

Ink Slings.

—Wanted—A Commissioner of Pensions who can squander the surplus and hold his jaw about it.

—As the colored brethren are getting none of the offices they are beginning to ask what they are here for?

—His offense of twisting a gubernatorial proboscis is mitigated by the discovery that Major ARMES is insane.

—The veterans may be disgruntled by the ungrateful treatment of Corporal TANNER, but they are not the sort of people to produce a GUTEAU.

—The old Robesonian navy ring are not sending any congratulations to ex-Secretary WHITNEY on the splendid performance of the cruiser Baltimore.

—President HARRISON didn't do the right thing with TANNER when he told him to "be generous with the boys" and then kicked him out for his generosity.

—If this row between Chicago and New York continues, it will take a greater discoverer than CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS to find a world's fair given in his honor in 1892.

—No one should be surprised at the way FORAKER carries on about the removal of TANNER. It is merely habitual display of his relationship to the Damphool family.

—MARY ANDERSON is said to be an inch taller than LANGTRY. But that is merely as to stature. In dramatic ability LANGTRY doesn't reach the height of MARY'S shoulder.

—The New Jersey Republican convention met on Tuesday and laid its egg by giving the gubernatorial nomination to General E. BIRD GRUBB. That is a Grubb that won't hatch into a governor.

—When the President suffered from a raging molar at Deer Park the other day he was entitled to the sympathy of even his most uncompromising political opponents. Partisan rancor should draw the line at toothache.

—When it is considered that TANNER was the victim of a faithful observance of party pledges, the gratitude of the leaders, who to shield themselves required his sacrifice, presents a rather shabby appearance.

—From the number of laudatory articles that appear in Republican journals as the spontaneous expressions of disinterested correspondents, we are almost inclined to believe that our DAN has established a literary bureau.

—It is said that private detectives are employed to secure the personal safety of the President. We should think that there is about as much danger of Baby MCKEE being assassinated as Grandpa HARRISON—and who would want to hurt that interesting infant?

—If BURNS, of London, could see the size of the American workman's pile after the pluck-me store-keeper has had his monthly whack at it, he would be able to understand why the "protected" labor of America was so backward in tendering pecuniary assistance to the London strikers.

—Sir EDWIN ARNOLD called on WALT WHITMAN the other day and fell into his arms through sheer admiration for "the venerable poet." It is hard to understand this. We should think it would take more than the "Light of Asia" to enable Sir EDWIN or anybody else to see anything like poetry in WHITMAN'S yawp.

—Nepotism is not entirely devoid of good effects. That true soldier and good Democrat, General ROSECRANS, would be bounced from his position as Register of the Treasury, to make room for TANNER, if he were not the cousin of CHAUNCEY DEWEY'S wife. It is a rather remote relationship, but under Republican regulations a cousin counts for a great deal in fixing the tenure of office.

—The Philadelphia Record refers to it as a notable circumstance that the recent message of President DIAZ to the Mexican Congress was entirely devoted to the industrial and commercial interests of the Mexican republic. But in this respect it did not resemble the last message of President CLEVELAND which, in confining its subject entirely to tariff reform, had for its exclusive purpose the promotion of the industrial and commercial interests of the American republic?

An Indiscreet Soldier.

From the Chicago Herald. There was an old soldier named Tanner, who behaved in an indiscreet manner. He was hired for a tool, but turned out a fool, and brought shame on the Star-Spangled Banner.

Democratic Watchman

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RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

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The Difference Under Different Systems.

The London dockmen are a jubilant set of people in consequence of the success of their strike for higher wages. Last Sunday they marched in procession to the residence of the Lord Mayor and were received by that dignitary, and subsequently they held a mass meeting in Hyde Park at which resolutions were passed expressive of their satisfaction with the result of their movement and gratitude toward those who assisted the men during the strike.

Concerted action of working people for better pay is not as frequent in England as it used to be, for the reason that they are generally satisfied with the improvement in their condition that for some years has been going on. The great prosperity that prevails in the English productive industries, which is adding so vastly to the wealth of the country, is being shared more largely every year by the working people, and hence the occasion for strikes has diminished until they are now of infrequent occurrence. The dockmen's labor not being in the line of productive industry, their wages failed to advance proportionately with those of other workmen, but it is seen that their demands do not require a protracted struggle to secure favorable consideration.

Its outcome was far different from that which has almost invariably attended the labor strikes in this country where the condition of the working people is supposed to be benefited by a protective tariff. Soul-crushing, heart-breaking and body-enervating struggles for better pay, lasting through weary months, have been but recent incidents in the industrial history of the United States, alike in the mining and the manufacturing departments of labor, eventuating in almost every instance in crushing defeat to the strikers. Thus within the past two years have been seen the hopeless struggle of the Lehigh and Wyoming miners for something better than starvation wages; the total failure of the strike of the employes of the Reading Railroad and Coal and Iron Company and their submission to the harsh terms of that incorporated monopoly, and the unavailing stand of CARNEGIE'S working people against the decree that their pay should be reduced. These are but a few instances of the fruitless endeavor of the wage-earners of this tariff-blessed land to secure better remuneration for their labor, that which is now transpiring among the miners of Indiana and Illinois being attended at this very moment with actual starvation.

When has it ever been known, since the high protective system has been in operation in this country, that wage-earners, striking for better pay, have had occasion to jubilate over the success of their movement? Such a triumph is reserved only for working people in free trade England. Defeat follows such movements in the United States; and in that other tariff-blessed country, Germany, imprisonment awaits the workmen who ask for higher wages, as happened within the past year to the leaders of the German coal miners' strike.

Colored Rebellion.

Something out of the ordinary run of occurrences happened at Harrisburg on the 13th inst., in the gathering of a number of colored Democrats, it being a meeting of the Democratic Executive Committee of the Colored State League. The persons who composed it were men of prominence in the race they represented, and possessed of more than ordinary intelligence for people of color.

A movement of this kind may be taken as the natural outgrowth of the political relation that exists between the negroes and the Republican organization—a relation in which one of the parties has conferred and the other received all the benefits. It has become obvious to the colored people, as it has to everybody else, that without the colored vote the Republican party would be in a hopeless minority. At the last election there was a popular majority of one hundred thousand against it, although a million negroes were enrolled among its voters. Take them away and "the grand old party" would be a very insignificant affair. This does not apply merely to the southern states, but there are half a dozen northern states, two of which furnished the pivot upon which the election of HARRISON turned, whose Republican majorities are supplied by colored voters. Even in Pennsylvania, where at several recent elections the Republican majority has been abnormally large, the predominance of that party is due to the 30,000 colored men who vote its ticket. Had it not been for this unflinching contingent the leaders would not have been able to perfect the machine by which they control the politics of the State.

These are facts which the comprehension of the negro voters have taken hold of, and they are beginning to ask themselves what profit they have in keeping up a party whose white members so greedily monopolize the official spoils?

This one-sided allotment of the offices and emoluments has evidently created the feeling which prompted a number of colored men to turn up at Harrisburg as Democrats, protesting against the arrangement by which their people have been made useful in winning Republican victories while the leaders have no more thought of giving them a share of the fruits of those victories than the old-time slaveholders thought of giving their slaves a share of the products of their toil. There is going to be a rebellion against this new kind of colored slavery.

Still Working the "Free Trade" Deception.

Speaking of the influences which brought about the election of GROVER CLEVELAND in 1884, the Philadelphia Press attributes that achievement to the defamations of Mr. BLAINE by Mugwumps who had entered into a Free Trade conspiracy. Upon the assumption that this is a fair statement of a fact, it declares that "malicious assaults on the personal character of leading Republicans, the third-party temperance movement and now a cry for free raw materials are some of the methods used to break down the tariff. Its advocates welcome fair discussion," etc.

The fairness of the discussion that is welcomed by the tariff advocates is sufficiently exemplified by the term "free trade" which they apply to tariff reform. No party has proposed to establish free trade, but there is a large class of citizens, including prominent Republicans, who would like to reform a bad tariff. The proposition to reform a system can no more fairly or honestly be construed as a desire to eradicate it than an intention to trim a tree can be represented as a design to cut it down. In no act or declaration of those who are averse to a continuance of the present high rate of tariff duties, whether it be the Mills bill, the message of President CLEVELAND, the platform of the Democratic party, the expressions of such Republicans as GARFIELD and ARTHUR, or the report of a Republican Tariff Commission recommending tariff reduction, was there any expression of a desire or intention to bring about that condition of commercial intercourse known as free trade. There was never a time when such a kind of trade regulation obtained in this country, although at some periods the duties were much lower than at others, and the proposition of the tariff reformers contemplated no reduction that would not have left the average rate of duties higher than that which ordinarily existed since the establishment of the government. This was so patent a fact that it was impossible for the monopoly tariff supporters to be ignorant of it.

Every intelligent person who gave the matter honest and unprejudiced consideration understood the purpose of the tariff reform recommended by CLEVELAND and supported by the Democracy. Yet against so plain an intention of doing no more than to cut away the superfluous growth of an injuriously redundant fiscal system, the cry was raised that its purpose was free trade. This answered well enough for a campaign lie. It was as good as any other falsehood with which to humbug the voter. But at this time, when the public understanding is not warped by campaign excitement and the people are in the frame of mind to calmly consider the tariff question, persistence in misrepresenting the purpose of the tariff reformers by lagging superfluously on the stage with the "free trade" bugaboo, can have no other effect than to excite the contempt and ridicule of intelligent and honest people.

Tanner Badly Treated by his Superior.

With the true flunkey spirit the Republican organs which some months ago were defending Commissioner TANNER, maintaining that there was nothing in his conduct that was not prompted by honorable and patriotic motives, are now praising President HARRISON for having turned him out of a position which his extravagant disposition and insubordinate manner rendered him unfit to occupy. The Philadelphia Press, which confidently looked forward to a vindication of the Commissioner by the investigating committee, now turns its back upon the repudiated official with the declaration that "President HARRISON'S action in the case is wise, just and brave."

It is unquestionably prudent for the administration to get rid of an officer whose conduct was covering it with disgrace and making it the object of public condemnation, but the President's treatment of TANNER was neither just nor brave. The Commissioner did no more than carry out the well known views of Mr. HARRISON who left his subordinate to understand that there should be no stint in applying the public money to the payment of pensions. He did not want the "apothecary's scales" to be used in measuring the reward of the veterans. The promise that the surplus should be disposed of by lavish pension expenditures was one of the means that largely contributed to his election by securing the greater portion of the soldier vote. TANNER had every reason to believe that his conduct was in accordance with the desire of his chief and the policy of his party. No word of protest came from those who were over him until his outrageously extravagant management excited public alarm and an increase of six millions of dollars in the public debt in the brief period of two months stared the frightened administration in the face. Then TANNER was bounced. But was it either just or brave to punish him for conforming to what he knew to be the desire of Mr. HARRISON and the policy of his party in throwing the treasury doors wide open to the raids of pension claimants of every description? It was both cowardly and unjust to make TANNER the scape-goat in this bad business.

Which is right on the TANNER question, the Grand Army of the Republic, which at its Milwaukee meeting endorsed his official conduct and applauded his liberality in dividing the "surplus" among the veterans, or the administration, which has turned him out of office for reckless and extravagant performance of his trust? There being a disagreement in this matter, which party is on the right side of the question? The position of the Grand Army is certainly the more logical. TANNER was selected for the office of Commissioner of Pensions because it was well known that he was just the sort of character that would throw the money around among the soldiers with a free hand. The soldier vote was gained for HARRISON upon the promise that the money would be used in that way. HARRISON encouraged TANNER at the start to be liberal with "the soldier boys," and such being the facts, wasn't the Grand Army more consistent in endorsing him than HARRISON was in kicking him out?

It is remarked by the Philadelphia Press, in a commendatory way, that "Secretary Tracy wants to place ship-building plants in the various navy yards of the country." There is no reason to question this statement. It has been the custom of Republican administrations to use the navy yards for planting purposes—that is, they have never failed to plant large forces of party workers in them. This has been done not so much to increase the strength of the navy as to increase the strength of the party. Secretary TRACY will be careful not to allow this custom to fall into innocuous desuetude. Already the few hands really needed to keep it in order, that were kept at League Island by the Cleveland administration, have been succeeded by a small army of party retainers who will be of infinitely more use in a political than in a naval way. Other navy yards no doubt are being abundantly supplied with such plants.

Why They Should Oppose Him.

There is in Philadelphia an organization called the Workingmen's Tariff Reform Club, the members of which keep their intelligence sharpened on questions relating to the tariff and labor interests. At a recent meeting it passed the following resolution.

WHEREAS, The Republican party has placed in nomination for state treasurer, H. K. Boyer, who placed himself in opposition to honest elections by voting against the ballot reform bill in the last legislature, and

WHEREAS, The Democratic party declares in favor of both tariff reform and ballot reform, be it

Resolved, That we propose to work and vote for the democratic nominee for state treasurer.

These are good reasons for opposing the Republican nominee for State Treasurer. Ballot reform, as proposed by the bill which BOYER voted against, is of vital importance to voters who live by their labor. It would afford them protection against the interference of bulldozing employers who assume the right to control the votes of employees because they furnish them with employment. BOYER evidently thinks that a tyrannical task-master has this right, otherwise he would not have voted against the reform ballot bill.

Another reason why workingmen should vote against QUAY'S nominee, is that while he filled the Speaker's chair in no instance did he exert his influence in behalf of the bills that were introduced for the benefit of labor, all of which were defeated, most of them having been adversely disposed of by processes over which the Speaker had control.

The workingmen will prove that they deserved no better treatment from the Republican bosses and their minions if they do not avail themselves of this opportunity to punish BOYER.

Looking at It in the Right Light.

The colored men who met in a political convention in Harrisburg the other day, gave evidence that they are beginning to have a correct understanding of the tariff question. It has not escaped their notice that the benefits of protection are not shared by the colored people. They see that alike with other poor laboring men they are made to bear the burden of taxation on the necessities of life while the fruits of protection are enjoyed by those whom the tariff enables to practice extortion upon consumers, and they have made the discovery that their wages are not increased by the system which increases the price of what they have to buy. They are also confronted by the fact that under a tariff system which is said to be productive of employment for the laboring man they find themselves excluded from industrial establishments in which the foreign laborer is preferred to the native colored workman.

Under these circumstances the colored convention at Harrisburg very properly denounced the existing monopoly tariff as an unjust and oppressive fraud.

No enterprise of the kind has been so successful as the Grangers' picnic and exhibition annually held at Williams' Grove. Its success has been phenomenal, there being nothing in the country to compare with it. The great results attained are to be attributed chiefly to good management. But we see that dissatisfaction is being expressed in certain quarters. Some are charging Col. THOMAS, who has been the principal manager, with having made too much money out of the picnics, and it is reported that the Grangers are going to have their annual gatherings and exhibitions at some other place. We can scarcely believe this. Success at Williams' Grove has been assured. No one appears to have substantial reason to complain that THOMAS manages to realize something handsome, oughtn't every feeling of envy and jealousy to be allayed by his managing to give the Grangers a good show and a good time at a very reasonable expense? The only fault we ever found with his management was for his getting in the list of speakers some old blatherskite who would attempt to address the crowd on the tariff, or political economy, or some other subject of that kind, without having an intelligent comprehension of what he was talking about.

What has become of the county surplus?

Spawls from the Keystone.

—Pittsburg's exposition costs \$1000 day.

—A pigeon which cost \$100 is owned by A. B. Hoskins, of Media.

—The seventy-six lakes of Wayne county bristle with gany bass.

—A quilt on exhibition at Scranton is sewed together with 7200 feet of silk.

—Workmen at a Scranton brickyard handled 106,000 bricks in one day recently.

—Chinapins are plentiful on the trees of York county, and boys are knocking lots of them.

—Splenic fever among cattle is worrying farmers in the vicinity of Boyertown, Berks county.

—A Fiddstown butcher in a fit of anger killed an obstinate bull calf by throwing a stone and striking the animal.

—"Rattlesnake Pete," an Oil City character, has sold a snake-skin for \$9 to a man who will use it as a necktie.

—Seven pounds and three ounces of bass hooked itself on the fishing line of Lewis McCloskey at Norristown.

—A wedding took place in Mercer county jail on Saturday. The bride had been imprisoned for attempting suicide.

—The seventy-first annual Convention of the Bucks County Bible Society will be held at Andalusia on the 26th instant.

—Ghosts are said to stalk abroad at midnight around the Black Rock tunnel on the Reading Railroad near Phoenixville.

—James N. Roger, of Lebanon has a pear tree which has borne a large crop this summer, and is again in full bloom.

—The lightning that killed Edward Jacquard in Meadville lately broke every bone in his body and turned the flesh black.

—Jesse King, of Norristown, has a letter received six weeks ago from Weather Profit Devoe predicting the recent storm.

—Judge White made a speech in Court at Pittsburg advocating the granting of many more licenses than he at first allowed.

—Emanuel Moore, of Ashland, in a drunken frenzy kicked over the ice-box in which his dead child was lying, and was arrested.

—Milton Moyer, of Pleasant Valley, Bucks county, had both legs broken recently by the fall of a tree, which pinned him to the ground.

—Three sons of D. C. Williams, of Shoemaker'sville, Berks county, will shortly leave home for the deaf and dumb asylum in Philadelphia.

—The body of Samuel Shannon, 67 years old, who had been on a spree, was found in a barn at Breinigsville, Lehigh county, on Wednesday.

—After setting fire to a Scranton 7-year-old took up a position on the fence to watch the house burn. His father warned him for it.

—Two women, each carrying a large rattlesnake around her waist, visited Connersville a few days ago, trying to secure a purchaser for the reptiles.

—Mrs. Michael Shilling, of Hamburg, is a raving maniac from having brooded over the disclosures and predictions of an itinerant fortune teller.

—Seven new houses in a row of eight on South Walnut street, West Chester, have been taken by newly married couples or prospective bridegrooms.

—A Pittsburg paper says: The city is rapid, by filling up with foreign glassblowers who seem to be in straitened circumstances, and want work very badly.

—Antonio Allelejo, boss of a gang of Italian railroad laborers on a new railroad at Pen Argyl, married a 14-year-old girl from that vicinity a few days ago.

—A steer ran ahead of a locomotive a quarter of a mile on the Pottsville Railroad at Etnaus on Tuesday, crossing a bridge in its flight, and escaping safely.

—Grief over the death of her husband has robbed Mrs. Hall, of Scranton, of her reason, and, armed with a butcher-knife, she is trying to murder her relatives.

—The same English syndicate that purchased the Thomas Iron Works, at Hokenaduga, has, it is said, made a proposition to buy the Grass Iron Works at Catsasqua.

—Mohrsville has a farmer who allowed himself to be taken in by New York "green goods" men; but he did not get the accustomed package of sawdust. It was brickbats.

—Six different couples were applicants for the leading parts at the proposed wedding at the Doylestown Fair. Two have been selected and will divide the honors and gifts.

—An enraged steer held possession of a Pittsburg street until he was lassoed by a man, who afterward charged on the animal and suffocated it by holding fast to its nose.

—The grand jury of Warren county on Thursday last brought a presentment against the Warren County Fair Association for permitting gambling on the fair grounds.

—Minnie Johnston, of Allentown, while awaiting a hearing in an Alderman's office on Wednesday evening, darted out and vaulting a fence eluded a bow-legged constable.

—Three maiden ladies of Pleasant Unity have been robbed of a large sum of money by a man who was taken into their house, representing that he was a Johnstown sufferer.

—While passing over a railroad track at Norristown a horse driven by R. T. Schall caught its foot in the track, which stopped it so suddenly that the driver was thrown over his head.

—A Northern Central locomotive was boarded at Williamsport by a weak-minded colored boy who pulled the lever and started off. When arrested he said he was going to the Gettysburg reunion.

—By the wreck of an east-bound freight train on the Philadelphia and Erie Railroad at Round Island, fifteen miles west of Renovo, nineteen cars were smashed and a tramp sustained serious injuries.

—Forty-three days buried among rye sheaves is the experience of a Saylor's Lake hen. He was uncovered a few days ago when the rye was thrashed and had been imprisoned when the grain was housed.

—According to the testimony of his grandmother, George Anderson, aged 13 years, of York, takes delight in beating his mother. He varied his amusement a day or two ago by stabbing her with a pair of scissors.

—A Swede named Clinch, employed on Hon. S. M. Brainerd's farm near Erie, while in liquor several days ago climbed into an address containing a herd of Durham bulls, wiped his face with a red handkerchief, and was badly crushed by an infuriated animal.

—W. S. Longenecker, of Shaver's Creek, Huntingdon county, was to have been married to Miss Mary Whistler, of McVeytown, three weeks ago, but the marriage was postponed for some days, the girl being under age. A few days ago the prospective groom was struck dead by lightning in Johnstown.