

Democratic Watchman

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P. GRAY MEEK, Editor

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Caucus Meetings.

The Democrats of Centre Co. will hold caucuses for the nomination of candidates for borough, ward, township and precinct officers on or before the 25th day of January, 1902.

Democratic County Committee for 1902.

Table listing names and addresses of Democratic County Committee members for 1902, including John J. Bower as Chairman and various precinct representatives.

Encouraging for Democracy.

The Democrats of Allegheny county are beginning the New Year in the proper way. At the delegate elections the other evening every man suspected of complicity in the schemes of Senator FLINN was defeated.

That is not the only evidence of an improvement in the morals of the Allegheny county Democratic organization. It is stated that at the re-organization of the county committee for the ensuing year, which will occur in the near future, the Hon. GEORGE W. GUTHRIE will be elected chairman of the county committee.

Such incidents inspire the highest hopes in the future of the party. With harmony and honesty in the party organization in Philadelphia and Pittsburg the most profitable sources of ballot frauds will be cut off.

Durham Settles the Matter.

Insurance Commissioner DURHAM has wisely or unwisely settled the question of the Republican nomination for Governor. A Philadelphia paper having published the other day that QUAY had determined to side-track Attorney General ELKIN, and nominate Major General MILLER, of Venango county, for Governor, DURHAM "took the bull by the horns," so to speak, and declared that he is for ELKIN "sink or swim," and that at the proper time QUAY will be for him also.

The election is quite a different thing, but the nomination is the first step toward the result and Mr. ELKIN is to be congratulated on the result achieved. The machine is likewise entitled to congratulate

tions. There was a time that indications pointed to the discomfiture of the "close corporation." The opponents were increasing in strength and improving in courage. But the moment that the capitol building project was disposed of satisfactorily, the danger disappeared and DURHAM felt safe in pronouncing himself unequivocally on the subject.

Commissioner DURHAM depends on the fraudulent vote of Philadelphia and Pittsburg to elect his man. He knows that ELKIN is thousands of votes weaker than any other man named for the place in the State. But the hundred thousand votes which may be fraudulently put into the ballot boxes in Philadelphia and Pittsburg will compensate for any losses on account of disgust for the machine.

A Cabinet Scandal.

The new Postmaster General has already brought a scandal into the administration. It appears that he is president of one of those corporations which get rich out of public franchises obtained through "pails."

The government was about to grant this favor to the Florence Mining company, of Wisconsin, until the Senators and Representatives of Utah interposed a vigorous protest. Mr. PAYNE is president of the company. When an application came to the Interior Department with his name attached, the Secretary felt that he had no right to refuse it.

The discovery of this trick to bunco the government out of valuable franchises will probably not keep Mr. PAYNE out of the cabinet. The President knew what sort of a man he was when he appointed him. Lobbyists are pretty much alike and PAYNE has been a past-master among them for years.

Contest Between Nicaragua and Panama Routes is On.

Debate Begins in the House.—Representative Hepburn Says the Recent Offer by the Panama Canal Company to Sell is Open to Suspicion. Senator Morgan Also Actives.

WASHINGTON, January 7.—The first notes of the contest between the Nicaragua and Panama routes for the isthmian canal were heard in the Senate to-day. Mr. Morgan offered and secured the adoption of a resolution which indicated his purpose to have the committee on inter-oceanic canals inquire into the relations alleged to exist between the transcontinental railroad companies of the United States and Canada and the Panama Canal company.

For two hours he held the floor, replying to a volley of questions concerning the recent offer of the Panama Canal company to sell its property and franchises to the United States for \$40,000,000. The interest in the debate centered almost entirely in this new phase of the subject.

In concluding, Mr. Hepburn said there might be some interests in the United States which believed they would be harmed by the rivalry by this canal and there were gentlemen of honest purposes who thought

the time was not ripe for the building of the canal or that an enterprise of such magnitude should be undertaken. They were perhaps terrified by the canal scandal.

Asked as to the advisability of giving the President the authority to build on either route, Mr. Hepburn again raised an outburst of applause by declaring that he looked upon any attempt to entangle the United States in the Panama enterprise as an effort to defeat any canal.

Mr. Morris, of Minnesota, gave notice that at the proper time he would offer an amendment to authorize the President (if he could secure the property and rights of the Panama company for \$40,000,000, if concessions would be procured from Columbia, and if the Walker commission so recommended) to purchase and proceed to complete the Panama canal.

SENTIMENT IN FAVOR OF GIVING CONSIDERATION TO RECENT OFFER OF PANAMA CANAL COMPANY.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 8.—The debate on the Nicaragua canal bill in the House to-day developed sentiment in favor of giving consideration to the recent offer of the Panama company to sell its franchises and property for \$40,000,000, this sentiment taking the form of advocating the Morris amendment to empower the President to select the latter route if the canal commission, upon considering the company's offer, recommends it and the required concessions can be obtained from Columbia.

It was agreed that general debate should close tomorrow at 2 o'clock, after which the bill will be opened to amendment under the five minute rule. The final vote probably will be taken tomorrow.

Mr. Shackelford, of Missouri, a member of the committee, which reported the bill, in his remarks advocating its passage, said he believed that the Eads' Theatrical route was preferable to any which had been proposed, but if he did not like the Panama route, but if the new proposition of the Panama company offered advantages over the Nicaragua route, he thought the President should have alternative authority to accept it.

"If you favor this bill," interposed Mr. Bartholdi, (Mo.) "why is it that you and your Democratic colleagues from Missouri at the last session voted against a similar bill?"

"Because," replied Mr. Shackelford, "the bill at the last session was passed through this house to the tune of 'God Save the Queen' and it passed to the sweet strains of 'Hail Columbia.' (Democratic applause.)

Admiral Schley Will Appeal.

Will Carry His Case to the President of the United States.

WASHINGTON, January 7.—Messrs. Rayner and Tesque, counsel for Rear Admiral Schley, came over from Baltimore to-day and were closeted for several hours with their client. Admiral Schley would not discuss the matter beyond stating that he had asked his counsel to come here that he might acquaint them with the results of his talk with President Roosevelt and agree upon the best method of bringing the facts before the President.

The following statement was given out by Admiral Schley's counsel at conclusion of the conference: "Admiral Schley has concluded after mature and careful deliberation to appeal from the majority decision of the court of inquiry to the President of the United States as a commander in chief of the army and navy. This action having been determined upon nothing more can be divulged at this time, the regulations of the navy being such that the nature of the proposed appeal cannot be revealed except by the President, after the formal documents have been filed with him."

Palma Ticket Won.

No Organized Opposition to Nationalist Candidate for Cuba's Presidency.

HAVANA, January 1.—The indications are that the entire Palma ticket will be elected and that the Nationalist candidate, the nationalist candidate for the presidency of Cuba will receive the unanimous vote of the electoral college.

The adherents of General Maso (the Democratic candidate who recently withdrew from the campaign) not only withdrew the candidates, but refused to go to the poles.

A remarkably light vote was polled throughout the island. La Discusion describes this indifference to the certainty on the part of the Palmists of being victorious and that consequently the majority of them remained away and did not vote.

For Our Astronomical Readers.

In the year 1902 there will occur five eclipses, three of the sun and two of the moon. First, a small partial eclipse of the sun April 8th, visible only in the extreme northern part of North America and Greenland; a total eclipse of the moon, April 22-23rd, visible to Asia and Australia and part in Europe and Africa; a partial eclipse of the sun, May 7-8th, visible only in New Zealand and the South Pacific ocean; a total eclipse of the moon, October 16-17th, visible in North and South America and in part of New Zealand and the western portions of Europe and Africa; a partial eclipse of the sun, October 31st, visible to Asia and the northeastern part of Europe.

A Frightful Wreck in the New York Central Railroad Tunnel That Burrows Under New York.

Thirty Persons Were Injured, a Dozen of Whom Seriously Hurt, and the Roster of the Dead May Be Extended—It Was a Rear End Collision Between a South Norfolk Local That Ran In over the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad.

NEW YORK, Jan. 8.—In the New York Central railroad tunnel that burrows under Park avenue, this city, two local trains collided to-day. Fifteen passengers were killed and twice that many were injured. A dozen of the latter were seriously hurt and the roster of the dead may be extended.

It was a rear end collision between a South Norfolk local that ran in over the New York, New Haven and Hartford railroad, and was halted by block signals at the southern end of the tunnel, and a White Plains local that came by the Harlem branch of the New York Central.

The wreck occurred at 8:17 a. m., at which hour the trains were crowded by suburbanites. Most of the death, injury and damage was wrought by the engine of the White Plains train, which plunged into the rear car of the motionless train and was driven through to the middle of the car, smashing the seats, furnishings, and splitting the sides as it moved forward. The victims were either mangled in the mass of wreckage carried at the pilot, crushed in the space between boiler and car sides, or scalded by steam which came hissing from broken pipes and cylinders. The engine in its final plunge of forty feet, carried the rear car forward and sent it crashing into the tunnel ahead. Lights were extinguished and from the wreckage and darkness came the cries of the injured and calls for assistance by those who escaped. Within a few minutes the work of rescue, marked by heroism and sacrifice, began.

ALARMS SOUNDED AT ONCE.

Alarms that brought every available ambulance in the city, the police reserves of five precincts and the firemen of the Central eastern district of Manhattan were sounded at once. With police, firemen and surgeons came a score of volunteer physicians and half a dozen clergymen.

Ladders were run down the tunnel air shafts and the firemen and police attacked the debris with ropes and axes. Passengers already had rallied and were trying to release those imprisoned in the debris. Father Smith and Rev. Dr. Walkley, chaplains of the fire department, crawled in over the wreckage and ministered to the dying. Lieut. Clark, of the fire department, crept his way to the point where Miss Rice and Miss Scott lay and stood in water that scalded the flesh from his limbs until the women were released. T. M. Murphy, a passenger, both of whose legs were broken and still held by the timbers, volunteered to remain as he was until those around him were assisted.

Two policemen and Chaplain Walkley reached Mrs. Howard and the chaplain gave her a stimulant. Two policemen were cutting away the seat which held the woman, when the pipe broke.

DRIVEN BACK BY SCALDING STEAM.

The scalding steam drove them back and when the rescuers returned Mrs. Howard was dead.

Injured persons in need of immediate attention were given temporary dressing by the ambulance and volunteer surgeons and then hoisted to the street. Many Park avenue mansions were thrown open to the suffering, but most of the injured were at once taken to hospitals. The dead were once taken to morgues and police stations.

An immense crowd, heedless of the snow which swirled through the street, gathered about the tunnel entrance and shafts and watched the rescue work.

Responsibility for the disaster is unfixed, but Superintendent Franklin said that, so far as he had been able to discover John Wischo, engineer of the White Plains train in the South Norfolk tunnel, stepped a flagman back into the tunnel and a block placed a torpedo on the track, endeavored to flag the oncoming train.

RECLOSED WITH STEAM AND SMOKE.

The tunnel was belched with steam and smoke, while the snow, which fell through the air shafts, tended to obscure the view. Engineer Wischo and fireman Christopher Flynn were arrested. A signalman was also detained for a time, but was released.

Superintendent Franklin has issued a statement as to the accident, in which he declares that the block signals at Fifty-ninth street were obeyed by the New Haven train, while the engineer of the White Plains train disregarded them. "The torpedo on the track went off," said the superintendent, "but he did not stop, even though the fireman called to him to do so. The system block signals is such that it is a physical impossibility for a signalman to make his light declare the track free if another train is on the block."

STATE RAILWAY COMMISSION WILL INVESTIGATE.

The state railway commission also announced its intention to make an investigation and similar intent was expressed by the general officers of both the New York Central and Hudson River railroad and the New York, New Haven and Hartford railroad.

Residents of New Rochelle contributed the largest number to the casualty list, because the rear car of the South Norfolk local was reserved for them and was kept locked until the train reached that place. William Lays, one of the dead, was general manager of the dry goods firm of B. Altman & Co., of this city, and was prominent in commercial circles here. A. M. Perrin was second vice president of the Union Bag and Paper company, and was equally well known. H. G. Diamond, who was killed, was assistant general manager of the American Bridge company. Oscar W. Meyrowitz was an optician and secretary of the New Rochelle Yacht club, and E. F. Walton was a well known broker of New York.

WISCHO HELD WITHOUT BAIL.

Later in the day the coroner questioned the trainmen, holding court at the police station. The inquest was held behind closed doors and, as a result of it, Signalman Flynn was released, while fireman Fyler was held in jail in the sum of \$5,000 and engineer Wischo was taken to the Tombs prison.

Subscribe for the WATCHMAN.

Gorman For Senator.

Was Unanimously and Enthusiastically Elected as Caucus of Maryland Democratic Legislators.

ANNAPOLIS, Md., Jan. 8.—The Hon. Arthur P. Gorman and Chairman Murray Vandiver, of the Democratic state central committee, were selected as the Democratic nominees for United States Senator and State treasurer, respectively, at the Democratic caucus held tonight. Senator Gorman's selection was unanimous and enthusiastic.

He was nominated by Senator Rohrback, of Frederick county, and seconded by Senators Bryan, of Baltimore Peter, of Howard and enigmatic speeches.

Three members, Messrs. Linthicum and Shepherd, of Dorchester, and Shipley of Anne Arundel county, declined to vote for Mr. Vandiver. Isaac Loeb Strauss, of Baltimore city, refused to enter the caucus. There were sixty-four members present and as sixty-one is sufficient to elect on joint ballot, the question of the next United States Senator and State Treasurer is regarded as settled. No other names were mentioned in the caucus.

The Republicans held their caucus in the afternoon and nominated Congressman William H. Jackson, of Wicomico county, for United States Senator, and General Thomas I. Shryock, of Baltimore city, for State Treasurer.

The Democratic leaders experienced an unpleasant surprise during the day when the Republicans united with a half dozen disgruntled Democrats and, taking the bit between their teeth, adjourned the house of delegates until Friday night, much to the chagrin of the managers of the dominant party. It had been part of their program to have re-elected Murray Vandiver state treasurer at tomorrow's session, and the action of the handful of Democratic members who voted for adjournment today was in the nature of a protest against such a step and to gain time in which to make an effort to defeat Vandiver. They are opposing him because they consider that he is taking too active a part in shaping legislation. Their leader is Isaac Loeb Strauss, a brilliant young lawyer from Baltimore, who is not opposed to Mr. Gorman in any way, but who declares that he will not submit to being dictated to. Mr. Strauss wanted to be speaker of the house and had considerable backing for the place, but was turned down in favor of one of Mr. Vandiver's personal friends and supporters.

Argument Court.

The Regular Sitting of Argument Court for January—Several Interesting Cases Heard—Adjourned Until Saturday Morning.

The regular January argument court convened on Monday morning with Judge Love presiding and continued in session until Wednesday evening when it adjourned until Saturday morning.

Attorney J. H. Craig of the Blair county bar who was interested in the cases of S. M. Graham and W. S. Bigelow for satisfaction of mortgages held by the Keystone State Building and Loan Association was admitted to the bar of this county for the purposes of arguing the cases. Some years ago Graham and Bigelow borrowed sums of money from this Association, and about six months ago they paid the debt and interest and also the satisfaction fee in each instance. Then they directed the association to satisfy the mortgages, and in turn the association sent to Clement Dale Esq., a power of attorney to satisfy them upon the payment of the fee for the recording of the power of attorney, which the mortgagors refused to do. A rule was then granted to show cause why the Association should not satisfy the mortgages, and this rule was argued and the papers handed to the court.

The case of W. R. Shope vs. America Leyman, J. L. Croft and John Q. Miles, being for a rule on the plaintiff to show cause why a judgment should not be entered and America Leyman let into a defense, was continued.

The exceptions to the report of the viewers on the road in Worth township were not argued for the reason that petitioners had not taken their depositions. Case continued.

The rule on defendants to show cause why they should not pay bill for maintenance of Daniel Bartlett in the case of overseers of the poor of Patton township vs. overseers of the poor of Benning township was argued and papers handed to the court.

England's Trade in 1901.

Industries Dependent on Foreign Markets Said to Have Suffered.

LONDON, January 7.—The Times, in its review of trade in 1901, which appears to-day, says reaction seems to have been produced from external rather than internal causes. Those industries dependent mainly on home trade have not suffered to the same extent as those depending on trade over sea.

The baneful effects of the policy the miners adopted in order to prevent a decline in prices are evident in many directions. The high prices of Welsh coal and the decline in freights have enabled the Americans to strengthen their foothold in the Mediterranean and Atlantic ports of the continent and in South Africa. American competition has exerted itself less heavily in other trades.

The erratic movements of the prices of raw materials, says the Times, have caused much embarrassment to manufacturers. Wages were generally lower in 1901, but the laborer was compensated by the lower prices of most of the necessities of life, bacon and lard being the only two articles which now cost more than a year ago.

Justice Done the Boers.

Kitchener Denies They Treacherously Shot Two British Officers.

LONDON, January 6.—The War Office, on the authority of Lord Kitchener, denies the report that two officers of the intelligence department, who were sent to parley with Boers who desired to surrender, near Warm Baths, were treacherously shot by concealed Boers.

ADDITIONAL LOCALS

—Mr. and Mrs. Harry E. Fenlon entertained a number of their friends at a delightful euchre party last evening. Delicious refreshments were served and the prizes were worth winning.

—The Union gospel meetings which the Presbyterians, Methodists and Lutherans are to combine to hold in this place will begin on Monday evening. The Presbyterian church will be used for the first week's services.

—Louis Rosenthal, of Bloomsburg, has purchased the two great steel grain tanks that stand at the end of the old Phoenix mill in this place. The mill having been converted into a match factory they are of no further use and were sold for \$450.

Mrs. ANNA BARTON MUSSER.—Mrs. Anna Barton Musser, wife of A. B. Musser, died at her home in Unionville on Wednesday, Jan. 1st, after long suffering with cancer. She had undergone several operations, the first of which was performed more than a year since and her condition became so hopeful that her friends were very much encouraged, until a month ago she began to fail and sank gradually until death came to her relief.

She was born at Unionville May 3rd, 1865, and was married there to Mr. Musser on Dec. 27th, 1889. In 1884 she became a member of the Methodist church and was most zealous in her devotion thereafter. As a girl she was light-hearted and cheerful and that buoyant spirit, together with her christian fortitude, carried her to the very last without a murmur and bearing her terrible affliction with a beautiful patience.

Surviving her are her husband, their little daughter Elizabeth, her mother and these brothers and sisters; Joseph and Edward Barton and Mrs. Dollie Kephart, all of Unionville.

Interment was made at Unionville on Friday afternoon at 2 o'clock.

Mrs. REBECCA ZETTLER.—After an illness with dropsy that had lasted since last May Mrs. Rebecca Zettler, wife of George Zettler, died at their home at Shiloh, near Lemont, on Monday evening. Her maiden name was Rebecca Fry and she was born in Pennsylvally in August, 1826. Shortly after her marriage she settled on the farm where she died and had made her home for thirty-eight years. She was a woman whose home life was a daily blessing; scattering goodness about her and walking constantly in the light of a true christian character.

Her venerable husband, now in his 88th year, with the following children, survives her: Geo. W., of Milesburg; D. H., of Nebraska; Mrs. Emanuel Peters, of Oak Hall; Mrs. Jennie Shuey, of Dalton, Ill.; Mrs. Clyde Thomas, of State College; Mrs. John W. Shadle and Mrs. William Musser, of Bellefonte; Mrs. William Grove and Samuel, of Shiloh.

Rev. W. P. Shriner conducted funeral services at her late home yesterday morning and interment was made at Shiloh.

ALEX HARSTER GONE.—The venerable Alex Harster died at his home near Myer's cemetery in Benner Twp., on Tuesday evening; having been in poor health, occasioned by a weak heart, for some time.

He was born in Ferguson township 68 years ago and was one of her representative citizens until ill health caused his retirement from farming and he moved to his late home.

He is survived by his widow, his son Edward, of Graysville, two daughters in Tyrone and one at home. His only sister, Mrs. Maria Goss, of Pine Grove, is the last of the survivors of the old branch of the once numerous Harster family in Ferguson township.

His remains were buried at Gatesburg yesterday afternoon at 2 o'clock, according to the rites of the Lutheran church, of which he had been a life-long member.

Mrs. CATHARINE MARTIN.—Mrs. Catharine Martin, of Hubersburg, who had been totally helpless in her infirmities since 1891, died last Sunday afternoon at 2 o'clock. She was originally from the vicinity of Howard where, a number of years ago, her husband was accidentally killed at a barn raising. She was a constant, though patient, sufferer and her death came as a blessed relief after years of affliction.

Her remains were interred at Romola, Rev. Foss, of the Evangelical church, having officiated.

Mrs. Rebecca Bishop, who died at her home at Cold Stream, near Philipsburg, on Tuesday, Dec. 31st, was an English woman by birth, though she had been a resident of this country for the past forty years. She was 84 years old. Three of her four surviving children, Mrs. James Dumbleton, St. Clair and Alban, reside in Philipsburg, while James W., is located at Lonaconing, Md. Rev. Dr. Clerc, of the Episcopal church, officiated at her funeral on Thursday afternoon.

—John Brown died at his home at Axe Mann on Friday, Dec. 30th, and was buried in the Lutheran cemetery at Pleasant Gap on Sunday, the 29nd. Deceased had been sick a long time with dropsy and was happily converted before his death. He was 44 years old and is survived by his widow and nine children.

—Charles Johnson, aged 21 years, a son of William Johnson, who died at Eagleville last Thursday, after a lingering illness with consumption, was buried at that place Saturday afternoon. Interment was made in the Baptist cemetery, with Rev. G. S. West officiating.