

Ink Slings.

—McKINLEY got his tariff bill before the full committee on the 1st inst. The character of some of its provisions made it a clear case of April foolery.

—Adjutant General HASTINGS is sure of the delegates from Centre county to the Republican state convention.—Attoona Tribune.—Yes, and they are about all that he can be sure of.

—Philadelphia is scared by the appearance of a Chinese leper in one of her hospitals but does not seem to be in the least frightened by the political lepers who through her city government.

—That is a sly game which it is said Boss QUAY wants to play on General HASTINGS by switching him off the gubernatorial track and running him on to a side-track in the War Department.

—The farmer who has the hide of an old steer to sell may find its value increased about ten cents by the new tariff, but he will fail to see how that will balance an increase of ten dollars in his yearly shoe bill.

—It is sad to see two such good Republicans and Presbyterians as JOHN WANAMAKER and JAMES MILLIKEN fall out on a question of administrative policy. Holy JOHN should make Brother MILLIKEN the subject of prayer.

—No Democratic politician should oppose ballot reform upon the supposition that it will hurt his party. Even should he view it from so low a ground as this, he may be sure that it will hurt the other party a good deal more.

—What with the cyclones that are blowing things to pieces and the floods that are washing things off the surface of the earth in the West, the young man who didn't take HORACE GREELEY'S advice may consider himself lucky.

—The repeated announcements we see in the Williamsport papers that Judges MAYER, BUTCHER and ROCKEFELLER met to continue the consideration of the Metzger-Bentley judge-ship case, conflict with the generally entertained belief that all earthly things have an end.

—It is foolish to think that the Presidential question is involved in the Democratic nomination for Governor. Give the Democrats a good gubernatorial nominee and question of who shall be the Democratic Presidential nominee in 1892 will take care of itself.

—It is claimed that the increased duties on wool provided by the new tariff bill will decrease the surplus in the treasury by about \$10,000,000. But the consequent increase of cost of their clothing will decrease the surplus in the pockets of the people a good deal more than that.

—Kemper, over whose execution by electrical appliances the New York courts have been so long hesitating, has been finally sentenced and the day for his execution fixed. If electricity should dillydally as long in doing its work as the courts have, it will lose its reputation for celerity.

—The rush of Pennsylvania Republican politicians to Washington to secure the favor and learn the behest of a leader whose published and undenied record stamps him as the most disreputable public character of the age, is a sight that should suffice with the blush of shame the face of every honorable Pennsylvanian.

—A petition to the czar of Russia asking that he should exercise greater clemency in the treatment of exiles, is being circulated in Bellefonte. If in its presentation it should be accompanied by a dynamite bomb, such an intimation that the Bellefonte petitioners meant business might have an effect upon the obduracy of the Russia tyrant.

—It seems to us that Mr. CULBERTSON of Texas is going to unnecessary trouble in introducing a bill to establish a uniform system of bankruptcy. Especially so far as the farmers are concerned the war tariff if doing that thing quite effectually. Under a system that taxes the necessities of life it is only a question of time for them to become uniformly bankrupt.

—The Scranton Republican and other newspapers of the same persuasion, including the Press, agree that "the party rules regarding the election of delegates to the state convention should be fully adhered to." But then, if to suit QUAY'S designs they are not adhered to, and delegates are chosen without regard to the popular will, these papers, adopting the philosophy of Mr. Toots, will consider it of no consequence.

—If HASTINGS can be placed in the War Department as assistant Secretary of War, it will get him out of the way of DELAMATER as a candidate for Governor. That may be the object of the parties at Washington who are said to be pushing the General for that position. This makes it look as if HASTINGS is the only opponent that the supporters of the corporation candidate are afraid of.

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Disagreement of Two Eminent Republicans.

The Keystone Gazette, managed by the postmaster of this place, very naturally assumes the championship of Postmaster General WANAMAKER as against the attacks of Mr. JAMES MILLIKEN in the Republican, stoutly defending his project of bringing the telegraph business of the country under the control of the post office department. As such a policy of governmental control would put an end to the occupation of the Western Union Telegraph Company, Mr. MILLIKEN being a heavy Western Union stockholder the cause of his hostility to WANAMAKER and his project is readily seen. On the other hand the editor of the Keystone Gazette being a subordinate of the Postmaster General, dependent upon him for his tenure of office, it is equally obvious why he is so zealous in his defense. But as the case stands, it is really a sad circumstance that at so early a period in the career of this administration these two distinguished Republicans should have drifted so wide apart in their opinions concerning one of its most prominent members. It seems but the other day that they rejoiced together over the election of HARRISON and the elevation of good JOHN WANAMAKER to a position in the cabinet, and mutually indulged the belief that everything was lovely and the country safe. Now one of them has to defend that member of the cabinet against the assaults of the other.

Our sympathies go out to Mr. MILLIKEN whose feelings are lacerated by the prospect of having the value of his Western Union shares impaired by the scheme of the Postmaster General, and we can join him in denouncing the project of making telegraphing one of the functions of the government; but our denunciation springs from a motive quite different from his. He opposes the Wanamaker scheme because he believes that it will conflict with his personal interest. We object to it because it would be another advance toward the centralization of governmental power and would increase the appliances that political parties could use for the perpetuation of their power. Putting the telegraph lines under the control of the government would add many thousands to the number of federal office holders, of which we have now more than is good for the country. They are dangerous things in the hands of unscrupulous party managers and their number should be diminished rather than increased. With the innumerable officials required by the proposed Federal Election law, and the thousands of telegraph operators turned into appointees of the post office department, in addition to the host of government dependents already existing, the monopoly party would have reason to be confident of continuing its power indefinitely. We doubt, however, whether our friend MILLIKEN would object to such a condition of affairs if his Western Union interests would not be affected by the government's absorption of the telegraph lines.

A Fruitless Scheme.

There is going to be an international exhibition in Jamaica next January at which the people of that island will exhibit their productions, and they invite other countries to send their products and participate in the show. The Governor of Pennsylvania has issued a proclamation calling the attention of the people of the State to the advantage it would be to them to take part in this exhibition, as it would lead to the opening of a field of trade for the manufacturers and other producers of Pennsylvania. It may be well enough for our people to be there and show what they have to sell, but so long as the raw products of Jamaica are heavily taxed when they are brought into our ports it can't be expected that many of our products will be wanted in Jamaica. The inhabitants of that island very naturally prefer to trade with those who don't subject them to heavy tariffs.

The delegates from Centre county upon reaching the State Convention may have occasion for surprise in finding that the Boss stole a march on them by stowing their candidate snugly away in the War Department, where he won't interfere with DELAMATER.

The Hide Tax.

There has been much tribulation in the Ways and Means committee of the House over the tariff tax on raw hides. Some years ago the duty on this raw material, so essential to the leather industry, was taken off, hides being placed on the free list. The effect on the shoe trade and all forms of leather manufacture was magical, that branch of production receiving a boom which placed it among the most flourishing and profitable industries of the country. Not only was the price of shoes and other leather goods cheapened in the home market, but the importations of foreign goods of that kind was reduced to a minimum and the American production found a considerable market in foreign countries.

The effect produced by the liberation of hides from the burden of tariff taxation furnished the strongest proof of the industrial benefit of free raw materials. It was a standing argument against the barbarous folly of increasing the cost of the materials which industry needs in its operations, and consequently was a stumbling block to the advocates and supporters of the war tariff. That they should entertain a dislike for a measure which proved the fallacy of their policy of taxing raw materials and vindicated the wisdom of placing them on the free list, is not surprising, and hence it came about as a matter of course that the Ways and Means committee determined to restore hides to the list of tariff articles. But this movement produced such a storm of indignant protest from the flourishing leather interest that the committee hesitated in their reactionary design and then concluded to let the raw material in question remain on the free list. But the latest news concerning this matter is that Armour and others of the Chicago cattle ring, who are interested in having imported hides tariffed, have influenced the committee to restore the hide tax. This final action was to be expected in view of the fact that the millionaires who control the beet market have a stronger claim on the Republican party than the thousands to whom a reduction of the cost of leather goods is a desirable object.

A False Position.

The effect of taking a false position is shown in Gov. HILL'S attitude on the question of a reform ballot law in New York State; He has already vetoed bills designed to furnish the State with a ballot system that would protect the voters against force, bribery and fraud, and is now confronted by another bill having the same object. While the Governor has assumed this position, the public desire for ballot reform has grown to be a clamorous demand. Democrats are taking the lead in the movement for improved election laws, and wherever the party has had the opportunity of expression it has given no uncertain sound in expressing its determination that the boodler and the bull-dozer must go. The Maryland legislature has just passed a bill to adopt the Australian system in that State, and in every quarter where democratic sentiment is not stifled or misrepresented the same determination prevails.

It is unfortunate that Governor HILL hesitates in this movement. It does not become him as the Democratic governor of a great state to attempt to shift the decision of the ballot reform question on the courts. If he has taken a wrong stand in this matter let him back out of it like a man, and by such action prove that there is something more than words in his declaration that he "is a Democrat." Democratic principles are synonymous with fairness and honesty, and the Democracy are never at a disadvantage when elections are fairly and honestly conducted.

As resort to a judicial decision promised no relief from the dilemma of his position, the Governor vetoed the ballot bill last Monday. It was consistent with his previous course, but there is reason to believe that he will find that it was the mistake of his political life.

In passing a bill to admit Wyoming into the Union as a state without the legal qualifications, the present House of Representatives has made another display of its recklessness in doing acts of partisan indecency.

State Treasury Defalcations.

Incited by the recent defalcation of the State Treasurer of Maryland the Philadelphia Press parades a list of "Democratic State Treasurers who have stolen and mismanaged the funds entrusted to their care during the past few years." The list is made to consist of ten, all of them being in Southern states "which have been in the undisputed control of the Democratic party for years."

But why should the Philadelphia organ go all the way down South to hunt up cases of state funds "stolen and mismanaged?" If it had been disposed to be fair with its readers in giving them the whole truth about state treasury defalcations, it would have given them a pretty picture of \$260,000 stolen from the treasury of Pennsylvania and lost in stock speculation by parties who were not Democrats. It could have heightened the coloring of the picture by telling how the head rascal in this treasury raid was on the desperate verge of ending his dishonest career by suicide when his desperation was relieved by assistance which shielded him from the consequences of his misconduct. The organ might have further enlightened its readers on the subject of "stolen and mismanaged" state funds by an account of the misapplication of \$100,000 of the state funds of Pennsylvania in Chicago railroad speculation, which was prevented from having a suicidal termination only by a lucky turn of fortune.

Admitting the correctness of the Press's list of defaulting Democratic State Treasurers, those unfaithful officers will go into obscurity, condemned and disowned by their party; but the dishonest character who conceived and directed the raids on the Pennsylvania state treasury is to-day the leader of the party, and the state ticket that will be made at his dictation this year will receive the zealous support of the Philadelphia Press.

Arbor Day.

Governor BEAVER is going to give us a double-barrelled Arbor Day this year that will be pretty sure not to miss fire. In order to provide for different conditions of weather that may prevail in different localities in a stretch of country as large as Pennsylvania, the Governor has designated April 11 and May 2 as the days on which the ceremonial of tree planting may be observed. If the weather is bad in any particular locality on the April day, it may be more favorable in May, and the elements which may interfere in one section of the State may be all right in other quarters. Arbor Day is a good institution, and for arranging it so that the opportunity for observing it is enlarged, the Governor deserves credit.

An Unworthy Custodian.

It has been discovered that State Treasurer ARCHER of Maryland has been guilty of a defalcation amounting to hundreds of thousands of dollars, and consequently there is great excitement in the official and financial circles of that State. The discovery of his shortage has prostrated the defaulting Treasurer, throwing him into a mental condition that suggests suicide as the most effectual way of getting out of the trouble. It is the old story of irregular and unlawful use of public money for private speculation. He used the State funds in a deal in gas stocks and lost it, and hence his distressful predicament. Unfortunately for him there was no DON CAMERON to come to his relief, as there was in the case of that eminent Pennsylvania statesman, MATTHEW STANLEY QUAY, who, when harassed by a similar embarrassment, was kept from slitting his throat by the timely assistance of the Pennsylvania Senator which prevented a party scandal by interfering with the penitentiary's getting what justly belonged to it.

ARCHER is a Democratic official, and it is to be regretted that he disgraced himself and his party. What his punishment will be is something that is yet to be determined, it being dependent upon what the provisions of the laws of Maryland are for such cases. But one thing is certain. His raid on the treasury will not be followed, as in QUAY'S case, by his becoming the political leader of the State. Democrats are not in the habit of rewarding the plunderers of State treasuries in that way.

Injustice to Henry Clay.

On the 11th inst. the Central Republican Club of Pottsville will celebrate the one hundred and thirteenth anniversary of the birth of HENRY CLAY by what the local papers say will be "a banquet of more than ordinary brilliancy" in commemoration of his tariff record. The club in making this demonstration will no doubt do it under the impression that they are honoring HENRY CLAY as the representative of the principle of tariff protection. If the great Kentuckian were living we are sure that he would not favor the kind of tariff which the Republican party has fastened upon the country. The rate of duties which he considered sufficient to protect American industry from foreign competition was the next thing to "free trade" compared with the war-tariff which is now interposed as a barrier to commercial intercourse with foreign countries. The Henry Clay tariff in its average of duties was much lower than the average proposed by the Mills bill, yet the latter was denounced as a free trade measure by Republican organs and stump-speakers.

The Pottsville club will do HENRY CLAY an injustice by representing him as a tariff statesman of the monopolistic order. He favored a reasonable protection to the infant industries, but were he living to-day he would scout the idea that those industries are still in their infancy and in need of tariff coddling. He was above all things a patriot, and would have denounced any system of industrial partiality designed to build up a class of millionaire monopolists at the expense of the general mass of citizens, and thereby inflict an injury upon the country.

Free Lumber.

When the Williamsport Republican says that "neither the Democrats nor the Republicans in this part of the State want free lumber," what area does it include in the part it speaks of? It is altogether likely that in Williamsport, where local interests are identified with the lumber trade, and in the limited sections which still produce timber, tariff regulations that keep up the price of those commodities are desirable; but outside of such interests there is not a locality in this section of the State that would not be benefited by the cheaper lumber which the removal of the tariff duty would afford, and whose people would not be well satisfied with such a reduction of price.

"Free lumber" would materially reduce the cost of every house and barn built in town or country, and to believe that this would be objectionable to builders is to suppose that the average citizen objects to having his expenses curtailed. The great majority of the people of this part of the State, as well as all parts of the country, would be gainers by lumber being placed on the free list, and if the McKinley bill should give them that boon it would be carrying out a beneficence which GROVER CLEVELAND recommended, and which was among the provisions of the Mills bill, although when offered from that source it was denounced as free trade by those who, it is said, now intend to reduce the tariff on lumber.

What Else Was to Be Expected?

That excellent Republican journal, the Philadelphia Evening Telegraph, is in a plight that deserves the sympathy of its contemporaries. It considers itself in duty bound to support "the grand old party," yet it has a perfect contempt for some of its measures. For example, it regards the tariff tinkering of McKinley's committee as a piece of political folly, and says so in the following words:

Common sense should suggest to Mr. McKinley and his committee that they would be wise to stop this folly, in view of the present temper of the country on the subject of trusts which are sustained by special duties. By doing what they are doing in the McKinley bill, they are cutting the throat of the Republican party. They are surrendering all the advantages secured by the last national election to the country; and unless they turn about face and make an honestly protective tariff instead of a monopolistic tariff, they will not only lose the Republican majority in the next Congress, but they will elect Grover Cleveland or another Democrat president in 1892.

We agree with the Telegraph that the McKinley bill is chiefly intended to promote the interests of the monopolies, but wasn't it for that purpose that the monopolists put their money into the election of Harrison and a Republican congress?

Spawls from the Keystone.

—Frank Brinkman, of Lancaster, fell out of bed and broke his leg.

—A monument will be erected to Johnstown's unknown dead.

—Out of 300 applicants for license at Pittsburg only one is an American born.

—The artificial ice machine of Norristown will produce ice at \$1 per ton.

—Many persons in York, particularly the young, are afflicted with pink-eye.

—At a vendue near Warrersville a cow sold for \$1.55 and shots at 5 cents each.

—During a remarkably short time sixteen farmers in Berks county have failed.

—The Elk County Republican Convention endorsed the Australian ballot system.

—The ice manufactory at Norristown will have a capacity of forty tons per day.

—The Sheriff of Chester county is said to have appraised a mule and halter at 1 cent.

—Over 200 persons at Lancaster have already signed a petition in behalf of murderer Rudy.

—Thirty lawsuits for the recovery of wages have been brought before the Lackawanna Courts.

—At a wedding at Lancaster on Sunday the groom was presented with a cemetery lot by his father.

—At Scottdale recently one woman gave birth to triplets, and four others were responsible for twins.

—Some Pittsburg men will begin suit for libel against tailors who caused their names to be black-listed.

—Fred Parker, of Williamsport, had two thumbs on one hand until last Thursday when he had one cut off.

—Mrs. Anderson, a boarding-house keeper at Easton, would like the distinction of hanging murderer Bartholomew.

—The Eastern Express says that Chief Justice Paxson's friends are moving quietly to secure his nomination for Governor.

—In a four days rat slaughter on the premises of Jacob Miller, at North Coventry, Chester county, 504 rats were killed.

—Mrs. Negley, of Pittsburg, recently found \$4000 in a trunk which belonged to her brother now in one of the soldiers' homes.

—James Phillips, who says he was once a Baptist minister, sought shelter for the night recently at a Pittsburg police station.

—Hon. William L. Scott has sent a check for \$5000 to aid his suffering employes at Mount Carmel, and has promised more if needed.

—Sheriff Becker, of Reading, has levied on the farm and stock of Abraham Oberholzer, of Spring township, on an execution for \$107.

—Governor Beaver has respited murderers John W. Rudy, of Lancaster, and William H. Smith, of Allegheny, from April 9 to June 2.

—A father and son, of Williamsport, have walked 81,000 miles together. They are umbrella men, and have traveled all over the State.

—Three men at a Chambersburg sale for a joke stole a cradle purchased by another man, who carried the joke out by having them arrested.

—Moses Wasser, of Selwensville, ate forty two oranges and half a pound of sugar, drank two tumblers of water and smoked three cigars in about two hours.

—The four sons of Michael Hellrich, of Ironville, Lancaster county, who have not seen each other for sixteen years, are all on a visit to their old home.

—Henry F. Adams has assigned his farm of fifty-five acres in Upper Bern township, Berks county, to Orlando Berger, for the benefit of his creditors.

—The tobacco growers of Berks county complain that there is no money in the business. The past season has been particularly bad owing to the wet weather.

—The employes of Laurel Ridge Colliery, near Ashland, have seized the live stock of the company for money due them several weeks ago for labor done at the colliery.

—Two Chester fishermen quarreled about the ownership of a boat and neither would surrender his claim. The boat was finally sawed in two, and each took a part.

—Temp. Morvins, of Bedford, arrested for murderous assault, broke jail recently, and upon being recaptured had his sentence doubled and was sent to the Penitentiary.

—Jacob Winslow, a German 58 years old attempted suicide at Reading on Wednesday night because a pretty little widow refused to marry him. He will be sent to an asylum.

—An effort will be made to revive in the next Legislature the scheme to make a new county out of parts of Luzerne, Schuylkill and Carbon counties, with Hazleton as the county seat.

—George M. Reiser, merchant of Lancaster county, has failed, with liabilities of \$5000. Three farmers made assignments for the benefit of creditors, and a fourth had his property seized by the sheriff.

—Professor J. D. Holt, of Lancaster, made a narrow escape from death at the Berks County House, Reading, on Tuesday night. He was nearly overcome from coal gas in his room, but succeeded in escaping from the apartment.

—All the unknown dead of Johnstown have been buried in Grandview Cemetery, and a contract has been made for a headstone to each grave. A monument will be erected as soon as practicable as a fitting memorial to this unparalleled disaster.

—Wellington M. Wenrich, a well-known farmer, of Lower Heidelberg, Berks county, has assigned for the benefit of creditors his farm of 204 acres, one of the finest in Berks county. This makes the sixteenth farmer who has failed within a brief period in Berks county.

—Mrs. Rebecca Cameron, widow of Colonel James Cameron, who was a brother of the late Simon Cameron, died yesterday at Lancaster, aged 88 years. Her husband was Colonel of the celebrated Seventy-ninth New York Regiment and was killed at the first battle of Bull Run.

—Harrison B. Smith, proprietor of a pool-room at Reading, was sentenced Monday to sixty days imprisonment for permitting small boys to congregate in his place, and William Eckert, a saloon-keeper, was given ninety days on the charge of keeping a disorderly house.

—Two large barns have recently been destroyed by fire near West Chester, and there are good reasons for believing that the fires were started by tramps. On Tuesday evening the large barn on the farm of the late Caleb Baldwin, in East Clay township, was destroyed, entailing a loss of \$9000.

—The Sheriff of Chester county levied upon the property of four people last Monday, three are farmers, as follows: The farm of Samuel D. Smiley, West Fallowfield; farm of E. Price McClellan, Londonderry; farm of Margaret Robinson, Salisbury, and the property of John Emery, Spring City.