

Bellefonte, Pa., June 8, 1906.

P. GRAY MEEK, Editor. Terms or subscriptions:—Until further notice this paper will be furnished to subscribers at the following rates: Paid strictly in advance \$1.00

Democratic State Convention. Democratic State Committee Rooms, Harrisburg, Pa., May 31, 1906.

To the Democrats of Pennsylvania: In pursuance of the requirements of the rules governing the Democratic organization of the State, and the action of the Democratic State Central Committee at its annual meeting held in Harrisburg, on the 18th of March, notice is hereby given that the Democratic State Convention will meet in the Opera House at Harrisburg, Wednesday, June 27, 1906, at 12 o'clock noon.

One candidate for Governor. One candidate for Lieutenant Governor. One candidate for Auditor General. One candidate for Secretary of Internal Affairs, and to act upon such other matters, pertaining to the interest and success of the party in Pennsylvania, as may be brought before it.

The Prize Newspaper Article. Along with a number of other cash prizes offered to the scholars of the Bellefonte public schools by GEORGE R. MEEK is one of \$10 in gold for the student of the High school writing the best newspaper article under the following conditions:

The student of the High school who writes the best news item not to exceed 500 words in length. The conditions being as follows: First, the subject of the article must disclose the student's conception of the relative importance of events that have happened somewhere within the county during the year.

The article published below has been awarded the prize and we wish to call especial attention to it as a remarkably clever production for so young a student as is found in our public schools. Such grasp and treatment of a theme would reflect credit on a far more mature mind than that of a school girl or boy.

The other articles will be published in successive issues of this paper.—Ed.] The following story is told of Napoleon: Just after he had reached the zenith of his power, France showing her appreciation of the bravery of those who had fallen in battle, dedicated a monument to their memory.

The parade will move up High street to the Diamond, out Allegheny to Linn, east on Linn to W. Harrison Walker's residence, countermarch to Allegheny, south on Allegheny to the Diamond where the Governor will take his place on the reviewing stand and review the parade which will move on south to Bishop, east on Bishop to the foot of the hill, countermarch west to Spring street, north on Spring to High, west on High to the railroad, countermarch east on High to Spring where the military organizations will fall out of line and march to the armory where they will be served with dinner.

The principal event of the day will be this afternoon when the unveiling and dedicatory exercises will be held in the Diamond. Up to this writing we have been unable to learn at just what time or what point in the exercises the Curtin statue and the monument will be unveiled. But the formal act will likely take place at the time the presentation speeches are made.

It will inspire in the county's posterity a love of country and an appreciation of the blessings earned for them by her honored dead, and such a sense of duty as citizens, that they will gladly undertake the perpetuation of the national institution. It should also awaken a realization that the country can live, only, as long as Columbia's children are intelligent and honest as well as brave and that her true bulwark is the unselfish discharge of the duties of citizenship and an honest administration of equal laws for all.

It is with this influence who shall ask: What is all this worth? —Subscribe for the WATCHMAN.

Soldier's Monument Dedication.

Big Crowd Presaged for Today. Military, G. A. R., Firemen and Civic Organizations Will be in Line. Distinguished Guests Here.

With fair weather today Bellefonte will witness one of the biggest times as well as momentous occasions in the history of the town. Today will be unveiled and dedicated one of the most costly as well as artistic monuments erected in any county in the State. Early in 1895, or about three months after the death of the late lamented ex-Governor Andrew G. Curtin, a movement was started for the erection of a monument to perpetuate his memory.

Most of the distinguished guests who will participate in the ceremonies today are already here. The Governor and his party arrived on the 8.16 train last evening. Col. E. R. Chambers met the Governor at the train and together they drove to the former's home on east Linn street, whose guest he will be while in Bellefonte.

This morning all roads will lead to Bellefonte and every train will be crowded to the limit. Two special trains east on the Bald Eagle valley railroad will bring four companies of the Fifth regiment and the Sheridan troop of Tyrone. They will arrive here ahead of the regular mail train east. A special train from Look Haven will bring three companies of the Twelfth regiment and the G. A. R. posts of Look Haven. The Fifth regiment band of Clearfield will also be here.

Naturally the first big event of the day will be the parade at 10.30 o'clock. It will begin to form this morning just as soon as the various organizations arrive in town so as to be in shape to move promptly at the time named. The various organizations will mass on north and south Thomas street, north and south Water street and north and south Spring street. The chief marshal and staff and the Colville band will rest on west High street, opposite P. Gray Meek's residence.

Chief Marshal, Gen. John L. Curtin, and Staff. Coleville Band. FIRST DIVISION. Military, Col. W. Fred Reynolds, Marshall, and Staff. Sheridan Troop. Governor Pennypacker and Staff.

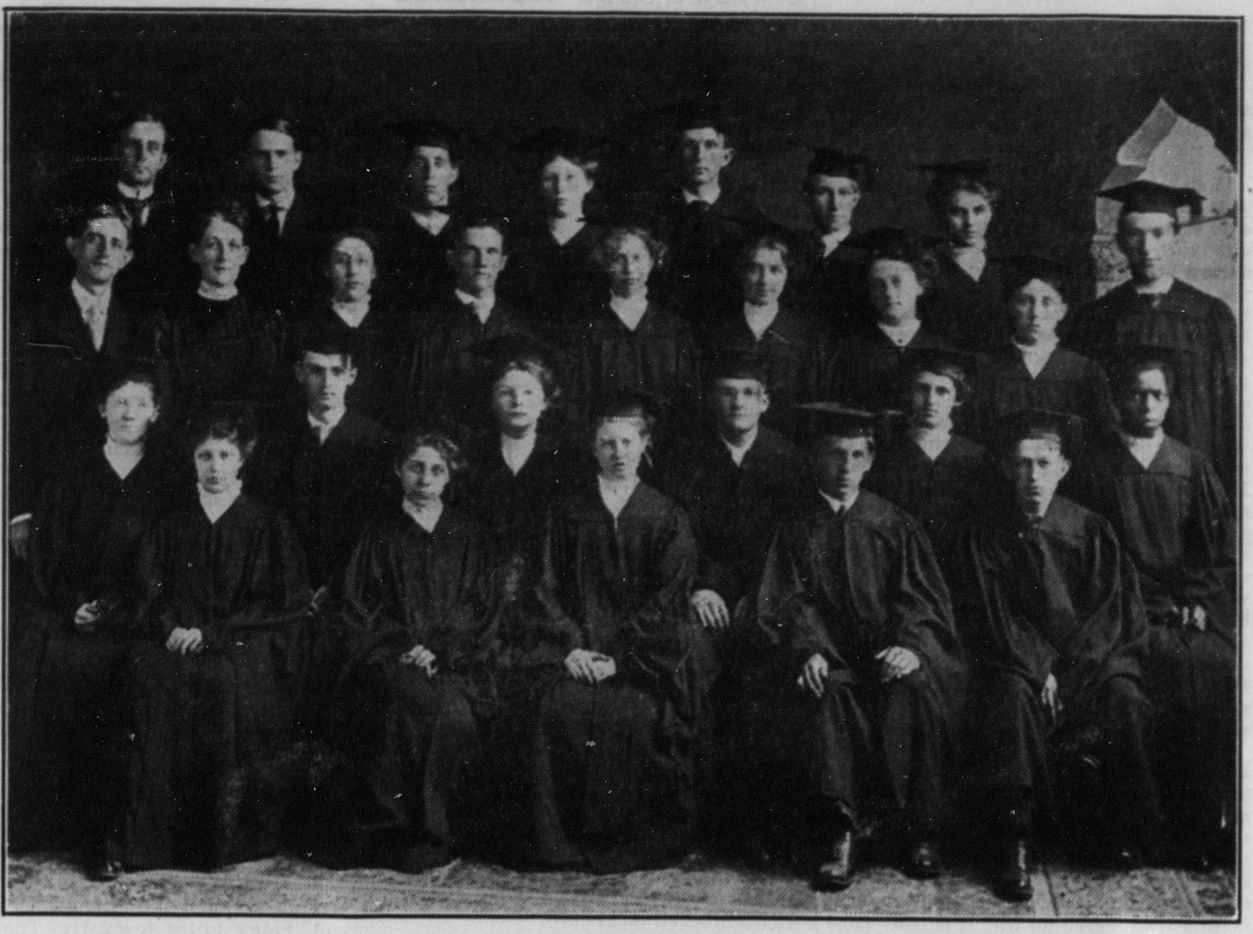
SECOND DIVISION. Veterans, Col. Austin Curtin, Marshall, G. A. R. Posts. Sons of Veterans Camps. Civic Organizations, Hammon Sechler, Marshall Carriages and Automobiles. Civic Societies and Other Organizations. State College Cadets. Cadet Band.

THIRD DIVISION. Fire Department, Capt. Henry C. Quigley, Marshall. Logan and Undine Fire Companies, of Bellefonte. FIFTH DIVISION. Provisional Cavalry, Thomas Beaver, Marshall. Several Hundred Mounted Horsemen from Over the County.

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On the big stand which is covered with a sixty foot flag, will be the members of the monument commission, the Governor and his staff, the speakers of the day and other distinguished guests, the old and the present board of county commissioners, members of the town council and the Bellefonte school board, the county officers, visiting members of the G. A. R. and officials from neighboring counties. Occupying one of the most prominent places on the platform will be the following members of the late Governor Curtin's immediate family: Dr. and Mrs. George F. Harris and their daughter, Miss Adaline F. Harris; Mrs. K. R. Bree, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Curtin, Mrs. M. D. Burnett and her two daughters, Misses Katharine M. and Margaret B. Burnett.



GRADUATING CLASS OF THE BELLEFONTE HIGH SCHOOL.

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Gen. Beaver will preside over the meeting. The first part of the program will be the singing of "America" by several hundred school children who will occupy the platform close to the monument. Rev. H. C. Holloway, of Harrisburg, will have a capacity of about three hundred and fifty and admission thereto will be by tickets.

Monday evening the junior oratorical contest for the Reynolds' prizes was held in Petriken hall and was largely attended. There were ten contestants, the full program being as follows: "The Crimson Shroud of Old Guldmar,"..... Isabel C. Merriman

PRIMARY SCHOOLS CLOSE.—The closing exercises of the primary schools in the stone building, taught by Misses Bessie Dorworth, Francis E. Elmore and Helen Crisman, closed Wednesday morning. The program of exercises was quite elaborate and was as follows: March—The Schools. Reading of 1st Psalm—The Schools. Prayer—The Schools.

THE MIDWAY SCHOOLS ALSO CLOSED ON Wednesday with the following program of exercises: XIX Psalm. Lord's Prayer. Song, "The Dearest Spot on Earth"—The Schools.

—The missionary conference of the Reformed church for this district was held at Snyderstown on Wednesday and proved an interesting session. Among the delegates from this county were Rev. H. C. Bixler, Mrs. W. J. Carlin, Mrs. L. B. Frank and Miss Birdie Stover, of Rebersburg.

HIGH SCHOOL COMMENCEMENT.—One of the most successful commencements of the Bellefonte High school was held this week when a class of twenty-three young men and women, the largest in the history of the school, was graduated.

The commencement began Sunday evening with the preaching of the baccalaureate sermon by Rev. J. Allison Platts. The Presbyterian church was crowded to the doors with one of the biggest congregations ever assembled there. From the chapel the graduating class, for the first time arranged in caps and gowns, and headed by the faculty, marched into the church and were seated in a square in front of the pulpit.

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"The Hero of the Day".....Elizabeth C. Barahart "The Sacrifice of Genius".....S. Helen Stover "The Peril of the Republic".....Clair Seibert "The Gold Louis".....Elsie Bidwell "The Little David of Nations".....Blair Fisher "The Thunder Storm".....Leah D. Woodson

When the last declamation had been delivered the judges, Rev. J. I. Stonerode, Dr. Ralph E. Myers and Franklin T. Cole, awarded first prize (\$10) to Helen Stover and the second prize (\$5) to Leah D. Woodson.

Salutatory and Essay "Buried Treasures"..... Winifred M. Gates Essay "Art Pictures".....Maude A. Johnston Essay "Responsibilities".....Pearl M. Kuisley Class History.....Roy E. Farber

Class Prophecy.....Anna M. Keichline Oration "Moral Training".....Thomas G. Haugh Essay "The Gem of Cities," and Valedictory..... Sara McClure

The hall was again crowded in the evening when the commencement address was delivered by Prof. George P. Bible, of Philadelphia. The address was replete with bright sayings and good advice, and

the speaker, an old Centre county boy, was listened to from start to finish with undivided interest. Following the address Hon. W. C. Heinle, president of the school board, presented the diplomas to the twenty-three graduates and awarded the prizes, the latter being as follows:

W. F. Reynolds general excellence prize, \$10—Sarah R. McClure. J. C. Meyer biographical prize, \$10—Elsie M. Viehdorfer. Harry Keller mathematical prize, \$10—Mary L. Grimm. W. F. Reynolds junior oratorical contest, first prize, \$10—S. Helen Stover, second prize, \$5—Leah H. Woodson.

D. A. R. prizes for best historical essays, \$5—Raymond Jenkins, \$5—Mary Showers. George R. Meek prize for the nearest set of books in bookkeeping, \$5.00—Bessie Miles.

George R. Meek prizes for highest grade in spelling, \$5.00—Verna Stevenson. George R. Meek literary prize for best news article, \$10—Elsie Viehdorfer.

The article winning this prize is published as the leading editorial on page 4 and if it really was written by a student of the High school it shows a remarkable degree of intelligence in one so young.

IN THE TOILS OF THE LAW.—Many of the WATCHMAN readers know Boyd H. Stonerode, son of the late C. P. Stonerode, who for many years was station agent at Milesburg, on the Bald Eagle Valley railroad, and will be surprised to learn that he is now in jail at Washington, Pa., on the serious charges of swindling banks and forgery.

As an emulor of "Jack the Penman" and "Living Jeky" and Hyde, Boyd H. Stonerode, who, as Samuel F. Fletcher, is in the Washington county jail on a charge of forgery, completely fooled the greatest detectives of the United States for years.

Stonerode lives on Main street, Coropolis, where he has a wife and three children. Stonerode was respected in that place and every person had a good word for him. His home life was exemplary, and the people of Coropolis were shocked to learn that Stonerode was the man arrested at Ambridge on a charge of trying to defraud the Bentleyville National bank out of \$3,300 by means of a forged letter and check.

Stonerode was a telegraph operator employed in a signal tower of the Wabash railroad near the Greentree tunnel. He only made \$60 a month as a telegrapher, but his home was finely furnished. He owns bank and oil stocks and is interested in many concerns. It was only on a "tip" that detective Cecil G. Rice learned of his real name and address.

In his home at Coropolis he had a typewriter and when not working was always busy with his machine. By constant practice he became a competent typist and his family never knew where and for what reason he wrote so many letters. Generally about two days after the letters were written he would be absent from home for a time and that it thought to be when he made "banks."

Stonerode is a fine penman. His friends say he can use 12 different styles of hand writing, each one distinct. One of his feats is the writing of the Lord's Prayer on his thumb nail, so that it can be read without much difficulty.

Through his operations, it is alleged, Stonerode was enabled to buy bank and oil stocks. His favorite victims were the banks. Holding some of their stocks it was not hard for him to get some of their stationery and the signatures. The latter were learned rapidly and then Stonerode, it is alleged, would make a "killing." Of all the money he got he never squandered any and among his holdings are 10 shares of stock of the Columbia Savings and Trust company of Pittsburgh.

Stonerode would mail his letters by the railway postoffice and in that way avoided suspicion and after the letter had time to get to its destination he would follow as per the contents of the letters and get the money. He is a steady worker and except for an occasional visit to relatives, as he claimed, lasting two or three days, he was always at his key.

Stonerode always worked alone. That is what deceived the detectives for years. They expected the man who was defrauding banks in that manner was an expert confidence man and a "good" crook, but never had an idea it was a telegraph operator who played his daring cards alone.

Cashier J. T. Neill, of the Bentleyville National bank, lodged an additional information against Fletcher, charging him with forgery. The bar, on account of the additional charge, will be raised to \$8,000.

The Last of the Old Style County Conventions.

What was probably the last of the old style Democratic county conventions in Centre county was held in this place on Tuesday. There was a fair attendance of the representative Democrats of the county, and as if each one realized that the exciting times of delegate balloting for nominees was passing into history there was a noticeable absence of that hip—burrah! style that characterizes the conduct of such assemblies.

Under the act of the recent Legislature in the future all candidates for nomination on their respective party tickets will be voted for at the regular election polling places; the reception and counting of the votes being in the hands of the regular election boards. Therefore county conventions of the future will be nothing more than the gathering of party representatives for the purpose of ratifying the ticket, framing resolutions, electing delegates to the various conventions and conferences, electing county chairmen and transacting such other business as is not regulated by the act of Assembly.

The convention on Tuesday was fraught with little interest outside of the feature already mentioned. There was no contest of any moment and only two calls of the roll to decide the preference of the body. On all sides there was noticeable an air of quiet confidence. The people of Centre county have been so astounded by the revelations of the boastfulness of the old Board of County Commissioners that it seems to be an accepted fact that they want no more of such Republican mismanagement for years to come.

The ticket named for the fall campaign is a short one, but the convention made up in the quality of its nominees what was lacking in the quantity: The Hon. JOHN NOLL for Assembly is a candidate entirely satisfactory to all sides. He has been tried in that body and found always on the side of the masses and against that of the corporations, rascals and public plunderers. His first term was merely in the nature of schooling in the forum of the State's law making body and he will go back to represent Centre again because he is now more fit than ever before.

ADAM HAZEL, of Spring township, the veteran carpenter and Democrat has been named for Jury Commissioner and a better choice could not have been made. He is a representative of one of the oldest families in the county, as well as the largest, and a Democrat whose party fealty has never been questioned, nor has his character ever been sullied by the veriest imputation of scandal of any sort.

Our new chairman for 1907 needs no introduction to the Democrats of the county. Almost from the day he began the study of law in this place he has been interested in local politics. He has already had experience in managing campaigns, so that the best results may be expected in the larger battles that we will have to fight in 1907. It was just nine minutes past twelve o'clock when the convention was called to order by county chairman H. S. Taylor, and secretary H. J. Jackson read the convention call.

A permanent organization was effected by the election of F. Pierce Musser, of Millheim, editor of the Journal, as chairman; George R. Meek and Charles R. Kurtz secretaries, A. A. Fletcher reading clerk and A. G. Archey and D. P. Fortney tellers. The chairman then appointed the following committees:

On credentials—Robert M. Foster, of State College; J. M. Keichline, Bellefonte; J. C. Nason, Huston township; J. C. Condo, Gregg; W. H. Tibbens, Bellefonte; W. J. Carlin, Miles, and Francis Speer, Bellefonte.

On resolutions.—W. Miles Walker, Bellefonte; F. K. White, Philipsburg; Michael Shaffer, Potter; A. W. Reese, Worth; D. J. Kelly, Bellefonte, and M. D. Kelley, Snow Sho.

When the chairman announced the convention open to receive nominations J. W. Kepler nominated H. S. Taylor for Congress. His nomination was made by acclamation. On motion J. C. Harper, Charles R. Kurtz and Col. J. L. Spangler were elected congressional conferees.

When it came to the nominations for State Senator J. M. Keichline nominated W. S. Heinle, of Bellefonte, and A. G. Archey nominated Robert M. Foster, of State College. Heinle was nominated on the first ballot, which stood as follows:

Heinle..... 51 3/4 Foster..... 23 1/2 A. Weber, of Howard; Ellis S. Shaffer, of Miles, and P. J. McDonnell, of Unionville, were elected senatorial conferees.

J. M. Keichline nominated John Noll, of Bellefonte, for the Legislature and there being no other nominations his nomination was made by acclamation. J. Adam Hazel, of Axe Mann, and David McCloskey, of Curtin township, were nominated for Jury Commissioner but before a ballot was taken a letter was read from Mr. McCloskey withdrawing from the contest and Hazel was nominated by acclamation.

There were five nominees for the four delegates to the state convention, as follows: A. P. Zerby, of Penn; H. C. Danneker, of Rush; Jacob Swire, Philipsburg; George A. Beizer and J. C. Meyer, Bellefonte. The first four were elected, the vote standing as follows:

Zerby..... 72 Danneker..... 65 Swire..... 61 Beizer..... 29 Meyer..... 20 N. B. Spangler Esq., were unanimously elected chairman for 1907.

While the committee on resolutions was in session brief speeches were made by Capt. H. S. Taylor and W. C. Heinle, after