

## PENSION POLICY

### A PLAIN STATEMENT OF THE SITUATION.

Justice will be Done All Deserving Pensioners.—Real Policy of the Pension Bureau Grossly Misrepresented.

Seeing that there is a persistent effort on the part of a certain class of individuals to misrepresent the real policy of the Pension Bureau, concerning the numerous cases that are being examined and revised by it, Commissioner of Pensions Lochren has spoken out very frankly and emphatically on the subject. Said the Commissioner on Friday last: "Not a single pensioner has been suspended unless upon the face of his claims, under the law, he was not entitled to a pension. There has been a great deal of misrepresentation of the facts as to the actual policy of the Pension Bureau in these cases. I have just written out a statement as to that policy and here it is." The statement to which General Lochren referred, is a very interesting one to all pensioners. It reads as follows:

"Under pension laws enacted prior to June, 1890, pensions were granted based upon disabilities incurred in the military or naval service, and in many cases specific rating for particular disabilities were designated in the Acts of Congress, and it was provided generally that for inferior disabilities an amount proportionate to that for total disability should be granted. Under this general provision specific ratings for such inferior disabilities were fixed by rules and orders of this Bureau, with the approval of the Secretary of the Interior. Persons granted for such disabilities of service origin are presumed to have been properly granted, and there will be no interference with respect to such pensions.

#### DISABILITY TO PERFORM LABOR.

"Section two of the Act of June 27, 1890, provides that all persons who served ninety days or more in the military or naval service of the United States during the late War of the Rebellion, and who have been honorably discharged therefrom, and who are now suffering from a mental or physical disability of a permanent character, not the result of their own vicious habits which incapacitates them from the performance of manual labor in such a degree as to render them unable to earn a support shall, upon making due proof of the fact according to such rules and regulations as the Secretary of the Interior may provide, be placed upon the list of invalid pensioners of the United States, and be entitled to receive a pension not exceeding \$12 per month and not less than \$6 per month, proportioned to the disability to earn a support. This act permits the pensioning of soldiers for disabilities of a permanent character, although not of a service origin, which incapacitates them from the performance of manual labor in such a degree as to render them unable to earn a support. It is this incapacity for manual labor alone which entitles them to be pensioned under this act, and it is plain that no specific injury or disability which does not affect the capacity for manual labor gives any right to pension under the act last referred to.

#### THE EFFECT OF THE ORDER.

"Under an order, 164, issued on October 15, 1890, and approved by the Assistant Secretary of the Interior, it was directed, in substance, that claimants under the Act of June 27, 1890, should be rated for specific disabilities the same as if they were of service origin up to the maximum rating of \$12 per month, and where the disability if of service origin, would be rated higher than \$12 per month, it should be rated at \$12 per month. The effect of the order is illustrated by the Bennett case, which called attention to it. In that case a claimant for pension under the Act of June 27, 1890, was rated for slight deafness at \$12 per month; yet it was manifest that slight deafness would not interfere materially with the claimant's capacity to perform manual labor. Upon inquiry the medical referee reported back that the capacity of a claimant to perform manual labor was not ordinarily considered in adjudicating claims for pensions under the Act of June 27, 1890.

"It was, therefore, deemed necessary that these cases be re-examined, and that where it appeared upon the face of the papers that the claimants were not upon the evidence submitted, entitled to pensions under the Act of June 27, 1890, such pension should be suspended and notice given to the pensioners to present further evidence in support of their claims, and that where the claimant ultimately failed to show himself entitled to pension under the law of June 27, 1890, the pension should be dropped and the case rejected.

"This is the only class of cases that is being examined and revised by this Bureau, and the necessity for such action is, as I think, sufficiently obvious.

ALL CASES WILL BE HEARD. "That is the statement," said the Commissioner, "and I wish to say that not one single pensioner has ever been suspended, save those where upon the face of their claims it appeared that under the law they were not entitled to the pensions, and each one had been and will be given an opportunity to be heard.

#### A CARD.

BOGGS TOWNSHIP, July 31, 1893. To the Democrats of Centre County:

I desire to say to my friends, in this way, that I was unable to call upon them personally and talk to them on the subject of County Treasurer, for which office I am asking the nomination, because I was too poor to make a general canvass.

I lost my home in Bellefonte by going security for others and hence moved to Boggs Township five years ago, and went to gardening. At the time of the June flood I lost all I had on four acres of ground, and the soil with it to the depth of three feet and a deposit of stone was left, in place, to almost the same depth, in many places. A month later my house and household goods were destroyed by fire, turning me out of house and home without anything, but a family of thirteen to support (two babies about five months old.)

And the only source of income I have is through my hands at days labor. I wish to say further that over 22 years ago I had one term in the District Attorney's office, to which I was entitled to two terms according to party rule, but did not get. I do not claim that I am any better or have any superior merit over my competitors for the nomination. I take them to be all honorable gentlemen. I can only say that if the Democrats of Centre county can give me the nomination, I will surely feel very grateful.

Respectfully,  
JOHN F. POTTER.

#### Shameful Practices.

It is charged that certain companies are making a practice of sending car loads of cattle through from Chicago to Philadelphia without giving them water, in order that on their arrival they would drink an enormous quantity and their weight be so increased by fifty or sixty pounds each, the purchasers cheated and the shippers enriched.

The run from Chicago to Philadelphia requires usually about seventy hours, and the originators of the unique scheme were not without reason in thinking that the cattle would have ample time to cultivate a powerful and profitable thirst. Shame on such cattle dealers—let them be prosecuted.

#### Coming in Droves.

One thousand unemployed men reached Chicago on Monday on freight trains over the various western railroads running into the city. They scattered as soon as they reached the suburbs for fear they might be arrested. One man gave the name of G. K. Jensen, and said, "We came from Colorado. I am a machinist. The mines shut down there and factories began to close. Governor Waite made his memorable speech about the coming revolution, in which he was going to 'ride in blood to his horse's' 'bridle.' Then capital became timid, banks failed, factories closed and labor became as frightened as capital, and now every workman who can get out of the State is going. The men in this crowd are not tramps. They are mechanics and workers in mines, and Colorado will see the day that it would like to have them back in its limits."

#### Quay on Tariff and Silver.

Senator Quay said he would support President Cleveland in every reasonable proposition for the improvement of the financial condition. The senator favors the repeal of the Sherman law and expects no delay in congress. He says the Sherman law is partly responsible for existing conditions, but that the tariff is not and should not be disturbed. He does not expect any great modifications in the McKinley law.

#### An Old Ticket.

The Harrisburg Telegraph says: In his rounds through the train the other evening Conductor C. N. Shaver, on Mail Express east, ran across a ticket from McVeytown to Lewistown that was sold to the holder, according to the stamp on the back, on August 19th, 1877, nearly seventeen years ago. Though yellow with age it was good for a ride.

#### Remember the Date.

To-morrow evening, August 4th, Mrs. Knox, the returned missionary, will deliver her first lecture in the Presbyterian church, at this place. This lecture will be free to all and there should be a full house as it will be an interesting talk.

#### IRA HICK'S FORECAST.

##### A Hot Wave of Great Warmth Prophesied for Early August.

On the 2d and 3d of August will center a reactionary wave of great warmth resulting in severe storms within the period embraced between the 2d and night of the 4th. At this time we will be nearing the center of the Venus equinox, and the phenomena will take on the characteristics so often defined as resulting from that disturber. Excessive heat is apt to end in lightning, thunder, hail and wind, and a sudden change to abnormally cool on the very heels of great heat. The storm period, 8th to 12th, promises the most active and dangerous storms of the month, having as the disturbing causes "Vulcan" central on the 8th, Venus central on the 9th, moon on the 11, and Mercury central on the 12th. There is reason to apprehend violence in the elements between the 8th and 12th.

The heat will become intense before the storms appear, the barometer will be depressed generally, reaching phenomenal "lows" at some points, and cloud formations will be black and ominous. Heavy hail, thunder and wind may be expected, and "cloud bursts" are sure to result here and there. Such are the results ordinarily following such a combination of causes, but there are exceptional cases, when instead of the heat breaking into storms of rain, hail, wind and thunder, the warmth is prolonged, growing more and more oppressive, the life element in the atmosphere seems exhausted, and the sky assumes a gray to brassy aspect, an incubus seeming to fasten up all nature, until violent earthquake phenomena break the spell and allow the elements to return to their normal condition.

If, perchance, this particular period should take this turn, we call upon the people and press everywhere to note carefully whether or not it terminates after the manner we have indicated. Whether it ends in storms or seismic perturbations, there will be sudden reversions from great heat to very cool, with probabilities of temperature falling almost or quite to the frost line in northern regions—say from 11th to 14th. About the 15th, reactionary temperature with southerly winds will most likely result in another spell of storminess, and be followed by another northwesterly in-rush of cool air.

From the 18th to 22d, falls another period of heat and storms. We name the 19th, 20th and 21st as days on which the chief disturbances will be at their crisis. The moon's first quarter on the morning of the 19th, in connection with the prevailing Venus electric strain, is very apt to produce gales and thunder squalls within twenty-four hours of p. m. on that date. Another series of disturbances for two or three days will be natural during this period, but the barometer, wind currents and temperature will plainly announce when the storm elements have been reduced to the normal—the wind coming cool and steadily from the west and north—the barometer moving upward, and the temperature falling. After these disturbances there will be a close approach to the first line in the north. Pleasant days and very cool nights will follow up to reactionary changes and storms on and touching the 26th and 27th. The full moon on the 27th will tend to centralize the disturbances on and around that date, and will help to precipitate any tendency to seismic throes that may exist, such being more than probable at the time, if electrical storms should not have been frequent and hard during the month.

August ends with the first stages of a storm period coming into action—that is, barometer will be falling in the west, with temperature rising in advance of it, fed by the southerly air currents that transport moisture, heat and electric force from the equatorial regions. August storms in most parts of the northern hemisphere will develop and move from the northwest, the first marked indication of their coming being generally a dark or leaden bank across the northwest at sunset. There is cause for this. It is the return of our globe toward the Autumnal equinox, and an effort of nature to let in through our polar gates cooler ozone and atmosphere from outer space.

#### Marriage Licenses.

The following is a list of marriage licenses granted the past week:

W. T. Steele, of Lewistown, and Sue Miller, of Spring Mills.  
James P. Miller, Sober, and Elizabeth Vonada, of Madisonburg.  
Geo. R. Clark, Jr., and Alberta E. Jackson, both of Buffalo Run.  
Howard Goodling, of Centre Hall, and Maggie Spangler, of New Berlin, Union county, Pa.

#### Harvest Home Sermon.

Rev. S. H. Eisenberg, pastor of the Reformed Church, will deliver the annual harvest home sermon next Sabbath morning, at 10 o'clock.

## CAPITOL GOSSIP

### AMENDMENT TO BE AFFIXED TO THE SHERMAN LAW.

President Cleveland and Cabinet Will Take the Helm and Guide the Country Through the Financial Macabre.

WASHINGTON, July 31.—President Cleveland, all his cabinet, Speaker Crisp and most of the members of Congress will return to Washington this week, prepared to grapple with the most serious condition of affairs this country has known for years, and that democratic statesmanship and wisdom will find a way out that will be safe, if it does not at first meet with the approval of everybody, is as certain as that Congress will meet next Monday. It is particularly noticeable that this is the predominating sentiment among democratic congressmen already in Washington. However wide apart they may now be they are all certain that some way will be found for getting together in the end.

Among the compromises already suggested is one that appears to be rapidly gaining ground. It is to simply repeal that clause of the Sherman law which compels the purchase of 4,500,000 ounces of silver bullion a month by the Treasury, or to merely adopt an amendment to the law authorizing the purchase of silver to be made or not made in the discretion of the President, and to let it go at that for a few months, in order to determine what other silver legislation may be necessary. A number of democrats who favor the free coinage of silver have announced their willingness to support this compromise at the extra session, leaving the question of further silver legislation to be determined at the regular session. There are not enough members of Congress yet in Washington to hazard a prediction as to even the probability of the adoption of this compromise, and some of those here say they prefer awaiting the recommendations to be made by President Cleveland's message before committing themselves.

Representative Neill, of Arkansas, says: "The Sherman silver law is vicious and ought to be repealed, but bad as it is it is not responsible, in my opinion, to any thing like as great an extent for the financial stringency as McKinleyism is. McKinleyism must be wiped out before the country can get all right again."

The financial situation is quite bad enough without exaggerating it, and the statement that 200 National banks have failed since the first of January, which has been widely published, is a gross exaggeration. The total number of suspensions has been 105—two in New England, two in Eastern states, 15 in Middle and Mississippi Valley states, 6 in Northwestern states, 55 in Western States and 25 in Southern states—and of this number only 37 have actually gone into the hands of receivers. Of the remainder a number have resumed business and many more have good prospects for doing the same shortly.

Mr. Logan Carlisle very properly takes issue with the ridiculous statement made by a civil service Commissioner Roosevelt as to the government clerks being about evenly divided between the political parties. Mr. Carlisle is chief clerk of the Treasury and he says the statement of Roosevelt is worse than ridiculous when applied to that department. He says further: "To say that ten per cent of the classified clerks in the Treasury were democrats at the beginning of this administration would be putting the per centage too high. In some large bureaus there was not a single democrat." Roosevelt's statement was made because of Secretary Carlisle having stated it to be his intention to give the democrats a show by dismissing the inefficient clerks in his department. Deputy commissioner Bell says that less than 20 per cent of the classified clerks in the Pension office are democrats, and it would be safe to say that the percentage will not run over that in any of the departments.

"Republicans," said a member of Tammany, are talking nonsense when they say that President Cleveland's appointment of two democrats not members of Tammany to be Collector and Appraiser respectively of the port of New York is a slap at Senators Hill and Murphy, and their only object is to create dissension in the Democratic party. After giving Tammany the postmastership it was perfectly natural that Mr. Cleveland should reward the wing of the party that worked for his nomination. As a Tammany man I should, of course, have been glad to have seen all the federal offices in New York City given to Tammany men, but I did not expect it, and while I have no authority to speak for either of them, I am satisfied that neither Senator Hill nor Senator Murphy expected it. They always take care of their friends when they have an opportunity and they both have too much manhood to attempt to make a fuss because Mr. Cleveland has exercised the same privilege. I feel certain that no objection will be heard when those nominations come up for confirmation in the Senate."

#### Died in Terrible Agony.

A copperhead four feet long invaded the country home of Thomas Seaton, near Bolivar, and lay concealed until the family had retired. Awakened by his dogs, Mr. Seaton arose in his stocking feet and went down stairs to investigate. His foot struck a soft object which he carelessly kicked aside. The soft object twirled around its victim's leg, and when the man tried to kick the snake loose with his free foot his enemy struck him a blow on the sole of it. The screams of Mrs. Seaton brought help from the neighbors, who killed the reptile. The bitten foot began to swell. Mr. Seaton fell into a stupor, and although physicians gave him four quarts of whisky, he died in terrible agony. L. N. W. Under.

#### Effective Work.

James and Henry Finkbinder, residing at the foot of the mountain near Sunbury, have been pestered by rats, which carried off 100 little chickens and ate holes in the grain bins. One day, after they had killed a calf, they caught a huge rattlesnake alive. They put the reptile in a box and then threw in the warm veal liver. The snake at once sank its deadly fangs in the meat. By teasing the rattler, the men induced it to strike the flesh scores of times, or until the monster serpent seemed to have exhausted not only its poison but its strength. The liver which had thus been saturated with the snake's poison, was placed where the rats ate it. The following morning the men found scattered about the barn 37 dead rodents.

#### National Guard's Pay.

During their encampment of eight days the members of the National guard of Pennsylvania will receive the following pay per day from the state: Colonel, \$15; lieutenant colonel \$12; major, 12; captain, \$5; first lieutenant, \$3.92; second lieutenant, \$3.38; first sergeant, \$3; sergeant, \$2; corporal, \$1.75; private, \$1.50. Twenty-five cents a day extra is added to the pay for each enlistment.

The expense of the encampment is estimated to be twenty cents per day for a man for provisions alone.

#### La Grippe.

During the prevalence of the Grippe the past season it was a noticeable fact that those who depended upon Dr. King's New Discovery, not only had a speedy recovery, but escaped all of the troublesome after effects of the malady. This remedy seems to have a peculiar power in effecting rapid cures not only in cases of La Grippe, but in all diseases of Throat, Chest and Lungs, and has cured cases of Asthma and Hay Fever of long standing. Try it and be convinced. It won't disappoint. Free Trial Bottles at J. D. Murray's Drug Store.

#### Got 'em Bad at Phillipsburg.

On the whole it is a good thing to have a few kickers in a town. They serve as balance wheels to the ultra-progressive spirits, who are as much too fast in their ideas as the old fogies are too slow, and in their ardent and thoughtless enthusiasm would wreck the whole business if it were not for the drag placed upon their zeal by these old obstructionists. So really the kicker is of some use in a community after all.—Phillipsburg Ledger.

#### A Healthy and Cooling Drink.

An old summer drink, recommended by physicians for cooling the blood both of children and adults, is made by taking a teaspoonful of cream of tartar and dissolving it in a tumbler of water sweetening to taste. You will be surprised to find how pleasant it is, being hard to detect it from lemonade. It can be made in a quantity and kept on ice. It is slightly laxative, and should not be used too freely.

#### The Way to Do It.

An exchange gives its readers the following brief and pointed hints, "All persons knowing themselves to be indebted to this office are requested to call and settle. All those indebted to this office and not knowing it are requested to call and find out. All those knowing themselves to be indebted and not wishing to call are requested to stay in one place long enough for us to catch him. All those who are not indebted are requested to call and become."

#### Fare Down.

The railroad fare to the World's Fair has taken a decided drop from about \$27 from Centre Hall to \$18.75. This reduction in fare will send a great many from this section who otherwise would not have gone.

#### IN OTHER COUNTIES.

##### Items of Interest Clipped or Condensed From Our Exchanges.

Sunbury council has decided to purchase a farm for the support of the poor who are charges on the borough. The farm will cost \$1,050.

Mrs. George H. Nash, of Huntingdon, has a fuchsia plant which contains 500 flowers. The plant is about three feet high and two and a half years old.

The corner stone of the new Masonic temple at Lewistown will be laid with appropriate ceremonies, Tuesday afternoon, 1st, at two o'clock. Rev. Mateer, of McVeytown, will deliver the address.

The Somerset-Berlin-Meyersdale telephone scheme is materializing; books for the subscription of stock are opened and when \$2,500 in subscription are obtained the project goes ahead—Meyersdale Commercial.

On the Fourth of July, Miss Laura Meredith, of Thompsontown, Juniata county, while out gathering raspberries, was overcome with the heat and lingered in great agony until Friday of last week when she died from the effects of the sunstroke. The funeral took place on Sunday. She was in the 14th year of her age.

William Kough, an old resident of Perry county, died at Newport Saturday last. He served as a county commissioner for one term and was also burgess of Newport for one term. In early life he was captain of a military company at Markleville. He was a republican in politics, the father of twelve children and a member of the Evangelical church, and 80 years and 12 days of age.

John Skelton, of Morrisdale, evidently does not believe in banks. He kept \$55 secreted in his house up until last Saturday night, but it is no longer there. During John's absence some well informed individual paid his residence a visit, ransacked the house, secured the cash and made his exit before any one knew what was occurring. Whether any one is suspected of the theft or not we have not learned.

On Saturday Mrs. Samuel Congee, the wife of an English miner, at the Standard shaft, near Mt. Pleasant, laid her sleeping babe in the cradle, put a mosquito bar over it and went up stairs to attend to her household duties. A few minutes later the little one was almost burned to death by its brother, while playing with a match, setting fire to the bar from which the flames communicated to the pillow and the baby's clothes.

During a thunder storm Wednesday afternoon a locust tree on the farm of David Schenk, near Howard, Centre county, was cut by lightning and cut as squarely off about ten feet above the ground as if it had been cut with a saw. The tree stood about thirty feet from the farm house, and Mrs. Schenk and her daughter, who were in the kitchen, were both severely stunned by the electric shock. They soon recovered, however, from the effects of the stroke.

The Fulton county Republican convention nominated the following ticket: For associate judge, Jonathan A. Clevenger, prothonotary, Harry K. Markley; commissioners, Amos C. Palmer and A. N. Corbin; auditor, John H. Barney. Abel O. Griffith was elected delegate to the state convention, with instructions to vote for Hon. John Stewart for supreme judge. Dr. A. D. Dalby was elected chairman of the county committee for the ensuing year.

Rev. George Troub was installed as pastor of the Bethel and Petersburg Presbyterian churches, on Tuesday. In the afternoon the installation services were conducted at the Bethel church. Rev. J. W. Bain, of Altoona, presided, proposed the constitutional questions and charged the pastor; Rev. H. Graeme Furbay, of Tyrone, preached the sermon, and Rev. D. K. Freeman, of Huntingdon, charged the people. In the evening the installation services were held in the church at Petersburg, in the presence of a large audience. Rev. J. W. Bain presided and charged the people. Rev. Mr. Furbay preached the sermon and Rev. Dr. Freeman charged the pastor.

An Indiana county man named Dobbins has invented a voting machine which is said to be more simple and accurate than any similar machine. The tickets are printed on one continuous roll, which is locked in the machine. Beneath a glass covered table the ticket passes from this roll to another roll fitted into a ballot box. The glass cover is divided into four sections, and between each section is a row of keys similar to the typewriter. The upper key is larger and is called the straight-ticket key and when this is struck it locks the other keys, thus preventing mistakes.

Lewis, Bellefonte, take the lead in suits for men and boys. Nothing quite so stylish or better made. Call and be convinced.