cannot be believed that at the time the Telegraph was among the foremost of Republican journals in advocating the election of HASTINGS, it did not know "that his reputation was based upon an utterly false conception of his true character; that he had traded upon borrowed capital and strutted in false plumage; that he was only a Falstaffian soldier, and a very poor one at that, in war and politics; that he was one of the weakest and most unreliable of men; that he had never manifested a single attribute of real leadership; that his mental endowments were woefully deficient, and that left to himself and his own meagre resources, on the stump, in the cabinet, in the executive chamber, or in the political council room, he would speedily be revealed as a most poverty stricken man, mentally and morally."

This is the character which the Governor now presents to this Philadelphia Republican journal. Is it possible that it was not sufficiently intelligent to have known what his real character was at the time when its columns were advocating his election and supporting the fraudulent issues upon which he attained the gubernatorial position?

While it is not our business to either admit, or dispute the truth, of what the Evening Telegraph says about Governor HASTINGS we cannot approve the reason that has brought its censure down so severely upon him. There is no appearance of its being evoked by the general profrigidity of his administration and his faithless betrayal of the interests of the people who put him in office by an unprecedented majority; but the exhortation has been incited by his having shifted his factional connection from one wing of a corrupt party to another. If HASTINGS had stuck to the hog Combine and not crawled back to the feet of the Boss that had been so recently kicking him, the Evening Telegraph, perhaps, would not have been provoked into telling what it now does about his general character and conduct.

## The Sham Investigation.

It is said that the Senate investigating committee, through which it was expected that the rottenness of municipal government would be exposed and reform brought about, has suspended operations because of the exhaustion of funds needed to keep it going. The funds, however, held out longer than the public confidence in the investigation, which became exhausted long ago.

There was never a more deliberately intended fraud than this investigating committee has proven itself to be, but it could not have been otherwise, considering that it was instituted by QUAY for the pretended purpose of reform. QUAY and reform are entirely in compatible. I was a great joke to bring them in connection with each other.

In its work at Philadelphia the only purpose of the committee was to show up the iniquities of the hog combine, without any object of general reform; but since the hogs defeated the QUAYITES at the recent elections it is to be expected that the investigators will quit their pretense and disband.

## In Explanation.

In an article in the WATCHMAN of the 7th inst. under the head of "Might Have Been Worse," and intended as a criticism of Judge YERKES' commendation of the work of the district attorney's office in Philadelphia, there appeared a paragraph severely, and, in view of since ascertained facts, unfairly reflecting upon the management of that office. In it was charged:

"That the records of the very court over which Judge YERKES presided, show that an indictment, found by a grand jury against a police officer for 'criminally assaulting a girl,' has been pigeon-holed in the district attorney's office for over five years; that other indictments, found by grand juries against assessors for the fraudulent registration of voters and against others for false registration and padding the registry lists, have been virtually set aside by the failure of the district attorney to do his duty; that election officers who have flagrantly and openly violated the election laws go about that city unmolested and without fear of prosecution, and that to-day there are more uncaught and unpunished criminals, within the city of Philadelphia and within the reach of the power of this same district attorney than in any city on this continent."

While these charges of delay in the prosecution of an indicted policeman were based upon the sworn testimony of witnesses before the Senate investigating committee, and that of failure to promptly prosecute arraigned election officials upon the admitted fact that there are numerous cases of the kind awaiting the action of the public prosecutor, there are other facts and circumstances connected with these cases that place them in a different light, and convince us that a grievous wrong has been done the district attorney in making these charges in the manner they have been made. It is true that the WATCHMAN knew nothing of the facts given in connection herewith, at the time of publication of these charges, but having committed the error of assailing the official work of a public officer, without a full knowledge of all the facts connected with the matter in question, its own reputation for truth and fairness, as well as justice to the accused official, demands that reparation of the wrong, and acknowledgment of the error, be made as public and as broad as were the charges. And this we unhesitatingly do by giving the full facts, as far as we have been able to ascertain them, relating to the cases to which reference was made.

In the case of the indicted police officer, the facts and records show that, in place of neglectfully delaying the prosecution for a period of five years, upon four occasions this case was called for trial but each time continued at the request of the attorney for the prosecution; that in several other instances continuance was had at the solicitation of the prosecutor, who afterwards, without the knowledge of the district attorney, left the State and was not to be found. This case has been disposed of within the past few weeks, the officer being acquitted and the district attorney, fully and satisfactorily to the court, explaining the cause of the long delay in getting it to trial.

As to the other allegations that indictments against election officers and registration assessors have not been prosecuted because of the failure of the district attorney to do his duty; it is shown by the records, to the credit of the officials, that many cases of this character have been successfully prosecuted. And while it is admitted that in a number of instances cases of this kind are held up it is claimed to be because of insufficient evidence to convict and for the reason, as given by an attaché of the office, that to prosecute and have acquitted men who are actually believed to be, but could not, under the technicality of the law, be proven guilty, would work a greater wrong to the community than delaying, for the time, the presentation of the indictments against them.

These are the facts as we find them. They are facts which the public has a right to know, and which this paper, upon the first opportunity after ascertaining them, cheerfully gives in justice to the district attorney of Philadelphia and his assistants, as well as to its own sense of right and fairness.

## Pattison and the Presidency.

The Democratic state committee at its meeting last week, voiced the sentiment of a great majority of Pennsylvania Democrats, when it formally announced itself in favor of the nomination of Gov. PATTISON for president. While it is not known that the ex-Governor is an expected or willing aspirant for the position, it is a certain fact that the party could not nominate a stronger man than the distinguished Pennsylvania Democrat, and that if his name were presented to the convention it would be as much of a compliment to the State as to him whom it has so often honored.

Ex-Governor PATTISON stands in high repute in all parts of the Union.

He has won a national reputation, not only by the fact of his having been twice elected Governor of a State in which the Republican majority is usually overwhelming, but also by the spotless character of his official conduct and his fidelity to the interests of the State in contrast to the accustomed profrigidity of Republican administration in Pennsylvania.

It is not definitely known whether the ex-Governor is stirred by Presidential ambition, a laudable feeling in those who are competent and worthy of that high position, but it cannot be questioned that the party could not nominate a stronger candidate, nor one whose election would fill the presidential office with a more trustworthy incumbent. His career in the gubernatorial office of Pennsylvania could be taken as a forecast of what his conduct would be with higher national duties imposed upon him.

## Disastrous Fire in a Troy N. Y. Factory.

225 Employees in a Panic. Twenty May Have Been Killed.

It was just thirty minutes before closing hour in Stettinheimer & Co's. shirt waist factory, on River street, and the 330 girls and women were working rapidly to finish up. In the cutting room on the fifth floor 150 girls were closing up their days assignments and preparing to leave when the whistle blew.

Lilly Kreiger, who was working near a machine, called a small boy to light the gas over her work. The boy struck a match and threw the burning stub to the floor. It struck a pile of oily rags and in an instant the girl was enveloped in flames. With her clothes and hair burning she rushed to the window and in an instant the room became a struggling, shrieking mass of humanity, filling the windows, the fire-escapes and the only stairway.

Pushing and turning in narrow corridors to find a sister or mother or friend, the number in the exits augmented every minute, and girls and women fought for their lives to escape. With rare presence of mind, Policeman Farrall, who was on the street, seeing that in the panic a number were liable to jump, let down the awning over the entrance. Barely was it down when two or three forms came flying from the fifth and sixth stories, and bouncing from the awning fell to the sidewalk.

About 8 o'clock the firemen heard shrieks coming from the two-story building on the south. They discovered an Italian peddler, named Joseph Rossi, who kept a stand in front of the building, pinioned by the legs, under a heavy beam. Three policemen started to assist him, and with a fireman worked for three quarters of an hour. They had just about gotten him loose when with a roar the great south walls came crashing down, and the spectators saw the brave little group buried in a new view. When the smoke and dust had cleared, there was a rush of willing workers, and in a little while the men were taken out. All were injured, and had to be removed to the hospital. The Italian will probably die.

## THE DEATH LIST WILL BE AUGMENTED.

Superintendent Willard, of the police force, says that he saw a number of girls at windows who never came out, but fell back into the flames. One fireman who was working from the rear saw three girls with their arms wound tightly about each other turn in their frenzy and jump back into the flames. Some of the women who escaped fell of stumbling over prostrate bodies and are positive that a score of girls perished. The girls who did escape live in various suburbs, and had cleared, there was a rush of willing workers, and in a little while the men were taken out. All were injured, and had to be removed to the hospital. The Italian will probably die.

Lottie and Nellie Hull, sisters, grasped each other tightly by the hands and started down the stairs from the sixth story. At the landing of the fifth floor they encountered a wall of flame and smoke. Nellie had on only her corsets and skirt, having been making her toilet. Lottie, who was also partially dressed, threw her dress over Nellie's face, and together they went through the flames. Lottie's hair was burned completely off when she reached the sidewalk, but Nellie was burned only about her bare arms. They were taken home.

The total loss by the fire is \$250,000 to \$300,000, with about \$100,000 insurance. At least 500 people are thrown out of employment. The firemen worked to-night with the thermometer down below zero and suffered very much.

## The Fellow out of Whom the Most Can Be Had.

From the Philadelphia Record. Senator Quay says that if he should determine to be a candidate for the presidency he would make the announcement himself. But he doesn't mind having Pennsylvania tie its delegation to a Quay candidacy. If any trading is to be done at St. Louis the fellow that can reach into his pocket for sixty-four votes will occupy a position of advantage. Pennsylvania being for Quay, it becomes at once a matter of interest to know: Who is Quay for?

## Senate Will Not Budge.

Refuses to pass the Tariff Bill and Thereby Displeases the House.—Makes the Members Angry.—Chances for Re-election of some of them Jeopardized.—May Also Kill off Reed's Boom.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17.—The anger of the house Republicans at the Senate's refusal to take up and pass the tariff bill increases hourly. The speaker's immediate friends are especially bitter. They realize that intense dissatisfaction exists already on the Republican side with Mr. Reed's policy of cutting appropriations to the bone. If the river and harbor bill fails it will further increase the dissatisfaction, and the speaker will come in for the largest share of the blame. But unless the tariff bill passes, thus giving the Republicans the chance of claiming that they provided additional revenues to meet the additional expenditures they wish to make, there can be no help for it. Even the Republicans are not reckless enough to make appropriations which it is plain the treasury will not have funds to meet. If the revenues are not increased, or, rather, if a tariff bill is not passed which the Republicans can assert will increase the revenues, then ordinary appropriations must be kept down to the present basis, and extraordinary ones, like the river and harbor bill, must be lopped off. But this is a project which Republican members generally angrily decline to contemplate. They want to make big appropriations. They especially want to pass a big river and harbor bill, if the President is certain to veto it.

A large number of Republicans are aware that a hard fight for renomination and re-election awaits them this fall. To help them in this they must make a good showing in the way of fat appropriations for river and harbor improvements, public buildings, etc., in their districts. But they know the house managers will not countenance such appropriations unless the tariff bill passes. Hence their anger at the inaction of the Senate. They not only want the tariff bill passed, but they want it passed quickly, so that the appropriation bills they expect to get their jobs in—the river and harbor and sundry civil—can be made up on the basis of the increased revenues the Republicans claim the tariff bill provides.

But the Senators are not so anxious. They do not have to stand for re-election this fall. Besides, they have other fish to fry. Some of them have records to make on silver. Others think the failure of the tariff bill will aid in killing off Reed as a Presidential candidate. To the latter situation in the house is very satisfactory. They know Reed will get the cursing for all that is done wrong or left undone, and he is the fellow they are after. Meanwhile Reed's managers are urging the house Republicans to influence the Senate by every means in their power to pass the tariff bill. All the lobbyists in Washington are engaged in the same work, because small appropriations mean light pickings for them. But the Senate doesn't budge.

## Elections in Pennsylvania.

Hottest Fight for Years.—The Reformers elected a Number of Pittsburgh Councilmen, but the Republicans Still Have a Working Majority in Both Branches.—In Allegheny Geyer, Republican, was Elected Mayor Without Opposition.

PITTSBURGH, Feb. 19.—The municipal election yesterday resulted in victory for the regular Republican ticket, after the hottest fight known in this city for years. Ford, Republican, for mayor, had a majority of 1,452 over Guthrie, the Democrat and Municipal League candidate. For controller, Gourey, who was elected three years ago on the Reform ticket, was a candidate on the regular ticket this year and was elected by 496 majority.

The Reformers elected a number of councilmen, but the Republicans still have a good working majority in both branches. In Allegheny, Geyer, Republican, was elected mayor without opposition. The entire Republican ticket was also elected.

Notwithstanding that the result of the election, as given in these dispatches, are compiled from the official figures sent in from the various districts and seem to be nearly accurate, the Municipal League executive committee declares that the count is incomplete and incorrect, and has announced its intention to contest the election in the courts.

The executive committee will hold a meeting at the League headquarters this afternoon for the purpose of discussing the situation and devising plans to proceed with the contest.

## SCRANTON IS DEMOCRATIC.

SCRANTON, Feb. 19.—Revised returns of the election held here yesterday show that the Democrats have elected Bailey for mayor over Ripple, Republican, by a majority of 194; Boland for treasurer over Williams, Republican, by 1,642 majority, and Robinson for controller over Widmyer, Republican, by 1,165 majority. The Republicans elect the three city assessors by majorities ranging from 500 to 1,000. The select council remains Republican, the common council goes Democratic and the school board has one Republican majority.

It was the hardest fought municipal campaign ever known here, and much partisan feeling was shown. The Republican opposition to William Connell was largely responsible for the Democratic success.

Carbondale went Democratic throughout, O'Neill being elected mayor over Carter, Republican, by 21 majority.

## WILLIAMSPORT RETURNS.

WILLIAMSPORT, Pa., Feb. 19.—Later returns give Mansel, Prohibitionist, 348 plurality for mayor; Quigel, Democrat, 352 for city treasurer, and George, Democrat, 975, for controller. The Republicans elected the assessors and a majority of councils.

—Read the WATCHMAN.

## William H. Iams Likely to Die.

BALTIMORE, Feb. 19.—William H. Iams, who gained wide notoriety at the time of the Homestead strike by acts of insubordination, ending in his being strung up by the thumbs, is at the Maryland university hospital suffering from a bullet wound in the abdomen. The doctors say he will probably die. Iams returned to his boarding house early this morning and got into an altercation with an adjoining room lodger named Charles Arndt. After a scuffle Arndt was thrown down stairs. Returning to his room Arndt secured a revolver, and when Iams returned to the attack he received a bullet in the lower part of the abdomen.

## \$10,000 in Bicycles Free.

The Philadelphia Press announces that it will present any person—young or old, man or woman, boy or girl—who will comply with certain easy conditions, with their choice of the finest \$100 bicycles manufactured. The details of the offer can be found in any issue of The Press. This journal never does anything by halves, and its proposition is therefore open to all, whether readers of The Press or not.

## ADDITIONAL LOCALS.

MARRIAGE LICENSES.—Following is the list of marriage licenses granted by orphans' court clerk, G. W. Rumberger, during the past week:

Edward W. Harwood, of Phillipsburg, and Virgie M. Fink, of Chester Hill. Frank L. Hoffman and Melissa May Flier, both of Phillipsburg. John A. Stamm, of Oak Hall, and Lucy E. Garner, of Lamont.

A HOUSE BURNED AT MILESBURG YESTERDAY.—James Heverly's two-story frame dwelling house, valued at \$1,000, on South Pike street, Milesburg, caught fire from a defective fuse shortly before noon, yesterday, and was totally destroyed in less than an hour. Nearly all of the household goods were saved and the building was fully insured.

The new book and ladder company was on the scene early and did telling work in the protection of adjoining property. Such a thing as saving the Heverly house was out of the question, since the only water to be had was that carried from cisterns. This fact should convince the new councilmen in Milesburg that it would be the right thing to grant a franchise to a company that is anxious to incorporate a water works at that place. For some time there has been a company ready and willing to put in an efficient plant, but the privilege has been withheld. A town like Milesburg cannot afford to be behind Howard, State College, Centre Hall and other places that have good public water service.

Nothing adds more to the comfort of the citizens or to facilities for fighting fire than plenty of water—not to mention the benefit from reduced insurance rates. Milesburg should profit by yesterday's lesson and provide a water supply for herself at once.

HE BROKE HIS NECK IN FALLING.—Mr. and Mrs. Josiah Roseman, who live four miles above Madisonburg, in Gregg township, had a sad return from the grange meeting at Spring Mills last Saturday.

Together they left home during the morning, but before going Mr. Roseman charged his twelve year old son, Grover, with the care of the stock, at the same time advising him to get ready for his night feeding early so that he would get done before dark. About three o'clock the boy, a light hearted, robust little fellow, started for the barn and to his death. An hour later his sister noticed that the cows were not yet "milked" so she sent a younger brother out to tell Grover to do it. He ran to the barn calling, but received no answer. Then he went up into the barn floor where he discovered the boy on his knees and leaning against the partition of the mow. After shaking him and receiving no reply he ran back to the house for his sister. She went out and after repeated efforts to arouse her brother realized that he was dead.

A long line was wrapped about his shoulders while one end of it was tied to a sill on the cross loft. The girl was almost distracted. She was there alone with her dead brother and several small brothers and sisters who seemed not to realize the awfulness of the situation. Fortunately a man passed at that time and word was sent for the parents and a doctor. Both came but life had been extinct for some time.

A jury was impaneled and decided he had come to his death by a fall from the cross loft in which he had received a broken neck by coming in contact with a hay wagon that was standing on the barn floor. It is the general supposition that the boy, after wrapping the line about him climbed up the ladder to make a swing, but had fallen after he tied the one end of his line. While the circumstances might have pointed to suicide the idea is scouted. He was too young and happy to contemplate such a fate. That very morning he had had a wrestling match with his father and the home was known as one in which the children were considered first in all things.

Another, and possibly more accurate, account of this accident will be found in our Spring Mills correspondence.

—An express agent named Swab, at Ironton, left that place suddenly last Wednesday and was arrested later in Ohio. His accounts are short to the amount of \$1,000.

KILLED BY A HORSE'S KICK.—Willie Houser, the 14 year old son of W. H. Houser, of Grand Island, Neb., met with a sad accident that resulted in his death. On the morning of Feb. 4th, Mr. Houser and son did up the chores at the barn, after which his father told Willie to turn out the horses while he would take the milk to the house and return to help him drive them to the field. Mr. Houser returned in less than five minutes to find Willie lying on the ground, unconscious, and bleeding from the head. He was carried to the house and the best medical aid sent for. Upon examination it was found that the top of the skull was badly fractured by a horse kick. The skull was immediately raised and a small loose piece was removed. He laid in an unconscious condition from the morning of the fourth until he quietly passed away at 9:30 on the evening of the 7th.

He was buried at Grand Island, Sunday, Feb. 9th, and leaves a father, mother, brother and three sisters to mourn his loss. He was a member of the Alda Methodist Episcopal church, and loved by all who knew him.

W. H. Houser and wife were residents of Centre county, but in an early day moved to Grand Island, Neb., where they have resided since.

A MEMORABLE MEETING OF COUNCIL.—The early part of last Monday night's council meeting did not differ from those of preceding nights, but the wind-up proved to be something that will furnish a pleasant theme for the retrospections of the sixteen gentlemen who were there.

The meeting itself was not characterized by the amount of business transacted, for when adjournment time came about all that had been done was the approving of bills to the amount of \$263.67. With all of the members present the time of the session was nearly all taken up in badinage. Two of the members were in doubt as to the outcome of the election next day, their councilmanic lives being in the balance, and they were the butt of all sorts of raillery. President John C. Miller was doing his best to hurry up the work, as he had made an engagement to go with Mrs. Miller to a card party, later in the evening, but all the dignity he could command would not suppress the members during that last session of the year. Delays of every sort were made, the business was blocked by the most ridiculous propositions until the president was in a fair way to anger when it was proposed that the two lone Democrats should treat to an oyster supper. With a readiness that almost took the breath away they took up the gauntlet that had been thrown down as a joke, moved for adjournment and headed Coadler's saloon. The members of the press who were there were invited to go along. Never dreaming of such a thing you can scarce imagine the president's surprise when, instead of an oyster supper, he found himself beside one of the daintiest banqueting boards ever laid in the town. Even then the guest of honor didn't fully realize what it all meant and it was not until after the various courses on the menu had been served and the after dinner talks began that he fully comprehended the honor that his fellow councilmen had accorded him.

The banquet was given as a parting mark of esteem to president Miller, who has left Bellefonte for his new home, "Rock-view," in Benner township, where he will live and superintend the Reynolds' farms.

## THE MENU.

Shrewsbury on the Half Shell.  
Purée de Tomato.  
Salted Water.  
Roast Turkey. Cranberry Sauce.  
Mashed Potatoes. Green Peas.  
Lettuce Mayonnaise Dressing.  
Roman Punch.  
Oyster Patties.  
Cold Ham.  
Olives. Sweetizer Cheese.  
Salted Almonds.  
Chocolate ice cream. Vanilla ice cream.  
Bisque. Orange Ice.  
Associated Cakes.  
Babanas. Grapes.

The following gentlemen were present: President Miller, members Williams, Keller, Valentine, Brachbill, Bush, Brockerhoff, Gerberich, John Arndt, an ex-president of council, mayor W. E. Gray, and Newton Bailey of the Magnet, Charles E. Kurtz of the Centre Democrat, T. H. Harter of the Gazette, Charles E. Dorworth of the News and a representative of the Watchman, Clerk of council, Isaac Mitchell, was toast master.

All the guests responded to toasts that were proposed, some of them referring, in a happy vein to Mr. Miller's great service to the town. About the tarest thing that was heard was a pithy rhyme gotten off by H. C. Valentine, member from the North. The evening was delightfully spent and it was mid-night before the party broke up.