Democratic Watchman.

Bellefonte, Pa., Dec. 4, 1896.

Christmas Gifts.

Such as May Be Made for One's Feminine Friends.

A pretty watch stand, says the *Ladies' Home Journal*. may be made by covering one side of two pieces of cardboard, five inches long and three wide, with the material intended for lining. On another piece of material embroider or paint some design, and then apply this to one side of a similar sized piece of board. Cover a fourth board of the same size and shape with material to correspond to that containing the ornamentation. Then glue firmly together the uncovered sides of each of these pairs so that you may have two boards having each side of a contrasting or harmonizing color. Sew these firmly together at the top so that the lining sides shall be cut on the inside, and cover the place where the join is made with a bow of narrow ribbon. Screw into the ornamented board a tiny brass hook and the watch-stand is complete.

A baby-ribbon holder may be made by embroidering two circles of linen with appropriate designs. Then cut two similar circles of blue silk and cover two circles of pasteboard the same size so that the embroidered linen will cover one face and the silk the reverse. Purchase two rolls of baby-ribbon, and place between the two covered pasteboard circles, using the silk face for the interior. With a sharp pair of scissors pierce two slits through the whole, covers, ribbons and all, and then with a bodkin insert blue baby-ribbon. Tie firmly at each side. Sew hangers of the same from each side, uniting with a bow and long ends. An ivory bodkin and a pair of scissors must be attached.

A useful case for holding shoe-buttons, threads, etc., is made by taking two strips of ribbon, seven inches in length by three inches in width. Make an inch and a quarter hem at one end of each strip and in this hem, and in this hem, an inch from the top, run a row of stitching, so as to admit a drawing-string. Midway between the ends sew the strips together, uniting them on each side as far as the casing, thus making a small bag. Half an inch below the foot of the bag make a second row of stitching, closing up one side of this division. Take a piece of stiff pasteboard, a trifle smaller than this opening in width and three inches in length, cover with flannel and then with ribbon, sewing a tiny ribbon loop to one end. In this place several needles of various sizes, suitable both for darning purposes and for sewing on the shoe buttons which the bag end of the case should contain. At the two open ends of the ribbon make hems in which strips of whalebone should be placed so as to secure elasticity and firmness. Then sew the edges together, leaving an opening at the end, to hold the darning cotton.

A pretty gift is a clasp-pin holder, which is made by taking a strip of white flannel 20 inches in length and 2 in width. Pink the edges evenly. Then take a strip of satin ribbon, the same length, but a little wider. Midway between each end of the ribbon and flannel cut a slit large enough to admit the head of a tiny bisque doll. Gather both materials tightly at the waist, and tie a sash of narrow eatin ribbon ending in a bow and streamers about the waist. A similar bit of ribbon should then be tied about the neck, and a loop made at the back from which to suspend the holder. Clasp-pins of various sizes should be placed evenly in the flannel.

Yellow Fever's Work.

Cuba's Military Hospitals Filled with Sick Spanish Soldiers.—The Mortally Very Great.—Weyler to Take the Field Again.—One Hundred and Fifty Persons Condemed to Exile for Political Crimes—American Citizens to be Tried.

The official statistics show that there are now 17,840 sick soldiers in the various military hospitals in Cuba. Of this number 1,408 are suffering with yellow fever. The mortality is said to be 163 per thousand. One hundred and fifty persons who have been condemned for various political crimes and sentenced to exile will be sent to the penal settlements at Fernandepo and the Chararinas.

A train which arrived here Saturday from Artemisa, province of Pinar del Rio, brought seventeen officers and 483 privates who are so sick that it was necessary to bring them here for hospital treatment. The steamer Bolivar brought seven officers and 240 privates, all sick, from the same province.

TAKES THE FIELD AGAIN.

Captain General Weyler left Havana Saturday morning for Mariel on board the transport Legapzi, accompanied by his staff and adjutant. The other members of the general's staff left Havana by train Friday afternoon for Artemisa.

General Weyler returns to the province of Pinar del Rio for the purpose of renewing the campaign against the insurgent forces of Maceo in that province, which was begun under his personal command a fortnight ago. It is understood here that it is the intention of the captain general to pursue a policy of unceasing activity against the rebels to the end of completely breaking up Maceo's army before returning to Havana.

Flight of Hoffer's Teller.

His Mind Probably Unbalanced by the Cashier Thefts.

George G. Shiffler, teller of the First National Bank, of Lebanon, of which Embezzler Hoffer was cashier, had a check on another bank for $162.50 cashed late last Friday night, and has disappeared. It is believed that he fled to Harrisburg.

Overwork and the severe nervous strain incident upon the investigation of the bank's affairs are said to have caused aberration of the mind. No charges are pending against Shiffler, and so far he has escaped any suspicion.

B. D. Coleman, the vice president of the bank, believes that Shiffler's mind is temporarily unbalanced, and that he has run away from the scene of his mental troubles

Teller Shiffler has been traced to Harrisburg. His mind is affected, one of the party who followed reporting him crazy.

——The official vote of Ohio is out, showing a total of 1,014.292. The McKinley vote is 525,989 and the Bryan vote on the Democratic ticket 474,880 and on the Populist ticket 2,615, making a total of 477,495, thus giving McKinley a plurality of 48,494 over Bryan. The Prohibitionists polled 5,068, the Nationalists 2,716, the Boltocrats 1,857, and Socialists 1,167, a total for the sr all parties of 10,806, leaving a majority over all of 37,688 for McKinley. With its magnificent vote for Bryan, Ohio did the best of any of the large States and the result demonstrates that on the issue of Free Silver the legal voters of the State were for Bryan by a large majority.

The Proposed Curtin Monument for Bellefonte.

A Deadly Occupation.

Bringing Out Borax From the Rifts in Death Valley.

The deadliest occupation for men or horses is teaming in the borax fields of Death valley of the great American desert. There the longest teams in the world are employed. Scientists declare that the fierce heat in this narrow rent in the cracked surface of the earth is not equaled elsewhere in the world. Where the thermometer often registers 140 degrees of heat unrelieved by a breath of air, where men sleep at night in hollow ditches filled with water in order to avoid dying from collapse, the necessity for the longest teams of mules and horses ever harnessed to draw the great borax laden wagons is apparent.

The desert team is the longest in the world, and the percentage of deaths among the horses is greater than that of domestic animals used in any other calling. Forty to sixty horses are often hitched to one of the lumbering vehicles in which the borax is slowly dragged across the sun baked alkali plains. The average life of even the sturdiest horses used in this work is six months, for in this length of time they either become broken winded, consumptive from inhaling the deadly dust of the desert or are driven crazy by the frightful heat.

A man there, though protected by the wagon awnings from the sun's rays, cannot go an hour without water without danger of death. When a team breaks down and the water supply becomes depleted, the men ride on at top speed for the nearest source of supply, and often when they return they find that the remaining horses, made mad by thirst, have broken from the harness and dashed off only to find death in the desert.

The borax wagons weigh 8,000 pounds and carry 20,000 pounds at a load. Behind each wagon is a tank containing hundreds of gallons of water. The horses are harnessed in pairs, the trained ones in the lead, and the next in intelligence just ahead of the tongue, while the unruly and the youngsters are hitched between. The nigh leader has a bridle with the strap from the left jaw shorter than the other, and from the bridle runs a braided rope, which the driver, perched on the wagon seat, holds in his right hand.

The rope is called the "jerk line" and is a little longer than the team, which stretches out several hundred feet in front of the wagan. During the busy season the borax wagons make an almost continuous train, and the horses alone, if placed in single file, would make a team more than 100 miles long.

Besides a little food and water the poor animals get no care. They curry themselves by rolling in the burning sand. After a few months of the killing labor the poor creatures become unfit for service. A kindly rifle ball then ends their agony, and their emaciated carcasses are left alongside the trail to furnish scant picking for the hovering vultures.—*California Letter.*

Tragedy at a Country Dance.

After Nearly Killing His Rival with a Hatchet a Young Man Coumits Suicide.

James Stover and William Cappeau, two well known young men of Butler county, were the closest friends. Then they grew bitter towards each other because of a girl, it is thought. Thursday night both met at a dance and the young lady was there. Shortly before midnight Cappeau was seen to leave the dance for a few minutes. When he returned her carried something under his coat. Saying nothing he slipped up behind his rival.

Opening his coat, he brought a shining hatchet into view. Before his arm could be caught he is said to have buried the weapon in Stover's head. Then taking the butt end of the hatchet he beat Stover's head and face in. Then he ran from the room.

After the people at the dance recovered from their astonishment they gave Stover some attention. Then some of the men started to hunt down Cappeau. They found him in the woods with his throat cut. He supposed he had killed Stover and with his penknife he severed his jugular vein. He died in twenty miuutes. It was stated that Stover was still alive but cannot recover. Cappeau was the stepson of W. J. Cappeau, a prominent oil operator; Stover is the son of a farmer.

Natural to Him.

"No," said Mrs. Kilduff, in a decided tone to her small, son who had asked for a second helping to pie; "no, you have the most unnatural appetite for pie."

"Why, mamma," protested the little fellow, "I think an appetite for pie is the most natural thing in the world."

Hot Water.

Hot water has more medical virtues than many believe or know. Because it is so easily procured thousands think it valueless. The uses of hot water are, however, many. For example, there is nothing that so promptly cuts short conjestion of the lungs, sore throat or rheumatism as hot water when applied promptly and thoroughly. Headache almost always yields to the similtaneous applications of hot water to the feet and back of the neck. A towel folded several times and dipped in hot water and quickly wrung out and applied over the painful part in toothache or neuralgia will generally afford prompt relief. A strip of flannel or napkin folded lengthwise and dipped in hot water and wrung out and then applied around the neck of a child that has the croup will sometimes bring relief in ten minutes. Hot water taken freely half an hour before bedtime is helpful in the case of constipation, while it has a most soothing effect upon the stomach and bowels. A goblet of hot water taken just after rising and before breakfast has cured thousands of indigestion, and no simple remedy is more widely recommended by physicians to dyspeptics. Very hot water will stop dangerous bleeding.—*New-York Ledger.*

Down on John Wanamaker.

United Mine Workers of the Anthracite Region Haul the Senatorial Aspirant Over the Coals at Pottsville.

The United Mine Workers of anthracite district No. 1 held a convention and an executive committee was appointed to watch all measures introduced in the next session of the Legislature.

The question of John Wanamaker's candidacy for the United States Senatorship was discussed. His course in the street car strike in Philadelphia last winter was criticised. References were also made to his conviction in the United States District Court in Philadelphia last spring on the charge of importing contract labor to this country in violation of the act of Congress.

Taken at His Word.

Wife—Half past 12, I declare. Rather a late hour for you to be returning home. Don't you think so, John? Where have you been anyway?

Husband—I've been setting up with a friend.

Wife—I thought as much. How many drinks did you set up, John?

Sticking to the Truth.

"Have you steam heat?" asked the prospective tenant.

And the janitor, who had been through a "revival," could only answer: "We have steam pipes."

Inherited Talent.

Deacon Shanghai—Dat boy certainly is full ob music, Mrs. Jackson.

Mrs. Jackson—Yes, deakin, hit comes nachel toe dat chile. His pap war run ovah by one o' dem street pianners.

——The employes of the Pullman shops whose wages have just been reduced 15 per cent,, the employes of Ketcham & Rothschild, of Chicago, who have had their wages cut 10 per cent., the 7,000 employes of the Yonker's carpet mills, who are to be laid off on account of "over production," and the 800 Cleveland employes of the Brush Electrical works who were thrown idle by the removal of the plant to Lynn, Mass., where labor is cheaper, have their own opinions about the good time promised before the election.—*DuBois Express.*

——The largest cities in the world and their respective populations are: London, 4,231,000; Paris, 2,447,000; New York, 1,801,000; Canton, 1,600,000; Berlin, 1,579,000; Tokio, 1,389,000; Vienna, 1,364,000; Philadelphia, 1,142,000; Chicago, 1,099,000 and St. Petersburg, 1,035,000.

——The Baldwin Locomotive Works of Philadelphia have reduced wages from 12 to 20 per cent. Such announcements are getting to be quite common, and they certainly are not pleasant news for workingmen right after McKinley's election. Yet, such announcements are like to go on.—Delaware county *Democrat.*

——In the Gubernatorial contest last year Cleveland, the home of Hanna, gave the Republican candidate a plurality of 10,000. This year Cleveland gave McKinley a plurality of only 3,500! What's the matter with Hanna?

A Ministerial Way.

"Mamma," said Willie, leaning toward his mother and speaking in a loud whisper, "the preacher said a little while ago, 'one word more and I have done,' and he's talked 563 words since he said it. I've been countin' 'em on him."—Chicago *Tribune.*

——McKinley is elected; the gold standard is secure; "anarchy is dead;" prosperity is abroad in the land; and yet here are 5,000 Ohio miners, right under the major's nose, idle because they decline to accept a 15-cent cut in wages. Mr. Hanna will have to see about this.—Cambria *Freeman.*

——The newspaper men of Philadelphia will give a complimentary dinner to Col. A. K. McClure, of the Philadelphia *Times*, on December 9, in commemoration of his 50 years' service in journalism. On December 9, 1846, Col. McClure, then a lad of 19 years issued the first number of the Juniata *Sentinel*, of Mifflintown, Pa.

——National flowers have been adopted in various countries, as follows: Greece, violet; Canada, sugar-maple; Egypt, lotus; England, rose: France, fleur-de-lis; Germany, corn-flower; Ireland, shamrock; Italy, lily; Prussia, linden; Saxony, mignonette; Scotland, thistle; Spain, pomegranate; Wales, leek.