

## Ink Stings.

—The Pepper legacy to the Philadelphia free library should furnish spicy literature.

—Bayonet rule would afford the South but little encouragement to attend the Chicago Fair.

—DON CAMERON isn't the man to sell himself for forty pieces of silver. That's far below his price.

—Liberty of speech, which was vouchsafed by the fathers, still prevails in the United States Senate.

—The farmers of Kansas changed INGALLS'S iridescent dream of victory into a hideous nightmare of defeat.

—Chili affords a sample of the civil disturbance to which the United States may be brought by force bills and such like revolutionary measures.

—INGALLS may be thoroughly acquainted with the crooked ways of Republican politics, but he doesn't know anything about farming.

—It should occur to the hypercritical Press that Governor PATTISON used the same old language because he found that he had to tackle the same old abuses.

—The senior Pennsylvania Senator doesn't talk any himself, but he is liberal enough to object to putting a gag in the mouths of those who have something to say.

—It is remarkable that when Senator CAMERON at last does something creditable to himself as a patriot and worthy of his high official position, he excites the anger of the G. O. P.

DON CAMERON did a greater and better thing for his country in putting his foot on the gag in the Senate than can be credited to his father during his entire senatorial service, long as it was.

—The whitewash season, which attends the advent of gentle spring, will not anywhere show a neater job than was executed by the Raun investigating committee during the present winter.

—CAMERON testifies that his silver speculation netted him but \$1100. No one can believe that DON, who is accustomed to big operations, could be influenced in his senatorial action by such paltry figures.

—MCKINLEY has expressed to a correspondent of a German newspaper his admiration for BISMARCK. But BISMARCK is out of office and MCKINLEY soon will be. Their policies didn't enable them to retain their grip.

—The banana leaf is the symbol of friendship in some of the islands of the Pacific. But the banana skin on the side-walk is not calculated to excite feelings of friendship for the fellow who threw it there.

—The United States will soon again be honored with the presence of BERNHARDT. Whenever the immortal SARAH gets low in funds she comes to America and goes back to her native land positively loaded with shekels.

—When the tin-plate protected by the McKinley bill is being made by the application of foreign tin to English iron plates by imported Welsh workmen, it may not be impertinent to ask where in this arrangement America comes in?

—The closure question may be Vice President MITCHELL'S opportunity to distinguish himself by rising above party and casting a deciding vote against a political outrage. But it is doubtful whether he will size up to his opportunity.

—It was but a few weeks ago that the Republicans considered INGALLS a model Senator and were proud of his pyrotechnic eloquence and vitriolic diatribes. Now they are beginning to say they are glad that the grangers beat him. *Sic transit gloria Ingallsi.*

—Whatever may be Governor HILL'S senatorial qualifications, it can't be expected that he will make as handsome a Senator as EVARTS, or that his hat will assume the antediluvian appearance that has made EVARTS'S head-gear an object of interest to antiquarians.

—Merchants of Cincinnati, St. Louis and Chicago are preparing to bring the McKinley tariff law before the United States Supreme Court to hear what the learned judges have to say about it. Merchants in all parts of the country have had the opinion of the shopping women long ago on this important question. It is possible that the court will confirm the decision of the women.

—When we come to consider that all the agitation and trouble involved in the force bill movement comes chiefly from the desire of HARRISON to have himself re-elected, the whole thing appears as absurd as it is obnoxious. The party, as a body, is not in favor of it, and if HARRISON'S official influence were removed the bill would be dropped in an hour. The case is one which shows what a nuisance a little creature invested with power can make of itself.

## Democratic Watchman.

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

VOL. 36.

BELLEFONTE, PA., JANUARY 30, 1891.

NO. 4.

## Cameron's Silver Speculation.

A good deal of fuss is being made by the Republican enemies of Senator CAMERON about his buying silver with speculative intent before he voted for the Free Coinage Bill, the passage of which would have the effect of increasing the value of the commodity he had purchased. This is represented as putting the Senator in the light of being a party to corrupt legislation. It would make him a member of the silver pool.

A committee is inquiring into that alleged combination of speculative statesmen, and on Monday Senator CAMERON testified before it as to his case. He didn't deny that he bought silver, but he said that its purchase was the same as that of any other commodity. He hadn't kept a memorandum of the transaction, but he recollected that his silver was disposed of in June and that his profits were about \$1,100.

There is no doubt that DON CAMERON likes to make money—he inherited that disposition from his father—but it is foolish to believe that his little silver speculation, which brought him in but comparatively a trifle, influenced his vote on the Silver Bill. His opponents in his own party show their weakness by bringing this up against him when he is open to so many substantial charges as the head of a corrupt system of political bossism to which they have for years willingly and complacently submitted.

## School Book Reform.

It is gratifying to observe that the present Legislature is going to take some action for the suppression of the school book combination that has so long afflicted the people of the State who send children to school. With an eye to their business profit the book publishers have been flooding the schools with text books far beyond the requirements of education, making the expense oppressive to parents. There is ground for suspicion that this imposition, to a large extent, has been brought about by collusion with school authorities, and it is time that the system of extortion be broken up.

The object of the school book bill is to bring about a uniformity of text books and to prevent the frequent changes that are made for the advantage of the publishers. It is also proposed that the State should print and furnish the school books, but it appears to us that the ends of economy and correct business principles would not be served by the State going into the printing business in this line. It would be a better plan for the State to contract with some established publishing house to supply the text books and to adhere to a certain line of books that have been tested and found suitable for the purpose of common school education.

## More Good Appointments.

The offices of Secretary of the Commonwealth and Attorney General were admirably filled by the appointments of Messrs HARRITY and HENSEL. These have been followed by equally good selections for the subordinate positions in those departments. A. L. TILDEN, of Erie having been chosen for Deputy Secretary of the Commonwealth, and JAMES A. STRANAHAN, of Mercer, for Assistant Attorney General. Mr. TILDEN, who bears a Democratic name of the highest grade, was the Democratic and Granger candidate for congress in the strong Republican district of Crawford and Erie, at the last election, and cut down the majority from 3,500 to 800. Mr. STRANAHAN is a leading member of the Mercer bar and is recognized as one of the ablest lawyers of Western Pennsylvania.

## Bogus State Treasury Reform.

The popular expression at the late State election indicated the desire of the people to have the State treasury investigated. The Legislature met fully impressed with the conviction that the people want this, particularly so far as relates to the deposit of State funds with banking institutions. A committee has been appointed to do this treasury overhauling, but its composition is of a character that gives the appearance of an intention to do the work in a perfunctory manner.

The predominant element of that

committee is of a stripe that was never known to be opposed to using the State money for party advantage, and although they will recommend a reduction of the number of depositories, it will be merely to increase the size of the limited number of bites that will be allowed to be taken from the cherry. The banks to be favored are to be designated by the Republican Legislature to the exclusion of the Democratic State administration from any participation in the matter.

The Democrats should resist this movement and insist upon the adoption of the suggestion contained in Governor PATTISON'S inaugural for the deposit of public funds impartially and under general laws.

## The New Road Bill.

Our readers doubtless are aware that a commission specially appointed for that purpose has been having the subject of road improvement under consideration and devising a law that is intended to accomplish that object. It has agreed upon the general features of the bill, one of the leading provisions of which is that when a township shall have built a mile of permanently improved road with some form of stone or grave foundation and covering, approved by the county engineer, then the county shall build an additional mile of permanent road in that township, and the State build a third mile.

The State need wait for the county in this work of road improvement, but the State and county shall stand pledged to make two miles of good road for every one made by the township. The county's share is to be paid by the county commissioners granting a warrant on the county treasurer to the township officers. The share of the expense to be borne by the State will be paid with State funds. The assistance of the latter is intended as an encouragement of permanent road improvement. The road building itself is left in the hands of the township.

## A Bad Way to Pay Debts.

The Alliance grangers of Kansas should go a little slower in devising schemes to relieve themselves of their present financial embarrassment. Their combination to prevent purchasers under mortgage foreclosures from taking possession of the property forfeited is contrary to the rules both of law and morality. The sale is allowed to take place, but when the purchaser comes to take possession of his property he is notified that it will not be healthy for him to remain. When he is frightened off the former owner is reinstated.

No doubt there has been a good deal of hardship connected with the Kansas mortgage system in the way of paying big interest and other excessive charges, but the mortgagors became a party to it with their eyes open. They borrowed the lenders' money and used it. It is both brutal and dishonest to resort to force to prevent the payment of their just debts.

## Becoming Acquainted With It.

The Republicans said it would take a year or two to understand the McKinley bill and appreciate it, but its various beauties are being discovered long before the expiration of that length of time. To the shopping women the rise in the price of general store-goods was made manifest within a few weeks after the act went into operation, and now we have a dispatch from Chicago to the effect that "the price of paints in small tin packages" will be advanced next week 15 per cent. as a result of the increased duty "on tin plate put into effect by the McKinley bill. The advance will be general throughout the country. The paint dealers have themselves borne the extra cost since the law went into effect, but as, in addition to the duty, the zinc men have increased the standard prices, an advance on the part of the paint trade has become a necessity."

Thus one by one the charming features of monopolistic protection are being untold to public view long before the time fixed for the people to fully discern its beauty and fall in love with it.

News and politics are equally features of the WATCHMAN.

## Side-Track Again.

The Force Bill has been side-tracked again in the Senate. After it had been shoved aside some weeks ago to make way for the Silver Coinage bill, its supporters persevered in pushing it forward and hoped to get it through by the application of the gag. The Democratic Senators made a heroic resistance, resorting to every parliamentary means of obstruction that could throw an impediment in the way of the infamous measure.

On Monday the bayonet gang were ready to put the vote which they thought would succeed in gagging the Senate and stop any further discussion of their revolutionary project, when one of their own party, Senator WOLCOTT, of Colorado, moved to take up the appropriation bill. The effect of this would indefinitely postpone the bayonet scheme by setting aside the gag resolution which was pending. This was a test of the strength of the revolutionists in the Senate. They strained every nerve in the vote on WOLCOTT'S motion, but were too weak by one vote, the appropriation bill taking precedence of the Force Bill a vote of 35 to 34.

The Republicans who did their country good service by voting with the Democrats on this question, were CAMERON, JONES, of Nevada, STEWART, TELLER, WASHBURN, and WOLCOTT. The Pennsylvania Senator did the best work of his senatorial life in casting his vote as he did on this question.

Senator STEWART, another of the Republicans who voted with the Democrats, gave his opinion of the bayonet bill in the following words:

We are not children. We have seen elections, all of us, enough to know that a horde of officers at the polls with a purpose to control elections, having a right to inspect the ballots, having a right to arrest, having the right to keep order, having the right of suppressing everything, will exercise an overwhelming power at a general election. With the prestige at the polls of the general government we all know that local elections will be dominated in every State, and we shall have the spectacle of having the election of members of congress and the election of presidential electors all commingled; they would be commingled in the next election, and probably forever you would have the spectacle of a President appointing marshals and judges to assist him in continuance in office.

There is now good encouragement to hope that the political outrage so forcibly portrayed by Senator STEWART will never be perpetrated in this free country. In all probability, its supporters will not be able to shove their force measure off the side-track on which it has been pushed a second time.

## A Proper Protest.

The Legislatures of Alabama and Tennessee are fully justified in resolving to withhold appropriations for State exhibits at the Chicago Fair in case of the passage of the Force Bill. That revolutionary and destructive measure would inflict serious injury upon their industries and material prosperity through the political disturbance it would create. Under its operation the section most affected would be neither in a condition or a mood to participate in a demonstration intended to show the industrial progress of the country.

It is probable that other Southern States will take the same stand if the party in power shall persist in employing the bayonet as an instrument of sectional oppression and political disturbance. Under such circumstances what encouragement would they have to take part in an exposition intended to exemplify the peace, prosperity and progress of a country one half of which would be brought under a political despotism enforced by military appliances?

## The Proposed New Poor Law.

The poor laws of this State are acknowledged to be very defective, and it was for the purpose of improving them that a commission was appointed by Governor BEAVER to overhaul them and suggest such improvement as would make them better serve the object for which such laws are intended. This commission having applied itself to its work during the past year, has reported a bill which the Legislature will consider and act upon at this session.

It provides for a salaried State officer to be called the Commissioner of the

Poor, who will supersede the State Board of Charities and take charge of all the institutions and arrangements which the State has instituted and authorized for charitable work.

In regard to counties the existing poor authorities are to be superseded by three Poor Directors, one to be elected at every annual election, who will do for the entire county the work that is now done for the separate boroughs and townships by the overseers of the poor. This will furnish a more systematic organization, but unless it can be shown that great advantage will be derived from it, it is doubtful whether the Legislature will agree to such a wholesale revolution of the present system.

## Ingalls Not Wanted Any More.

It would be useless to deny that Democrats feel an especial gratification in the defeat of INGALLS whose ambition to be re-elected to the United States Senate failed in consequence of a majority of the Kansas Legislature electing somebody else in his place last Tuesday. His successful opponent is Judge W. A. PEPPER, who received the full Alliance vote.

This is the end of INGALLS'S cavorting in the Senate. He was possessed of an abusive style of oratory which gave him a reputation as a sharp-tongued speaker, and too frequently he aired his blackguard rhetoric on the floor of the Senate. At the last moment he made a speech, intended to secure the favor of the grangers, in which he went back on principles he had long advocated, but it failed in its object and INGALLS is now out in the cold.

Judge PEPPER, his successful opponent, was a member of the Republican party until a year ago when he joined the Alliance. He avows himself as being in favor of unlimited coinage of silver and a conservative expansion of the currency along other lines; he believes in reasonable protection, but is doubtful whether the best protection comes from high tariffs. His preference is an average ad valorem duty of twenty per cent.

## The State Should be Protected.

We have already referred to a bill offered in the Legislature to reimburse the counties of the State for the money expended in rebuilding or repairing bridges destroyed or injured by the flood of 1889. The proposition embodied in this bill deserves favorable consideration, for the loss incurred in that way has been severe, and some of the poorest counties have suffered most severely in the loss of their bridges by the flood.

But it has been suggested in connection with this State bounty, that a provision should be made to protect the State from imposition when it reimburses the loss of these bridges, by ascertaining the real cost of rebuilding them, and not the fancy prices which county commissioners may have paid to favored contractors. If a county has paid more than a bridge was worth, through corrupt collusion between the commissioners and contractors, the State should know it and pay only what the bridge or bridges actually cost, to be ascertained by the investigation of competent engineers. This is unquestionably reasonable and just. The State can afford to assist its unfortunate citizens under extraordinary circumstances, but it should not be cheated.

## Illinois Alarmed.

The Legislature of Illinois is becoming alarmed at the probability of the South's declining to participate in the Chicago Fair if the Republican Congress shall persist in using the bayonet to suppress the political rights of the Southern people. It is natural that Illinois should take a great interest in the success of the exposition, and even the partisan rancor of its Republicans cannot be blind to the justness and propriety of the position taken by Southern Legislatures that the South has no business at a Fair held in a State whose Senators and Members of Congress shall have voted to bring Southern elections under the control of military force. It was on this account that a resolution was introduced in the Illinois Legislature instructing the State's representatives in congress to vote against the Force Bill in the interest of the fair, which resolution passed the House.

## Spawls from the Keystone.

—An epidemic of measles prevails at Wernersville.

—Bristol ice dealers have gathered 3000 tons of ice.

—The Bucks county jail has thirty-two inmates.

—Pottstown capitalists will encourage enterprises to locate there.

—There were fifty-two arrests in Harrisburg on inauguration day.

—There were 881 inquests held in Pittsburg last year at a cost of \$19,484.

—The Chester county Prohibitory League is getting ready to fight applicants for license.

—Nearly 6000 persons used the elevator at the Capitol building at Harrisburg on the 20th.

—Mary Bradford and her 10 year-old son walked from Preston, Ky., to Pittsburg to find relatives.

—A Lancaster shoemaker drove his children barefooted out of the house into the snow-covered streets.

—Reading Railroad engine-cleaners will, after February 15th, have their wages reduced 24 cents a day.

—Max Goldman, a boot and shoe dealer of Shenandoah, was arrested for using the mail for lottery purposes.

—Solomon Selig, a Pittsburg brakeman, has been arrested for bigamy. He had a wife at each end of his "run."

—Nearly two hundred concerns, with a total capital of \$12,000,000, were chartered in Allegheny county last year.

—Henry G. Wagner, of Stranstown, killed a huge catamount with a club after it had maimed several dogs in a fight.

—One faction of South Bethlehem's new congregation of Hebrews has seized all the furnishings of the synagogue.

—Track-walker Erdley found a beheaded tramp on the Lehigh Valley Railroad near South Bethlehem on Monday.

—George Hallenbach, Sanatoga's postmaster, will plant seventy acres of peach trees at Jacksonville, Pottsgrove township.

—Tramps on Wednesday night robbed the smoked meat warehouse of E. E. Rin's Sons, of a Len town, of \$100 worth of goods.

—Luzerne county is probably the only one in the State which can boast of a tipstaff doing steady duty in court who is worth \$50,000.

—Dudley A. Martin, of Dubuque, has a pair of handcuffs that were worn by a neighbor of his while confined in the Libby Prison.

—Henry Eckert, of Gordonville, Lancaster county, died on Saturday, aged 86. He was one of President Buchanan's pall-bearers.

—The third annual meeting of the Pennsylvania State Association of Agricultural Societies met in Harrisburg and elected officers.

—Michael Walsh, of Shenandoah, has been imprisoned for burglary in breaking into a saloon on Sunday and stealing a keg of beer.

—Conductor Orwig, of the Reading Railroad Company, has been sent to jail at Doylestown on the charge of robbing North Penn freight cars.

—During a fight at a ball in Reading, John Kemp was picked up and thrown over the balustrade in Maennelner Hall. He was very seriously hurt.

—Oliver Rhoads and John Hase, two victims of Monday's culm bank disaster at Ashland, are dead, and the recovery of James McGrath and Councilman Fleming is doubtful.

—A twenty-five foot fall in an excavating bucket into a well he was helping to dig at Montclair, Montgomery county, killed William Wadsworth, aged 21, on Saturday.

—At Allentown on Saturday two new brick dwelling houses, belonging to James F. Gallagher, collapsed and were completely wrecked in consequence of weak foundation walls.

—John S. Tice, of Jonestown, who packed thousands of dozens of eggs last spring, is now engaged in shipping them at favorable rates, and has more orders than he can supply.

—A man of 39 years, wearing part of a hand cuff on his right wrist, was seen on the Springfield Mountains, near Shamokin, on Thursday evening, but he escaped officers who went in search of him.

—In order to get none but resident contractors upon city work and to secure none but union-made brick and nine hours a day's work, the Central Labor Union take a hand in Lancaster's coming election.

—The only "kiting" of checks through the Tradesmen's National Bank of Pittsburg was on the part of a depositor, and was not done by bank officials. One hundred and eighty thousand dollars was involved.

—Harper Wetzel, an 11-year-old of North Middleton township, Cumberland county, has just gotten a piece of penknife blade out of his foot which had been there for fifteen months without his knowledge.

—Frank L. Ackerman, a Pennsylvania Railroad conductor, had his head out of the window of the engine near Columbia on Monday morning and was struck by a coke-car standing on the siding, fracturing his skull.

—They have only just identified a skeleton found on the mountain back of Mauch Chunk on Christmas day as that of Driver Algeo, of Parryville, who was employed by Dunn & Co., of Easton, to canvass country stores.

—Dr. Conard, a veterinary surgeon, of Kennet square, reports a case of a mother and daughter contracting lung disease from a cow they milked which had tuberculosis, and will advise legislation to quarantine such cattle.

—William K. Arnold, of Reading, is prosecuting Dr. John Ege, of that city, and Secretary Hoff, of the Merchants' Protective Association, for conspiring to blacken his character by collecting a bill through the association's agency.

—The work of Rowing freemen in extinguished a \$2000 conflagration was interfered with and delayed by the conduct of some drunken freemen who had been at a ball. An investigation will be made by the department.

—Allegheny's Sandusky Street Reformed Presbyterian Church stands by its pastor, Rev. J. R. J. Milligan, recently deposed by the presbytery for advocating the rights of citizenship and the ballot with or without God in the Constitution.

—The trial of E. B. Enns, H. O'Shea, and A. J. Moxham, charged with an attempt to secure the plans of the North Branch Steel Company, opened at Danville. A large part of the day was spent in the selection of a jury. Eminent counsel are present.

—The wife of William Russell, a book-keeper at York, was awakened on Thursday night by a burglar in her bedroom, and she at once grappled with him, but before her husband was aroused the burglar had escaped with the money he found in Mr. Russell's pocket.

—Farmer Mamma, who lives near White Bridge, Dauphin county, late on Friday night found a stranger in his stable who refused to answer any questions, whereupon Mr. Mamma discharged a shotgun, tearing away part of an ear of the silent intruder, Amos Dinsler, a man son who lived at Hummelstown.