

Ink Slings.

—Although annually repeated we trust that none of our readers will ring the chestnut-bell on us when we wish them a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

—If Christmas were of continual occurrence life would be a sort of perpetual picnic party.

—Weren't the Republican managers who "fried the fat" out of the manufacturers the original Pan-Americans?

—What a brave animal the British lion is when the nation at which he curls up his lip and shows his teeth isn't bigger than little Portugal.

—Is FORAKER really worth a Congressional investigation? Isn't his case unsavory enough without creating a further stench by a committee stirring it up?

—Next Sunday there will be a solar eclipse, but as it will be visible only on a continent that has always been dark, it may be considered a mere waste of shadow.

—DOM PEDRO was too honest an incumbent to afford ground for the presumption that when he was discharged from office it was done for the purpose of turning a rascal out.

—Chicago justice which didn't hesitate to hang a set of crazy anarchists, made a wretched slum in its treatment of a gang of the bloodiest murderers that ever ensanguined the criminal annals of this country.

—The death dealing electric wires of New York, if left to go on doing their deadly work, won't hold out a very persuasive invitation to the visitors whom that city will want to attend her World's Fair.

—The influenza that has recently been making the crowned heads and nobility of Europe sneeze, has reached this country, and should it fail to attack our native snobs they will feel greatly slighted.

—JAKE KILRAIN has been found guilty by a Mississippi jury of assaulting and battering JOHN L. SULLIVAN. POOR JOHN L., what a satisfaction it must be for him to know that the law is ready to take his part when he has been abused.

—Some of the Republican papers think that when CARNEGIE suggested that CLEVELAND should be run again he was merely indulging in irony. Pig-irony, perhaps, if one may be allowed to associate Mr. CARNEGIE's expression with his business.

—There is something terrible in the report from Siberia that six exiles—one of them a young woman—were killed for refusing to withdraw a petition. What is the matter with the dynamite of the Russian patriots—misnamed Nihilists—that it is so slow in doing its work?

—A Chicago poet, apostrophizing saurkraut, with a fine appreciation of its most salient quality, exclaims: "I love your odors wild and sweet, that knock out everything they meet, and jump onto it with both feet." Was ever muse before inspired by such a theme?

—A burglar broke into the Methodist church at Fort Madison, Iowa, and stole the contents of the "little mite jugs," amounting to a hundred dollars, which the children had been collecting for Christmas. That rascal ought to be kicked to death by Santa Claus's reindeers.

—Since Brazil has become a republic she has followed the example of another republic we could mention, by laying a tariff for the benefit of special interests. If the new republic wants to imitate its big northern neighbor it should do it in another way than by copying its economic views.

—While everybody is praising the ex-President for his evident adoration of Mrs. CLEVELAND, it is difficult to believe what is nevertheless known to be a fact, that scarcely more than a year ago miserable emissaries were employed for political effect to go through the country and quietly circulate the story that he was in the habit of beating her.

—"Why not run him again?" was ANDY CARNEGIE's significant question at the Boston mercantile banquet in speaking of GROVER CLEVELAND. This is the query that will be running through the minds of the American people until it shall be answered by the re-election of the honest ex-President in 1892.

—There threatened to be bad feeling between the Governor of Maryland and the Governor of Virginia on the question of jurisdiction over Hog Island in the Chesapeake Bay. This would have been unfortunate. The most amicable relations should exist between Governors, and nothing is better calculated to spread the white wings of peace over gubernatorial functionaries than such a remark as the Governor of North Carolina made to the Governor of South Carolina.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

VOL. 34. BELLEFONTE, PA., DECEMBER 20, 1889. NO. 50.

Death of Franklin B. Gowen.

The suicide of FRANKLIN B. GOWEN, Esq., which happened at Washington last Friday, was a startling occurrence. He was about the last man that one would think would want to bring his life to an end by his own act. In almost everything that could make life worth living for he had been apparently successful, and that there should have been anything to lead him to regard it as a burden that could be relieved only by self-destruction, is beyond the comprehension of those who knew him.

Mr. GOWEN was a man of remarkable natural ability. But few of his contemporaries surpassed him in intellectual acuteness, and this quality was attended with unusual brilliancy. A mind so constituted placed him in the highest rank of the legal profession in which his pre-eminence was recognized. In addition to the advantage of great mental force, he was possessed of a natural eloquence, and he had moreover a suavity of manner that made him irresistible. He was most known to the public through his connection with the Reading Railroad company, in which he did not meet with the measure of success that his ambition aspired to. It is to be regretted that he ever allowed railroad business to interrupt his legal career. Nature designed him for a great lawyer, and the years devoted to the management of the corporation with which he was so signally and in some respects unfortunately identified, was so much time taken from his opportunity to win the very highest place in the legal fraternity. From his Reading railroad connection, however, sprung the incident in his public life which will give his name its chief distinction in the future. His suppression of the Mollie Maguire, whose murderous practices terrorized the anthracite coal region, furnished a really thrilling instance of the successful checking of organized crime. In this work, which was most thoroughly accomplished, Mr. GOWEN displayed his fearlessness as a conservator of law and order and his great ability as a legal character.

To high professional qualities and personal characteristics is to be added his strong attachment to Democratic principles which was interwoven with his private convictions and marked his public life. His connection with the Democratic party was life-long, and there can be no question that if he had turned his attention to politics his great intellectual force, his personal magnetism and the persuasive nature of his eloquence would have made him one of the great leaders of the party in the correctness of whose principles he had such unswerving faith.

His friends who best knew him can find no other explanation for the act that terminated his life than that his acute mind, affected by the great strain to which continual effort subjected it, was at the time brought to a condition in which reason lost its sway. With all its power it is evident that Mr. GOWEN's mental organism was of a delicate constitution that at last suddenly broke under the effect of long continued and unflagging application.

Robust Justice.

Alderman DOXONER, a magistrate in Wilkesbarre, the other day gave a very forcible illustration of muscular justice. A low-lived, cowardly brute of a fellow was brought before him on a charge of having beaten his wife, and after his guilt was clearly proved the indignant alderman got down from his magisterial chair, locked the door of his court room, took off his coat and gave the wife-beater a thorough licking in the presence of a throng of spectators. He then discharged him, believing that he had inflicted a punishment that would have more effect upon the offender than imprisonment and a good deal more economical in the matter of expense to the county, and declaring that he intended to treat similar cases thereafter in the same way. This robust dispenser of justice probably intends to give our law makers a pointer about providing a method of punishment for wife beaters in which the whipping post shall figure as the prominent feature.

—An umbrella of sufficient size to cover this rain-drenched world would be now in order.

A Confusion of Ideas.

Those who take an interest in Pennsylvania's agricultural progress and the prosperity of her farmers, will always welcome anything that Hon. LEONARD RUOXE has to say about and in behalf of the practical operations of the granger organization. They will sympathize with his efforts to have the fair thing done for the farmers in the matter of taxation, but it cannot be expected that there will be the same sympathy and agreement with him when he claims that a tariff is as much needed to protect the productions of the agriculturists as those of the manufacturers.

What hardships do our farmers endure in being "compelled to compete with the cheapest labor in the world?" To what extent is the poorly paid agricultural labor of Europe or Asia flooding the American market with cheap wheat, corn, oats, hay, beef, pork, butter or cheese, that a tariff is necessary to obstruct its ruinous competition? It is America that overrides all competition in these articles and supplies the markets of other countries. What need have our farmers for protection against competition where there are no competitors?

If we didn't know that the agricultural people are getting a very clear-cut conception of the tariff and its effect upon their interests, we would advise Brother RUOXE not to try to create a confusion of ideas on that subject. But they are pretty well convinced that no kind of a tariff does them any good.

The Death of an Alleged Poet.

The death of ROBERT BROWNING, the English poet of incomprehensible expression, is announced, it having occurred last week in Italy where he was sojourning. Following upon his demise we see in some of the leading papers pretentious notices in which there is an affection of admiration for his poetical achievements. If poetry consists in presenting beautiful images in attractive language—if it is differentiated from ordinary prose by the charm of rhythm, to say nothing about rhyme, then BROWNING wasn't a poet. It may be pretended that away down deep under the surface of his knock-kneed verse there are jewels that are worth the digging for, but doesn't the provocation attendant upon the task of such excavation detract from the pleasure which those jewels, if there are any, should afford? Poetry implies a sense of enjoyment. Societies have been formed to exhumate the meaning and unwrap the beauties of BROWNING's poetry. But what a burlesque on the idea of poetical dactylation is the labor of interpreting the lumbering versification of such productions as Paracelsus, Sordello and others that he is chargeable with. It is even dull work to try to extract some humor out of the awkwardly told Hamelin rat story. There is no excuse for the writing of poetry in the way that BROWNING wrote it, any more than there is an excuse for CARLEILE's kind of prose. Both those literary characters should be held responsible for the swearing which their styles so strongly savoring of affectation have forced exasperated readers to indulge in.

—Senator QUAY is charged with having opposed the election of Major CARSON to the clerkship of the House for the reason that he represented "nothing but a lot of damned irresponsible newspaper men." The Senator denies that he ever made such an expression, and we are quite ready to believe that he didn't. He is the last man to entertain a contemptuous opinion of newspaper men, for he well knows the influence they exert, and even if he didn't favor them, he would be too smart to run the risk of offending them by any such expression. The man who cautioned BRAVER to keep his mouth shut is not going to give himself away by inconsiderate talk against the newspaper men.

—The Philadelphia Record regards General HASTINGS' announcement of his candidacy for the Republican nomination for Governor as a manly performance, and says that he appears to be better than his party. This might easily be and yet not give any one even a plausible reason to consider him as being of extra quality.

Hastings Disclaims the Intention of Insubordination.

A good deal has been said recently in the papers about General HASTINGS' candidacy for Governor. There were published within the last two weeks numerous reports of his intention to go it alone independent of QUAY, and even to form a combination with such an enemy of the Boss as CHRIS MAGEE. Unusual boldness appeared in the announcement of a possible ticket on which HASTINGS would be the candidate for Governor and MONTGOMERY for Lieutenant Governor, and there were other rumors of the General's disposition to act with indifference to the will of the great party regulator.

But a change has since come over this dream of mutiny. It is intimated that the Boss has called the ambitious General to account and demanded an explanation of the report that he was about to form an alliance with the Magee faction. This has been followed by HASTINGS' having himself interviewed to enable him to announce that while he still continues to be a candidate, and would like to have the support of all the factions, he by no means contemplates such insubordination as to go into an offensive combination with MAGEE, MONTGOMERY and other enemies of the great ringmaster of Pennsylvania, and he claims that the latter is his personal and political friend. His position, as announced by himself, is a decided backdown from the independent stand which in the early part of last week he was reported as being about to take. Some papers are malicious enough to call it a flunk.

In the meantime, notwithstanding HASTINGS' claim to having QUAY's political friendship, there is nothing to indicate that the Boss has abandoned his intention of having DELAMATER nominated, and there can be no question that whom he wants on the ticket the party will have to take as its candidate.

An Important Commission.

The Commission to revise and consolidate the laws relating to the roads and highways of this commonwealth, is an important body and much public good should result from its labors. The members that shall compose it have been appointed by the Governor and consist of Senators Harlan, Mylin and Sloan; Representatives Fights of Westmoreland; McCullough, of Allegheny; Faulkner, of Bradford; Griffith, of McKean; and Shilito, of York; and David McCargo, of Pittsburgh; Jacob Bollard, of Conneautville; Cyrus Gordon, of Clearfield; H. P. Goodwin, of South Bethlehem; Samuel R. Downing, of West Chester.

It would almost seem as if the purpose of our present road laws was to keep the public highways in as bad a condition as possible. At least that has been the effect of their interpretation and execution by the average class of road officers. They should be considered, simplified and given such a practical character that good roads will necessarily result from their enforcement. The days of slovenly, careless and unscientific road making and repairing should be near their end in Pennsylvania.

—The report of the Commission on Manual Training as prospectively connected with education in our common schools, is receiving the finishing touches from Professor ATHERTON of the State College who will show what is being accomplished by such training in European schools. It would appear to us that the usefulness of our public schools has not been fully developed, inasmuch as the instruction imparted does not give the scholars the best equipment for the average life work of men and women, and that education of the hand will supply a great deficiency in the prevailing system of school instruction.

—GROVER CLEVELAND in his recent Boston speech, speaking of Ballot Reform, said that "it rises far above partisanship, and only the heedless, the sordid and the depraved refuse to join in the crusade."—It is easy to find a place for DANA in this category.

—Mr. CLEVELAND would be out of place on top of CARNEGIE's tally-ho coach. BLAINE is better suited for filling one of the seats of that vehicle.

Interesting Facts from Free Trade England.

Colonel A. M. SNOOK, a gentleman largely interested in the Alabama iron industry, has been over to England taking notes of the condition of the iron trade in that country. He was not an emissary sent to color the industrial situation in England for the benefit of any American interest, but his purpose was to gain information that would be personally beneficial in his business. It is a stunner to those who insist upon a high tariff to keep English iron out of this country, to hear Colonel SNOOK say, as he does in an interview in the Macon, Georgia, Telegraph, that he saw no place in England or Wales where iron was being made as cheaply as at Birmingham, Alabama; that at no place either in England or Wales were they putting coal on the cars as cheaply as is now being done in Tennessee and Alabama; that English ore delivered at the pit's mouth is costing more per ton than similar grades of ore in those two States, and that in one of the leading English iron districts pig at the furnace is \$2 a ton higher than at Birmingham, Alabama, and Chattanooga. With such a condition of facts isn't the demand for a tariff to prevent the competition of English iron assuming something of the appearance of a fraud?

He also says that "the price of labor in England has advanced in some instances as much as 32 per cent. above what it was a year ago, and another advance of 15 per cent will be made in January." Where can be shown an equal increase in the wages of labor in this tariff protected country? Colonel SNOOK's discoveries in England furnish a nice commentary on the pretensions of the American economists who claim that our industries would be ruined and our labor reduced to starvation wages by English competition if it were not for the tariff.

Cleveland's Speech.

It Made Him Many More Friends in Boston Than He Already Had—What He Said About His Wife

Boston, Dec. 14.—When Grover Cleveland captured the applause of the Boston merchants on Thursday night he also captured their hearts. There is no denying that if his speech had been made in the midst of a political campaign it would have gained him many votes. Republicans who listened to him uninfluenced by partisan feeling frankly confessed that he is a bigger man than they had given him credit for. For instance, Merchant John Shepard, Republican, said:

"Mr. Cleveland impresses one as a man of conviction and power. His speech was one of the best I ever heard." Another Republican, Weston Lewis, said: "He impressed me as a man honest and sincere, and with a good deal of reserve force. His speech was dignified and patriotic, and as a whole very acceptable to every one, whether Democrat or Republican."

Alden Spauld, President of the Chamber of Commerce, also a Republican, said: "His appearance was dignified and manly. As a whole it was a gratifying speech and I was agreeably surprised at his fluency as an off-hand speaker."

J. C. Paige.—My general impressions of Mr. Cleveland were bettered by his manner and bearing last night. His speech was wonderfully good. It was sound, consistent, logical and bold.

Mr. Cleveland received the Young Men's Democratic Club at the Vendome yesterday morning, but many old Democrats also came to shake his hand. In the afternoon the Bay State Club dined the Southern visitors at the Parker House. Colonel Taylor presided. Mr. Cleveland dropped in a few moments before train time and had to speak. He said he had a grudge against ex-Mayor O'Brien, who had spoken admiringly of Mrs. Cleveland. "I hear nothing when I go anywhere," said Mr. Cleveland, "except praise of Mrs. Cleveland—(great applause)—and though I am not aware that this is ordinarily cause of jealousy in young husbands—(laughter)—still I feel it keenly.—(Laughter.) I wish I could say something on that subject, but I don't believe it would be fair or right. I must say, however, but I don't care to have it reported, as it may reach her ears—(laughter)—that she is deserving of all the adoration and the adulation the American people can give her. (Great cheering and cries of "Good.") Mr. Cleveland also adjured the Massachusetts Democrats to stick to tariff reform, and remarked significantly that everything comes to those who wait.

The Cleveland party left for New York at 2 P. M.

—Mr. Geo. W. Rogers, of this place, has gone to Harrisburg where he will superintend the manufacture of the hydrants of his invention, for the making of which a company has been formed in that city.

Spawls from the Keystone.

—There is no money to pay the premiums awarded at the West Chester Fair.

—One of Seranton's wide awake milk peddlers is a single woman, 20 or 22 years old.

—A true bill was found against William Lott of Reading, for selling cigarettes to a child.

—Fences and telegraph poles in Chester have been pasted with copies of the cigarette law.

—Dinner was delayed in a Pottstown hotel while two waiters had a fight in the dining-room.

—Detective Lyon, of Reading, says he has been offered \$2000 to settle liquor cases before the Courts.

—During the progress of a "back dance" at a Quakake raille a fight took place which ended in a riot.

—In fifteen years J. J. Skooff, of Guilford-Berks county, has killed 16,000 pounds of pork for his own use.

—John Husbands, a farmer in Brandywine Hundred, had several hives of bees to swarm on last Monday.

—Mason Hontzman was liberated from the Eastern jail the other day after serving a long term for blasphemy.

—Lancaster has a woman who smokes two big cigars in seven and a half minutes—Lancaster cigars, too.

—An outdoor Club is being organized by the swell people of Chester county, to be located near Glen Mills.

—A West Chester paper tells of a man who was "dugged down stairs and over a stone wall by a stubborn mule."

—Lame, blind and toothless, a cow sold for \$500 at West Chester recently. The animal will soon make its bow in bologna sausage costume.

—Morris Troxel, a "slugger" by repute, has been sent to jail at Easton for six months for beating Minnie Metzger, who was in delicate health.

—The Glen Rolling Mill at Allentown is advertised for public sale to foreclose a mortgage of \$5000, held by the Allentown Rolling Mill Company.

—The Montgomery Oil Company has been organized at Norristown, with a capital of \$100,000, to refine oil at the Slemmer Brothers Oil Works.

—The remains of Franklin Schriver, of Allentown, who was shot by his insane son in Minnesota, were brought to that city and interred there.

—White Caps have warned Frank Yitter, of Lebanon, not to call on a certain girl of that town, and while leaving the house recently he was shot at.

—A bullet fired into his leg twenty-five years ago at the battle of "Thatcher's Run," Va., has just been removed from the leg of Rev. M. P. Doyle, of Reading.

—Jesse Hickman, aged 65 years, and his son, of West Chester, hunted two foxes and chased a third, but their horses gave out, and they were compelled to quit.

—The people of East Bradford, Chester county, are again terrified by the reports of a fearful animal of unknown species roaming across the country there.

—Every purchaser at a Hamburg jewelry store received a chance to win a music box and the jeweler has been held for keeping a gambling establishment.

—The school teachers' lyceum at Glen Mills was interrupted a few days ago by two armed hoodlums, who entered the place and defied any one to put them out.

—The jury at Media in the murder case of Richard Mitchell, alias Dick Deadeye, accused of having killed Emma Jenkins, has returned a verdict of involuntary manslaughter.

—While being taken to the Harrisburg Insane Asylum, W. H. Mathews, of Lebanon, escaped from the train three times, and long stops had to be made until he was captured.

—During a performance of "Uncle Tom's Cabin" at Pottstown, W. E. Craniall, who took the part of Mark, was badly bitten by one of the bloodhounds, a physician was summoned.

—Bishop O'Hara, of Wilkesbarre, has issued a brief to the effect that he will expel from the church all societies who hold fairs and festivals without first getting the consent of their pastors.

—Thieves entered the coal office of Henry Smeych, at Lancaster, on Tuesday night, carried the safe to a field, broke it open and stole some money and valuable papers. The papers were found scattered over a field.

—Jacob Wert, a farmer of Brockneck township, Berks county, is at present making his second crop of hay. He has a quarter acre of corn still standing, and six or seven acres more to husk.

—The wall of a house on which he was working fell to the ground and contractor Charles E. Evans, of Chambersburg, was buried. His life was saved, as he fell under the protecting ledge of a step.

—The West Chester Local News thinks the female cigar smoker of Lancaster would prove a municipal blessing if she were put to work to smoke the crowd out of the Pennsylvania Railroad depot at that place.

—A slick-tongued swindler visited McKeesport and sold the women of that town 300 cases of needles at rates of three packages for \$1, on the misrepresentation that they contained tickets calling for big prizes.

—A colored man jumped from the "cannonball" train on the Lehigh Valley Railroad near Bethlehem on Thursday night, and as nothing has been heard of him since, it is thought he was thrown into the Lehigh.

—With a pair of crutches and a well regulated cough, a tramp succeeded in arousing a good bit of sympathy at Chambersburg. He was finally arrested for stealing a book, and as an excuse he pleaded that he thought it was a prayer book.

—Kirkbride Wright, of Falsington, while on his way to Philadelphia recently, picked up a paper containing sixty coupons and forty railroad tickets, worth \$3000. They belonged to the Misses Drexel, who liberally rewarded Wright for their return.

—In making an appeal to his delinquent subscribers to come and settle, a Millin county editor explains that a cow walked into his yard and devoured his white vest, which his wife had washed and hung up with out knowing that the pockets contained \$14.

—The body of Bernard Nitz, a tramp, presumably a resident of Rock Island, Ill., was found alongside the Pennsylvania Railroad tracks on Saturday. In his pockets were \$90 in cash and a certificate of deposit showing a balance of \$350 in the Rock Island National Bank.