

Democratic Watchman

Bellefonte, Pa., January 24, 1902.

P. GRAY MEEK, Editor
TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION.—Until further notice this paper will be furnished to subscribers at the following rates:
Paid strictly in advance..... \$4.00
Paid before expiration of year..... 1.50
Paid after expiration of year..... 2.00

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. The committeemen of the several precincts and wards will take notice hereof and fix the hour or time for the holding of these caucuses. Instructions and blanks will be received by committee-men, in due time. JOHN J. BOWER,
Chairman.

Democratic County Committee for 1902.

President.	Name.	P. O. Address.
Bellefonte N.W.	Jno. T. Bradford	Bellefonte
" S. W.	P. H. Gentry	"
" W. W.	Geo. R. Meek	"
Centre Hall Boro	D. D. Daubenspeck	Centre Hall
Howard	Alvin C. Johnson	Middleport
Milesburg	George Noll	Milesburg
Millheim	F. P. Musser	Millheim
Philipsburg 1st W.	J. W. Lukens	Philipsburg
" 2nd W.	John Jones	"
" 3rd W.	A. J. Gummam	"
S. Philipsburg	Harry C. Wilcox	"
State College Boro	M. S. McDowell	State College
Union Twp.	Gen. F. R. Rumberger	"
Bennett Twp.	E. F. Grimes	Bellefonte
" S. P.	John Ishler	"
Boggs Twp.	Orvis Ferzer	Yarrell
" S. P.	G. F. Lyman	Roland
Burnside Twp.	Jas. W. Farmer	Mittens
College	I. J. Dreese	Pine Glen
Curtin	Robert Reiter Jr.	Levant
Fenton	E. P. F. P.	Romola
" S. P.	Wm. F. Price	Hilliard
Gregg Twp.	Isaac Harshper	Grove Mills
" E. P.	Geo. E. Weaver	Penn Camb.
" E. P.	Frank Fisher	Penn Hall
" E. P.	W. H. Zeigler	Spring Mills
Hall Moon Twp.	E. H. Zeigler	Autumn Mills
Harris	E. P. Moeller	Feidler
Howard	E. P. Moeller	Lovetown
Houston	Robert Confer	Boalsburg
Liberty	John Murphy	Julian
" E. P.	E. W. Gardner	Blanchard
Miles Twp.	E. P. Wm. H. Dry	Walker
" E. P.	Wm. H. Zeigler	Wells Store
" E. P.	Wm. H. Zeigler	Madisonburg
Patton Twp.	Thos. M. Huey	Buffalo Run
Penn	"	"
Potter	S. P. F. A. Carson	Potters Mills
" N. P.	E. K. Keller	Centre Hall
Rush	N. P. P. B. Jordan	Colver
" N. P.	John Frank	Philipsburg
Snow Shoe	E. P. Martin McLaughlin	Snow Shoe
" W. P.	Wm. Kern	Moshannon
Spring Twp.	E. P. C. Coray	Bellefonte Gap
Taylor Twp.	J. P. Merriman	Hannan
Union	A. B. Hall	Fleming
Walker Twp.	E. P. J. D. Miller	Nicholson
" M. P.	W. P. S. H. Shaffer	Zion
Worth	" W. T. Hooper	Port Matilda

How the Libel Suit Progresses.

The Case to be Called at Clearfield Next Month. Extensive Preparations Being Made for an Interesting Trial. The Progress as Reported by Other Journals.

Feeling that there are many friends of the WATCHMAN who will be sincerely sympathetic with its editor during the trial of the suit for libel which State Treasurer-elect Frank Harris has brought against him we feel it is our duty to keep them posted to the proceedings, as far as we are able. With this in mind we republish the following from the Pittsburgh Times as showing what has already been done in the way of preparation of the case, as well as of gathering in witnesses. While the Times views the situation rather humorously it, nevertheless, gives the facts as follows:

The greatest political show on earth is being billed for Clearfield, Pa. The exhibition is scheduled for opening in the court house, in that mountain town, on Monday morning, Feb. 3d. If the managers of the enterprise have their way many of the most conspicuous political figures in the State will be among the attractions. All political parties are being drawn upon with a view to making the display complete. Former State Senator P. Gray Meek, editor of the Bellefonte WATCHMAN, and John F. Short, editor of the Clearfield Republican, are press agents for the proposed spectacle. Meek and Short are rabid Democrats. They have had almost unlimited experiences in politics and both are active, earnest and to an extent gifted in manipulating the affairs of their party.

The most interesting feature of the proposed show promises to be a libel suit brought by Frank G. Harris, who served several terms in the State Legislature from Clearfield county, but who was last fall elected State Treasurer, against Mr. Meek, who, it is alleged, outraged Mr. Harris in an article written after A. J. Palm had been nominated for State Treasurer by the Democrats and before the Union party induced Mr. Palm to withdraw in the interest of harmony and E. A. Coray Jr., who was later defeated by Mr. Harris. The offensive publication was embraced in an article alleged to have been written by Mr. Meek in which the last session of the State Legislature was condemned with some energy and Mr. Harris was referred to as other than a complimentary way. The State administration was also attacked with force. The alleged libelous article was written by the Centre county editor on August 30th. The record made by Mr. Harris in the Legislature was reviewed at length. The suit for libel was entered in the Clearfield court on December 27th after Mr. Harris had been elected State Treasurer. Three days later Mr. Meek was arrested and gave bail for court trial.

JUDGE GORDON MAY PRESIDE.

Mr. Short, who is interested materially in the proposed show, is almost viciously opposed to Mr. Harris. They are neighbors, but each has told some rather startling stories on the other, and they have not spoken to each other in years. Ex-Judge D. L. Krebs, a Democrat, and Thomas H. Murray, Republican, members of the Clearfield county bar, have been retained to defend Mr. Meek. Judge Cyrus Gordon, a Republican, will in all probability preside at the trial of the case. Judge Gordon is said to be entirely satisfactory to both sides in the contest. Mr. Meek, when a candidate for State Senator in 1890, carried Clearfield county by 2,300 votes. Mr. Harris, when a candidate for State Treasurer, was beaten in the county by 110 votes. Under the circumstances, it was argued, a fair show would be given the defendant.

In collecting exhibits for their proposed show, Messrs. Meek and Short spent all of yesterday in Pittsburg, and during the day shrewdly served subpoenas upon a distinguished collection of politicians who were concerned, one way or another, in the last session of the State Legislature. Mr. Short served the official papers, while Mr. Meek conferred with Democratic politicians and others remotely or directly interested in his cause.

Maj. A. M. Brown, former recorder of Pittsburg, was the first person visited by Mr. Short yesterday morning. The major, after being removed from office by Gov. W. A. Stone, made some remarks reflecting rather harshly upon the executive. In fact to interpret the major's remarks in the kindest possible way he intimated that his removal resulted from unpatriotic motives. These remarks were repeated by Maj. Brown upon several occasions and at various places, when a public platform was convenient, and Mr. Meek's purpose is to give the former recorder an opportunity to again repeat his charges against the Governor upon the witness stand and under oath. It is apparent that the purpose of Maj. Brown's testimony is to establish that Mr. Meek wrote truthfully when he charged the State administration and the Legislature with being corrupt, and that the attack upon both was not made through bribery and corruption of the Legislature.

MEEK PROMISES REVELATIONS.

Mr. Meek said he was prepared to fight the case to the end. He will be defended by former Judge D. L. Krebs and Thomas A. Murray, of Clearfield.

Harris' case, it is believed, will consist of the production of a copy of the paper dated August 30 last year, which contained the alleged libel, and the testimony of citizens of the county to the effect that they had read it. He will be represented by A. L. Cole and S. W. Wilson, of Clearfield.

The case will come up on February 3 before Judge Gordon, at Clearfield. Meek's purpose is to prove that Harris' character is all he said it was in his paper, as well as to make public the inside facts regarding bribery and corruption of the Legislature.

which he began without consulting any of them.

Harris received a telegram at his home in Clearfield Monday night which caused him to take the first train East. At the hotel Walton last night a telegram was waiting for him.

Attorney General Elkin also came to the city last night. He registered at the Walton early in the evening, but took a carriage and drove away at once. It was said his visit was connected with the Harris case and Harris was believed to be in the city in conference with machine leaders.

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA.

TOO COLD FOR THE MAJOR.

Maj. Brown did not take kindly to the subpoena. He questioned the authority of Mr. Short to serve the paper, but when that authority was established Maj. Brown pleaded to be excused from service. "Where is Mr. Meek?" Maj. Brown asked in a mild way. "Please tell him that I want to see him. I know he would excuse me if I go from attending the trial if I could have a talk with him. I must be excused," to the major went on. "It is too cold for me to go up into Clearfield county."

"That will be all right," Mr. Short retorted, "we will take great pleasure in making it warm enough for you should you come up to our county. Do you accept service?" Mr. Short asked.

"I do," the major answered, "but I must see Mr. Meek," he concluded.

Thomas S. Bigelow was the next witness summoned in the regular way by Mr. Short. Mr. Bigelow, upon the authority of Gov. Stone, provoked the postscript to the Governor's letter to the people of Pittsburg announcing the removal of Maj. Brown and denying an alleged report that he had taken consideration during the session.

Mr. Bigelow has been publicly charged with having financed the recent Legislature, and his testimony, it was contended by Mr. Meek, would establish the full extent of the Legislature's corruption.

HIS CHECK BOOK WANTED.

Maj. Brown was required by the legal summons to appear only in person. Mr. Bigelow, however, will bear additional burdens when he goes to Clearfield, for he has been ordered by the court, in a sort of drag net subpoena, not only to attend the trial in person, but the order specifically recites: "That you bring with you and produce at the trial of this case, your check book and all other records, papers and memoranda, showing checks, etc., drawn by you between December 20th, 1900, and June 30, 1901."

Mr. Bigelow seemed a trifle startled when the subpoena was presented to him. For a time he seemed worried, and then he asked for a copy of the paper. After it was handed him he agreed to accept service.

John P. McGaugh and W. W. Nisbet, who were members of the Allegheny delegation in the last Legislature, were also served with subpoenas by Mr. Short. They shifted their politics considerably during the strenuous session, but the reform spirit is alleged to have possessed them with great force, and reform is not to occupy a conspicuous place at the proposed trial.

John H. Smith, a Democrat, of Greene county, was also summoned by Mr. Short to appear in the big show. Mr. Smith, for some explained reason, failed to line up with his party upon several important occasions during the session. He was said to be devoting considerable attention to buying and selling coal lands during last winter and on that account he was said to have rarely known just what his Democratic colleagues wanted.

DARIEN REPORTED SINKING.

The government gunboat Boyaca has just moored to the dock here. She brings troops from Chiriqui. She reports that the revolutionary steamer Padilla, Darien and Gaitan drew off when they became aware of her presence.

The Darien is now reported to be in a sinking condition.

DANISH WEST INDIES TO BE OURS.

Danish Reported to be Ready to Transfer the Islands to the United States This Week.

COPENHAGEN, Jan. 22.—It has been definitely decided that the treaty with the United States providing for the sale of the Danish West Indies is to be signed at Washington this week. All the formalities here are completed.

GOVERNOR STONE INVITED TO ATTEND.

The Philadelphia North American of Wednesday tells the following story of what has been done in the eastern part of the State this week.

Gray Meek, editor of the Bellefonte WATCHMAN, arrived in the city last night to serve subpoenas on politicians and newspaper men, whom they want to testify for him in the libel suit brought against him by State Treasurer-elect Frank G. Harris. Meek will serve the papers to-day.

At Harrisburg Tuesday afternoon he summoned Governor Stone and Attorney General Elkin, through Detective Anderson, who found the officials on Capitol Hill. Both said they would be on hand.

GANG LEADERS ON SUBPOENA ROLL.

Among the Philadelphians who are expected to testify are Insurance Commissioner Durham, representatives Charles E. Voorhees and Theodore B. Stulb and other legislators, and J. Clayton Erb, Durham's private secretary. Representative Ward Bissell of Delaware county, who was chairman of the committee on appropriations, and T. Larry Eye, of Chester county, Superintendent of Public Buildings and Grounds, may be called also from the eastern end of the State.

At Pittsburg, last Friday, subpoenas were served on A. M. Brown, the rippous Recorder, and the Bigelows, who were back of the Pittsburg rippous bill. In fact, a host of politicians who were active on the stalwart side at Harrisburg during the last session of the Legislature have been called by Meek.

HARRIS AND ELKIN IN THE CITY.

It was reported last night that the machine leaders were becoming scared at what Meek promises to reveal, and were endeavoring to induce Harris to call off the suit,

CLEVELAND ARRAYS CONGRESS' CUBAN ATTITUDE.

Ex-President Wants the Duty of the United States As Defined by the President Attended To.

YORK, Pa., Jan. 22.—A. B. Farquhar, of this city, the head of the Farquhar Agricultural works and prominent in national Democratic affairs, has received the following letter from ex-President Cleveland in reply to one sent him by Mr. Farquhar relative to the relations of the United States with Cuba:

"Westland, Princeton, N. J., Jan. 21st,

"My Dear Mr. Farquhar:

"I have only sufficiently recovered from my illness to be about a little, and ride out in a limited way. To-morrow I hope to start on a trip to the South, in the expectation that my health will be largely reinstated by the outing.

"I received your letter yesterday, and in which you discuss our relations and our duty to Cuba.

"The arguments used in opposition to the tariff concessions she implores, based upon our material interests, are fallacious, mistaken and misleading, while their source and the agencies of their propagation and spread cannot fail to be recognized by every honest, patriotic citizen with shame and humiliation.

"It seems to me, however, that this subject involves considerations of morality and conscience higher and more commanding than all others.

"The obligations arising from these considerations cannot be better or more forcibly defined than was done by President Roosevelt in his message to Congress, nor better emphasized than has been done by Secretary Root, and yet Congress waits, while we occasionally hear of concessions which rich sugar interests might approve in behalf of trembling Cuba.

"I do not believe that nations, any more than individuals, can safely violate the rules of honesty and fair dealing.

"Until there is no escape, therefore, I will not believe that, with all our fine words and lofty professions, our embrace of Cuba means the contagion of deadly disease.

Yours very truly,

A. B. FARQUHAR, Esq.,
York, Pa.

PRINCETON, N. J., Jan. 22.—Ex-President Cleveland left Princeton to-night for the South, where he will remain several days, hunting with Colonel E. C. Benedict, Rear Admiral R. D. Evans, General Anson G. McCook and Herman May. The party will go to Georgetown, S. C., and shortly after arriving there will go to the home of Colonel Alexander, who lives on an island eighteen miles from that city.

Mr. Cleveland appears to have regained his normal health. He was accompanied as far as Philadelphia by Mrs. Cleveland. When Mr. Cleveland left for the South, he was a soldier in the Philippines, arrived home last Thursday evening.

—Lieut. Stiles of the local Salvation Army corps is confined to the house on Logan street with illness.

—John S. Walker, who has been seriously ill at his home on Thomas street since Sunday, is somewhat better.

—Mrs. Al. Garman, of Tyrone, is reported as improving nicely since her return from the hospital in Philadelphia.

—The State College basket ball team defeated the Lock Haven Normal school boys on Friday night by the score of 13 to 4.

—Division foreman Charles Murray, of Julian, has just received a check for \$50 as a prize for having the best track on the B. E. R. R.

—Work on the new Y. M. C. A. building that is being erected in Eagleville is progressing rapidly, under the direction of Rev. G. S. West.

—A loaded coal car was shot off the end of the wharf in the Bellefonte Fuel & Supply Co. yard on Saturday morning. Fortunately no one was hurt.

—Lewiston on Tuesday celebrated its one hundredth anniversary as the county seat of Mifflin county. Appropriate commemorative exercises were held during the evening.

—While keeping tally at a shooting match at William Cox's on Marsh Creek, on Saturday afternoon, Miles Lucas was accidentally shot in the right shoulder. The ball cut the coat on his left arm, grazed across his chest, entered the right shoulder and came out at the elbow joint. Dr. McEntire gave him early attention and he is getting along all right.

—The next attraction to be presented in the W. C. T. U. course is the Auburn trio, which will appear at the court house next Wednesday night, January 29th. It will add another success to the long list of fine entertainments the ladies have given the public there this