

Ink Slings.

—Wouldn't the name be more suitable if it were RUDYARD STRIPLING?
—How can the old machine be expected to produce a new Philadelphia?
—It is believed by some that reciprocity would hasten the ripening of the Canada pear.
—Congressman BLAND's sky is overcast by a cloud which may yet have a silver lining.
—Mr. BLAINE points with pride to the barrel of pork he is about to diplomate into Brazil.
—LADNER's case is one in which the office seeks the man. It is to be hoped that it will find him.
—That the American people will not be bored at the polls by the bayonet is due largely to GORMAN.
—The opposition to "blue laws" naturally comes from people who are in the habit of painting things red.
—Every body is hoping that erysipelas won't succeed in calling a halt on the hero who marched to the sea.
—Short as February is, it usually comes in the midst of such nasty weather that everybody wishes it were shorter.
—In regard to the Treasury appointment, what a bad smell would result from the lightning striking so dirty an object as JOE CANNON.
—Mr. BLAINE spells Reciprocity with the biggest kind of an R, notwithstanding the fatality of that letter in "Rum, Romanism and Rebellion."
—Speaker REED's "business congress" will never do business again at the old stand. Its sign will be taken down permanently on the 4th of March.
—The name of PEPPER, the new Kansas Senator, translated into English, means pepper. That may account for his having made it so hot for INGALLS.
—The three Republican hold-overs in the State Department at Harrisburg will remain long enough to give Secretary HARRIS the opportunity of showing how neatly he can administer the grand bouce.
—Some months ago the Republicans were rejoicing over the passage of the McKinley bill. Now they are praising BLAINE for having knocked a corner off the new tariff with his Brazilian reciprocity.
—HANNIBAL HAMLIN, who is 82 years old, made an address at a public dinner in New York this week. The senility of age is less observable in him than in the party of which he was the first Vice President.
—The report that Adjutant General HASTINGS retired from the war department of the State with a heavy shortage against him, is all bosh. HASTINGS is too good a General to expose himself to a fire in the rear.
—There is a report that Guatemala, Salvador and Honduras are going to fight again. These little republics have been in a broil ever since they participated in the Pan-American congress. Has the pan anything to do with it?
—"Southern colored people are engaged in a weird voodoo dance in a Tennessee swamp." The Press says this, and yet that paper would consign the South to the political control of such voodoo dancers, and would use the army to effect it.
—The way that CLEOPATRA cut up with JULIUS CESAR and MARK ANTHONY doesn't seem to interfere with her being the greatest stage attraction of the present day. It is too frequently the case that bad girls are more popular than good ones.
—The church authorities who attend to such matters in Rome have refused to make a saint of CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS. The great discoverer was a noted sailor and the church people may have acted upon the assumption that it is impossible for a sailor to be a saint.
—Congressman GRIMES gave a fortune-teller \$5 to learn from her whether a bill in which he was interested would be signed by the President. It may be safely wagered that the President would give twice that amount to any seeress who should make it plain to his mind that he will have a second term.
—The Philadelphia Record is mistaken in saying that it is its size more than TOM REED that prevents the House of Representatives from being a deliberative body. The House of Commons is twice the size of the popular branch of our congress and there is no hitch in its deliberations; but it hasn't a TOM REED.
—The Philadelphia Record, which isn't settled in its opinion as to whether the election of United States Senators by a popular vote would be an improvement or not, says that an idea of the kind of Senators it would produce may be formed from the kind of Governors that are elected. Applying this gauge to Pennsylvania, would BEAVER and PATTON, as Senators, suffer any in a comparison with QUAY and CAMERON?

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Wanamaker's Blasted Project.

Anything that makes good JOHN WANAMAKER unhappy should cast a gloom over the entire country. That pious functionary is now grieving over the failure of his postal telegraph scheme, and what adds to the poignancy of his grief is that his pet project has come to naught through the machinations of such an unregenerate worldling as JAY GOULD.
The Postmaster General proposed that the government should do the telegraphing of the country, his object being to bring all the lines under one vast paternal system of electrical communication. This project of course has antagonized the telegraph companies, and especially excited the ire of JAY GOULD who is the heaviest stock-holder of the Western Union. Ever since Mr. WANAMAKER ventilated his desire to wipe out GOULD's telegraph interests by governmental action, the great New York stock operator and the great Philadelphia dry goods merchant have been on bad terms. If they should meet each other on Broadway or on Chestnut street, or even on the principal avenue of the national capital where all Americans should feel fraternally towards each other, ten chances to one they wouldn't speak as they passed by. Out of revenge the Wall street magnate caught Holy JOHN in a Reading deal and squeezed him badly, for it must be remembered that, although he devotes the best of his time to the service of his God and his country, the Postmaster General doesn't object to increasing his worldly store by "taking chances in the stock market, and his treatment by GOULD was in every respect reprehensible.
It is reported that GOULD and WANAMAKER had a meeting at Washington one day last week on the telegraph question, but the particulars given are so misty as to be entirely unreliable. However this may be, the Postmaster General's postal telegraph bill was killed last week in the Post office committee, and Republican congressman BINGHAM, of his own city, chairman of the committee, is held responsible for its death. Maybe GOULD had something to do with pulling the wires. His money may have exerted an electrical influence.
As to Democratic sentiment on the subject of postal telegraphs it is sufficient to say that from the fact of its being opposed to governmental paternalism it is not in favor of the government doing business for the people which they are abundantly able to do for themselves.
—The Press states on "the best authority" that CHARLES S. WOLFE will hereafter act with the Democratic party. The same paper also seems to regard Senator CAMERON as having turned Democrat. The old party which so long has dominated Pennsylvania is certainly in a bad way when it is losing men of such brains and influence as CHARLEY WOLFE and DON CAMERON.
He Should be Elected.
If Judge LADNER, the Democratic nominee, shall not be elected Mayor of Philadelphia, it will not be because he does not deserve it, or because the interest of the city would not be promoted by his election. He is one of the city's most reliable citizens; has proved himself to be a wise and upright magistrate, displaying good judgment and excellent executive ability, and is known to entertain the progressive ideas which are required for the prospective development of the city. STUART, his Republican opponent, makes fair promises, but promises from a man who has been nominated and would be elected by the old machine influence, are not worthy of the confidence of a community that has been so often deceived from that quarter.
Unlike STUART, Judge LADNER was not nominated by machine regulation, but, without solicitation, was made the nominee of his party by the people of his party, and therefore is under no obligations to any clique or special interest. If it is indeed the ambition of the people of the city to have a new Philadelphia it behooves them to abandon their old habit of electing mayors and other municipal officers that are required for the advantage of ring managers.

Strengthen Its Hands.

It is the duty of the people of Pennsylvania to encourage the purpose and strengthen the hands of the State administration. The tenor of their declaration at the polls was in favor of a certain line of policy involving measures of the highest public importance, which may not be carried out without an insistence of the public demand.
Governor PATTON was elected on clear and distinct issues in which the people take a deep interest. Among these were ballot reform, the equalization of taxation and the enforcement of the provisions of the constitution which have been allowed to fall into disuse. The Governor in his inaugural address declared his devotion to these measures and he will bring them about if it be possible. But he may be opposed by an adverse Legislature. There is, at present, an appearance that the majority which governs the law making machinery are favorable to the needed reforms. Outwardly they appear to yield to the general demand for an improved ballot system and more equal taxation. The popular expression at the polls has had at least that effect upon them. But there are intricacies and subtle ways in legislation which experts know how to resort to when their purpose conflicts with the popular requirement. They can present a fair exterior while smothering the measures which the people have declared for at the polls. Ballot reform and tax equalization bills have been treated this way, and therefore there is no positive assurance that they will not be subjected again to the same treatment. There is no safety in entrusting anything to the hands of an enemy. For this reason the voice of the people should continue to be heard demanding obedience to the popular dictum of November. Their expression should maintain the clearness and distinctness of the election utterance, and in this the press can supply a powerful medium. Thereby the hands of the executive can be strengthened in its efforts to effect the reforms which the public welfare so greatly requires.
Testimonials.
So highly appreciated is the service rendered by Senator GORMAN in directing the successful result of the Force Bill scheme, that it is proposed by admiring Democrats to give him a banquet in recognition of his pre-eminent abilities as a leader, and it is also suggested that he should receive a testimonial from the Democratic party in the form of a massive service of silver plate for his splendid leadership in the memorable contest against the subjection of the federal elections to military force.
Senator GORMAN richly deserves such a testimonial, but at the same time thanks are due to the few Republican Senators who rejected the bayonet scheme and repudiated the gag. Senator CAMERON is one of the Republicans who in this respect deserves the thanks of the Democratic party, of the more patriotic portion of his own party, and of all good citizens.
The Bird Book.
There was never a book published by the authority of the State that proved so popular as Dr. B. H. WARREN's work entitled "The Birds of Pennsylvania." It may be questioned whether it is of much practical use, but it certainly has hit the fancy of the people. It describes the birds that belong to the State, as well those that are migratory as those whose permanent habitat is within its limits, giving their natural history, not as fully, however, as it might, and illustrating them with chromatic pictures. The edition of some thousands has been entirely exhausted and the legislators are being besieged from every quarter for more of them. Citizens who never before were known to bother their representatives for public documents are pestering them for the bird books. The children cry for them, no doubt on account of the pretty pictures. If the Legislature should even dispense with the printing of that highly interesting and instructive publication, the Legislative Record, and divert the money spent on it to the printing of such an edition of the bird book as would supply every citizen with a copy, we believe it would be a highly popular measure.

Ineffectual Whitewashing.

The minority of the committee that investigated the Raum case has given the delinquent Commissioner of Pensions a deserved scolding which will receive more consideration from the public than will be accorded the coat of whitewash with which the majority have endeavored to conceal his faults. The minority report says that "the evidence establishes that the present Commissioner of Pensions has degraded the public service by using official position to promote private enterprise and personal gains, and that a wise, efficient and faithful administration of the bureau demands his removal."
The facts elicited in the investigation fully sustain this declaration. The majority report is a burlesque on the honest intention and truthfulness of congressional investigation, and notwithstanding the whitewash was applied with an unsparing brush, a sense of decency will yet compel HARRISON to turn RAUM out of office.
Limited Free Trade.
Considerable jubilation is indulged in by Republican papers over the reciprocity treaty which Secretary BLAINE has succeeded in making with the Republic of Brazil. By the reciprocal arrangement he has effected we will allow certain productions of Brazil to come into our ports free of tariff duties in consideration of the Brazilians receiving some of our products on the same terms.
This is limited free trade—an incipient stage of that commercial policy which has been soundly abused by the Republicans as calculated to destroy the industrial prosperity of our country. If Brazil is entitled to such commercial consideration there is no reason why Canada, Mexico and the other American nations should not be included, with the logical inclusion of European countries, and thus by gradual progression the tariff ground be cut from under the feet of the protectionists.
His Last Shot.
It was thought that the grangers had finally retired INGALLS from public view and that nothing, or very little more, would be seen or heard of him. But he bobbed up to the surface in the Senate with a speech from which the accustomed pungency was in no way illimitated by defeat. He terribly rapped the party leaders who had managed the Force Bill, saying that they "had conducted the most powerful political organization known in American history to the most stupendous and overwhelming disaster," and as to the cloture scheme he spoke of it as "revolutionary and subversive of the fundamental principles of constitutional government." His allusions to the Force Bill were scarcely less severe, condemning the general objects of that measure. It was the first time that INGALLS ever made a proper application of his vitriolic oratory.
—After having passed a bill, almost without opposition, allowing the liquor dealers of New York city to sell their noxious beverages at all hours of the day and night, Sundays excepted, the New York Republican Senate, a few days after, passed another bill submitting a prohibition amendment to popular vote. This duplicity accords with the general line of Republican action on the liquor question. In this case they know that a prohibition amendment, which in every instance has proved to be a futile and expensive experiment in every State where it has been tried, will be defeated in the Democratic House; but they want to impress the temperance people with the idea that they are the morality party. But this won't exactly tally with their vote to supply New York city with rum at all hours.
—Oklahoma was rather an unpromising strip of territory when first thrown open to settlement, but it is improving. Its elections last week were carried by the Democrats; the Alliance people were second in the race, while the Republicans were at the tail of the procession. The tidal wave has reached even that remote district.

Conflict of Sectional Interests.

Judge YERKES, of the Bucks county district, in an address to the Farmers' Institute of that county, has advanced the idea that the granger interest of the East is not compatible with the line of policy that has been pursued by the farmer organizations of the West, and that the latter is detrimental to the former. He makes the point that the eastern farmers have been subserving western agricultural interests, giving this as a reason why our farmers are less prosperous at this time than they were twenty-five or thirty years ago. He says:
Gentlemen, the real cause of your depression lies west of the Mississippi. The Grange influence of the Eastern States is largely responsible for its growth. Only a few years ago they of the East responded to the call of their fellows of the West and joined in their demands and contributed their power in Congress and elsewhere, in donating the public lands for free homestead, to actual settlers and railroad companies, who in turn donated them to foreign immigrants and cheap laborers. Finally the products of all this munificence were brought to your home markets by these fostered and competing railroads and as the result of the Granger cry of government control and reduction of railroad charges. The farmers of the East are not interested in the reduction of freights from the West when the products of that section are brought to compete with theirs in their own markets and in all the markets of the world. Those who joined these demands are reaping the fruits. Have a care that you do not repeat the mistake. The Farmers' Alliances of the broad South and the great West are more powerful than you can hope to become. Situated so far inland from the great seaports, are you sure their desires will satisfy your wants?
There is much truth in these remarks of the Judge, but unfortunately it is predicated upon a conflict of sectional interests that is not pleasant to contemplate.
Another Pipe Line Bill.
There is another Pipe Line bill before the Legislature. It is a repetition of the effort of the oil producers to extricate themselves from the octopian grip of the Standard Oil Company, but there is too much reason to fear that it will meet the fate of the Billingsley bill, and that the interests of the oil region will continue to suffer from the Standard strangulation. It is true, DELAMATER is not in the Senate to serve the oil monopoly, but there are other servitors equally willing and unscrupulous. ANDREWS, the chairman of the Republican State Committee, is on hand to head the lobby that will oppose the bill, and the policy of delaying it in committee so as to prevent action by the House is likely to be the tactics that will be resorted to for its defeat.
Is It Fancy or Fact?
Is there warrant for the doleful predictions of the injurious effect that would be produced by free silver coinage? It is impossible to answer this question positively one way or the other, but it is a fact that when BLAND projected his original silver bill, some years ago, JOHN SHERMAN, who was then Secretary of the Treasury, said that when the silver coined in conformity with that act should amount to \$75,000,000 gold would go to a premium. There has been \$450,000,000 coined and the gold premium is not visible. Three times as much gold is in the treasury as there was when the coinage of silver began. There is a discrepancy between this fact and the dolorous predictions of the anti-silver men.
—Chairman KERR was in Harrisburg the other day and expressed his entire satisfaction with Governor PATTON's appointments, especially with the manner in which his committees have been remembered. It had been reported that Mr. KERR was displeased with the Governor's selection in making up his cabinet. The chairman's expressions indicated pleasure rather than dissatisfaction. The appointments have been of such a character as can give displeasure to no reasonable Democrat. They have been made with the desire to put in office only such persons as, in addition to their competency, will harmonize all branches of the party, and their thorough democracy cannot be questioned in a single individual instance.
—Mrs. ASTOR is said to be displeased with the duties imposed upon her gowns imported from Paris; but it is said as hers that prevent a high tariff from being entirely odious.

Spawls from the Keystone.

—An Allegheny girl eloped with her step-father.
—A gang of burglars is operating successfully in Lancaster.
—The rumored strike of "Penney" employes is denied at Pittsburgh.
—Two young men at Sharpsburg fought a duel with coaching whips.
—Emmensite smokeless powder is to be manufactured at Greensburg.
—Tax collector J. O. Sonberg, of Bradford, is charged with a \$2000 shortage.
—The Scranton Board of Trade has declared itself against free coinage.
—John Sineely, a Greensburg giant, will commence a thirty-days fast.
—Of fifty cases returned to Court in Fayette county twenty are for illegal liquor selling.
—Eric's Health Officer has spent his entire time for several days in vaccinating children.
—The grounds of the Cumberland Agricultural Society were sold, Saturday, for \$10,200.
—A fox at York interfered with a fox chase by hanging itself just before it was to be released.
—At the Union Depot in Pittsburg 50,000 pieces of baggage were handled during January.
—David Heffner, who was killed by the cars at Allentown was one of a family of forty-one children.
—A thief pried his way into the Central Shop at Gwynedd and stole only the new dictionary.
—Judge Harry White, of Ludlum county, is in the field for the United States District Judgeship.
—William Brown, of Greble, Lebanon county, was scalped by his horse kicking him in the head.
—Edward Dagny, a Pittsburg tailor, had a battle with a ton-car, and had his scalp clawed and clawed.
—Reading boys were raided for pitching pennies and quoits on a vacant lot and breaking Sabbath.
—A falling wire at Lancaster wrapped itself around the top of a buggy and tore away the frame worked covering.
—Sheriff Borer has seized the parsonage of St. John's Lutheran church at Centre Square on an execution for \$2702.
—Washington county with 71,000 population, has 123 post-offices, while Fayette with 80,000 souls, has only 74 offices.
—Seven of Farmer Henry Shick's eight children are ill of measles at their Spring township home, Berks county.
—Three valuable horses belonging to C. E. Ramsey died of a peculiar disease on his stock farm near Vanemans station.
—Jonathan Spotts, an aged citizen of Hepburn township, Lycoming county, on Monday day committed suicide by shooting.
—Five hundred acres and 200 incandescents will light Reading this year, at \$22 and \$120 per light per annum respectively.
—James Stratton, of Sharpsburg, a 70-year-old storekeeper, attacked and beat a bull who entered his store a few days ago.
—During a fight in a Reading saloon a man and a chair, to which he was holding, were thrown together through a \$75 plate-glass.
—A 70-year-old woman, traveling alone, attracted attention as she smoked her pipe on the train at the Allentown Terminal depot.
—Dr. H. H. Phillips, a survivor of the Johnstown flood, in which fifteen members of his family perished, died in Pittsburg, on Monday.
—Robert Kurtz, serving a sixteen years sentence in Easton jail for killing John Waldman, of Williamsburg, escaped on Tuesday evening.
—The Presbyterian and United Presbyterian Church of Western Pennsylvania have taken up the cause in behalf of the blue law of 1794.
—Robert Wallace, of West New Castle, fell and broke his leg and was compelled to crawl to his home, half a mile away, over the rough road.
—A Valley association killed Fireman Edward McGeary, of the Wilmington Road, just as he stepped from his engine to the parallel track.
—Thomas Egan, an old resident of Shandosh and ex-member of legislature, died Tuesday morning very suddenly, after two days illness, aged 45 years.
—A. T. Hoffman, of Latrobe, has received a fine gold watch from a New York trade journal as a prize for the best essay on carriage painting.
—Harry Marsh, who is under sentence to death in the Eckenburg jail, says that he is anxious for the day of execution to come February 28.
—While Mrs. Lawrence, of Shamokin, was preparing supper, on Monday, she fainted and fell across the stove, receiving injuries that will result fatally.
—Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Keller, of Ephrata, were nearly overcome by coal-gas on Thursday night. Mrs. Keller fell out of bed and broke her shoulder-blade.
—Hamburg tradespeople will pay J. H. Sternberg liberally to build his new unit and bolt works at their place instead of Reading, where the works were burned.
—Burglars got \$200 in gold and bills from Joseph Fisher's house, Allentown, on Sunday night, and the Sheriff seized the place on a \$250 execution yesterday.
—Hilltown boasts of a farmer boy, aged 15 years, who is a model. He daily milks ten cows and takes to the creamery and then visits his masktrap before breakfast.
—While a two-ton flask of sand was being hoisted at the Pottstown Bridge Works on Friday the flask broke and three men were buried in the sand, but not hurt.
—The farm of 60 acres in Amity township, Berks county, belonging to the late John W. Casselberry, for which twenty years ago \$13,000 was paid has been sold for \$500.
—At Hogestown, Cumberland county, diphtheria has become epidemic. Several children have died of the disease, and the public schools have been closed to prevent the spreading.
—Samuel Stone, of Bethlehem, who is a Fort Reno, was thought to have been killed during one of the skirmishes, but he writes home to say that it was another fellow with the same name.
—While Clarence Hest was oiling the machinery at the Calbrookdale Iron Works his shirt sleeve was caught by a revolving shaft and he only escaped death by instantly tearing out his sleeve.
—A bar of water was placed by, Isaac Kline of Allentown, in the oven of a Kitchen stove to heat so that it might warm his sick child. He fell asleep, the jar exploded, the stove was blown up and set the house afire. Firemen saved the building.