

Ink Slings.

The Grangers are preparing to run a pretty big farrow through the political field of the boundless West.

The dog-days are upon us, and the absolute rule of the Speaker, which was said to be intended to facilitate business, doesn't seem to facilitate "worth a cent."

The Senate hesitates about consummating the Force Bill iniquity. It would be well for the reputation of that body if its hesitation should end in rejection.

If Mr. BLAINE should ever again have occasion to cable from Europe about the tariff, the tenor of his dispatch would most likely be different from what it was two years ago.

The Quay machine will be run to its full capacity in this campaign, but the farmers are coming to the conclusion that it is a kind of machinery that isn't best adapted to agricultural interests.

Some Republican papers object to PATTISON for the reason that he was born in Maryland. Probably these sectional journals think the less of WASHINGTON because he was a native of Virginia.

Pennsylvania isn't going to be favored with a fruit crop this year, but there will be an unusually large crop of independent Republican voters, which will benefit the State more than a big yield of apples.

Governor CAMPBELL, of Ohio, looks for a Democratic majority of seventy-five in the next House. If the Force Bill should pass, the Governor would come nearer the correct figure by putting it at a hundred.

The Indians belonging to Buffalo Bill's show complain of bad treatment while illustrating aboriginal life before the crown-heads of Europe. The condition of poor Lo isn't improved much by his joining a circus.

What a pity that Representative HARMER's dislike for the Force Bill didn't materialize in his voting against it. It is an unfavorable commentary on his independence that the Speaker's lash overcame his aversion to this iniquitous measure.

The alleged discovery of a tin mine in California is a public calamity, inasmuch as it will furnish an excuse for clapping a heavier duty on tinplate and putting every kitchen in the country under tribute to the syndicate that will work that mine.

The Press has discovered that GROVER CLEVELAND is private counsel for the Louisiana Lottery Company. So rich a development as this has not been made by any Republican paper since the time of the alleged discovery that CLEVELAND beat his wife.

Although the McKinley bill kindly furnishes the farmer with protection to his beans and cabbages, it doesn't contain "a line or a section that will open a market for another bushel of wheat or barrel of pork." We have Mr. BLAINE's word for this and he ought to know.

Considering the fact that the Union Pacific Railroad company owes the United States government a large amount of money which it doesn't intend to pay, the recent granting of government land to that corporation by Secretary NOBLE looks very much like a case of superfluous liberality.

Isn't it about time for ANNIE ROONEY to take her summer vacation? Should she repair to some ocean retreat where the wild waves tell their melancholy tale, and, in imitation of MCGINTY, plunge to the bottom of the sea, there would be a general sigh of relief. In short, Miss ROONEY is getting to be a bore.

There couldn't be better evidence that the surplus is pretty nearly used up than the fact that the River and Harbor bill, that time honored absorber of the public funds, will likely be dropped for this session. The financial condition is certainly at a low ebb when the River and Harbor patriots can't have their annual whack at the treasury.

The Iron and Steel Institute of Great Britain, together with the most prominent iron and steel manufacturers of England, France, Belgium and Germany, will visit this country in a few weeks. Are these fellows coming over to spirit away the McKinley bill? Speaker REED should keep the precious document under lock and key while they are in this country.

The Chinese authorities are mad about their countrymen being excluded from this country and threaten to retaliate by keeping Americans out of the Flowery Kingdom. But the almondy-eyed gentlemen ought to know that the situations are different. The Yankee doesn't want to occupy China to the extent that Ah Sin wants to overflow the United States.

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Presidential Land Speculation.

The Harrison appetite for real estate has been sharpened by the gift of the Cape May cottage, and visions of profitable speculation in that line are running through the heads of the family. It is announced that the Presidential connection, including Mrs. HARRISON, father-in-law SCOTT, Mrs. McKEE, mother of the celebrated Baby, Private Secretary HALFORD and Typewriter ALICE SANGER, all inmates of the White House, have lent their names to the booming of a speculation in real estate in the neighborhood of Washington in which they are represented to have purchased an interest, but more likely have been taken into a syndicate, without price, for the sake of the prestige they would impart to the operation. The President, with an exalted regard for the dignity of his office, holds aloof from the deal, but, of course, couldn't be expected to restrain his thrifty wife from making a little money in a speculation that will be boomed by its connection with the Presidential family.

There is every appearance that the lady of the White House is "on the make." It is said of her that she recently remarked that BENJAMIN would save the larger part of his salary, and her frugal mind strongly inclines her to devote every hour of Presidential sunshine to the making of hay that will be useful to the family after the head of it shall have become a private—a very private—gentleman.

Speculating in real estate by a Presidential family is not as bad as receiving it as a gift, and yet in a recent interview Mrs. HARRISON condemned such a method of Presidential thrift, in the following language:

There have been suggestions from various sources about the President's purchasing a summer home in the suburbs of Washington, which, at the end of his official term, might be sold at a considerable advance. We have had an example of this, but the President will not use his official rank as a means of making money, even to the extent of purchasing a home for his summer use and selling it when he retires from office. The President has decided scruples about that.

This was intended as a bit at President CLEVELAND for buying Oak View and selling it for more than he paid for it, which she then assumed to regard as being a good deal more reprehensible than the acceptance of a gift cottage; but now the distinguished lady, as a partner in the Glen Echo Heights speculation, engages in the kind of real estate operation for which she inferentially condemned Mr. CLEVELAND.

Mr. HARRISON's delicate sense of what becomes his official position precludes his name from being connected with the speculation that is to be boomed by its connection with the White House, but the profits accruing from it and going into the family will nicely supplement the large saving of salary by which the circumstances of the HARRISONS will be made comfortable after they shall have gone back to Indianapolis.

Judge, the pictorial organ of the President, is foolish in making fun of JAMES G. BLAINE. To picture him as "Jealous Jim" may be considered smart by those who get up the pictures for that sheet, but there is nothing connected with Mr. HARRISON or his political fortunes that can make BLAINE jealous.

Agricultural Politics.

There are signs of unusual political activity among the farmers. The "Alliance" threatens to shake the politics of some portions of the South as if by an earthquake. In Minnesota the people who till the soil have placed a State ticket in the field and their leaders declare "this means the beginning of a new political party." Their platform is well intended, but it comprehends some things that are visionary and impractical, as well as others that would serve a good purpose. It calls for governmental control of railroads, free and open markets for grain, proper facilities of transportation, the deduction of mortgage indebtedness from the tax on realty, lower interest, an increase in the volume of money, free coinage of silver, and the election of United States Senators and railroad commissioners by the people. From this miscellaneous assortment of demands the Minnesota farmers ought to be able to get something that will benefit them.

Warning from a Labor Source.

The Labor Union, of Pittsburg, which is entitled to the distinction of being the ablest and most extensively circulated labor organ in the country, employs some plain and forcible language in speaking of the work of the present congress and the control which the spoilsmen and the bootlers are allowed to exert over the Republican party. It attributes Republican degeneracy to the fact of the party's being too long in power, which has had the effect of drawing to it the political vultures whose subsistence is derived from party spoils. One of its recent articles, from which the following is an extract, will no doubt make an impression upon its numerous readers:

The fact is the Republican party has been going the way of a party long in power for a decade. Spoilsmen have been coming to the front until they are so numerous as to insist upon the arbitrary and hypocritical legislation proposed at the present session of congress under the impression that they can win under the party name and gather in the booty without end, which latter is their object in life.

In stating the matter this way we are not swayed by party politics. This congress has done much that is bad—the house particularly with remarkably little that is good. At the rate Speaker Reed's gang has been rushing, except there shall be a marked intervention of providence or the defeat of the crowd by the people at the polls, this country may expect panic, politically and commercially, within a few years.

Nothing could be truer than the assertion that the proceedings of the present congress have a tendency to political and commercial panic.

There is a good account from Perry county. It is reported upon reliable authority that from ten to twenty Republicans in each of the thirty election districts have declared their intention to not only vote for ROBERT E. PATTISON, but to labor for his success. Thus far the desertions from the Republican camp are principally by farmers and they belong to a class whose change indicates a political revolution. The movement for PATTISON is likely to carry along with it all the prohibition voters in Perry county.

Complaint from a High Quarter.

Mr. BLAINE, in his letter to Senator FRYE, makes the following doleful complaint:

Our foreign market for breadstuffs grows narrower. Great Britain is exerting every nerve to secure her bread supply from India, and the rapid expansion of the wheat area in Russia gives us a powerful competitor in the markets of Europe.

This state of affairs in a great measure has been brought about by our war tariff, and it will be made worse by the passage of the McKinley bill of which Mr. BLAINE, in the same letter, says "there is not a section or a line in the entire bill that will open a market for another bushel of wheat or another barrel of pork."

But it does not look consistent for him to indulge in complaint about this situation. Two years ago, when GROVER CLEVELAND told the people that a war tariff was having this very effect, the message which the Maine statesman cabled across from Europe was: "Don't touch that tariff; keep your hands off that sacred instrument of protection."

It is encouraging to see that Mr. BLAINE is changing his views on this subject, at the time, too, when the leathery-headed advocates of a high tariff think they see a great triumph of American policy in the circumstance of foreign nations protesting against the McKinley bill, which they are moved to do because they want to buy our agricultural productions but will be absolutely prevented from doing so by the increased illiberality of our tariff regulations.

The club composed of Pennsylvania Republican office-holders at Washington, of which JOHN I. RANKIN, of Bellefonte, a brother-in-law of General HASTINGS, is President, held an "enthusiastic" meeting the other night in ratification of QUAY'S State ticket. Concerning these Republican officials at the seat of government it may be pertinently asked, what are they there for if not to ratify the Boss's nominations?

Speaker REED has failed to bulldoze the Senate, which displays a preference for a Force Bill of its own. It may be less tyrannical and brutal than the measure which the House has been forced to pass, and it may not materialize at all.

The National Guard Encampment.

The State militia of Pennsylvania, known as the National Guard, during the past week have had a pleasant, and no doubt, in a military sense, a profitable time in camp at Mt. Gretna. Unusual preparations and arrangements were made to insure the success of this gathering of citizen soldiers. The ranks of the various companies were well filled with the best specimens of the young manhood of the State. The soldierly spirit pervading them was at its highest pitch. The officers, from the commander-in-chief down to the corporals, were animated by the sentiment which among military people is called esprit de corps. A detachment of the regular army, with regular army officers in command, added to the soldierly character of the encampment and imparted instruction to the less experienced guardsmen by their superior drill and tactics. In all its arrangements and appointments, and in its general purpose, it appears to have surpassed any previous encampment of the State militia.

The State has reason to be proud of its citizen soldiers. They are a fine body of young men who will be of service to their country in the hour of danger, and they are of a character that will cause no danger to their country. A large standing army, hired to do military duty, is a menace to the liberty of a people. But where the military force is composed of citizens, voluntarily doing service and at the same time continuing their personal association and civil relations with the general mass of the people, such a soldiery strengthens rather than menaces the liberties of a republic.

There is something so evidently crooked in the pension bureau that the resolution to investigate certain charges against Commissioner RAUM should not have been dropped. The reason given for dropping it was that an investigation would be too expensive. This is a poor excuse and should not be advanced under any circumstances where wrong is to be unearthed. If an investigation would stop an improper use of the public money in the pension department it would be good economy to institute it.

A Curious Statement.

The following curious bit of political information appeared in a recent number of the New York Sun:

One of the singular features of the recent campaign for delegates to the Republican Convention to nominate a candidate for Governor in Pennsylvania was that the city of Johnstown, to whose assistance Gen. D. H. HASTINGS rode sixty miles over the mountains as soon as he heard of the great flood, and where he remained in charge of the relief work for six weeks until the State work was finished, elected delegates for the other fellow. The explanation is said to be that Johnstown people have the frailties of ordinary humanity, and every one of them who got a smaller slice of the relief fund than some neighbor, blamed Gen. HASTINGS for the difference.

There has been a good deal of nonsense written in relation to General HASTINGS' connection with the Johnstown food, but the above "takes the cake." The General did not lose the Cambria county delegates because the party voters in Johnstown ungratefully preferred "the other fellow," but because the county convention was juggled in a way that gave the delegates to DEAMATER against the decided preference of a great majority of the people of Johnstown and, in fact, of Cambria county, for HASTINGS. The result of the general election in that county likely to show how the people of the Conemaugh valley regard the tripe which the General was deprived of by the county delegates. In all probability "the other fellow" will be badly at it in that region at the November election.

Our old Philadelphia is numerously represented by Republican members in the House, but fails to get any of the treasury plunder which congress is so lavishly distributing. Millions are being squandered, but the four Philadelphia, o. p. congressmen, who have let such ready assistance to the many shemes for the depletion of the treasury, have been unable to secure an appropriation for the League Island navy yard. Philadelphia isn't sufficiently rewarded for her unwavering loyalty to the blessed tariff.

Not the Best Reason, But It Will Do.

One Republican Senator at least, PADDOCK, of Nebraska, has independence and courage enough to announce his opposition to the outrageous Force Bill. His reason for opposing it is not of the highest kind, but still it will answer its purpose. The iniquitous measure should be opposed because it is wrong—politically and morally wrong. PADDOCK says he will not support it for the reason that the outrage upon the southern people, of which it will be the medium, will so exasperate them that they will cease to be customers of northern manufacturers and producers by boycotting their goods. This stand is not taken on very high ground, it being prompted by motives of self-interest, but in effect it will do as well as if the Nebraska Senator objected to the Force Bill because it would conflict with the principle of free elections and thereby impair the basis of republican government.

JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER, the principal of the Standard Oil monopolists, has contributed \$6,500 to assist in defraying the current expenses of a western Baptist Theological Seminary, and \$50,000 to its endowment fund. This is paraded in a telegraphic headline as "JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER'S Generosity." The wealth of this petroleum vampire is estimated at one hundred and fifty millions of dollars, all of which has been accumulated in the comparatively short period that has elapsed since the war, by methods that have secured an unequal and unjust share of one of nature's great productions. A little of this ill gotten wealth given in an eleemosynary way can hardly be classed under the head of generosity. It is a perversion of the term.

This Reckless Congress.

A more appropriate term could not have been applied to the present congress than that used by the conservative and respectable Philadelphia Ledger, which, in speaking of the course it is pursuing, calls it "This Reckless Congress." In consequence of its action "the federal treasury," says the Ledger, "has been drifting from affluence to bankruptcy." It asks:

Could this have happened if the appropriation bills at this session had all been obliged to pass the ordeal of one committee charged with the entire jurisdiction of that subject, as was the practice when Samuel J. Randal was a power in the house—when he was at the head of the appropriation committee—or when he was in the speaker's chair and made up the membership of that committee? It would have been impossible.

Nothing could have brought out in bolder relief the recklessness of which the Ledger speaks than the fact that the treasury which was overflowing with a surplus when this congress convened, will show a deficit by the time its measures of expenditure are in full operation, notwithstanding there is being poured into it from every hand the proceeds of unnecessary and oppressive taxation.

The conservative Philadelphia journal indulges in further reprobation of "this reckless congress," as follows: "And now in this republican congress we are having the exigencies of party politics—plus Mr. Speaker Reed's personal ambition and spirit of individual domination—leading to their logical results. The speaker's rules were adopted upon the plea that they facilitate business. How have they facilitated business in any other sense than in facilitating bad business? They were adopted in order to place the business of the house under control of the majority of the house—that is, the majority as counted by the Speaker. Well, now that that consummation has been brought about, and the business is under that control, has the house achieved anything to which the republican party will point with pride in 1892, or even in the year '91?"

The tyrannical measures of the Speaker, which have subverted the long established customs of the House, were adopted for the alleged reason that they were needed to facilitate business, but, as the Ledger remarks, the business that has been facilitated is bad business which has depleted the treasury, while congress is stuck, in the midst of the dog-days, on the measures in which the business of the country and the interest of the people are most involved. Truly it is a "Reckless Congress."

Chairman KERR, who, as a Representative in congress, is after the violators of the contract labor law with a very sharp stick, is well calculated to lead in a campaign in which labor is going to assert itself against the kind of government which too long in this State has favored the employing interest at the expense of the working people.

Spawls from the Keystone.

The Cornwall ore hills yields 70,000 tons per month.

Johnstown's population is greater than before the flood.

A pair of white robins with pink eyes were caught at West Goshen last week.

The hail-storm near Norristown a few days ago killed sparrows by the hundreds.

A poll of Pottsville's newspaper men would give Pattison an overwhelming majority.

Some Schuylkill county census enumerators have refused to finish their work.

Samuel Gardon, a Welsh Mountain farmer, killed a 13-foot black snake a few days ago.

Matthias Berger, the murdered hermit of the Blue Mountains, was buried at Reading.

A bouquet of flowers frozen in the center of a cake of ice is on exhibition at Lancaster.

As he slept on the grass a snake crawled into the pocket of Charles Bearton, of Ames' Corner.

A German negro who cannot speak English was nearly killed by being run over at Lancaster.

Lancaster's independent military company has made application to be mustered into the National Guard.

A big dog dancing in front of a reaper near Norristown came in contact with the knives, and had its four legs cut off.

A sparrow at Colestown built a nest in the running gear of a farmer's wagon, and makes a trip to market every week.

Bristol police are kept busy in preventing small boys from bathing in the canal opposite the mills.

Andrew J. Kirschner, a leading lawyer of Allegheny, committed suicide by shooting himself through the heart.

Hattie Ebers, of Grapeville, was attacked by a huge rat while engaged in feeding chickens and was terribly bitten.

Reuben Hunter, of Spring City, had part of his tongue torn away by a dentist who was endeavoring to extract a tooth.

Copper pennies and lath nails are the diet of a dog at Norristown, and, strange enough, he belongs to a hardware man.

At the Reading Iron Company's tube works on Monday 100 tons of six-inch oil-line pipe was made in twenty hours.

Mrs. Adam Wuehler, of White Hall, has passed the 112th day without food and her condition is no more critical than a week ago.

During a gust of wind a horse blanket was lifted from the animal's back at Plymouth and, carried to the top of a neighboring tree.

Thomas Evans, of Lancaster, drove through a toll-gate without paying toll, was arrested, and his effort to save 3 cents toll cost him \$50.

A Doylestown miss visiting Norristown got up to look out of the window a few nights ago and poked her head through a pane of plate-glass.

Chief of Police Charles Dismick, of Towanda, while parading troops across a bridge at Wilkesbarre, fell through the structure and was killed.

The parts of a harvesting machine on the farm of Samuel Geil, at New Britain, became heated and burst into flames, destroying the machine.

Willis Brewster, son of John Brewster, a Chester laborer, slipped off a rock into Chester Creek while fishing on Monday, and was drowned.

Peter Egel, Sr., aged 93 years, who has been an active farmer for eighty-three years, is probably the senior agriculturist of the Schuylkill Valley.

During a heated spell a few days ago workmen reaved a street rail at Reading, and it expanded so much that it could not be put back in its place.

For several evenings during the past week the temperature around Norristown has ranged at 53 degrees. Such frost was noticeable at several places.

A baby near Doylestown was found to have lost a finger in a very mysterious way a few days ago. The member was completely off, but no one knows how.

A bunch of human hair on the cow-watcher of an engine at Lancaster led to an investigation which revealed the mangled body of a man on the track a few miles back.

Pittsburg brewers, who pay a Government license, a State license and a city business tax will resist the collection of the mercantile tax which they are now called on to pay.

The Board of Health at Lancaster closed the umbrella factory of Rose Bros. & Hartman, forty of whose employes are down with typhoid fever, the result of bad drainage.

Pittsburg police officials have made an onslaught on the canine population, but made no provisions for the removal of their carcasses, and the streets are reeking with stench.

A mysterious prisoner at Lancaster desperately resisted when an attempt was made to photograph him, and finally gained his point temporarily by demolishing the camera.

Reports from the storm-swept district of the State, show that the crops were badly injured. The property loss at Allentown is placed at \$15,000 and at Hellertown at \$25,000.

Michael Gibbons, a National Guardsman, 20 years old, was mangled to death under a train near Wilkesbarre on Thursday night. He had just attended drill, and met death in uniform.

A Citizen's Committee has been formed in Chester to secure the arrest and conviction of all persons attempting to bribe voters or otherwise use money illegally at the coming election.

A pair of runaway horses at Pocopson township became entangled in a barbed wire fence, and during their struggles they disturbed a wasps' nest, and both were covered with wasps.

Joshua W. Paxson, of Upper Dublin, Montgomery county, has five men in his employ, four of whom are named George. He also has a girl named Georgiana and two horses called George.

Elias Harlocher, of Friedensville, was bitten by a copperhead snake and counteracted the poison by drinking a quart and a pint of whiskey. He then went back to the spot and killed the snake.

Miss Jennie McDonald, of Pittsberg, who was to have been married on August 8, committed suicide by jumping into the Monongahela River. She had been told by a fortune-teller that her bridal dress would be her shroud.

Charles Chambers and Millard Bentley fought over a game of cards on Thursday night at Altoona, and when they met again Bentley fired three bullets into Chambers' body, and then surrendered himself to await the result of Chambers' injuries.