

Ink Slings.

Philadelphia finances are in a tangle that will take a magician to unravel.

Farming out the State's money has proved to be unprofitable agriculture for the State.

There is a disposition among religious denominations to smooth the jagged edges of their theology.

The "People's Party" has made its appearance without any urgent demand for it on the part of the people.

The prosecution of the Jews in Russia projects the shadow of the dark ages into the light of the nineteenth century.

It is a bright idea, but the glitter of Republican tin helmets and breastplates will not be able to blind the voters in 1892.

Cashiers may default and banks may fail, but we are consoled by the assurance that the peach crop is not going to be a failure.

The "Third Party" starts with the watchword, "We are the People," but future elections will determine how many people they are.

The Republican Legislature has consumed a five months session in trying to dodge party pledges with the least appearance of having violated them.

Bishop BOWMAN, of St. Louis, denounces progressive eunuchs as "progressive damnation." No doubt the austere Bishop regards poker as damnation consummated.

Before appropriating \$5,000,000 for the public schools, it had better be ascertained whether the treasury raiders have left anything for the ordinary State expenses.

Recent experience proves that putting State money out at interest by its custodians isn't conducive to the interest of the State, whatever may be the profit of the official speculators.

The Third Party omitted prohibition from its platform, probably because the honest granger can't be induced to eliminate from his calculation the profit there is in rye, corn and barley in their liquid state.

Scientists declare that the earth is growing larger from the fall of meteoric matter, but if from such accretion it should increase to twice its original size the college graduate would want the whole of it.

It was unfortunate for BARDSLEY and his gang that DELAMATER was not elected. Under a sympathetic Government there might have been three more years of stealing without the risk of disclosure.

Granger PEPPER, of Kansas, says that the new party has not been formed with a view to the offices, but still if there are any offices lying around loose, within reach, the grangers will not refrain from picking them up.

The French are going to reduce their tariff on American wheat. This is the liberal response they make to the increase of the American tariff on French goods. In this respect the Gauls are wiser than the Yankees.

Good JOHN WANAMAKER avers the belief that HARRISON will be re-elected President, but he detracts from this continued blessing by announcing his determination to decline serving a second term in the Post Office department.

All the towels, soap and mirrors in the bath-room of the capitol at Harrisburg were stolen one night last week. But when a million dollars of the State's money is taken at a grab what is the use of making a note of such small sundries as soap and towels?

The Kansas Alliance people are down on Hon. JERRY SIMPSON because he opposed at Cincinnati the formation of the "People's Party," and they look upon him as a degenerated granger. But the fact is that when JERRY came east and put on socks he became demoralized.

It is a fact worthy of remark that while the laity are generally satisfied with the doctrines of their respective churches it is the clergy that are raising an uproar on questions of faith, and among those who are making the greatest disturbance are some that are getting the biggest salaries.

It is said that JOHN BARDSLEY, as a member of the city council of Philadelphia, secured an appropriation of \$1000 for the introduction of the English sparrow into Philadelphia, some twenty years ago. It is a long time since that nefarious act, but his day of punishment has come at last.

The Supreme Court having decided that the Reading railroad company has a right to occupy the ground on Market street, Philadelphia, upon which it proposes to erect its depot, the Record says that "there only remains the physical difficulty involved in the task of construction," which, divested of its circumlocution, means that the company can now go ahead and put up the building.

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The Governor Takes a Hand.

In the terrible complication of bad management and dishonesty, particularly the latter, displayed in the affairs of the Keystone Bank, the State's interest has become involved to a very large extent. The Bardsley defalcation includes money due the Commonwealth, and Governor PATRISON, with his accustomed vigilance in looking after the public interests, is taking steps to recover what may be recoverable, and to effect such disclosures as may bring the offenders to punishment.

By virtue of article 14, section 10 of the constitution, he has called upon the Auditor General to furnish him with a statement of the accounts of JOHN BARDSLEY, City Treasurer of Philadelphia, with the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. In response to this demand a transcript of the accounts has been furnished the Governor, which shows that the city owes the Commonwealth a balance of \$172,013.11 due on State tax for 1890; a balance of \$86,030.30 due on loans for 1890, and a balance of \$367,604.18 due on licenses for 1890, making a grand total of \$925,648.09. This is the amount which BARDSLEY placed in the Keystone Bank and which has gone with the wreck of that institution. At the same time the Governor called upon the Auditor General for this statement, he called the attention of the Attorney General to the condition of the accounts of BARDSLEY, so that he might take such steps as would be necessary to protect the interest of the State in this matter.

All this trouble and scandal, with probable heavy loss, comes from the vicious system of depositing and keeping the State money, which has sprung up and been practiced through a long succession of Republican custodians. The use of the money has been given to favored institutions and individuals, and that there should be defalcations is as natural as that temptation produces sin. This system has been in operation for years, it being beyond the virtue of Republican legislatures and officials to correct or resist it. No doubt much has been lost that has been covered up, but this Keystone-Bardsley default has happened under an administration that will make every effort to bring the facts to the surface and place the responsibility upon those who have offended.

The "American Protective Tariff League" are preparing for a campaign of their peculiar kind of education. They have just sent out a fat-frying circular calling for \$50 and upward for the current year from all manufacturers and operators, the money to be expended in making the campaign of 1892 an easy one. A disgruntled manufacturer sends a copy of the circular to one of the New York papers, which prints it. As this money is wanted to preach against pauper wages and the degradation of labor, the locked-out miners should not grumble that this extraordinary expenditure may compel a scaling down of their wages. The fat-fried should be allowed to cover their investments with QUAY & Co.

Local Work in Making Roads.

An Ohio writer in the Country Gentleman indicates the way in which those having road work in charge can effect a gradual but in the end marked improvement in the rural highways. He thinks that "nothing will come of it unless those who do the work take hold with an honorable intention of making their work count in the direction of permanence. If a hill is lowered, a hollow filled, culvert foundation built for all time, or a swamp crossing thoroughly drained, to that extent the work is for years and not for a summer, and will bear fruit in a lessening of those taxes which every passer over a bad road pays in wear and tear of team, vehicle and temper." Such a course as this writer points out requires no additional legislation and no expensive appropriations.

It is indisputable that if the present road work were directed to the object of making permanent highways it would in course of years effect a permanent reform. There are a few enterprising localities in Pennsylvania where this has been practically demonstrated with

out State aid. But it is also true that an intelligent policy on the part of the State will offer a premium on such work by granting aid to townships where it is proved to be done by certain prescribed standards and tests. The State should know that its money produces good roads; for the sinking of State money under the patchwork system would only be making a bad matter worse. The trouble with the late road bill was that after starting out on the proper basis of guaranteeing good roads where State aid was to be given, it was pruned and clipped to meet political exigencies until there was scarcely a vestige of that essential purpose.

The failure of road legislation should not lessen the agitation in favor of improving highways. The work of educating the people as to the economic value of good roads should be kept up. Farming districts should be brought to see how they can benefit themselves by such work. If this is done for a couple of years, the next Legislature may contain intelligence enough to pass a law that will hasten the work of building first-class roads.

Eight hundred ministers in Philadelphia are reported to have violated the law to the extent of not furnishing the report of about 2,000 weddings, at which the said ministers tied the nuptial knot. The law is very mandatory in regard to making these reports, which are absolutely necessary in the compilation of important vital statistics. It is evidently high time that the law in this respect should be enforced, and those who will not comply should be made to feel the legal penalties.

The Treasury in a Bad Shape.

Dispatches from Washington concerning the condition of the Treasury are calculated to excite alarm, and the treasury officials are becoming uneasy over the financial situation. The pension office is making the most serious inroad upon the government funds and a halt will have to be called to prevent bankruptcy. It is stated that pension certificates are being issued at the rate of a thousand a day and that 600,000 cases are pending. The Bureau has notified the treasury department that the June quarterly payments will require something over \$26,000,000, and there will not be money enough to meet the demand unless the national banks are drawn upon. To show the tight place the Treasury is in, it is stated that the warrant division refused to pay Director of the Mint LEACH the small sum of \$1500 appropriated by the last Congress, he being told that the money could not be spared for that purpose.

The Treasury is poor indeed when it halts at such small transactions. At the close of business last week the available funds on hand had run down to less than ten millions. While the treasury officials may possibly tide over the present fiscal year ending on the 30th of June, they are greatly alarmed upon looking the new year in the face which begins on the 1st of July, when the extraordinary appropriations made by the last Congress will have to be met. It is questionable whether it can be done, as there will be little or no money in the Treasury, upon which contingency the Treasury can't pay and will have to refuse, and great embarrassment to the public service is looked for. It will be a difficult matter for the administration to get along until Congress shall meet next December, when it is probably that the taxes will have to be increased to meet the deficiency caused by the Billion Dollar Congress.

The Keystone Bank of Philadelphia is a thorough wreck, its management having been a complete swindle. The confiding creditors of the institution will be great losers, but none will suffer more by the default of the institution than will the State of Pennsylvania. Treasurer BARDSLEY, of Philadelphia, deposited in the defunct bank \$930,000 license and other money due to the State, every dollar of which is likely to be lost. This is not the first instance of loss to the State through the incompetent or corrupt financial management of Republican officers.

The End of the World.

Lieutenant TOTTEN, of Yale University, has employed part of his valuable time in making calculations by which he has fixed the date when the millennium will begin. According to his figures this interesting period will come on in 1899, he basing his calculation on a passage in one of the books of Esdras, which says: "The world hath lost its youth and the times begin to wax old. For the world is divided into twelve parts, and ten parts of it are gone already, and a half of a tenth part."

If this can be taken as good authority on the subject only a small fraction of the allotted time remained in the days of Esdras, and according to the Lieutenant's computation the year 1899 will bring that remainder to a conclusion. In the same book there is a statement that 5000 years, 3 months and 12 days is the fifty-three-sixtieths of the world's life time, which would make 5660 years the full extent of the world's duration. In the Jewish calendar the present year is the 5651st year, and the year 1899, therefore, corresponds with the Jewish year 5660, when, according to the doctrine of Esdras, terrestrial existence is to be wound up.

Predictions that the world was coming to an end, with dates specifically assigned for the catastrophe, have been made so frequently in past ages, without the predictions being verified, that it is wonderful that any one should continue to indulge in such prophecies. The Millerites had the thing down very fine, but the old world failed to comply with the arrangements they had made for bringing it to an end. It is a cheap way of gaining notoriety, and while the world continues to wag there will continue to be prophets who will periodically forecast the time of its extinction.

The colored people of Ohio who cast 30,000 votes and give that State a Republican majority, when it has one, complain that "there is not to-day in the entire state one colored man occupying a commanding position, either in state or federal employ." The colored men of Ohio ought to come to Pennsylvania and see how the Republicans treat their brethren here. They do not give them offices, it is true, but they let them carry torches and beat drums and go to the poll, provided they vote the ticket the paid bosses provide them with. To an unprejudiced on-looker it would appear that the colored men of Pennsylvania ought to say something to somebody.

A Sick Statesman.

There can be no doubt that Mr. BLAINE's health is in a critical condition. It has not been vigorous for some years past, and close application to official duty has been attended with occasional prostrations which have indicated that his reserve physical ability is quite limited. The illness by which he was overtaken at New York is more protracted than was at first expected that it would be, showing that his recuperative power has been impaired. If he were to follow his own inclination he would probably leave the sick room and resume his official duties at Washington, but his family insist that his health is of greater importance than affairs of state. A Washington special to the Baltimore Sun makes the announcement that Hon. JOHN W. FOSTER will act as the diplomatic adviser of the President until Mr. BLAINE shall be able to resume his place at the cabinet council-board.

It is on account of this condition of his health that full credit may be given to the report that BLAINE is averse to being again a candidate for the Presidency. He is evidently convinced that his physical capacity, which breaks down under the duties of the State Department, would be unequal to the more onerous service of the Presidential position. It is said that he believes that the Presidency would mean death to him, and that his election would only be the introduction of a Vice President into the chief executive office.

The cry of heresy that is now being heard all along the line of the religionists is not as burning a question as it was some centuries ago when heretics were treated to hot stakes.

Still They Come.

The Straits of Gibraltar is the gateway through which the obnoxious Italian immigration is poured upon this country. It is at that point that this current may be seen to its full extent, and our consul at Gibraltar reports to the State department that no less than thirty-one steamships have touched at that port during the last four months, carrying 20,065 Italian immigrants to the United States, and that a number of other steamers are expected to follow soon from the same quarter, the movement constituting a regular exodus from the Italian kingdom. Our consul at Naples reports that he is informed that certain districts in Italy are nearly depopulated of men, leaving the cultivation of the ground to be done by women altogether.

Very little effort seems to have been made to enforce even such defective immigration laws as we have; but at last there is a movement to put in force the enactment against the importation of contract laborers. Eleven Austrians, who have confessed that they came to this country under a contract, have been detained, but they will not be immediately sent back, as the law provides, but will be held to give evidence against those who imported them. In the past when attempts were made to prosecute importers of laborers the cases fell through for lack of evidence, but the confession of the Austrians will in this case supply that deficiency, and the prosecution should be pushed to the full extent of the law.

Parallel Treatment.

The Pennsylvania Ballot Reform Association was actuated by an honest desire to secure honest elections, but it found its purpose frustrated, and was forced to issue another address which defined the issue between the friends of genuine ballot reform and the supporters of the counterfeit article adopted by the Senate. There has been some pretense of modifying the distortion of the bill made by the Senate Committee, but it has been a sham, and if, as appears at present writing, it should become a law, it would assist rather than prevent the corrupting and intimidating of voters.

In regard to Ballot Reform the majority of the Legislature has acted very much as it did with respect to road improvement. The road bill was so changed and diverted from its original purpose that the friends of road reform did not care whether it was enacted or not. The ballot reform bill has been so distorted and falsified that it became eventually a bill for the corruption and control of the ballot. As to the road bill it was spoiled chiefly through legislative indifference or stupidity, but in case of the ballot bill the reform features were cut out by bosses who did not want to lose their hold on the elections.

The composition of the representation at the Cincinnati convention which put the "People's Party" on its legs, last week, is something worthy the attention of the political student. There were about 1400 delegates, of which number Kansas alone sent one third, and that State, with Missouri, Nebraska, Ohio and Indiana, furnished 1050, or more than two thirds of the delegates. There were but 36 delegates from the Southern States, while all the Northern States east of Ohio sent but 28. The movement is calculated to make a great inroad on the Republican vote in the West, while there is every assurance that the Alliance men in the South will support the Democratic candidate for President next year.

It is not likely that President HARRISON will appoint ex-Governor BRAVER to succeed RAUM in the pension office. The story about such an appointment has been revived by the latest Raun scandal. Mr. HARRISON is now giving appointments only to such men as can control State delegations and bring influence to bear upon the Presidential nomination. The ex-Governor is not one of that class, as he has practically no political influence.

Kansas City's Chief of Police is looking for an embezzler who is only 15 years old, six feet three inches tall, and weighs 100 pounds.

Sparrows from the Keystone.

Pennsylvania has four castor-oil factories. A cooking school will be established at Reading.

Scranton is considering the erection of a crematory.

Pittsburg will have a paper for its colored residents.

The county debts of Pennsylvania amount to \$7,841,484.

An Erie man wants a divorce because his wife smokes.

The Erie Builders' Exchange has black-listed striking laborers.

A 13-year-old child is an applicant for a marriage license at Scranton.

The Pennsylvania Railroad Company owes the State \$416,500 taxes.

The grave of a girl at Titusville was robbed for the jewelry on the body.

South Bethlehem has fifty saloons, while Bethlehem proper has eight saloons.

There are 400 ministers at the General Synod of the Lutheran Church at Lebanon.

A Saturday half-holiday just started in Pittsburg is meeting with much opposition.

High winds played havoc with Lehigh county crops, fences and trees on Friday night.

Seventy-year-old David F. Fry, of Lawn-Lebanon county, has a 20-year-old cat as a companion.

Three of T. J. Quinn's valuable trotting horses have succumbed to a strange disease at Minersville.

Sharpsburg man, who objects to a place on a physicians' black-list, has sued nine doctors of his town.

The Board of Pardons has been petitioned on behalf of a Venango county boy convicted of egg-stealing.

A seven-year-old son of Theodore Hagerty, of New Haven, was dangerously poisoned by eating decayed bananas.

A Pittsburg girl has just eloped with her first love, from whom she ran away ten years ago after promising to marry him.

The man who threw himself under the train at Birdsboro was A. E. Townsley, of Reading, who had failed in business.

The body of Jonathan Burrell, of Stroudsburg has been found in a swamp near Tol-y-hand. He disappeared five months ago.

A reward of \$1000 has been offered for the burglar who shot Postmaster Dengler, at Churchville, Dauphin county, on Friday night.

The Women's Christian Temperance Union of Lancaster has adopted a resolution favoring the closing of the World's Fair on the Sabbath day.

Dary Williams, the Butler county boy, who swallowed a piece of a clay pipe, which lodged in the left bronchus, died after the fourth operation.

The body of William Einstein, of Wrightsville, was found in the Susquehanna River at Columbia, on Saturday. Einstein disappeared from home a week ago.

Riding on a runaway lumber truck on a high trestle in Williamsport a boy leaped for his life, but lost it. The car fell on him, broke his neck and killed him instantly.

A man stopping at Geigertown was caught ransacking the bureau drawers up stairs at the White Bear hotel. When detected he ran to the woods and has not been seen since.

A few white chickens adorned with black crapes and turned loose on the streets at Lebanon elicited a hearty laugh from several members of the Lutheran General Synod.

J. H. Byer, of Pow Pow, Mich., who has suffered from rheumatism since he was 14 years of age, is in Pittsburg to consult Father Mallingier, who has made many miraculous cures by prayer.

Arrested and under \$1000 bail at Shenandoah for embezzling and losing at poker \$500 belonging to the Grand Union Tea Company of Hazleton, William Hughes feels sure he did not know the game.

Eugene Jackson, colored, is in jail at Bedford for placing ties on the Pennsylvania Railroad track at Exburg and causing a train to run into the obstruction, through fortunately without a wreck.

Detectives found \$1200 worth of stolen jewelry and other goods concealed in the home of Easton's young burglar, Isaac Lee, who claimed he had been forced to steal a few cheap goods to support his family.

The safe in the office of the Mt. Pleasant Valley armory, located at Milton, was robbed the other night. The thieves, it is said, secured the combination and opened the safe, securing a little over fifteen dollars.

Two miners employed at the Whitsett, Banning, Jacobs Creek and Eureka mines, in Westmoreland county, who have been on a strike for the past month, resumed work Monday morning at last year's price—sixty cents a ton.

A smooth-tongued stranger swindled Columbia county farmers out of \$300 by representing himself as an agent for a lottery company who was empowered to sell for \$1 tickets that were sure to win a watch or an organ. It is said these farmers never read a paper.

Wearing a false mustache and a wig, young Isaac Lee was caught and arrested on Monday morning as he approached a pile of plunder hidden in the brush. He is alleged to have stolen the goods from John Gamminger's store, in South Easton, on Thursday night.

David Edelman, of Palmer township, aged seventy-two years, was seriously injured on Thursday afternoon while attending a barn raising frolic on the farm of Elias Walter, by a distance of twenty-five feet. His head struck a beam and a good part of his scalp was torn off.

Mrs. Emily Hough, of Jacob's Creek, South Huntingdon township, while rescuing her three-year-old child from in front of a trap, fell and broke her arm. She just got the child off the track in time to save its life, and will probably lose her own life by the shock and injuries sustained.

Sunday night a valuable horse belonging to Liverman Zimmerman, of Johnstown, threw himself in such a manner as to dislocate his neck. A veterinary surgeon was called and succeeded in putting the animal's neck in proper position. This is said to be only the second case where an accident of that kind has been successfully treated.

President Harrison will be in Philadelphia and participate with the Grand Army of the Republic comrades in their memorial ceremonies on Decoration day. He will be accompanied by the George G. Meade Post No. 1 and, with Mayor Stuart and Department Commander Boyer, will be taken to Laurel Hill in an open carriage in the climax of the parade.