

Democratic Watchman

BY P. GRAY MEEK.

Ink Sittings.

-Because Jones went a fishing And fell into the creek; There were some people aware that He was "tighter'n a brick." -The poor, dear Inquirer. It must feel so bad. -The plum tree 'll soon be full of fruit, now that there's no one there to shake it. -Well, after DAN had paid the piper GRAY and WOMELSDORF got to do all the dancing.

-Mr. HANNA says he is "still a very warm personal friend of Mr. QUAY." Yes, like Kelly is. -GALUSHA wasn't too old to knock out the youngsters who wanted his job as Congressman at Large. -They say that the output of gold in the Klondike last year was \$10,000,000, but they can't prove it by us. -Talk about the plum tree shaking, why QUAY's legs on Tuesday made it look like a Centre county spring zephyr up against a Kansas cyclone.

-Keep your eyes open and watch how the desertions from the QUAY ranks will increase now that the "old man" has no plum tree to shake. -QUAY knocked on the door of the Senate just a little too long. The result was that the country got to "knocking" on him and he was knocked out.

-Under the light of recent discoveries in the Agricultural Department Secretary JOHN HAMILTON ought to be ashamed to look an honest old Centre county cow in the eye.

-And now they say that when Senator VEST heard of what JNO. C. MILLER had done by way of holding principle above all else, even he could not see his way clear to vote for QUAY.

-Just as we expected the last haul of that carefully laid net of the British was a water haul, indeed. They dragged it in at Wepener on Tuesday, but the Boer's had slipped out and all of England is sore again.

-RICHARD CROKER cables from England that he hasn't croaked yet. Some of the fellows in New York started the story that he was "a dead one," but it didn't take the Tammany chieftain long to prove an alibi.

-When QUAY heard about DAN, LEW BULLOCK, JIM WATT, HOWARD HOLZWORTH, TOMMY MITCHELL and JOHN C. MILLER he laid down and was like to die before Tuesday's blow killed him clean dead.

-That extra red necktie worn by Senator BURROWS, of Michigan, on Wednesday, probably had its color heightened by some of QUAY's gore. BURROWS was most persistent in his opposition to the Pennsylvania usurper and credits no small portion of his downfall to his efforts.

-It was nice in "the old man" to write his will and have it executed before he died, because if he had left it until after Tuesday it might have been broken and then NEP CHAMBERS wouldn't have gotten his plum and lots of postmasters in Centre county would have been without theirs.

-The Republican State Convention didn't have much to ginger up over. With QUAY's political corpse in the baggage coach ahead the trains in and out of Harrisburg that day, it is not to be wondered at that the doleful news of the "old man's" do wnfal, gave it more of a funeral aspect than that of a real live convention.

-Lord ROBERTS made a great ado about the net he was throwing out for the Boers in South Africa, but after he had the net so carefully spread he found that there were no Boers about to get into it. The plan of catching birds by putting salt on their tails only works when one can get close enough to get the salt on, and then there is no use for it.

-The Ebensburg lover who has sued his sweet heart for \$500 damages for breach of promise because she left him at the last moment with a lot of useless presents and furniture on his hands, that he had gotten in anticipation of their marriage, is very moderate indeed in his claim, but again he gets through with the lawyers in his case he will have come to the conclusion that it would have been cheaper to have hunted up another sweet heart.

-Talk about big feet being a blessing, Bloomsburg has reason to believe it so. Recently the town wanted to raise money for a free library and sent out silk stockings to the residents of the place with the request that they be returned with twice as many pennies in them as the size of the sender's stockings. While the idea of dropping dough into the stocking is not exactly a new one, it certainly proved a winner for Bloomsburg, where the size of the feet was so great that the pile of pennies amounted to 19,000.

-HANNA is dead against QUAY, that's clear. He was paired against him for admission to the Senate on Tuesday. It is not a matter of much surprise, however, that the Ohio boss should wish to see the downfall of the Pennsylvania dictator. Though QUAY owns only a Governor and HANNA owns a President, yet the overweening jealousy of the avicious plutocrat who dominates McKINLEY doubtless prompted him to stab anyone who could dare to assume power, other than under him.

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What Kind of Cattle They Are.

Just now a certain class of Republican papers are troubling themselves to no small extent to belittle and discredit the exposures that are being made of the dirty work their party has been doing in Kentucky. They do not know how to be bitter enough in denunciations of the promise to pay for the information that will lead to the conviction of the assassins of Governor GOEBEL, nor can they find words to express their abhorrence of the "purpose," as they put it, "to bribe men to swear falsely for the reward offered."

Judging from what has already transpired, and from the political predictions of those who have come forward to claim the reward by telling what they know, it might prove less of an advertisement of the shame and treachery of their own partisan followers, if they had less to say of either existing conditions or future prospects in Kentucky. From beginning to end the trouble in that State and the disgrace that has grown out of it is the result of Republican trickery, Republican rascality and Republican conspiracy. From the time the actions of President CLEVELAND and his Secretary of State, Mr. CARLISLE, culminated in dividing the Democracy of Kentucky and gave hope of making it a Republican State, no scheme that could be devised; no rascality that could be conceived of or no atrocity that could be perpetrated was overlooked as a resort to keep and fasten that State in the Republican column. So far did the infamy of these Republican efforts go that when fairly and honestly beaten at the poles they conspired to assassinate the head of the Democratic ticket, rather than lose the power they dreamed of holding.

The brutal and cold blooded murder of Governor GOEBEL aroused the country and the offer of \$100,000 for the conviction of the perpetrators of that awful crime is uncovering the red-handed wretches who were the instigators of it; who expected to profit by it and who, it is now shown, are leading, active Republicans. To lessen the effect of the exposure and to create doubt as to the truthfulness of the confessions that have been made the Republican press of the country has set up the cry that this testimony is not to be believed because it is given in the hope of obtaining part of the reward; that it is hired evidence, unworthy of credence and impeachable because of the character of those testifying and the motives actuating them. Even granting that this is true how will it either help Republicanism in Kentucky, lessen the heinousness of their offense, or condone the crime they have been guilty of in the eyes of an incensed and decent people.

Every man connected with this cowardly conspiracy was a Republican. Every man who expected or hoped to profit by it was a Republican. Every influence that tried to shield its perpetrators was Republican. Every voice raised to condone the crime is Republican. And now when the prospects of a reward, either for telling the truth or concocting a lie, are held out every individual who opens his mouth to obtain what he can of it is a Republican.

Whether the confessions already made be true or false, they are the stories of Republicans only. No Democrat has anything to say or tell that could entitle him to any part of the reward. Consequently, if perjury is committed it will be Republicans who commit it. If the lives of innocent men are sworn away for a price, it will be Republicans who will be guilty of that despicable crime.

And if these are the kind of cattle that Republicanism breeds in Kentucky it would seem more in place for decent journalism to denounce them, than to cry out against the methods that uncover their infamy or the rewards that expose their treachery.

Intelligence as a Qualification.

A most telling commentary on the character and intelligence of the mass of Republican voters throughout the South is furnished by the returns of the late election in Louisiana. Heretofore that State, while giving Democratic majorities, has been claimed as doubtful by Republicans, and at times has come close to electing the Republican ticket. Recently its constitution was changed so as to make an educational qualification necessary and all persons, whether white or black, who could not read, were denied the right to vote. The first election, where intelligence was made the test of voting, was held on the 17th inst. and the total number of Republicans who were able to vote under the new requirements was but 17,208. In not a single district, senatorial or legislative, did this party of ignorance and illiteracy elect a single representative. The Senate is unanimously Democratic, the House is the same and the Democratic state ticket had a majority more than doubling that ever given before. So much for practical results in politics where intelligence is made the qualification of the voter.

A Commission That Knows What Its For.

It is a great opportunity to be placed at the head of one of Mr. McKINLEY's commissions. Its a "fat" thing for the fellow who is after "fat," and when you get down to the bottom of all the efforts made, ostensibly for the welfare, the glory and the greatness of the country, you will be pretty sure to find that that is what the fellow who is making the most fuss about his patriotism is after. This has been shown by the cost and expenditures of every commission that Mr. McKINLEY has created and he has made more of them than all the Presidents who preceded him, and without a single exception the amount of the cost they have been to the country is out of all proportion to the work they have done or benefit they have been.

An exemplification of this is given in the report of his Commissioner General to the Paris Exposition. This commission is headed by a Mr. FERDINAND PECK, of Chicago, and its members and attaches are known mostly as "sons of their fathers." They are neither business men nor statesmen, nor are they of the common people, but all the same, they must be having a riotously good time if the way they are getting away with the people's money means anything. It was created in November, 1898, but has been pretending to be on duty only since January, '99. It was required to make report of its expenditures annually and on the 17th of last November, one year after its creation, it filed its first statement. For some reason or other this was kept hidden from the public until a demand from Congress drew it out of the President's pocket a few days ago. From it we find that \$38,245 has been expended for buildings and furnishings, and \$204,388 for salaries and miscellaneous things for the commission.

Using six dollars out of the seven, that have been appropriated for public purposes, in salaries and personal expenses is a pretty fair per cent. of cost for the performance of a public trust. To expend \$204,388 overseeing the erection and furnishing of a \$36,000 house is a reasonably expensive management. But it is one of the ways Mr. McKINLEY's commissions have of doing things—one of the opportunities his favorites are given to "fry fat" out of the people—and we presume will continue so long as the power is given him to "govern by commission."

Possibly there are people who will think this kind of profligacy and extravagance is right. If there are, they know how to continue it. A continuation of McKINLEY and HANNA means a continuation of these kind of opportunities for the few, and just that much less for everybody else.

—At DuBois last Friday the Republican conferees of the 25th Congressional district met and elected Hon. M. L. McQUOWN, of Clearfield, and Hon. C. A. RANDALL, of Forest county, as delegates to the National Convention in Philadelphia. JOHN M. DALE Esq., of this place was named as one of the alternates. Strong resolutions in favor of W. C. ARNOLD for Congressman-at-Large were passed.

A Little Light Needed on a Doubtful Subject.

Strikes continue to be the order of the day. From every corner of the country, from near and far, comes the same news of inadequately paid and discontented labor seeking to better its condition by refusing to work at prices offered. The latest men to demand better wages and quit work because of a refusal to get them were the miners at Congressman CONNELL's colliery at Scranton and the molders at the Reading stove works, on Tuesday. These, with the other eight thousand iron workers who were thrown out of employment on Monday last by the closing down of twelve of the furnaces belonging to the American Steel and Wire Trust, adds almost ten thousand more to the great army of the unemployed. We doubt if ever in the history of this country there were so many men striking for living wages as there are at the present time and yet, in the face of the struggling starving thousands, we are told that the country is prosperous and that labor is in demand.

Surely there is something wrong somewhere. Work is not so plentiful as is represented, wages are not what they should be, or working men do not know when they are well off. It is hardly the latter, for no one knows the needs and demands of laboring men as they do themselves, and it is not in the nature of man to accept the hardships and deprivations that strikes are sure to bring in the face of conditions that promise them a passable living, at least.

Is our pretended prosperity a sham? Is labor being robbed that trusts and monopolies may flourish? Or why the innumerable and prolonged strikes? Won't some one who believes McKINLEYISM is a panacea for all our ills explain this matter.

—Subscribe for the WATCHMAN.

A Tree and Its Fruit.

To say, as many carelessly do, that there is no possible chance to defeat the Republican party of this State this year, is to cast an aspersion on the integrity of the people of Pennsylvania. It is true that in the election of two years ago Governor STONE had a plurality of nearly 120,000 and the plurality of State Treasurer-elect BARNETT last fall was not much less. But STONE had no majority at all and the majority for BARNETT was less than the fraudulent vote cast in the city of Philadelphia alone. If there had been an honest vote cast and counted fairly in 1898 STONE would not have been declared elected and it is doubtful if BARNETT could have succeeded, under the same circumstances.

But there was nothing then but opposition to Republican principles to influence men against the Republican candidates. That is to say last year and in most previous years an honest man might vote the Republican ticket without prejudice to his reputation for honesty. In other words an honest Republican had as much right to believe that the candidate of his party represented honesty of purposes as the member of any other party. But revelations which have since occurred have changed these conditions entirely. It has been proved by judicial investigation that the Republican party of Philadelphia, Pittsburgh and probably some other cities has been trained to political corruption to such an extent that no candidate of the party has been honestly elected within recent years.

Under these circumstances a vote for the Republican ticket this year means a declaration of endorsement of the ballot frauds and all the other forms of corruption which have been fostered under Republican administration. These crimes are no longer a matter of conjecture. It cannot be said that the accusations are campaign lies. On the contrary the charges are based on the court records of convictions in some cases and the confessions implied by becoming fugitives from justice in others. A tree is judged by its fruit and a man by the company he keeps. A man who votes for the Republican party is no better than the record of that party.

It Is Governor Stone's Move.

Now that there is unmistakably a vacancy in the Senate of the United States the people will watch with curious interest the steps Governor STONE will take to meet the exigency. The fundamental law of the State says in Article 2, section 4, "In case of a vacancy in the office of United States Senator from this Commonwealth, in a recess between sessions, the Governor shall convene the two Houses by proclamation on notice not exceeding sixty days to fill the same." There is nothing equivocal or uncertain about that. The day after the adjournment of the Legislature, a year ago, the Governor appointed QUAY to the office and pretended to deceive himself into the belief that there was thereafter, no vacancy. But he deceived no one else.

The vote of the Senate Wednesday brushed all the cobwebs away from the question and revealed the fact that there is a vacancy, and the question is "What will the Governor do about it?" It will be noticed that the language of the constitution leaves no option for the Governor. It does not say "he may" convene the two Houses. It is in the mandatory form and says "he shall" convene them. Failure to comply with that plain mandate of the organic law is a violation, not only, of the provisions of that instrument, but of his oath of office. There is no escape from that proposition. If he violates the constitution he is guilty of misfeasance, and subject to impeachment. Which horn of the dilemma will Governor STONE impale himself on?

Article VII, section 1, of the constitution reads as follows: "Senators and Representatives shall, before entering upon the duties of their respective offices, take and subscribe the following oath of affirmation: I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I will support, obey and defend the constitution of the United States and the constitution of the Commonwealth, and that I will discharge the duties of my office with fidelity." If he fails to convene the two Houses in accordance with the provision of the constitution above quoted he will not be supporting, obeying and defending the constitution. It is up to Governor STONE and the people are watching.

The Passing of Quay.

The vote of the Senate Tuesday may be said to have put ex-Senator QUAY out of the game of politics. He will resist this plain logic of events, to be sure, but unavailingly. If he were twenty years younger, or even if he had the advantage of the recuperative power which the removal of ten years from his burden of time would afford, he might be able, by the force of audacity and his facility in the use of devious methods, to restore himself to power. But in the absence of those conditions, denuded as he is of power and

patronage, his future life in politics will be as precarious as that of a tramp.

If QUAY's long service in public life had left a single mark of merit, men might contemplate with something like regret his sudden but none the less certain exit from the stage of politics. He began holding office nearly half a century ago, and has been "on the pay roll" with scarcely an interruption since. But now that he is out he can point to nothing he has achieved that has directly or indirectly promoted the interests or conserved the welfare of his fellow men. His career has been one of selfishness and treachery. He betrayed CURTIN in the interest of CAMERON and sacrificed CAMERON, when further service for him promised no personal advantage.

But these were not his gravest faults and when the accounts are balanced, as they will be now, there will be other charges that will stand against him in indelible letters. He has promoted fraud and encouraged crime in politics. He has led his victims on from one excess to another until, no longer of service to him, he has abandoned them into the jaws of prisons or the inhospitable mouths of suicides' graves. Hundreds of lives he has ruined and he has wrecked as many homes. This record of vice and evil is the return he has given to the people of his native State for the honor and emoluments they have bestowed on him.

Suppression That Don't Seem to Suppress.

The Republicans of the State of New York, in convention assembled last week, adopted a platform, one feature of which was the declaration that the insurrection in the Philippines had been suppressed and that organized resistance to the authority of the United States no longer existed. The newspapers which reported the action of this convention contained also this news: Twelve hundred Tagals attacked Case's battalion headquarters of the Fortieth regiment at Cagsayan, Island of Mindanao, on the 7th. The Americans had fifteen casualties, while of the attacking force fifty were killed and thirty wounded or taken prisoner. The enemy, numbering 150 riflemen, the remainder being bolomen, swooped down in a howling mass at daylight, surprising and killing three of the sentries. They swarmed the streets in small parties, some wearing scaling ladders, by means of which they attempted to enter the houses.

The Republican idea of a suppressed insurrection appears to be rather a curious one. It is an expensive one, as well, for only a day or two before the New York Republicans, with the aid of the strenuous Roosevelt, had suppressed the insurrection, the Adjutant-General of the army issued a statement saying that the troops now in the Philippines numbered 63,585, an increase since March 1 of 308. Transports bearing some 3,000 men are now on the way thither. These figures do not include, of course, the navy forces in the islands. If a suppressed insurrection requires the active service of so many soldiers, we may well contemplate with some apprehension the size of the army which would be necessitated should the insurrection really gain in force. Up to date and since the happy establishment of "peace" the American casualties in the Philippines, as reported from Washington, are as follows, the last report being dated April 18:

Table with 2 columns: Category, Count. Killed, 473; Died of wounds, disease and accidents, 1,205; Total deaths, 1,678; Wounded, 2,092; Total loss, 3,770.

Twin Infants.

From the Rochester (Pa.) Commoner.

This Congress will go down into history as the most infamous in all history. Two bills passed by them will be enough to forever discredit them and make them despised by all Americans. The one is the currency bill by which Congress surrendered all control over the currency to the national banks the other is the Porto Rican bill by which Congress laid special taxes on Porto Ricans whose country they annexed and to whom they promised the liberties which citizens of the United States enjoy. This law laying a tariff on Porto Rican products is a violation of plighted faith and is unjust and unconstitutional. This Congress has basely surrendered all considerations of humanity, of justice and of constitutional limitations to the money oligarchy of the country whose spokesman and attorney is Senator Hanna, William McKinley's Uriah Heep.

16 to 1 Shaved as an Issue.

From the Wellsboro Gazette.

The signing of the currency bill by President McKinley last week probably removes the financial question from the field of active politics for years to come. It is estimated that the result of the elections in 1900 and 1902 cannot possibly affect the overwhelling Republican majority in the United States Senate and that, consequently, no matter which party may be successful in the elections of these two years there is no probability of the silver question being prominent before the presidential election of 1904, if then. The national campaign of 1900 will be fought out on other issues.

A Way to Skin Our Own People.

From the Venango Spectator.

Our tariff is for the "protection" of foreign consumers, the fleeing of American consumers, and the benefit of the home trust grabbers. Just look at it. You can buy American sewing machines for less money in London than in Pittsburgh. American lead sells in London for \$3.60 per cwt.; in Pittsburgh, it sells for \$4.70 per cwt.—yet we keep up a tariff on lead. We export copper and undersell the world on copper, yet we put a tariff on it in order to skin Americans who have to use it.

Spawls from the Keystone.

Shippensburg town council has passed an ordinance taxing poles in that borough 50 cents each.

The safes in Taylor's grill mill and Plackenhorn's store, at Muncy, Lycoming county, were blown open and robbed.

Italians in large numbers have left Hazleton within the last ten days; at least five hundred have gone to the bituminous coal regions of the State. A large batch left Monday.

Arrangements have been made for the pupils of the Soldiers' Orphan's Industrial school, at Scotland, Franklin county, to attend the Grand Army Department encampment at Gettysburg on June 6th.

The mystery of the disappearance from Johnstown of Vincent Moschtag last week was explained when his body was found on Monday on a hill above Dale with a bullet hole in the head and a revolver beside him.

The McElhattan fishing club, which was recently organized, has leased and improved all the streams on about 1,500 acres of land at the headwaters of the McElhattan creek. The club will propagate brook trout and will enjoy outings along the streams.

The special collection for relief of famine sufferers in India, taken in the First Presbyterian Sunday school in Tyrone on Sunday amounted to over \$100. The money will be sent direct to Rev. Mr. Goheen to be used by him, but will not be sent for two or three days.

The large sale of oleomargarine, coupled with the high price of milk cows and of food, is having such a heavy effect on makers of genuine butter at Pottdown that they cannot compete with the oleo manufacturers. Some of the largest dairymen will discontinue the business.

According to figures furnished by E. W. Parker, statistician of the United States Geological Survey, the production of bituminous coal in Pennsylvania in 1899 was 75,591,554 short tons, against 65,165,133 in 1898. The production of anthracite in 1899 was 60,320,395 short tons, against 53,382,644 in 1898.

A 5-year-old son of Alexander Meyers, of Pine Creek, drank a quantity of strong lye in mistake for cider Saturday and it is feared that he will die. The child obtained the cup containing the fiery liquid during the temporary absence of the mother. Its throat, tongue and mouth are frightfully burned, and his sufferings are intense.

Rev. D. H. Shields, who died at the Pennsylvania hospital in Philadelphia Monday, was formerly pastor of the Methodist Episcopal church, at Hazleton. He was until recently a member of the Central Pennsylvania conference which, at its last annual session held here in March, dismissed him because of charges against him as chaplain of the United States army.

Carrie Ritter was arrested in Williamsport Saturday for complicity in the recent robbery at the residence of J. V. Brown, president of the Williamsport Water company. It is claimed the accused woman was detected wearing a sealskin coat which had been stolen from the house. The authorities are in possession of information that will result in the arrest of the gang of out of town crooks. The burglary at the Brown mansion occurred on the night of February 25th, and silverware valued at \$1,000, and furs worth \$500, were carried away. Mr. Brown has offered a reward of \$800 for the arrest of the burglars.

Mrs. John Gallagher, residing in Porter township, Lycoming county, was nearly killed during a pucky fight with a fractious horse Saturday. The woman was holding an unharmed horse in front of her home. Suddenly the animal became frightened, and began to plunge about the road. Mrs. Gallagher clung to the halter strap while the horse attempted to trample her under its hoofs. Finally the horse reared and Mrs. Gallagher was hurled with great violence against a tree, and fell unconscious. Her arm is broken, and it is feared that she is injured internally. She sustained many bruises and cuts about the body.

A man named R. H. C. Hill, of Baltimore, was sleeping restlessly in the smoking car of western express about 2 o'clock Thursday morning at Ryde when he suddenly arose and walked out on the platform. One of his fellow passengers noticed that his eyes were closed and, believing he was walking in his sleep, hurried after him, but was too late. Before the rescuer reached the door Hill had stepped off the platform. An instant later a freight train run him down killing him instantly. Hill's body was picked up by a freight crew, taken to Huntingdon and delivered to the authorities there. He represented the Dun mercantile agency and was on his way to Meadville to testify in an important railroad case.

Bernard J. McNello, the section foreman of Renovo, who disappeared last Friday evening, is still among the missing. It is now believed that McNello has gone for good. Last Friday evening he suggested to his wife that she spend a few hours with friends. She went to a neighbor's. During her absence McNello gathered up some clothes and a few other personal belongings, which he took with him on his journey. Mr. McNello's family consists of his wife and two children, who are left absolutely penniless and dependent upon the charity of the community. Mr. McNello was section foreman for about ten years, and received a salary of \$60 per month. He was transferred to Renovo from the Philadelphia division and was considered an excellent foreman. He had many friends in Renovo and was a nominee for council in the West ward at the recent election.

George A. Bender, of Gallitzin, has entered suit against Miss Mary F. Nofsker, for breach of promise. George says Mary promised to marry him on the 6th of January, and he at once proceeded to stick a ring on her finger to seal the bargain and showered numerous other presents upon her. On the 24th of March before an alderman the pair entered into the necessary papers to secure a license, which came all right then he purchased a lot of household goods, and was all ready for real business in the matrimonial line when Mary determined to break the contract, which she did in very positive terms. George estimates the damage to his purse and heart at \$500 clean cash, and that is the amount he sues for. Now if it had been the woman doing the presenting the rent in her heart alone would have been worth at least \$5,000. George is real moderate in his charges.