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DEMOCRATIC STATE COMMITTEE.

The Democratic State Committee met in Harrisburg on Wednesday, and re-elected John M. Garman Esq., chairman. Ringing speeches were made by Messrs. Garman, Sibley, Chauncey F. Black and others, some of which will be printed next week. The next state convention will be held at Reading.

Turkey and Greece are at war. Whether the other nations of Europe will interfere and prevent a long and bloody war, or wait until both Turkey and Greece are weakened by war and then step in and gobble them both up, remains to be seen.

Rufus E. Polk of Danville, whose name was before the Democratic conference last fall for Congress from this district, was last week appointed by Governor Hastings, as one of the Pennsylvania Commissioners to the Tennessee Centennial exhibition at Nashville.

The Board of Pardons has filed a recommendation to the Governor to commute the death sentence of James B. Gentry to imprisonment for life. Gentry was convicted of the murder of Madge Yorke, a young actress, in Philadelphia. It was apparently a cold blooded murder, simply because he was drunk and jealous. If a man convicted under such evidence as was produced in this case can escape the gallows, the death penalty had better be abolished, and thus put an end to this mockery of justice.

While Grover Cleveland was yet President, he was severely criticised because he did not do something to assist Cuba in her struggle to be free from the Spanish yoke. He was called cowardly because he did not recognize the insurgents as belligerents. What has the McKinley administration done on the Cuban matter? Not a thing. And yet it was boasted that the new republican administration would end the war down there by scaring Spain to death. But Weyler still lives, and his atrocities continue, and not one single step is taken by McKinley and his cabinet, and Tom Reed and his congress to end the Cuban war. Where is the boasted strength and ability of the Republican party?

The Popular Reaction.

The local elections earlier in the season, in New England and other sections, including our own State, showing large Democratic gains, indicated a reaction from the November election, and were the forerunners of the revulsion that was found to follow the election of McKinley. This change in the political current is continued in the result of the town and city elections which came off in Ohio, on Monday, where there has been a most decided change from the majorities of last fall. Cincinnati, which gave a majority of 20,000 for McKinley, in November, now elects a Democratic Mayor by a plurality of 7,000. There is a Democratic gain of 2,000 in Mark Hanna's city of Cleveland; Canton, the home of McKinley, goes Democratic by a handsome majority; Springfield, the home of Bushnell, reverses its Republican majority by electing a Democratic Mayor; in Columbus, the capitol of the State, McKinley's majority of 3,000 is wiped out, and other towns show a similar change.

These may be regarded by superficial observers as local expressions that have but little significance; but when they are seen to occur in widely separated sections of the country, in New England, Ohio, Michigan and Illinois, as well as in Pennsylvania, New Jersey and New York, as has been the case in the recent spring elections in those States, they may be regarded as the first indications of the reaction against the party that carried the presidential election last year.

Such a reaction is unavoidable. It is bound to come. When a party has carried its point by gross deceptions practiced upon the people, and its promises turn out to have been recklessly made and unfaithfully performed, its punishment at the hands of the people is sure to follow.—Ex.

Let Them Flourish in the Ditch.

It is beginning to dawn upon the managers of the high tariff scheme that they are overdoing their contract to favor the trusts and nourish the monopolies. They probably didn't intend to cut it quite as fat as they have, but the door having been opened to the tariff beggars, it was found impossible to resist their importunities.

The contract having been made with the campaign contributors, there was no putting off their demand to be repaid ten-fold.

The tariff leaders who have involved themselves in obligations they can't go back on, find themselves forced to frame a tariff bill dictated by the trusts whose gains it is specially designed to increase by giving them a greater chance to rob the people. In fact the spoliatory character of this bill is so apparent to those who got it up and the reaction among the people against this scheme of robbery is so evident, that the head tariff managers would gladly have some opposition from the Democrats in the Senate that would modify the bill, and thus extend a helping hand by which they might be pulled from their tariff ditch; but if the Democrats are wise they will offer no amendment or obstruction, but let the party of tariff taxation flounder in the ditch which has been of their own digging.—Ex.

New Civil Service Law.

Grosvenor's Bill to Give Republicans a Chance.

General Grosvenor introduced an important bill in the House on Saturday, which, if passed, will make many vacancies in the departments, for it affects the Civil Service law. If it passes it will make all the Democratic clerks appointed by the Cleveland Administration stand a civil service examination. The bill reads:

"That all officers, clerks or other persons now in the classified public service of the United States who have been employed or appointed therein since the fourth day of March, 1893, and who were not prior to their said appointment or employment in the classified service of the Government under the act of January 16, 1883, duly examined as prescribed by said act, shall within ninety days from the passage of this act appear before the proper Board of Civil Service Examiners for competitive examination as said act of January 16, 1883, prescribes. But such examination of said officers, clerks or other persons shall not give to them any preference over other citizens duly qualified for entry into the several classes of the public service of the Government, but they shall stand upon equal footing in all respects as to said competitive examination as though they had never been appointed to said places."

Is It An Advertisement?

They have discovered another horrible thing about Bryan. It is announced with many a flourish of the jester's rattles that at one time, said to be in 1884, he was an actor, playing "East Lynne" with Ada Gray. Miss Gray is the discoverer of this fact, and newspaper comment in relation to it is what might have been expected.

Now, admitting for the sake of argument, that Bryan was an actor, what of it? Actors are intelligent people and some of them are geniuses. Mr. Bryan has shown himself to be a genius. Nobody can deny that the campaign which he practically conducted alone last year was a brilliant one and nobody can belittle the force of his oratory. But there is no campaign now. The smoke of battle has blown away. The people of this country have again become American citizens, not partisans. Why not, then, cease this snarling at the heels of a big man?

Besides, it may not be impossible that Miss Gray needs a little advertising. If Bryan had ever acted in a company with her she would have known it last year quite as well as now, and so would other members of that company. She has chosen to make her discovery at the wane of the season when some sort of special attraction becomes necessary to induce people to attend theaters. It therefore seems to be a lucky discovery, if indeed there has been any discovery.—Patriot.

THE MISSISSIPPI FLOODS.

The worst seems to have occurred in the Mississippi Valley by the breaking of the levees on the Louisiana side below Vicksburg, overflowing several entire parishes, destroying all crops, rendering people homeless and wiping out all improvements. There seems to be some doubt whether the great river is not now creating permanent new channels in some places. This flood has once more demonstrated the hopelessness of confining the Father of Waters to prescribed limits by the system of levee construction that has been in vogue for so many years at so tremendous a cost to the government. Periodically the levees give way under the immense pressure to which

they are subjected, and when this occurs there is nothing for the inhabitants to do but seek personal safety and see their possessions swept away. Many portions of the Mississippi Valley are constantly subjected to this water peril, and the worst of it is that there can be no permanent remedy. Levees cannot be constructed sufficiently formidable to confine the great body of water that sweeps down into the giant stream from its numberless tributaries, great and small.

The peril is not yet at its greatest height. The great question now is whether the levees below the Red River will resist the flood. If they give way other vast tracts of agricultural lands will be desolated of their growing crops and their improvements. There is not much doubt that the national government will have to come to the rescue with another and larger appropriation for the relief of the sufferers, who are already numbered by thousands and may in a short time be increased to tens of thousands. The damage done by this almost unprecedented flood will be estimated by hundreds of millions of dollars.

WILD PLUNGES IN WHEAT.

The Report that the Greco-Turkish War Had Begun Sent the Price of Wheat Skyward.

The announcement that war had been declared between Greece and Turkey set the wheat market wild on Monday. On the heels of Saturday's 4 cent rise in prices came another jump of 4c, May opening all the way from 82 1/2c to 86 1/2c, so intense was the excitement prevailing at the outset.

For an hour the market was in a furore, with values fluctuating so wildly that it was next to impossible to follow their course. May reached 83 1/2c on one of its wild spurts, which proved to be the high water mark for the day.

Suddenly foreign houses, local traders, outsiders and everybody who had clamored to buy wheat turned sellers. Large profits were represented on most of the wheat thrown over and by midday the unloading process was in full swing with prices tobogganing down hill as fast as they had ascended. May tumbled to 80 1/2c before the selling movement could be checked. From this point there was a later rise to 82 1/2c followed by a setback to 81 1/2c and a subsequent rally, the close being extremely nervous.

Effect on this Country.

If the War is Confined to Turkey and Greece It Will Not Do Us Much Good.

Speaking of the effect Turkey's declaration of war will have on the business interest of the United States, John Bindley, President of the Pittsburgh Chamber of Commerce, said: "If the war is confined to Turkey and Greece, it will not do us much good. Both of these countries are small importing nations, and while war there will affect certain lines of trade here, it will not cause a boom such as we would have if all Europe generally became embroiled in the difficulty. If the war spreads to other nations we will have such a boom here as we never had before."

STRAY PARAGRAPHS.

- What will the powers do now?
—Kept in check—spring shirts.
—Spain has neither money nor a good excuse.
—Blue Monday was postponed by Easter Monday.
—Now that fast season is over things will move faster.
—It looks now as if the European shooting match would be pulled off at last.
—No, Maud dear, nurserymen are not those who make baby carriages. Quit your fooling.
—The men who were going to legislate against the bonnet had to take a back seat on Sunday.
—It looks as if the Gulf of Mexico was going to annex a considerable portion of the Mississippi valley.

Baby's Smooth, Fair Skin

Is Due to Hood's Sarsaparilla—it Cured Him of Dreadful Scrofulous Sores—Now in Good Health.

"At the age of two months, my baby began to have sores break out on his right cheek. We used all the local external applications that we could think or hear of, to no avail. The sores spread all over one side of his face. We consulted a physician and tried his medicine, and in a week the sore was gone. But to my surprise in two weeks more another scrofulous looking sore made its appearance on his arm. It grew worse and worse, and when he was three months old, I began giving him Hood's Sarsaparilla. I also took Hood's Sarsaparilla, and before the first bottle was finished, the sores were well and have never returned. He is now four years old, but he has never had any sign of those scrofulous sores since he was cured by Hood's Sarsaparilla, for which I feel very grateful. My boy owes his good health and smooth, fair skin to this great medicine." Mrs. S. S. Wozzran, Farmington, Delaware.

Hood's Sarsaparilla is sold by all druggists. 50c per bottle. Be sure to get Hood's.

JOHN R. TOWNSEND, Merchant TAILOR, AND Hatter. SUITS FROM \$18.00. TROUSERS FROM \$5.00. CORNER MAIN & MARKET STS. BLOOMSBURG PA.

W. L. DOUGLAS \$3 SHOE in the World. For 17 years this shoe, by merit alone, has outdistanced all competitors. W. L. Douglas \$3.50, \$4.00 and \$5.00 shoes are the productions of skilled workmen, from the best material possible at these prices. Also \$2.50 and \$2.00 shoes for men, \$2.00, \$1.50 and \$1.25 for boys. W. L. Douglas shoes are endorsed by over 1,000,000 wearers as the best in style, fit and durability of any shoe ever offered at the price. They are made in all the latest shapes and styles, and of every variety of leather. If dealer cannot supply you, write for catalogue to W. L. Douglas, Brockton, Mass. Sold by JONES & WALTER, Bloomsburg, Pa.

PENNSYLVANIA NEWS ITEMS.

—Tramps, at Elkhart fatally shot John Burke, of Scranton.
—The Wilkes-Barre Traction Company paid \$295,000 in wages last year.
—While playing near a mill race at Manville, Ralph Kesler, a 5-year-old boy, fell in and was drowned.
—Manus Harkins, of East Mauch Chunk, was run over by an engine and instantly killed on Monday.
—Murder in the second degree was the verdict rendered at Scranton against Andrew Polly for the killing of George Schmo.
—Notwithstanding the earth had opened near their homes, two families of foreign miners at Shamokin refused to vacate until ejected by violence, as they had paid a month's rent.
—Theodore Eisenhower, of Shennandoah, who is under sentence of death in the Schuylkill County Prison for the killing of William Schwindt, devotes most of his time to reading the Bible and prayer.
—Congressman Kulp on Monday appointed Robert Eby to West Point, with Nathaniel Bowers as alternate. For Annapolis, Holden Richardson was named, with Benjamin Rodgers as alternate. They were selected after a competitive examination.
—William J. Bryan has just written a most interesting letter to Captain John J. Tobias of Mt. Carmel. The ex-presidential candidate is full of hope for the future of bimetalism and says if the friends of the cause only stand together they are sure to win.
—A trio of Williamsport wheelmen, consisting of Geo. Lawrence, H. E. Herman and Irvin Bower, were chased by bears near Slabtown Sunday, but succeeded in escaping. The men were wheeling along the mountainside near Slabtown when Bower cried out, "My God, bears are after us," and sure enough two big black bears were dashing down the mountain side towards them. Reaching the road the "bars" chased the frightened cyclists for nearly a mile and once nearly succeeded in catching Lawrence, but fear added strength to his legs and he and the others finally wheeled themselves out of danger and left the bears behind in a cloud of dust and mud.
The Millionaire and His Clerk.

Girard, the infidel millionaire of Philadelphia, on Saturday ordered all his clerks to come on the morrow to his wharf and help unload a newly arrived ship. One young man replied quietly: "Mr. Girard, I can't work on Sundays." "You know our rules?" "Yes, I know, I have a mother to support but I can't work on Sundays." "Well, step up to the desk, and the cashier will settle with you." For three weeks the young man could find no work, but one day a banker came to Girard to ask if he could recommend a man for cashier in a new bank. The discharged young man was at once named as a suitable person. "But," said the banker, "You dismissed him." "Yes because, he would not work on Sundays. A man who would lose his place for conscience' sake would make a trustworthy cashier." And he was appointed.—The Pearl of Days.

A CORDIAL INVITATION TO YOU To visit our store and inspect our Spring stock of Dress Goods, Ladies' Suits, Separate Skirts, Capes, Misses' and Children's Coats. Every year we try and better the store, gather new ideas and make and keep our stock up to date. Always mindful of your wants, always trying to give you the best goods for the least money.

- DRESS GOODS. Any new idea or pattern you are sure to find here. We leave no stone unturned to keep our stock at the highest point of perfection.
SHIRT WAISTS. Just mention them. Line open for your inspection.
HOSIERY. We sell the kind that wear well, no trash in our stock.
DISHES. We sell twice as many dishes as any one else in town.
SEPARATE SKIRTS AND SUITS. We call special attention to these, as they are particularly nice.
LACE CURTAINS. 50 pair, worth 50c, at 29c. 50 " " 85c, at 60c. 35 " " \$1.00, at 75c. 50 " " 1.25, at \$1.00. 25 " " 1.65, at 1.25. 25 " " 1.90, at 1.40. 25 " " 2.00, at 1.50. 50 " " 2.25, at 1.65. 50 " " 2.50, at 1.75. 50 " " 2.65, at 2.00. 25 " " 2.75, at 2.25. 12 " " 3.00, at 2.75. 15 " " 4.00, at 3.25. 12 " " 3.75, at 3.10. 12 " " 5.00, at 4.00.

Pursel & Harman, BLOOMSBURG, PA. Save money by buying a bicycle for cash. For \$35 we give as good value as can be had in any \$85 wheel. Our \$50 bicycles for service and durability are equal to the usual \$100 wheels.

PAPER YOUR ROOMS. You'd Show Good Taste. If you selected your paper from our stock. Fine wall paper is like fine clothes—always noticed and admired.

WILLIAM H. SLATE, EXCHANGE HOTEL BLD. HENRY W. CHAMPLIN, M. D. SURGEON AND GYNECOLOGIST. Office over Farmer's National Bank. Hours 10 to 12 A. M., 3 to 5 and 7 to 8 P. M. Residence, Third St. West of Jefferson. TELEPHONE. GET YOUR JOB PRINTING DONE AT THE COLUMBIAN OFFICE

Bloomsburg Cycle Co., 4-14th. Rear of Post Office. NOTICE. DISSOLUTION OF PARTNERSHIP. The partnership heretofore existing between W. C. Brytogle and S. G. Brytogle, under the firm name of W. C. Brytogle & Co., has been dissolved this day by mutual consent.

ELECTION NOTICE. Agreeably to the provisions of an act of Assembly passed the 13th day of April, 1875 the Annual Meeting of the stockholders of the Bloomsburg Literary Institute and State Normal School of the Sixth District will be held on the first Monday of May, being May 3, 1897, between the hours of two and four o'clock in the afternoon of said day at the office of the Normal School in the Dormitory, in the town of Bloomsburg Pa. at which time four persons will be elected Trustees on the part of the stockholders to serve for a period of three years; at the same time four persons will be nominated to the Superintendent of Public Instruction from which he may appoint two Trustees on the part of the State to serve for a period of three years. JOHN M. CLARE, Secretary.