

Ink Slings.

The tin-plate has heard the procession of high-tariff fallibilis.

A gambling "kit" is hereafter to be recognized as a necessary part of the royal outfit of England—as indispensable, in fact, as the crown.

The English baccarat scandal ought to furnish very interesting reading for the American heiress who is desirous of marrying into the English nobility.

If investigation could be thoroughly and honestly pushed it might be discovered that the Bardsley deficit had its start in 1888 when money was needed to elect HARRISON and save the tariff.

Senator QUAY is again indulging in his annual habit of declaring that he will "positively take no part" in working the coming state convention. Everybody understands this little pleasantry of the Boss.

BARDSELY has pleaded guilty to the seventeen indictments against him, involving so long a term of imprisonment that when he gets out, if he ever shall, Republican rule will be nothing but a nasty memory.

It has been discovered that BARDSELY took charge of the Philadelphia treasury without taking the oath as treasurer; but it isn't supposed that an oath even of the iron-clad variety would have kept him from stealing.

The American people sometimes think very lightly of the officer at the head of their government, but what would they think of a President who should travel over the country with a lot of gambling baggage in his train?

Since under this Republican administration bank examiners don't examine, the people have lost confidence in the national banking system. "Keystone Bank" rottenness was impossible under the careful and honest rule of GROVER CLEVELAND.

When it was found necessary to discharge young RAUM from the pension office on account of official misbehavior, he was allowed to resign and thirty days extra pay was given him. Was this intended as evidence of distinguished consideration?

Mr. HARRISON was ridiculed a good deal for traveling through the country with a trunk full of ready-made speeches, but it would have been much worse if he should have had it packed with gambling implements, after the style of the Prince of Wales.

The surrender of the Iata to the United States authorities without unnecessary kicking, was about the only sensible thing connected with the Chilian revolution. Even the South American revolutionist is impressed with the danger of fooling with the United States.

A deficiency of two million dollars has been discovered in the Peter's Pence fund by the Pope's auditing committee of cardinals. As this money is not handled by Philadelphia financiers the deficit may be attributed to some other cause than municipal crookedness.

It is said that Mr. CLEVELAND'S new summer home in Bergen county, N. J., is "the healthiest spot in New Jersey." DANA, of the New York Sun, would be better satisfied if the ex-President were located in a Jersey swamp full of malaria and alive with mosquitoes.

The Prohibitionists of Kentucky, having raised a fund of \$400, are talking about making a rousing campaign. This is rather a small sum for political operations in the Blue Grass region, but as the Kentucky Prohibitionists will invest no money in "old Bourbon," \$400 may be enough.

If a Democratic President had been elected in 1888 there would not now be national officers trying to hide the crookedness in the Philadelphia Keystone Bank. That crookedness would have been exposed before it reached its disastrous culmination, by a Democratic examiner who would have examined.

To the foolishness of being galled by the tariff cry at every election is to be attributed the plight in which the Philadelphians find themselves with a plundered treasury. BARDSELY and that class of roosters could always get into office on the cry that the tariff was in danger and that its salvation depended upon the Republicans carrying the city elections.

After the party bosses have been plundering Philadelphia for years, and JOHN BARDSELY has been detected and brought to justice by no movement on their part, but rather in spite of their efforts to conceal his rascality, it is amusing to see the remark of the Press that "the Republicans of Philadelphia have the habit of putting their rascals in jail." When one of them gets in jail the retributive episode sends a shiver of apprehension through the machine managers who remain outside the prison walls, but know very well that they ought to be inside.

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The Constitutional Convention Bill.

Under the Bill providing for a constitutional convention, the voters will decide at the coming November election for, or against, the convention. At the same time they will vote for delegates to compose the convention, in case the voters decide in favor of one. The whole number of delegates provided for is 177, of which 27 are to be elected in the State at large, and the remainder, 150, by Senatorial districts, allowing three to each. In the case of delegates at large, as no voter will be allowed to vote for more than 18, the election will result in the majority party electing 18, and the minority party 9. In the case of district delegates, no voter can vote for more than two out of three, and this method of voting will give the Democrats one in each Republican district, and the Republicans one in each Democratic district. This will allow the minority party in each district to have a representative in the convention, which seems a very fair thing to do. If the people vote against the convention, it ends there for the present; but if they vote in favor of it, it becomes the duty of the Governor, under the law, to issue his proclamation calling the convention and announcing the delegates; the convention to meet in the Hall of Representatives, Harrisburg, the first Tuesday in December, 1891, at 12 o'clock, noon. The pay of delegates is fixed at \$1,500 and mileage, with an allowance for stationery. This Senatorial district, the same as all others, will be entitled to three delegates, and as it is a Democratic district the Democrats will be able to elect two of the three. Our ambition should be to send qualified men, for it is no light affair to properly frame a fundamental law for a free people.

A Defective Banking System.

The case of Bank Examiner DREW presents the curious spectacle of an examiner who didn't examine. The object of such an officer is to inquire into the condition of national banks by personal examination, determine whether they are conducted according to the law regulating such institutions, and see that the public is not injured by their mismanagement. Examiner DREW has been forced to admit that he did not perform this part of his duty in the case of the Keystone Bank; that he was aware of the irregularities which the bank officers were committing; that he did not interfere with the bank being kept open for months after he knew it was rotten, and allowed the city and citizens to deposit their money in it when, from its insolvency well known to him, they were sure of losing the amounts they deposited. The very object of his functions as an officer was to prevent such a wrong as this, and yet he deliberately failed to carry out this object. He was unfaithful to his official trust. Such a situation as the one in question is calculated to shake public confidence in the reliability of the national banking system. That system has been gradually depreciating in the estimation of the people. Its opponents have been increasing in number among a large and intelligent class who do not believe that the national banks are giving the public adequate benefit for the privilege and advantage they enjoy, and just such cases as that of the Keystone National Bank, and such conduct as that of Bank Examiner DREW, confirm the opinion and strengthen the position of the enemies of the national banking system.

A shrewd farmer down in Tennessee has discovered a practical objection to the subtreasury scheme that is so popular among the Alliance people. He thinks that if the government had a store-house to locate in a particular locality all the farming towns in the surrounding country would proceed to cut their neighbors' throats in order to secure it. There would be such a fight as usually springs up in the question of locating a government post office building. Every town wants one, and those that do not get them are down on the administration. Hence the subtreasury buildings in the rural regions would be a source of political weakness.

Read the WATCHMAN for political and general news.

Two Calamities.

Australia has had an experience with the English sparrows similar to that which the United States is having. In 1860 fifty of these prolific and pernicious birds were taken to the island continent for the purpose of propagation, under the impression that their presence would be beneficial. This, however, proved to be a delusion. In the thirty-one years since the sparrows were taken to Australia they have increased to countless millions, and instead of being a blessing they are an unmitigated curse. All kinds of vegetable products are destroyed by them and it is said that they do nothing to abate the spread of noxious insects. But there was some excuse for bringing the sparrows into Australia, which was comparatively a birdless country and its people naturally longed for the presence of birds. But there was no reason for bringing them to America. We were abundantly supplied with native birds that were sufficiently capable of dealing with our native insects. The sparrows are driving away our native songsters while the insects are not disturbed by them. The extent of the calamity which has been brought upon the country by the introduction of the sparrows is only in the first stage of development. It will be fully felt after they have fully occupied the country.

The Great South.

The Manufacturer's Record gives an article from the pen of EDWARD ATKINSON on the undeveloped resources of the South, in which he says:

In the very heart of the eastern part of the United States is an area nearly as large as France, endowed with more varied resources, with a better climate, than any other similar area within the limits of our common country, which is very sparsely settled, and until a few years ago scarcely known to New England people. The time has now come for men to comprehend that there lies at our door a very large area of almost unoccupied territory, capable of being made the home of millions of intelligent and industrious families. It is a territory capable of supplying meats, fruit and vegetables in almost measureless abundance, where yet a large part of the grain and meat is imported from the West.

No part of our great country has a more encouraging future than the South. So far hardly any of her vast resources have been developed. She is rich in all the resources that contribute to the wealth and material progress of a country, to which may be added the best conditions of soil and climate. When these are developed she will displace the field of production with the Middle and New England States. If the people of the South in developing their natural resources exhibit but half the energy and courage they displayed on the field of strife, there can be no question of their success. In so doing they can illustrate the maxim that "Peace hath her victories no less renowned than war."

The case of Professor BRIGGS has raised a disturbance in the Presbyterian denomination that is not being easily allayed. This is unfortunate, as no one who takes any interest in religion would wish to see that staunch old church disturbed by dissensions. The unpleasantness of the complication is increased by the action of the Union Theological Seminary whose directors are almost unanimous in their determination to stand by Prof. Briggs, ignore the veto of the General Assembly, and defy its authority. The directors do not consider this rebellion, for they say "that the veto was a usurpation of powers never given nor intended to be given to the General Assembly, and that, since the veto was illegal, the appointment stands."

WHARTON BARKER, in a recent letter to Colonel HENRY A. DUPONT, of Wilmington, Delaware, on public affairs, says:

"The benefits of Protection are to my mind, as to your own, unquestioned, if the protective system is to be what its ardent advocates have intended it to be, but if it be made the shield for capitalistic greed, then plainly we must either dislodge those who abuse its purpose, or give up the fight for its maintenance. That is just what the modern Protective System is, 'the shield for capitalistic greed.'"

Files job work of ever description at the WATCHMAN Office.

A Sign of Deep Portent.

There are signs in the political sky that are calculated to make the Republican leaders uneasy. To them the most portentous sign is the Third Party, and they do not speak of it with the pleasantness they indulged in at first. According to a Washington dispatch a member of the administration only a few days ago said on this subject:

"The present is a period of doubt and new interest. I cannot say it is one improving in hopefulness. It will not do to dismiss the new party movement with the flippancy certain of our newspapers deal with it. The Republican party itself grew out of what was not wholly unlike the present action of the agricultural and other dissatisfied classes of the voting population. We should be admonished."

The meaning that can be collected from this is that the leaders are alarmed at the attitude of the dissatisfied voters in the strong Republican States of the north-west, which appears as a handwriting on the wall. It should be alarming to them, considering the fact that the Third Party movement has developed chiefly in the States that give the Republican party its preponderance in every victory. But what makes the movement particularly alarming is that most of the leaders as well as the rank and file of this new party, until they recently split off, belonged to the Republican party.

Under this condition of things it is natural that the faith of the leaders in the future of their party is shaken. And this doubt has even entered the White House, as it is said that the President is beginning to see that influences are at work that are likely to make his re-election an impossibility.

A contemporary is of the opinion that the Republican party, seeing that its overthrow is impending, will ultimately throw itself into the arms of the Third Party. And why should this not be so? The Republican party has run its course; its mission is ended. When formed, thirty-five years ago, its cardinal principle and foundation stone were the abolition of negro slavery. With the close of the war that issue ceased to exist, and, since then, the party has had but a single bond of union, the "cohesion of public plunder;" but party organization cannot long be sustained by this. The verdict of last November is evidence that the party is about to go to pieces, and the howl of dissatisfied voters is heard from ocean to ocean. Nothing would be more natural under the circumstances than for the Republican party to glide into the embrace of the Third party, endorsed its principles, and with these heterogeneous odds and end proclaim itself the "People's party" in '92. The political condition in the camp of the opposition to the Democracy is very analogous to that of 1854, when the Know Nothings swallowed the Whig party. It made the K. N.'s sick at the stomach, and they spewed out their new friends, and they came together two years afterward under another name. The Republican party is in a condition to make a similar dicker now, and they who live until '92 may see it.

Children will have to pay more for their whistles than they did before the McKinley tariff commenced to shed its benefits upon the American people. On this subject the Providence Journal, a Republican paper, says: "It is a serious and solemn fact that one of the leading manufacturers of toys in the country, located in New Bedford, is complaining bitterly that the cost of his chief raw material, tin plate, has risen nearly a third since the passage of the McKinley bill, and is putting a heavy drag on his business." In the entire range of tariff benefits Uncle SAM is "paying too much for his whistle."

Some of the religious denominations are being agitated by differences on question of faith to an extent that threatens serious consequences. This is unfortunate in view of the materialistic infidelity that is getting too much of a hold on popular belief. In view of this alarming situation, Dr. McCosh, in an address to a body of ministers, expressing the belief that "we are on the eve of just such a rationalistic overflow as flooded England a century ago," said that the only way to check it is to abandon theological hair-splitting and go to work.

The Senatorial Gerrymander Still Maintained.

Although the constitution of the State of Pennsylvania requires that the Legislature shall "immediately after each United States decennial census" apportion the State into Senatorial districts, "as nearly equal in population as may be," yet the Republican party of the State, by direction of its leaders, has refused to obey this command of the constitution, both under the census of 1880 and of 1890. The present Senatorial apportionment was made under so remote a census as that of 1870. A lapse of twenty years, extending over two enumerations of the people, makes it irregular and unconstitutional.

In addition to its illegality, the Senatorial apportionment, as it has been allowed to remain, is marvelously unfair and unjust. The districts which the constitution requires to be "nearly equal in population as may be," range from 48,000 population in the Lebanon Republican district to 201,000 in the Luzerne, Democratic. Twelve districts have an average of 68,000 and 12 other districts an average of 154,000.

The design of making this iniquitous apportionment perpetual is to enable the Republican machine bosses to maintain their control of the Senate, a body in which corporate power and the money interest have entrenched themselves. It is there where the demand for just and equal taxation, for an honest ballot, and for legislation favorable to the laboring class, may be successfully resisted, and the Republican bosses will not surrender the advantage of such a position by allowing a fair senatorial apportionment that would reduce their numerical strength in that body.

A Republican contemporary attempts to excuse the Republican breach of duty in not passing a senatorial apportionment, as required by the constitution, by saying that if one had been passed it would have been vetoed by Governor PATTERSON. Is it to be inferred from that, which will be above the average for the past twenty years. Anthony Tarton, of Mahoning City, applied to the Pittsburgh police for assistance in finding Anthony Pasuanasly, who had stolen \$100 and Tarton's two children. Squire Figart, of Frankstown, Blair county, has in his possession a clock which was made in Vienna in 1641. It is said to be the oldest timepiece in this country. David Allen, a colored bootblack of Allentown, missed the train at Norristown on Saturday and stole a ride home in the firebox of a new engine, a distance of fifty miles. The United Brethren Church of Allentown on Sunday celebrated the 17th anniversary of the founding of this congregation, whose first church is still standing at Baltimore, Md. Mrs. P. D. Baker, wife of the Clerk of the Courts of York county, stepped upon a piece of glass which severed two of the arteries of the right foot. The unfortunate woman nearly bled to death. Colonel Linton received the Democratic nomination for president judge of Cambria county at Saturday's primaries by a majority of over 1,000. His opponent was Mayor Rose, of Johnstown. Jennie Bruce, aged fifty-one, committed suicide near Ebensburg. A note left by her stated that she was tired of life. Her brother, C. C. Bruce, killed himself by shooting at three weeks ago. The widow of Charles Ankenbell, the well-known civil engineer who was killed on the Philadelphia division of the Baltimore and Ohio about a year ago, has brought suit against the company for \$100,000 damages. Barney Keener, his wife and five children, of Greensburg, were out riding the other day. Their horses ran away and upset the carriage. All were more or less injured, and it is feared a little girl, aged about five years, will die. The good people of Plymouth are horrified. The male members of the Young Men's Christian Association of that town have accepted an invitation from the Cincinnati Female Baseball Club to play a game next Wednesday. Many of the Berks county farmers have found that potatoes are the most profitable crop that can be raised. Many of them realized \$135 per acre for their last year's crop of potatoes, whereas wheat yielded them only \$20 to \$25. The Allegheny county court of quarter sessions will be called on to decide whether the state under the laws of 1794 has any jurisdiction over the Sunday excursion steamers, whose owners have been sued by the law and order society.

Nothing so clearly exhibits the effect of bad government as the diminution of the population of Ireland. The last census, just taken, shows that there is 468,674 less people in the island than there was ten years ago, the population being but a little over 4,000,000, which in 1841 was nearly 8,000,000. Repressive laws have had the effect not only of keeping down the natural increase, but also of driving hundreds of thousands of the inhabitants out of the country. Most of these have come to the United States, so that what has been Ireland's loss has been America's gain. We have no better citizens than those that have Irish blood in their veins. The Emerald Isle has contributed an excellent element to the American population. There couldn't be better or more patriotic citizens of the republic. The fact is an Irishman is half an American before he reaches our shore.

A demand for an increase in the currency of the country is very great, and it is within the range of probability that the Secretary of the Treasury will issue certificates on the amount of silver bullion remaining after the regular monthly issue of coin—that is on the difference between the value of the coin and the amount of silver it will purchase. If the treasury resorts to this expedient it will increase the currency to the extent of between \$15,000,000 and \$20,000,000.

Spawls from the Keystone.

Hessian flies and blight are devastating Berks county wheat fields.

A Williamsport boy took offense at a remark of his father's and ran away.

Twenty-five coal trains per day pass through Reading over the Reading Road.

Dr. Samuel L. Kurtz, of Reading, has been elected President of the State Medical Society.

The halt, lame and blind are swarming to Allegheny to benefit by Father Nollinger's miracles.

Albert Sweigert broke his nose falling from the second-story of Mrs. Bennitch's house in Reading.

W. J. Rainey, of Butler county, was picked up by a vicious horse and shaken till his arm was broken.

A pike four feet long and weighing twenty pounds was caught in Benmstown dam near Meadville.

Margaret Long, of Pittsburg, aged thirty-six years, died from the effects of excessive alcoholism.

Two boys discovered the carcass of a bulldog in a Wilkesbarre well, used by a large number of people.

Two Johnstown women engaged in a fierce fight over the right of one of them to obtain water from a hydrant.

Sixty-seven old prosecutions and 450 new ones will keep the Berks County Criminal Court busy for a while.

A son of Amos Miller, of Reading, who lost his speech after being struck by a carriage on Saturday, is able to talk again.

A sow belonging to John Moore, of Vansport, fell into a cistern, but was rescued by the digging away of the side walls.

A mule stepped on Stephen Bots' toe at Williamsport. Stephen amputated the toe and made unbridled allusions to the mule.

A \$5 reward for the arrest of electric lamp globe breakers at Reading resulted in a small boy being twice hauled up for the offense.

The Funeral Directors' Association of Pennsylvania will hold their tenth annual meeting at Williamsport, beginning June 18.

Adam Kummel, a well-to-do butcher, of Butler, committed suicide by hanging himself in his barn. No cause is assigned for the deed.

Edward Stevens, of Altoona, was run over by an engine, the wheels passing over his left arm. The arm has been amputated at the elbow.

With his feet tied, and the rope hitched to a tree, Dr. John Thompson, of Lincville, Crawford county, jumped into a creek and was drowned.

Diphtheria is raging in southern Berks county. Samuel Stotzfas, a farmer, lost two children in one day, and there are numerous serious cases.

Philip H. Gable was elected Secretary of the Shenandoah School Board by a trick. His salary was reduced to \$25 per year from \$200 in consequence.

An Allentown clergyman's Bible fell into the Lehigh River, and he followed it a mile down stream, where it was rescued and his broadcloth suit spoiled.

Killed by a train at Scranton; Ebenezer John Keely, aged 27, was the second son of ex-Mayor Keely, of Carbonate, has lost in that manner within a year.

Colonel William Heins, of Bechtelsville, has been disappointed in seeking his lost son, Warren, in West Virginia, where the boy was supposed to have been killed.

May returns to the State Board of Agriculture give a promising crop outlook, especially with respect to wheat, which will be above the average for the past twenty years.

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A colored man named Williams got on a tear at Beaver and became so drunk that he gulped down a half-pint of turpentine, under the impression that it was whiskey. It only served to make him more vicious and he was finally arrested and placed in jail.

Isaac Lee Young, the South Eastern burglar who robbed stores to get food for his family goes to prison for eighteen months; Daniel Degrin, the ravisier, for three and a half years, from the same place, and Allen Thies, William Meyer and Robert Strong, the robbers of Sachman's store at Freemansburg, the first two each three years, and the latter two years for "squealing."