Democratic Watchman.

BY P. GRAY MEEK.

Ink Slings.

—Many a man is poor by imagination rather than by fact.

—More are after the sound of money, than care for its soundness.

—PLATT'S figures have all turned out to have been purely those of speech.

—The fact that a woman named JOLLY lived to be 100 years old should be an incentive to those who would be long lived to be jolly also.

—The Republicans are proving their utter unfitness to dominate in Maryland and putting that State in a way to be everlastingly Democratic.

—From the number of times cyclones have given the West the shake one would think there should come an end of them some day.

—The tandem bicycle would be a nice thing to take one's girl riding on if there were only some chance of catching up to her once or twice during the trip.

—Captain General WEYLER'S order prohibiting the further exportation of tobacco from Cuba is certainly not calculated to make Uncle SAM smoke the pipe of peace.

—Lieutenant PEARY, the Arctic explorer, is going north this summer. From the condition of the atmosphere just now there must be some one up there kicking up a fuss now.

—"BILLY" MCGLENN, who was caught stealing time, in Tyrone, on Saturday, will be found doing time at, Hollidaysburg, after the next term of Blair county quarter sessions.

—Canton, Ohio, High school girls have declared war on cigarette smokers. Under the guise of saving the boys from premature death they are possibly trying to do away with the taint it gives the lips.

—There is no occasion to make such a fuss over Prof. LANGLEY and the flying machine he has lately constructed. Why there are plenty of men, right here in Bellefonte, who have been flying high for years.

—TOM PLATT thought he was getting off something that would "queer" MCKINLEY forever when he called him "a Dolly Varden candidate." From the way things look the "Dolly Varden" seems just the thing the people want.

—MCKINLEY must be a crack advance agent. Being already ahead of the great prosperity circus and grand protection hippodrome and humbug he is also booking the A. P. A. dark lantern exhibition which will show on November 3rd.

—Governor MORTON, of New York, having celebrated his 72nd year on Saturday the Republicans did well in not having taken him into serious consideration as a presidential candidate. MORTON is a very nice old gentleman but he couldn't stand the rigors of a presidential contest.

—The decision to hold the olympic games quadrennially, hereafter, at Athens seems to be a super-fluous bit of business. The idea of reviving such games and not holding them in the stadium at Athens would be very like QUAY'S candidacy for presidential honors, a colossal fake.

—Since QUAY can't be the Republican presidential nominee he would like to drive the band wagon in the capacity of chairman. Under the circumstances he would'nt be a very good fellow for that job, since his eye sight is not good enough to keep him out of the political chuck holes.

—And now they have it going that QUAY will visit MCKINLEY and urge on him to accept HASTINGS as a running mate. The plan is said to be for QUAY to shove HASTINGS onto the ticket and thus get him out of CAMERON'S road for the Senate, but few people will be led to believe that the Governor is in any-body's road now-a-days.

—What a week this has been. On Tuesday the central Pennsylvania homeopathists met here to talk sugar pills and sich. Next day the Centre county Sunday school association came along to talk over eclectic remedies for spiritual weaknesses and yesterday evangelist WEAVER'S great tabernacle dispensary of allopathic doses was dedicated.

—The Pittsburg *Times* is of the opinion that Governor HASTINGS will accept the report of brigadiers SCHALL and GOBIN and Col. NORTH against the mustering into the N. G. P. of any more colored companies. The grey invincibles, of Philadelphia, were anxious for the admission of enough colored troops to make a battalion. Colored soldiers are not as much in favor with the Governor as colored voters once were.

—Rev. Dr. ROBERT FORBES, of Duluth, said, in the Methodist general conference, at Cleveland, on Tuesday, that he thinks people are getting converted too fast. According to his idea "salvation will soon be on sale by telephone and telegraph," but that is nothing new. When TALMAGE preached in Brooklyn there were plenty of phones into his church so that people could sit at home and listen to his sermons.

—It is proved that the intrinsic value of the metal has nothing to do with the value of the money which might be coined out of it. The other day lightning struck the wood-shed of an old farmer, who lives down the country, and a keg of silver dollars he had hidden therein was converted into pig silver. When the old man put the silver dollars in they were worth one hundred cents each, but after the lightning struck them they were worth only the price of pig silver.

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A Danger to the Republic.

Abuses that within recent years have developed in American politics, and after growing to formidable proportions are still on the increase, make the thoughtful citizen tremble for the stability of our popular institutions and the future of the Republic.

The tendency to political abuses that have become so dangerous, assumed its present threatening trend when eight years ago the managers of the Republican party, with the object of regaining control of the government, offered to shape its fiscal policy to the advantage of a certain class in consideration of that class furnishing enough money to carry the presidential election. There was always more or less corruption in their political management, but a bargain on so extensive a scale introduced a corrupting factor into the politics of the country that has exerted a most demoralizing effect not only upon the political, but also upon the financial and business conditions. In order that the corrupt bargain should be carried out the making of the tariff schedules was handed over to those who were intended to be the beneficiaries of them, they having paid for them by campaign contributions, and were allowed to throng the committee room and dictate their wishes while the bill was in the process of formulation.

Such corrupt and mercenary proceedings could not fail to produce a measure which by its promoting the interest of a limited class was necessarily injurious to the mass of the people and helped to bring on a situation that culminated in business prostration and financial panic. This was the natural consequence of a fiscal measure which owed its existence to a corrupt abuse practiced in the presidential election of 1884, and which was designed to promote the interest of a class at the expense of the generality of the people.

But this natural and necessary consequence manifested itself at a time and under circumstances that have enabled the Republican managers to ingeniously impress the minds of the unintelligent, and the unthinking, with the belief that the resultant business trouble and financial depression were caused by a Democratic administration coming into power. But the worst feature of this deception is that it is intended to be associated in this campaign with a repetition of the corrupt use of money which has grown to be so dangerous a political abuse, and which as an agency employed by Republican politicians has become the greatest danger that threatens our free institutions.

The man that has distanced all competitors for the Republican presidential nomination is the man whose name is most conspicuously identified with the tariff that owed its existence to corrupt means employed in the election, and who in the contest for delegates has had the advantage of money contributed by expectant tariff beneficiaries. In the event of his nomination, which appears to be the next thing to a positive certainty, the fearful abuse of employing money as a controlling factor in American politics will manifest the alarming extent to which it has been developed.

The rebellion of the southern confederates, whose object was to destroy the Union, was an open demonstration which bore its object upon its face and could be met and successfully resisted. The corrupt political methods of the Republican party, which are bringing elections and legislation under the control of money and converting public politics into purchasable commodities, are sapping the foundation of our popular government with a political dry rot insidious in its character, and which in its ultimate demoralization is more dangerous than a rebellion that is in the open and can be grappled with and suppressed.

In the Republican party, as now constituted and managed, consists the danger that makes the perpetuity of the Republic problematical.

Belligerency for a Campaign Purpose.

The speech which Senator MORGAN made in the Senate, last Saturday, favoring the passage of a joint resolution to recognize the belligerency of Cuba, comes too late in the session to be of any practical use. The purpose of such a resolution would be to compel the President to either agree with its object by issuing a proclamation of recognition, or to veto it.

This would be a more manly proceeding than the sneaking design of the resolution that was passed some weeks ago, which left the act of recognition to the option of the President with the object of throwing all the responsibility upon his shoulders.

If Congress wants the Cubans to be recognized as belligerents let it pass such a resolution as will make it share the responsibility equally with the President. Let it make such a declaration as will render it obligatory for Mr. CLEVELAND to take a step that may involve the country in war.

The belligerency resolutions are intended chiefly for a political purpose and to have a campaign effect. But if they are passed in a proper shape, and with an equal division of the responsibility, the President can be depended on to carry them out.

The A. P. A. Force.

The farce that was attempted to be played between MCKINLEY and the A. P. A., is about being terminated by that secret organization taking the major off its black list.

The pretense was made some months ago that MCKINLEY had rendered himself obnoxious to the A. P. A. by refusing to answer interrogatories made by that order or give pledges. It was represented that all the other Republican presidential aspirants had appeared before its committee, either in person or by representatives, and answered its questions, but the "fearless and independent" MCKINLEY would not recognize its demands.

This was suspected at the time as being a game that the dark lantern order and the Ohio candidate were playing to disguise the fact that the A. P. A. were pledged to MCKINLEY as the candidate that best suited their purpose and was most congenial to their principles. It was policy to keep this under cover, as the knowledge of it would turn a large class of voters, particularly the Catholics, against him, and with this object the farce of a disagreement between them was put on the boards.

But it is now announced that the executive committee of the A. P. A. have agreed to take the boycott off MCKINLEY and let the members of the order vote for him if they wish to. The whole proceeding was intended to create the impression that the organization was not pleased with him, but there is every reason to believe that there was an understanding between them, while this farce was in progress Judge JACKSON, supreme vice president of the A. P. A., declared that the alleged fight of the order against MCKINLEY "is all humbug," and that "over ninety per cent. of us are with him."

It requires some smart practice to have the dark-lantern support and at the same time not repell the Catholic vote.

A Fraudulent Expense.

It will be an imposition upon the people of Pennsylvania if the money to pay the expenses of the so-called Philadelphia "LEXOW" committee be taken from the state treasury. It was promised that the expense would be borne by the Philadelphia municipal reform league, but it is now intimated that the next State Legislature will be asked to appropriate money for that purpose.

That investigation committee was a fraud from its first inception to the final petering out of its deceptive purpose. It was never intended to do anything that would be of interest or benefit to the State. In fact, it was never intended to do anything at all except to serve boss QUAY'S object of scaring the other faction in Philadelphia by threatening to expose the corruption of their methods and the rottenness of their rule; but which he had no intention of doing, as a thorough investigation would involve his own rascally ring of henchmen.

The committee made a show of investigation, but was always careful to suspend its inquiry whenever the subejct it was handling gave indications of furnishing damaging developments. The whole business was intended entirely to serve QUAY'S purpose and it would be an outrage to make the taxpayers of the State stand the expense. But there can be scarcely a doubt that the miserable tools who will compose the majority of the next State Legislature will appropriate money to pay the charges incurred by their boss's sham "LEXOW" committee.

Spanish Atrocities.

A letter has been received in Philadelphia from a creditable source in Cuba which gives some details of atrocities practiced by the Spaniards in their operations against the Cuban insurgents. This letter describes the cold-blooded murder of sixty-four non-combatants, including men, women and children, near Matanzas, twenty-seven of whom were shot down by a volley and the balance burned to death in a cane field, to which they had fled to escape their fiendish enemy.

If such an atrocity were ascribed to any other soldiers than the Spanish it would be incredible, but the whole history of Spanish warfare is full of such inhuman incidents. They are in keeping with the character of a people whose favorite diversion is the cruel bull-fight, and such bloody practices accord with the proclamations of the butcher WEYLER which denounce the Cuban patriots as brigands and outlaws unentitled to no other treatment than cold-blooded slaughter.

All that is authentically known of the Spanish conduct in Cuba substantiates the ferocious details as given in the letter received in Philadelphia. While these horrors are being perpetrated a cowardly Congress is afraid to pass such resolutions as would share with the President the responsibility of interfering with such devilish proceedings. It shirks its duty in order that it may have an excuse to blame the President for not doing his.

Tom Reed Becomes Sarcastic.

Speaker REED is a political personage who just at this time is greatly in need of sympathy. He is by all odds the ablest of the men who are aspiring for the Republican presidential nomination, but in being so thoroughly distanced by the one who in point of ability and force of character is the scrubbiest one of the lot, he certainly is subjected to a humiliation that should excite the sympathy of even his enemies.

REED started out in his presidential aspirations with good reason to believe that he was entitled to the preference of his party. It was to secure that preference that he ran the 51st Congress, as its speaker, on despotic principles. It was to please his party that he brow-beat the Democrats of the House and kept them under his despotic heel. It was to secure the affection of the Republicans that he used the lash in running their pet measure, the monopoly tariff, through the House and did more than all the others in securing its passage. It was to maintain his hold on the party that he has run the present House on the do-nothing plan in order that it should pass no measures that might help to improve the times, and thereby give the G. O. P. a chance to blame the Democrats for the continuance of the depression.

After having done all this to entitle him to the nomination he suffers a double humiliation in being run out of sight by the measliest one of all his competitors, a man who derives his only distinction from the accident of his name being attached to a tariff bill, and whose strength springs entirely from the crazy notion that the restoration of the tariff that bears his name will flood the country with prosperity.

No wonder that under such circumstances the Czar becomes sarcastic in his remarks about the "advance agent of prosperity" trying to ride two horses at once on the currency question. In one of his humorous allusions to MCKINLEY'S "straddlebug" performance on that issue he remarked to a reporter the other day:

"When I was a boy the advance agent of the circus would go through the country and cover the sides of the barns and fences with the most gorgeous posters of what the circus would be." Then he pictured the procession of knights in armor and ladies in silk attire, mounted on Arabian steeds, and followed by elephants, lions, tigers, and other wild beasts in a high state of natural fury. When the circus actually came it usually consisted of a few persons riding horseback in the usual country style, one drowsy elephant, and a few weather-stained boxes, mounted on wheels, and supposed to contain wild animals. "It never came up to the show bills," he added, "but there was always at least one first-class acrobat who could ride two horses at once."

The Czar's sarcasm has given a good picture of the person who is not only the advance agent of the Republican circus, but furnishes the chief attraction by riding the gold and the silver horse at the same time.

Profligate Emoluments.

It wasn't so many years ago that the people became highly indignant over what was called a congressional salary grab. The members had voted themselves an increase of pay, and this act of enlarging their own official emoluments was so universally condemned that those who shared in the grab so keenly felt the popular rebuke that they hastened to return their swag to the treasury.

But a great change has taken place in public sentiment concerning such acts of legislative profligacy and extravagance, showing that a demoralization has in this respect overtaken the public mind. An increase of the pay of legislators by their own act hardly excites comment. It is taken as a matter of course. Both the Senators and the members of Congress are now getting bigger pay than was intended to be secured by the grab, that some years ago excited such public indignation; and when at this session the most extravagant provisions were also made to supply them with clerical help, which they really did not need, it excited but little if any condemnation on the part of the press.

Besides the large pay which the United States Senators have voted themselves, each one is provided with a secretary; and additional clerical help was voted at this session, to be continued in the future, that more than doubles the expense of running that body.

For some years past the members of the House have each had a secretary during the session, but some weeks ago they concluded that this clerical service should extend between sessions, and they, accordingly, voted themselves clerical assistance for the whole year at an additional cost of $216,000 to the government, and now a Congressman can have the use of this clerk at home in his private business, if he wants it, and the government will pay the expense. If he doesn't need such a clerk between sessions for his private use he can nevertheless draw pay for him.

Does it not show a great demoralization of public sentiment that this profligacy has ceased to excite surprise or condemnation? And to no source can this profligacy be more directly attributed than to the "grand old party" of protended morality and intelligence.

McKinley's Election Would Stop this Destructive (?) Business.

From the Pittsburg Post.

The contract of the Carnegie company for 10,000 tons of steel rails for Japan, taken at lower rates than their English and German competitors cared to meet, has been noticed in these columns. We have more of the same sort. The Bay View mills of the Illinois steel company, near Milwaukee, are loading steel rails at their docks for the land of the Mikado. They will be taken to Buffalo by lake, and there transshipped to New York, where they will be loaded for Japan. The Illinois steel company has made several prior shipments of steel rails to Japan, but this is the first shipment by lake and rail, and is looked on in the nature of an experiment. The shipment was of 500 tons. Not much, to be sure, but if a profit is possible on 500 tons it will be equally a good thing on 50,000 tons.

"A noble shipment," said the Cleveland *Leader* a few days ago, "was made from Cleveland yesterday. At the docks at the foot of Case avenue 600,000 pounds of nails were loaded on the fleet of the Cleveland steel canal boat company. The nails are consigned to Yokohama, Japan." It is explained that the competition of German nail manufacturers was overcome by the company which made this shipment.

This deserves more than a passing notice. Protected by tariff duties, which the emergency tariff bill that lately passed the house increased to the extent of 20 per cent, the nail pool had advanced the price of nails to American consumers from 85 cents a year ago to $2.25 a keg at this time, which is the quoted card rate. The same combination sells nails to foreign buyers for $1 less a keg than to American purchasers. Owing to this discrimination in favor of the foreigner, nails have recently been shipped to Germany and brought back and sold in New York at a good profit for less than the ring's domestic price. The steel rails sold by the Carnegie company to go to Japan, it is stated on good authority, were sold for $21.26 a ton, while the price of the combine to American purchasers is $28 a ton.

Neither the steel rail nor the nail pool combine needs any protection whatever. This is proved by their trade operations. But they are all for McKinley for President, with other well-known combines, in the expectation that the tariff will be so doctored as to enable them to continue their extortion of American consumers by customs rates that force Americans to pay much more for American-manufactured goods than the foreigners are privileged to pay for the same identical articles. In other words, the people of this country are taxed to enable industrial combines to sell their products abroad cheaper than at home. This is "protection" with a vengeance.

The Strength of Republican Possibilities.

From the Pittsburg Post.

There have been elected 918 delegates to the Republican national convention, but four in Arizona, four in New Mexico and four in Oklahoma must depend on the action of the convention as to their admission, the official call authorizing these territories to elect only two delegates, whereas they have each six claimants for seats.

The Philadelphia *Press* and New York *Tribune* in their careful reports of the standing of the elected delegates, reach a substantial agreement. They are both McKinley papers, but are also newspapers, and their statements are doubtless a fair presentation. The *Tribune* figures are as follows:

McKinley	557	Bradley	16
Reed	99	Cullum	12
Morton	62	Allison	41
Quay	56	Doubtful	65
			908

The *Press* figures include 918 delegates, and give McKinley 531 votes, or 26 less than the *Tribune*. Otherwise they very nearly agree. The anti-McKinley papers and managers do not concede the correctness of these figures, but their statements are decidedly vague.

To sum up, it is perfectly apparent that unless some unforeseen conditions should arise, whereby a large body of delegates may be diverted from McKinley prior to June 16, he will be nominated on the first ballot. No wonder Senator Quay talks of going to Massilon.

Josh Foulk Should be There.

From the New York Sun.

It is mighty fine for the supporters of the Hon. William Boyd Allison to arrange to have 2,000 cots at St. Louis during the Convention, but how is a body to win any sleep while the town is crowded with noises?

Why, even if the McKinley boomers could be struck as dumb as their candidate is, the Tippecanoe Drum Corps of Indianapolis, the most active wielders of the stick in the Hoosier domain, would be sufficient to murder all the sleep in St. Louis. Forty drummers welting away for dear life—ah' what a swoon of sound that will be!

Very happy will the small boy be in St. Louis, but some hundreds of thousands of grown folks may have somewhat less amusement and be a trifle fagged out when morning comes. Still, 'twill be a glorious victory for somebody.

The Masses Are Running Things.

From the Selinsgrove Times.

Politicians do not seem to be running politics in this year of our Lord. The people appear to be having their say on various matters. The politicians may conclude that it is their off year.

Small Comfort for a Would-be President.

From the Philadelphia Press.

The greatest evidence of the popularity of Hon. T. B. Reed is the unanimity with which the Republican party is accepting the mention of his name for the vice-presidency.

——He is the right kind of a Democrat who makes up his mind, before-hand, to accept and acquiesce in whatever course a majority of his party's representatives may decide to take on any question.

Spawls from the Keystone.

—An annual pass is the prize offered by the Pennsylvania railroad to the farmer on its route who is most successful in beautifying his grounds adjoining the line,

—The meeting of the National Scotch-Irish society, to be held in Harrisburg June 4, 5 and 6, promises to be the most largely attended in the history of the society.

—F. T. Gallagher, the senic artist, who fell unconscious at Jersey Shore last Thursday, while running a race, has recovered. He was unconscious nearly fourteen hours.

—The work on the new water house and troughs in Lewistown narrows on the middle division is progressing rapidly, and Bixler's water station will soon be a thing of the past.

—The barn of Gideon Shelly, near Goodville, Delaware township, Juniata county, was destroyed by fire a few days ago, together with all its contents. The origin of the fire is unknown.

—John Adair, one of Tyrone's oldest citizens, died suddenly of paralysis at his home on Friday morning, in the 76th year of his age. He had been employed at the Tyrone freight depot for eighteen years.

—Ebensburg is in darkness, as far as the electric lights are concerned, the town council having refused to renew the agreement with E. B. Cresswell for another three years on account of the poor service.

—Deputy secretary of agriculture John Hamilton, of State College, states that during the past winter the 139 farmers' institutes held throughout the State cost only $6,500, as against $9,500 for the 143 of the previous year.

—An examination was made recently of the ore find on the Henry Dornblaser farm, but at the spot where the diggers went down there was none of the metal found. It is believed, however, that there is ore on other parts of the farm, but the absence of the metal at the point selected has had a discouraging effect.

—The saw mill of Hall, Kaul & Co., at St. Mary's, Elk county, will, it is said, be the largest in the state. The building will be of brick, 251 feet long by 85 feet wide, and will require 365,000 brick, 65,000 being fire brick. It will contain six steam boilers and six ovens, and will have two immense smoke stacks.

—On Thursday evening last there was a very severe storm in Karthaus which was followed by hail that fell in balls as large as pheasant eggs and in the gutters huge piles of hail were formed that looked like ice formations. Everybody in Karthaus made ice cream the day following, and there was plenty left for the next day.

—At DuBois Monday morning fire broke out in the residence of William Ralston, on North Brady street, and with that dwelling burned the central opera house and several houses on that side of the street. The flames then leaped across the street and burned several buildings on the other side. At noon the fire was under control.

—Lieutenant William Richardson, assistant keeper of the arsenal, was at Lewistown Friday arranging for the division encampment of the National Guard next July. He has secured a force of men to put the grounds in proper condition for the encampment. Lieutenant Richardson says it is the finest place for an encampment in the State.

—Reuben Thompson, of Clearfield, is a heavy loser by forest fires. Three years ago he purchased 3,000 acres of fine timber land in Cooper township from Orin Schoonover, and erected on it a good mill and dams. There were 200,000 feet of sawed lumber at the mill and over 1,000,000 feet of logs in the dam. All these and the logs and bark laying on the tract were destroyed. Mr. Thompson's loss will amount to $15,000 or over.

—It is said that Rev. Lambert, who is to have charge of the Newton Hamilton camp meeting, in pursuance of his policy to have a special attraction every day of camp, already has the positive assurance that Chaplain McCabe will be there at least one day, and the partial assurance of the great evangelist Moody to be in attendance. Everything points to one of the greatest camps ever held on the Juniata grounds.

—Friday afternoon a man who was lifting an outline in the river at Williamsport, found one of the hooks fast in the clothing of a drowned man. The coroner was notified and an inquest held on the body. It was found that the neck was broken and the left shoulder dislocated. The remains were identified as those of W. W. Witter of Lebanon county, and evidence was given indicating that the man had either fallen or jumped from the Market street bridge.

—Wise brothers, who have 25,000,000 feet of lumber on Anderson Creek, leased the mill of C. Blanchard, of Philadelphia, at Winterburn; three miles west of Penfield, and built a railroad from the mill to their timber. While Wise's laborers were at dinner, Blanchard, who is operating a coal mine at Winterburn, sent a force of men and tore up a section of the railroad track between the mill and the woods. Blanchard claims that Wise Brothers have failed to fulfill their contract with him.

—Harry A. Gardner, the defaulting cashier of the First National Bank of Altoona, has, after a chase of nearly a year, been located in South America, it is reported, and the United States secret officers say they will land him on United States soil within 30 days. Gardner was first traced to Ashville, N. C., but left there just as arrangements had been made to capture him. He went successively to Georgia, New Orleans, Mexico and Brazil, and is now said to be a stenographer in the office of a South American railroad company.

—On the night of January 20th last, Antis Ellis' dwelling and its contents and a stable and other outbuildings in the rear of the lot, at Alexandria, Huntingdon county, were burned to the ground. Not three months before that time he had been insured by the G. C. Waite insurance agency of Tyrone, and the companies carrying the policies instituted criminal proceedings against Ellis, claiming that he had set fire to his own property, and he was tried in the Huntingdon court last week, Judge Jeremiah Lyon of the Juniata-Perry district, presiding. The jury rendered a verdict Saturday evening of not guilty but defendent pay half the costs.