

Ink Slings.

—Mr. HARRISON will be noted in history for the ingenuity with which he devised methods for spending the people's money. He will stand pre-eminent as a surplus smasher.

—BIG HEAD, the Sioux chief, is going to visit the Great Father at Washington. He may consider himself a big Injun, but as Big Head he will find himself discounted by the white chief.

—The Pittsburg Legal Journal asks whether there are too many lawyers? There are certainly not too many good lawyers, although it can't be denied that the other class is a little crowded.

—STAGG, Yale's great base ball pitcher, is about to enter the ministry. If he shall throw his theological balls with the vigor he displayed on the base ball field, he will make it lively for old Satan.

—SILCOCK was by no means a Mascot to the congressmen whose money he got away with. To boycott him wouldn't satisfy their feelings. Nothing short of treating him in the Tascott style would appease their wrath.

—The loss of life at the Johnstown opera house was a sad calamity, but there is something almost ludicrous in the circumstance that the victims were attracted to the death trap by such a stale chestnut as Uncle Tom's cabin.

—With most of the Republican leaders forced to a tardy condemnation of the trusts, Brother BLAINE may find it expedient to revise his opinion that they are harmless business combinations with which no one has a right to interfere.

—There is a movement among florists to rechristen one of our most popular flowers. But probably the heavy weight the chrysanthemum has to struggle under in the way of a name, retards its bloom, which is one of its most valued characteristics.

—The reception of the President at Chicago was a little too rough to look like an expression of high regard. But perhaps that is the way the untutored Chicago denizens have of indicating their appreciation of a high public functionary.

—DOM PEDRO complains of bad treatment at the hands of the Brazilian revolutionists. But when it is considered that heretofore revolutionists got rid of royal personages by cutting their heads off, his Brazilian majesty should be satisfied that he got off as he did.

—There is something cool in Washington's demand for the World's Fair. She doesn't put up any money of her own, but finds her claim entirely upon what UNCLE SAM is able to put up. There isn't a town in the country that couldn't do that if it had the cheek.

—With a view to the muscular development of the French youth, the French government has sent a commissioner over to this country to study American athletics. Put him behind one of our base ball batters without a cast-iron screen over his face, and then send him home as an object lesson.

—The bibulous business of the senatorial restaurant, where "cold tea" used to slake the senatorial thirst with exhilarating effect, seems to have been transferred to Vice President MORTON's drinking establishment. It will require extra piety in the Post office department to atone for the Vice President's whisky shop.

—Believing that there is not sufficient time to prepare for it, JAY GOULD recommends the postponement of the World's Fair to a later date than 1892. Such an arrangement would be suitable enough if COLUMBUS had only postponed the discovery until some time in 1493 or '94. In this matter a good deal depends upon what CHRISTOPHER did some four hundred years ago.

—The Philadelphia post office having become a trysting place for objectionable characters of opposite sex, it has been suggested that a special officer be delegated to exercise a restraint upon such an unseemly state of affairs. The Record thinks the officer would have his hands full, as he would be likely to find Phryne and Aspasia as well as Penelope and Lucretia in the lobby of the post office. Is this a classical way of saying that he would have difficulty in discriminating between the strumpets and the ladies?

—The Secretary of the Navy deserves credit for making changes in the nomenclature of the navy by relieving some of the ships of the outrageous aboriginal names by which they were burdened by GIDEON J. WELLS during the time of the war. That misguided ancient mariner possibly intended to frighten the enemy by the jaw-breaking names he gave our naval ships. It is a ludicrous fact that the only vessel that gained a victory in a real sea fight during the rebellion in the engagement with the Alabama, bears a name which very few people are certain of pronouncing correctly.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

VOL. 34. BELLEFONTE, PA., DECEMBER 13, 1889. NO. 49.

A Scheme of Treasury Depletion.

It is quite plain that the people who are now managing national affairs see in the construction of coast defenses an easy and effective way of making a big hole in the surplus. Their policy is to maintain a tariff that brings in more revenue than is necessary for legitimate use, compelling an exercise of their ingenuity to devise ways of getting rid of the redundant funds. Putting the coast in a state of defense offers unlimited opportunities for public expenditure, and the tariff supporters propose to avail themselves of this means of subjecting the surplus to speedy and effectual evaporation. It is for this purpose that Senator DOLPH, of Oregon, has introduced his coast defense bill, which will require the outlay of the immense sum of \$126,377,800. It proposes to build forts at all the vulnerable points along the Atlantic, Pacific and Gulf coasts, and in all its details promises to furnish a job in comparison with which the most lavish River and Harbor bill sinks into insignificance.

Every patriotic American wants to see his country in a state of defense against external enemies, but he can't get himself to believe that it is necessary to adopt measures of wholesale extravagance, if not robbery, to effect that object. Who can estimate the amount of stealing which the expenditure of \$126,000,000 would afford favored government contractors? And then we should have a system of fortifications erected at immense expense which within the next twenty years would be likely to be thrown into desuetude by the advance of military science.

Would not our harbors be more effectually defended by an efficient navy? We are now making liberal outlays in providing war ships of the first class. With a reasonable number of steel-clad vessels carrying ordnance of the heaviest caliber and equal to any that could be brought against them, with the most improved torpedo boats and pneumatic guns throwing high-explosive projectiles, what more will be required to defend our coast against any enemy that may come? We are getting all these, yet it is proposed to give us the unnecessary supplement of stationary fortifications for no other object than to dispose of the money with which oppressive taxation is replenishing the treasury.

Plain Talk to the G. A. R.

We publish in another column a letter written by GROVER CLEVELAND to a Grand Army post in this State, in response to a request that he should contribute something to be voted for at a fair it proposed to hold. The ex-President contributed something to their object and accompanied his contribution with a letter the contents of which should induce a train of thought among honest and well meaning grand army men which might redound to the benefit of themselves and the cause of the order to which they belong.

If Mr. CLEVELAND were more of a demagogue and politician looking after popular favor, he would not have ventured to tell so numerous an organization as the Grand Army of the Republic of its faults, as he did in this letter. But he is still the honest and fearless man he was when he vetoed objectionable pension bills, and being such, he did not hesitate to refer to the base purposes to which the G. A. R. has been prostituted by partisan demagogues, and to say that the political use that has been made of it has led many good citizens, whose patriotism cannot be questioned, to regard it as having "wandered a long way from its avowed design." Who can deny the justness of these strictures in view of the extent to which the Grand Army allowed itself to be used as a partisan machine in the last Presidential election and the organized assistance it is giving the scheme of unlimited and unrestrained pension frauds on the national treasury?

In concluding his letter Mr. CLEVELAND uses one of the aphorisms for which he has become famous, in saying that "the best soldier should be the best citizen." It may occur to the reflecting grand army man that much that has been and is being done by his order does not conform with what may rightfully be considered good citizenship.

Jefferson Davis Is Dead.

In taking off JEFFERSON DAVIS last Friday death removed almost the last, and in one sense the most conspicuous, of the leaders of the rebellion. It is within a few months of a quarter of a century since the rebel attempt to divide the Union failed with the complete collapse of the Confederacy. Of its great military leaders JOHNSTON and LONGSTREET are all that are left, and of those who were most prominent in guiding the politics of the insurrectionary movement, JEFF DAVIS, the chief, survived them all. Although at one period of the struggle it looked as if he might fill a big page in history as the founder of another government, different from that of the United States, it fortunately turned out otherwise, and it took but a few years for him to sink to the obscurity of a private citizen, from which he was periodically brought to public attention by Republican politicians when an emergency rendered it necessary for them to use a sectional bugaboo.

It is unnecessary to say anything about JEFFERSON DAVIS's career and characteristics. None but the very young of this generation are unacquainted with the part he played in our greatest national drama. He was justly considered the representative character of the rebel movement, and as such had the loyal support of his misguided fellow citizens of the South, while the feeling toward him in the North was forcibly expressed by the desire to hang him on a sour apple tree. In the years that have followed the war the northern feeling has toned down into indifference, while the southern people have been too brave and magnanimous to go back on a leader who, however wrong he may have been, could not be considered more wrong than were they who gave him their support.

The rebel chieftain has now been translated from life to history, which will do justice to his merits as well as to his short comings. He will be missed by none so much as by those who, so long as life was in him, used him as a means of keeping alive the embers of sectional animosity that happily have now nearly died out.

The Common Roadways.

Col. ALBERT A. POPE, of Boston, founder of the American bicycle industry, and largely interested in the manufacture of those modern vehicles of locomotion, has put himself at the head of a movement for the improvement of the common roads of the country and taken to lecturing on that subject. His object is not entirely an unselfish one, as better roads would induce a more extensive use of bicycles; but would they not benefit the traveling public as much as the bicycle interest? There is great truth in his assertion that a road over which a bicycle can be ridden with ease and safety will save thousands of dollars in diminishing the wear and tear of vehicles and horses.

The average of country roads are not in the condition they should be in, and poor as they are, the manner of maintaining them is far from being economical. In the aggregate much money is spent with comparatively little to show for it in the end. A very inadequate idea is formed of the importance of the common country roads to the commerce of the country. The railroads have eclipsed them as the avenues of traffic, yet it should not be forgotten that at least seventy-five per cent. of every train load hauled on the railroads has first been carried to shipping points over country roads. From this it is easy to see how good roads increase the value of farm lands by bringing them into the easiest, cheapest and most expeditious connection with the markets to which the railroads are the channels of transportation.

—It is said that Admiral WALKER, commander of the Evolution fleet, delayed its sailing in order to avoid starting on Friday. This probably was in compliance with an old superstition connecting Friday with bad luck, which should have been abandoned long ago, particularly by nautical people. Doesn't Admiral WALKER know that on Friday, August 3d, 1492, a greater admiral than he set out on the most brilliantly successful voyage that maritime history has to show, the four hundredth anniversary of which we are preparing to celebrate?

A Complete Ruin.

The State of Ohio can show the worst political wreck in this country, and it is FORAKER. He is more completely used up than MAHONE. His vaunting ambition, inordinate in a character of his caliber, led him to risk his entire political stock in his third venture for Governor, with the Presidency in view, in which he met with overwhelming defeat. There might have been a possibility of his saving something from the wreck if it had been merely a political disaster, but circumstances connected with his campaign involved his personal reputation which comes out of the fight in a more damaged shape and worse condition than his political fortunes. It is now being shown that he was a party to the ballot box forgery that was intended to injure his Democratic opponent; that he sanctioned the use of such dishonest means to promote his own election, and that he deceived HALSTEAD into publishing what he knew to be false and defamatory. FORAKER's implication in this base business will have a greater effect than his defeat in ruining him as a future political character. He is, indeed, a very complete ruin.

Deserved Censure.

There is a quite general condemnation of the dilatory manner in which the County Commissioners treated the Clara Price murder case. The crime was one that should have excited their promptest and most energetic action in offering a reward for the detection of the murderer and rendering practical assistance to the avenging arm of the law. When things come to such a pass that innocent and virtuous girls are assaulted on the highway and shot down for defending their virtue, no effort, no expense should be spared to correct such a state of affairs by promptly hunting down the offender and bringing him to punishment. Yet in this outrageous case of Miss Price's murder, days were allowed to pass without our Commissioners making a movement for the apprehension of the miscreant, and when at last a reward was offered it was so trifling a sum as to disgust the citizens of this county who are not the ones to stand on the question of a few hundred dollars in a matter of such serious import, involving the lives of innocent girls and other defenseless people. This miserable dereliction in the performance of an obvious duty, arising no doubt from a mistaken idea of economy, is accorded the following merited reprobation in last week's *Williamsport Gazette*:

"The Board of Commissioners of Centre county are economical or nothing. They were 'paralyzed' over the \$200 spent to convict Seely Hopkins, and they have drawn the county's purse-strings tighter than ever 'Jack' Griest ever dreamed of doing. They are apparently working for a record on which to base their claims for re-election, and are acting in a most niggardly manner in this matter. The idea of offering a reward of \$150 for the capture and conviction of the perpetrator of a crime so heinous. Fortunately the man they wanted was easily secured, but they might have had more trouble, as the amount is not much of an inducement for a man to devote his whole time to a long search. And now that there is a vast amount of evidence to be secured, with no absolute certainty that the right man has been caught, they have only one man out on the trail to do this work. It appears like questionable economy, but perhaps these men know more about the matter than the people on the outside who are complaining. But the fact remains that the authorities of Centre county were very slow in making the first move. Clearfield county was to the front before Centre with an offer of a reward, and yet the crime was committed in Centre county, although all of the parties resided in Clearfield. There is such a thing as being too economical in the administration of public affairs, although it is a virtue that few Boards of Commissioners possess. But then Centre county is just a little different from any other county in Pennsylvania. Other instances of their parsimoniousness might be mentioned, but they would not reflect a great deal of credit upon the Board. The difference between the present Board's method of doing things and 'Jack' Griest's administration is that the latter was a business man, while the present overseers are—well they have their own ideas.

The justness of this criticism cannot be denied. It is true, a suspected party has been apprehended, but if it should turn out that he is not the man who committed this heinous crime, there will be a heavy responsibility resting upon the shoulders of the Commissioners for promoting the escape of the real criminal by not taking such action as would have encouraged greater exertion and more thorough work to effect his capture.

—It isn't too early to wish every body a happy Christmas.

It Should Let Wanamaker Alone.

There is no subject to which the *New York Sun* is devoting so much of its editorial attention as to JOHN WANAMAKER. It represents him to be a snuffling hypocrite who is trying to hide his mercenary character behind the cloak of religion, and an adventurer in politics who by corrupt purchase gained an official position which he is prostituting to the interest of his private business.

There is no fault to be found with the truth of the *Sun's* portrait of the Post Master General, but what business has it to be making a fuss about such a character occupying the place he holds in this administration? When the *Sun*, to gratify the private malice of its editor, was doing all it could to defeat CLEVELAND, it well knew what mean were being used to elect HARRISON and could not blind itself to the inevitable consequence of a success that would be gained by the corrupt contributions of WANAMAKER and of those from whom he helped to "fry the fat." The present Post Master General has got the position he paid for, and the *Sun* helped him to get it by its treacherous course toward the Democratic party. It should shut up about WANAMAKER.

An Important Anniversary.

The 5th inst. was the second anniversary of the promulgation of President CLEVELAND's Tariff Reform Message. Previous to that deliverance there was no well defined expression against the system of tariff taxation that is robbing the general mass of citizens for the benefit of a protected class, and no clear cut opposition to such a wrong. The Message marked an epoch in the political history of the country from which may be dated the beginning of an economic revolution whose outcome will be the correction of great fiscal abuses. The second anniversary of the Great Message was duly celebrated by the Young Men's Democratic Club of Canton, Ohio, which invited Mr. CLEVELAND to attend their demonstration. In response to the invitation he sent a letter commenting in appropriate terms upon the disposition of thoughtful young men to interest themselves with the welfare of their country and follow in the pathway of good citizenship, which in his opinion constituted the most reliable hope of Democratic ascendancy. It has been but a short time since Mr. CLEVELAND sounded the note of tariff reform, but what he said is already working a revolution in the public mind.

Quick Work of the Speaker.

Speaker REED has surprised his political contemporaries and brother congressmen by the expedition with which he has formed and announced some of the leading committees of the House. On Monday he gave out the names of those who shall compose the important committees of Ways and Means, Appropriations, Manufactures, Elections and Mileage. The great committee is that of Ways and Means, the chairman of which, as was expected, is Mr. MCKINLEY, of Ohio, who was REED's leading opponent for the Speakership. The Democrats are well represented on this committee by such leaders and tariff reformers as Messrs. CARLISLE, MILLS, McMILLEN and BRECKENRIDGE of Arkansas, but it cannot be expected that they will be able to exert any influence in shaping the tariff policy of the committee. CANNON, who was another competitor of REED for the Speakership, has been made chairman of the next most important committee, that of Appropriations. Mr. RANDALL has been retained as the leading Democrat on this committee, but unfortunately his health is so bad that it is doubtful whether he can do any service in this session. In fact it is feared that he may succumb under his long continued ill health.

—The friends of Dr. E. B. Higbee, State Superintendent of Public Instruction, will be pained to hear of the attack of paralysis which overtook him at Mifflin on Wednesday. He was taken to his home in Lancaster in an unconscious condition. The Doctor has been an efficient educator, although his connection with the syndicate soldiers' orphans school scandal somewhat impaired his official reputation.

Spawis from the Keystone.

—In all Titusville there is said to be scarcely an idle man.

—The clock was stolen from a Stoubsburg (Berks county) church.

—Johnstown people will celebrate Christmas with good old-time cheer.

—Boys under 16 years of age are arrested in Bethlehem for smoking cigarettes.

—Seven divorces have been granted in Lehigh county since last January.

—A movement is on foot to form a straw and rag paper trust at Pittsburg.

—Because his wife pulled his whiskers, Charles Lutz, of Pittsburg, wants a divorce.

—The sermons delivered by Rev. J. H. Chambers, of West Chester, are illustrated by paintings.

—Engaged in ferreting out "speak easies" in Pittsburg a constable has been accused of running one himself.

—A number of establishments using natural gas at Beaver Falls, have been compelled to close down for want of gas.

—The East Penn Furnaces, at Lyon, Berks county, built sixteen years ago at a cost of \$130,000, are to be demolished.

—There are several pedestrians in West Chester who follow a fox-hunt on foot and keep up with the race to the finish.

—Charges have been made against Fish Commissioner Hague, at Pittsburg, that he offered to settle a law suit for a consideration.

—Edward T. Gunswald, for many years Justice of the Peace at Nazareth, Northampton county, dropped dead in his office on Sunday night.

—Hideous and unearthly cries are heard emanating from the holds of abandoned canal boats lying on the river banks near Struyskill Haven.

—The late Lawyer E. J. Fox, of Easton, had his life insured for \$25,000. By his will all his property goes to his wife, three sons, and one daughter.

—James W. Steele on Monday at Easton pleaded guilty to assaulting with intent to outrage a country girl, and was sent to jail for three years.

—The West Chester News of Monday says: A honey-bee appeared in John L. Greenfield's place this morning. A lively bee on December 9 is rarity.

—Thinking it was a tobacco license, a Beaver Falls Italian purchased a postal note, and has been doing a tobacco trade for years on the strength of it.

—Sottor Bros.' Mechanics' Boiler Works, at Pottstown, have received a contract for the erection of a large new blast furnace for a party in Alabama.

—Hon. Joseph W. Parker, who has been a practitioner in the Courts of the State for about thirty-two years, died in Clearfield on Wednesday night.

—"Feet" socials are a Newville (Cumberland county) fad. People stand behind a screen where only their feet can be seen, and you guess which is whose.

—A misguided robin began building a nest in an elm tree near Parkersburg in November. The cold snap forced her to suspend operations and seek a sunnier clime.

—The East Stroudsburg News regrets the successful matrimonial incursions that young men are continually making into the ranks of the female school teachers.

—Near Deborah's Rock, on the Brandywine stands a curious growth in the shape of two large trees, one an oak and the other a hickory, which have grown together.

—The Wilkesbarre News-Dealer says the morals of the community there are improving. There has been no murder at a Hungarian christening for a whole month.

—With an oat grain about to sprout in his ear little Homer De Forest of Sharon has been wondering why his ear ached for three weeks past. A doctor has removed it.

—There is in Pottstown a family consisting of five women whose tastes are so different that they long ago established a rule requiring each one to do her own cooking.

—China Heft, aged 15, died recently a Bowmansville, Lancaster county. She was to have been married on the day she was taken sick, and will now be buried in her bridal garments.

—The squeal of a stallion scared off a horse-chieft from the premises of Samuel Boyd, of Birmingham, Chester county, a few nights ago after the trespasser had untied three fine animals.

—Henry Doerr, of Lancaster, was awarded \$13,500 by a Pittsburg jury in a suit brought for injuries received in being pushed from a car on the Alleghany and Birmingham Street Railway.

—Natural gas according to a Beaver Falls paper, has had the effect of shriveling and shrinking up an aged person in that city until his joints have become misfits and make a crackling noise as he walks.

—A Bristol grocer has had a guessing match, offering a prize to the customer estimating nearest the number of seeds in a pumpkin. There were 799 when the big gourd was opened, and Mrs. Brown won.

—The Montgomery County Grand Jury has indicted John Kendersoch and Annie Chomo for murder in the first degree, on the charge of murdering the latter's husband in Pottstown on Wednesday night, November 27.

—The Presbyterian Church at West Elizabeth was turned into a "speak easy" recently. While alterations were being made in the building liquor was illicitly sold to the workmen. The members are indignant.

—A pitcher thrown at a Lancaster colored man struck him on the head and broke in many pieces. The assailant was arrested, but the injured man refused to prosecute because the pitcher had been replaced.

—Henry Mack, who served three years at Easton for horse stealing and three years more for forgery, and who robbed his father's store two months after his second release, has again been sent to prison for one year.

—A Meadville young lady has a craving for matches, which she nibbles with as much gusto as some girls display in masticating caramels. On Saturday she masticated several red-headed lucifers, and, very naturally, was taken violently ill, but recovered.

—One of West Chester's gunners, on leaving home for a trip, told his wife not to buy any meat as he would bring home plenty of game. On his return he sneaked up the alley empty handed, and the wife had to wake him up to go out and buy ham for his breakfast.

—Since some unknown person has been seeking the life of John Rosensell, of near Greensburg, and he is no longer safe, his neighbors have organized a vigilance committee whose members will keep watch alternately for the villains, and if the attempt upon Mr. Rosensell's life is repeated they will be shot down.