

Democratic Watchman

BY P. GRAY MEEK.

Ink Stings.

—What would you rather be than a Bellefonte councilman? —The most gladsome thing the world knows is the cheapest. Sunshine. —When a man bumps up against good fortune he never has any sore spots to heal. —Bellefonte has had two of the usual series of three fires. Watch for the third. —Russia had better be sure that she can handle the Japs before taking on any more adversaries. —Secretary LOEB is looked upon by a great many people just now as very much of a LOEB-ster. —Mrs. MAYBRICK is free at last. The Delaware peach crop story will have to go it alone in the future. —Gen. KUROBATKIN's efforts to break the Japanese center will likely result in the breaking of his own neck. —The strike of the Chicago beef packers is over. Now watch the trust start in to skin the public for loss of business during its duration. —There is every evidence to prove that the FOLKS consider themselves very much better than a great many of the people in Missouri. —If reports be true that look-jaw can be successfully treated now there will be another obstacle removed from the way of the Fourth of July fool. —Read what BRYAN says about the Democratic platform in this issue and resolve, with him, that it is the wise thing to go along with the party. —It must be admitted that Mr. PARKER has the Republicans scared to a stand-still without saying a word. What will they do when he opens his campaign. —How many people make the mistake of thinking that there is plenty of time to begin being good, after they have grown too old to get any more fun out of being bad? —Men who can't support PARKER because of their love for BRYAN ought to absorb a little of BRYAN's love for Democracy and then they would find no trouble in doing it. —It is reported that there is a gentleman in Philipsburg who owns some of everything in that town but the new brewery and he looks as if he owned all of it. It is your guess. —The King of Belgium wears no crown because he has no crown to wear. In the world to come there will be lots of fellows in the King's predicament, because they have failed to earn one. —That Vladivostok fleet of the Russian navy is out again cutting up capers among Japanese merchantmen. The matter of its getting out isn't one of as great moment as that of its getting back. —This is the year that JOHN NOLL will make good and just because he was so satisfactory in the last session we will have to send the Hon J. W. KEPLER along to the Legislature also. —The fact that Senator W. A. CLARK was able to keep his marriage secret for a period of three years was altogether due to the fact that he married a woman very unlike most of her sex. —Our Republican campaign friends are having a hard time these days keeping the dinner pail full, not to mention the number of men who have no opportunity of carrying a dinner pail at all. —Governor HERRICK, of Ohio, said "business is ahead of politics in the minds of the American people." To be more specific he meant in the minds of those outside of Ohio and Pennsylvania. —After looking the Igorrotes over at St. Louis the average American will come home fully convinced that in paying two dollars a head for them we lost about a dollar and ninety-eight cents on each one. —If JOE FOLK, of Missouri, is really hunting trouble president FRANCIS, of the exposition, might give him a figuring out how that great show is going to make ends meet on the basis of present attendance. —What has become of that great Republican club that Col. REEDER was organizing several weeks ago? His efforts to try to submerge the original and reliable ROOSEVELT club of the West ward received a dampener from many sources that believe that the young men who organized and maintained a club years before he thought of it should not be treated as if they were political foot-halls. —About the first bit of real good sense we have noted Senator FAIRBANKS, the Republican nominee for Vice President, display for a long time in his determination not to resign his seat in the upper branch of Congress until the outcome of the election is decided. The Senator is wise in hanging onto the five years in the senatorial chair that he has coming, for that might be all he will have left after the fray. —From all quarters of Centre county come reports of general satisfaction over the work of the St. Louis convention. Many Republicans will join with us this year in the fight for a "safe and sane" President and the outlook is more hopeful than it has been in years. We will need every vote, however, and now is the time to spur your negligent neighbor into an enthusiasm that will take him eagerly to the polls in November.

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STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

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The Facts Proved.

The reply which has always been ready on the tongue of a Republican orator or at the point of the pen of a Republican editor to the citation of the historic fact that strikes have come more frequently and labor troubles are more numerous under the operation of a high protective tariff than under any other conditions, is that strikes and troubles are for increases of wages and not against reductions. The human memory is proverbially short and the Republican orators and editors take advantage of that fact to thus impose on public credulity. They freely assert that all the strikes in 1892 were for higher wages and a greater share of the prosperity of the country when as a matter of fact every industrial disturbance of that year, including that which resulted in the slaughter at Homestead, was against a reduction of wages.

Loeb as a Hero.

Others may play more stirring and conspicuous parts in the Republican presidential canvass but if we may judge by the signs no individual is destined to be of more actual importance in holding the voters in line than the humble LOEB. LOEB is down on the books as secretary to the President but his real title is Official Blunderer. It is his duty to shoulder the responsibility for and assume the odium of every blunder made by the President and his official family that in any way promises to stir up animosity against Republican rule and Republican candidates. For a time after LOEB assumed his present job, which, by the way, was back in the days before chairman CORELYOU had entered the Cabinet, he was quite a busy man. Of late, however, he has been enjoying more or less of a sinecure and no doubts gained in weight and personal appearance as a consequence. But the accident of the turning down of the representatives of the anthracite miners was a signal that the strenuous life has been renewed and that it is time for the Official Blunderer to be ready to do business at any time of the day or night. As Mr. DOOLEY would say it's a hard job LOEB has and the pay is quite small. There can't be much joy in the life of a man part of whose daily routine is to walk out and tell the reporters that he, and he alone, is responsible for the actions or words of some impetuous or heedless ass who has succeeded in stirring up the ire of an influential element of the people. But that is not the worst of it by any means. The reporters understand and they sympathize but the public is different and the Official Blunderer is generally taken for what he claims to be, a man devoid of manners and brains. Surely the man who for the sake of his party will play such a humiliating role, deserves to be considered a hero.

Lawlessness Can be Prevented.

We learn from a Harrisburg contemporary that the contractor who has been awarded the contract of building a \$500,000 wall around the capital park in this city declares that the wall will be built, regardless of the protests of the people. The contract has been let, he adds, and the work will be performed whether the people like it or not. The late HAMLER must have had something like this in mind when he spoke of the insolence of office. The statement is probably a piece of unwarranted bragadocio and isn't meant to be taken seriously. But just the same the officials at Harrisburg are getting into the habit of making too free with the constitution and the laws and getting too careless of the people's money. The constitution of Pennsylvania specifically forbids the payment of any money out of the treasury "except upon appropriations made by law, and on warrant drawn by the proper officer in pursuance thereof." The appropriation made during the session of the Legislature for the maintenance, care and improvement of the capital park, legally known as the Public Buildings and Grounds, is \$30,000. It will be clearly impossible to build a wall at a cost of half a million dollars with an appropriation of \$30,000, and it is just as certainly a violation of the constitution which every member of the Board of Public Buildings and Grounds has sworn to "support, obey and defend," to pay money out of the treasury that has not been appropriated by the Legislature and "on warrant drawn by the proper officer in pursuance" of that appropriation. Neither is it possible to dignify such a misappropriation of the funds of the State by paying through the Board of Public Buildings and Grounds the expense of the wall around the capital park out of the funds regularly appropriated for the construction of the capital building. The act authorizing the construction of the capital building designates that the money appropriated in it is "for the removal of the two buildings now occupied by the Secretary of Internal Affairs and other departments of the state government and the Secretary of Agriculture and other departments of the state government, and for the construction and completion of the State Capital building." There is no authority contained in that act of Assembly to build a wall around the capital park at a cost of half a million dollars or any other sum. Moreover the act in question creates a commission to "construct, build and complete" the State Capital building, employ architects and do all other work such as letting contracts for the construction and completing the building and paying all moneys in connection with the operation. If the park wall is to be a part of the building or the erection of it a feature of the building, the contract for the wall must be let and paid for out of the money appropriated for the building and by the gentlemen who compose that commission. Any other arrangement is a violation of law and may be prevented by an appeal to the courts for an injunction. Therefore the capital park job can be prevented if the people have courage and are so inclined.

Roosevelt and Labor Unions.

It is reported that the postponed interview between Mr. Roosevelt and the Pennsylvania labor leaders specially representing the Colorado union miners will take place early next week. Two of the gentlemen who went to Oyster Bay to converse with him on the subject of the Colorado disturbances were turned away on Tuesday last by Secretary Loeb, under a strict construction of the new rules governing all approach to the person of the Chief Executive during his summer retirement. They departed breathing vengeance at the polls in November. Since then it has been explained that Mr. Roosevelt knew naught of Labor's proximity on Tuesday; the private secretary was wholly responsible for its preemptory dismissal. Now labor is called back and is to have a hearing. Is there any doubt about the character of the reply Mr. Roosevelt will make to the delegates if they go to Oyster Bay to protest against the use of armed force for the suppression of mob violence? Having heard them, he will take from his place upon one of his library shelves a bound volume of the Forum for the year 1895, and he will read to them with appropriate emphasis, and perhaps with auxiliary gestulation, these pertinent remarks from an article on "True American Ideals" written for that magazine by the man and the citizen Theodore Roosevelt shortly after the memorable suppression of the Chicago labor riot by President Cleveland: "The worst foes of America are the foes to that orderly liberty without which our Republic must speedily perish. The reckless labor agitator who arouses the mob to riot and bloodshed is in the last analysis the most dangerous of the workingman's enemies. This man is a real peril; so is his sympathizer, the legislator who, to catch votes, denounces the judiciary and the military because they put down mobs. The demagogue, in all his forms, is as characteristic an evil of a free society as the courtier is of a despotism; and the attitude of many of our public men at the time of the great strike last July was such as to call down on their heads the condemnation of every American who wishes well to his country. "Had it not been for the admirable action of the federal government, Chicago would have seen a repetition of what occurred during the Paris Commune, while Illinois would have been torn by a fierce social war. It was a most fortunate thing that the action at Washington was so quick and so emphatic. The President and Attorney-General Olney acted with equal wisdom and courage, and the danger was averted. "The completeness of the victory of the Federal authorities, representing the cause of law and order, has been perhaps one reason why it was so soon forgotten. Governor Altgeld, though pre-eminent, did not stand alone in his unenviable prominence. Governor Waite, of Colorado, stood with him. Most of the Populist Governors of the Western States and the Democratic Governor of North Dakota shared the shame with him; and it makes no difference whether in catering to riotous mobs they paid heed to their own timidity and weakness or that spirit of blatant demagogism which, more than any other, jeopardizes the existence of free institutions. "Every true American, every man who thinks and who, if the occasion come, is ready to act, may do well to ponder upon the evil wrought by the lawlessness of the disorderly classes when once they are able to elect their own chiefs to power. If the Government generally got into the hands of such men as Altgeld and the other Governors like him referred to, the Republic would go to pieces in a year; and it would be right that it should go to pieces, for the election of such men shows that the people electing them are unfit to be entrusted with self-government. "Such were the unambiguous words of Mr. Roosevelt on the general subject of the preservation of order against violence like that in Illinois in 1894, and in Colorado ten years later. Is it not like that he will reply to the intercessors for the Colorado striking miners by reading to them these very words of his own from the Forum of February, 1895? And even if the delegates conclude not to go again to Oyster Bay, they may read his sentiments just the same.

An Auspicious Opening.

No party ever entered more auspiciously upon an important campaign than the Democrats are entering upon the impending presidential contest. Ever since the St. Louis convention began its deliberations our friends, the enemy, have been assiduously laboring to diffuse the false impression that leading Democrats are cultivating antipathies against each other. They tried very hard to make the public believe that Senator GORMAN, of Maryland, is dissatisfied with the result of the convention and that WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN had gone home after that event urging resentments bigger than twenty story business blocks. In fact they have insisted that nearly all the leading Democrats are dissatisfied. As a matter of fact no party has ever been more harmonious and no party leaders could possibly be more in accord or earnest in purpose. Mr. BRYAN's ample answer to their false pretense of sympathy for his failure to defeat Judge PARKER that he intends to support that gentleman with his customary energy and masterful ability for four substantial reasons, each of which constitutes an unanswerable indictment against the Republican party. Senator GORMAN's reply is quite as effective an answer. He has publicly thanked the Maryland delegates in the convention for contributing their votes to the nomination of Judge PARKER and thus guaranteeing the certain success of the party at the polls. What more convincing answer could be made? The Democracy of the country is to be congratulated on so auspicious an opening of the campaign and the hopefulness of the triumph which is in sight. We have reason to believe that the eloquent voice of WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN will be heard in every doubtful State in the Union in behalf of the immortal principles of Democracy and in support of the excellent ticket nominated at St. Louis two weeks ago and it is practically certain that Senator GORMAN will be closely associated with the management of the campaign. Senator HILL, of New York, Colonel GUFFEY, of Pennsylvania, THOMAS TAGGART, of Indiana, WILLIAM F. VILAS, of Wisconsin, and the able and earnest leaders of the party in every section of the country will pull together for victory and will achieve it.

Is it More Graft They are After?

According to dispatches recently sent out from Harrisburg an effort is already being made, or soon is to be made, to have a chemical laboratory attached to the department of agriculture at that place, the object being to make the analyses of commercial fertilizers and concentrated food stuffs at Harrisburg instead of State College, where the Pennsylvania State College agricultural experiment station has been doing that work for the past sixteen years. There can be but one plausible reason given for such a change and it is so characteristic of Pennsylvania political management that few persons will be surprised at it: The Department of Agriculture needs more places for its henchmen to fill, more opportunities for graft. No one would think of saying that as good work in these lines could be done at Harrisburg, where the capabilities of the men doing it would be measured entirely by their devotion to the particular gentleman who happens to be Secretary of Agriculture, as is being done at the experiment station at State College, where experienced chemists, men who are giving their life work to science, are in charge. And it seems to us the height of folly to even consider the matter, for should the change be made the magnificently equipped laboratories at the experiment station will have to be manned and operated just the same, while the State will be put to the expense of manning a second one in Harrisburg, so that more places can be made for the boys. As to the satisfactory results of such a change to those having need of chemical analyses it is patent to everyone that the same credulity would not be given the report from a political laboratory in Harrisburg that would be given the one from State College, where the work is done by men who do not hold their places because of political usefulness and is unperpetrated by those who are authority all over the world in the particular scientific branches they profess.

Not Treachery But Duty.

Republican party managers are already preparing for the fall which will be inevitable as the result of the vote at the presidential election next November. "The only thing that Mr. ROOSEVELT has to fear in his fight to continue in the White House," remarked one of these pantheist struck gentlemen the other day, "is treachery among his friends." In other words every citizen of the country, hitherto a Republican who votes for the only "safe and sane" candidate for President this year will be accused of treachery and denounced as a traitor to his party. But that lame and impotent expedient won't work the desired result if the signs are accurate. Hundreds of thousands of Republicans will not vote for ROOSEVELT for President because they are fearful of the result of his election on the business and political interests of the country. Even as an accidental President who reached the office through the agency of a national calamity he has gone far beyond the limits of constitutional authority in the exercise of usurped power and there is a just and reasonable fear that entering upon the duties under a commission issued by the suffrages of the people he would go to such excesses as might easily wreck the Republic. It will not be treachery to Republicanism or treason to the country to vote against ROOSEVELT under such circumstances. Vast numbers of honest people of this country remember how during the last session of Congress ROOSEVELT debased the office he holds by descending into the labyrent investigation of corruption in the departments which was so obvious that it smelled to high heaven. Other hosts of people remember that he made corporations pay for his luxurious junkets and that it is suspected that with his consent they reimbursed themselves by charging excessively for carrying mails. It will hardly be treacherous or treasonable for Republicans who understand these facts to vote against ROOSEVELT and there are thousands who understand. To vote against such a candidate is a patriotic duty.

The States that Will Elect the Next President.

Table listing the number of electoral votes for each state: Alabama 11, Arkansas 7, Arizona 3, Connecticut 5, Delaware 3, Florida 9, Georgia 15, Kentucky 12, Louisiana 10, Maryland 10, Massachusetts 11, Michigan 13, Minnesota 12, Missouri 13, Montana 3, Nebraska 5, Nevada 3, New York 36, North Carolina 12, South Carolina 9, Tennessee 12, Texas 12, Virginia 12, West Virginia 6, Wisconsin 13, Wyoming 7. Total 289. Total Doubtful 74.

Republican Figures that Should Encourage the Democracy.

Charles Emory Smith starts out in a prominently displayed "leader" in the Philadelphia Press to prove that the Democratic National ticket has no chance of election this fall with the result that he practically shows that it has a very good chance indeed. He gives a list of the Democratic States, including the solid South and Kentucky and Missouri, with a total of 151 votes. Then he follows with a list of eight doubtful States, Colorado, Idaho, Maryland, Montana, New York, Nevada, West Virginia and Wisconsin, with a total of 81 votes. Finally he gives a third list of Republican States, which includes all the States not above mentioned, and which have a total of 244 votes, or five more than the 239 necessary to elect. In the list of sure Republican States, however, he includes Delaware, Indiana, New Jersey and Connecticut, with a total of 37 electoral votes. Subtracting these from the Republican list leaves only 207 votes. While adding them and the vote of the States admitted by Mr. Smith to be doubtful to the Democratic column we have 269 votes, or 30 more than would be necessary to elect Parker and Davis. Inasmuch as such a prominent and rabid Republican as Mr. Smith can figure out a sure margin of only five votes for the Republican National ticket, and can achieve that only by claiming as surely Republican States which are known by everyone to be doubtful, there is every reason why the Democrats should start in upon the present campaign with confidence and enthusiasm.

Spawls from the Keystone.

—Eber T. Leitsinger, a Montoursville printer, who has worked in that city, died in the Williamsport hospital Monday afternoon, having broken his back in falling from a trestle. —Trains commenced running on the Curwensville & Bower railroad on Monday morning, coming into the Clearfield yard over the B. R. & P. tracks from a point below Curwensville. —With an iron rod broken from his bed, David Thomas awaiting trial on a charge of robbery pried his way out of jail at Lewisburg, opening a corridor door, and escaped Thursday morning. —The Lycoming county fair grounds were knocked down at sheriff's sale Saturday for \$5,000. When the purchaser learned that the mortgages on the same footed up \$8,400, he threw up the purchase. The property will be sold over again. —Two cases of lock-jaw have been successfully treated at the Altoona hospital within a very few months. The last one was taken to the institution about two weeks ago with his jaws as rigid as they could be made by death, but they are now working all right. —Miss Anna Snyder, of Shamokin, became separated from a party of friends on the mountains, Tuesday, and lost her way. Searching parties found her eight miles in the woods from there on Wednesday almost dead from exhaustion. She passed the night in a desperate scramble over hills and valleys to reach there and finally collapsed. —A resident of Dowingtown, Chester county, has been sent to jail for refusing to pay school taxes. It is said this is the first instance of imprisoning a man in Chester county for non-payment of taxes, and that the object is to constrain others who are delinquent to pay to avoid imprisonment. It is a test case and will be taken to court by the imprisoned man. The tax involved amounts to only \$1.05, to which is added \$3 costs. —Dr. Warren, the pure food commissioner, has given notice that no more violators of the pure food laws will be permitted to settle by the payment of a fine. This policy has been taken in consequence of the bad faith with which certain parties have acted. After having secured their release by paying a fine, they continue to violate the laws the same as before, evidently supposing that they would not be molested again for at least some time. —William Johnson, a young Swede, aged 19 years, whose home was at Peale, was drowned in Pine creek, about one-half a mile above the Beech Creek railroad bridge, not far from Jersey Shore, on Sunday. He had come from Jersey Shore to draw his pay and in the morning, went up the creek to bathe. It was thought Johnson was seized with cramp. His companions attempted to save him, nearly losing their own lives. The body was found in ten feet of water. —Dr. Warren, the pure food commissioner, has given notice that no more violators of the pure food laws will be permitted to settle by payment of a fine. This policy has been taken in consequence of the bad faith with which certain parties have acted. After having secured their release by paying a fine, they continue to violate the laws the same as before, evidently supposing that they would not be molested again for at least some time. —Ira Micheltree, who is employed on the Bald Eagle mountain, getting out wood, was bitten in the ankle by a large rattlesnake the other day, and for a time serious consequences were feared, but the swelling is going down and he is now out of danger. He stepped from a fallen tree on the snake which he failed to see and the reptile instantly sank its venomous fangs into his leg, which swelled to large proportions before he secured medical treatment. —Last Saturday afternoon Mrs. Amelia Bartholomew, of Mill Hill, went into her chicken coop for the purpose of putting some eggs under a black hen, which had been setting for a day or two. She carefully placed a couple of eggs under what she supposed was the hen, when she saw the head of a snake slowly raised up and turned toward her. She ran from the coop and called to Frank Emerick, a near neighbor, who came and killed the reptile, which proved to be an immense blacksnake a little over six feet long. —The canker worm has been making depredations on the oak, chestnut and maple trees on Bald Eagle mountain, Huntingdon county, and the leaves on the trees on three counties, and the mountain has been practically destroyed. State economic zoologist Surface returned from the mountain where he went to investigate the ravages of the worm and take steps to prevent the spread of the pest to the State reserve on Tussey mountain. He says the worms have gone into the ground and will appear next year as winged insects. The department of zoology will endeavor to kill the pest in the ground so as to prevent its appearance next year. —An employee of the New York Central railroad at Oak Grove, whose name could not be learned, was held up by a highwayman in the yards at that place Sunday morning at 1 o'clock who demanded his "coin" at the point of a revolver. Saturday was pay day and the young man had his month's earnings in his pocket. While pretending to reach for his money he pulled his gun but the highwayman saw what he was up to and fired at him, the ball going through his arm. The shot was returned and it is believed the robber was hit in the leg. He managed to escape in the darkness without accomplishing his purpose, although a posse of railroad men searched for him diligently. —Charles Peters, employed at the steel plant near Clearfield, suddenly and very mysteriously disappeared about ten days ago. The mystery attached to his disappearance was cleared away Tuesday by the discovery of his body near the mouth of Montgomery creek where it empties into the Susquehanna river. The body was found by rural mail carrier Fullerton, who notified the authorities of his gruesome find. Since the finding of his body it is now remembered that he had been in ill health the week before his disappearance, and in his despondency, had on several occasions talked of putting himself out of the way. His parents live at York, to which place his body was shipped for burial.