

Ink Slings.

—A man of parts—the barber.
—If Chili makes an apology we'll exhibit it at the World's Fair.
—The Jersey man who drank indigo for his grip has been decidedly blue ever since.
—The slang expression "in clover" is decidedly out of season since Wednesday's snow.
—Chili is said to be exceedingly hot just now. With us chilly is always decidedly the opposite.
—Broken hearts, broken pledges and broken banks will be characteristic of the first months of '92.
—KITTIE RHOADES carried away so much money last week that the jack pot "kitties" will have to sleep awhile.
—New York's Democratic HILL was too much for the Republicans to get over and they are now boo-hooing because of their bad luck.
—Ohio Republicans are beginning to find out that FORAKER is a poor subject on which to pin their faith unless a brass pin is used.
—The wasp waist is fast going out and with it the stinging of many feminine lives. Hour-glass forms are no longer considered fashionable.
—With NOAH, BARNUM, FOREPAUGH and COOPER all up in Heaven, SAINT PETER ought to know how to get up a show for every-one.
—As minister REID has succeeded in getting the American hog admitted into France, ex-Speaker REED can visit Paris as often as he desires.
—The question with the fellow who has sworn himself against the fair sex, for one year, is now: Whether to break the resolution or his heart.
—It was a Lock Haven girl who excused herself for claiming a policeman to kiss her, by claiming that it was against the law to resist an officer.
—If the author of the old saw, "as long as the moral law," had lived in these times it would have read "as long as the face of a New York Republican."
—It is not to be wondered at that we have had freezing weather since last Saturday. That was the day JOHN SHERMAN'S boom was turned loose upon the country.
—If old mother EVE had had all the new leaves that were turned on the 1st of January her raiment would not have been as scanty as the Bible declared it to have been.
—If foolish maidens would only forget to look before they leap we poor printers might possibly be afforded the opportunity of shuffling off the coils of single blessedness ere long.
—Philadelphia shop-lifters have reaped a prolific harvest during the holiday crush, but the unfortunates who entered WANAMAKER found the big store just a trifle too heavy for them.
—When completed the 11th census will have cost the government a trifle over eleven cents per capita. Some of the heads that were taken would fall far short of that amount if placed on the market.
—The newspapers report GARZA as hanging round Texas. If this is so there'll be no further trouble from him. Fellows who are found hanging round that country are useful only for subsoil material.
—If UNCLE SAM would send the great JOHN L. and BUFFALO BILL down along the Rio Grande, president DIAZ could rest assured his insurgent subjects would be brought to time either with rum or gun.
—If the speech which Mr. QUAY intends making on "Why we should annex Mexico" is to be another of his brilliant elocutionary hits, we fancy it will sound to the other Senators like the steam whistle forty miles away.
—The Republican press is taking much pleasure out of the fact that Congressman MILLS has returned to Texas for his health. Claiming that he is disgruntled over his defeat for the chairmanship. Their comfort is extremely cold however and it will become frigid when ROGER Q. returns.
—It is said that BENNY is opposed to admitting Oklahoma to Statehood, and when we look at it from his point of view he's quite right. Ere long it will need a territorial Governor and a few othersuperfluities and according to Mr. PORTER'S census there are a few Harrison relatives yet out of office.
—Narrow minded writers all over the country are condemning the KEELEY cure, simply because its inventor is making a million and a half a year out of his bi-chloride of gold connection. If they would only take into consideration the fact, that the more the Doctor makes the greater is the evidence that our drunkards desire to reform, we think they would see some good in the scheme at least, and stop the vituperative attacks upon a system which, if it does no good, can certainly do no injury.

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Don't Tinker With It.

The WATCHMAN does not agree with the Democratic paper, that insist that congress should proceed at once to pass amendments to the McKINLEY bill, placing iron ores, wool, lumber, binder twine, cotton ties, salt etc, on the free list. It looks upon such a movement as bad politics for the party, and believes that what is bad for the Democracy, is baneful in its promise for the country's future prosperity. The welfare of the business interests and manufacturing industries of the country depends, to a great extent, upon the complete success of the Democratic party and its well known position on tariff reform. Any effort or movement, that would jeopardize or make doubtful that success, no matter what temporary relief it might promise, would be foolish and suicidal, and we feel that those who are entrusted with formulating the party policy, will not, for the sake of show, take any chances that will change the present political situation, or make the success that is so certain, in any way doubtful.

Because the great manufacturing industries of the country are now paralyzed; because workmen in every State of the Union are unemployed or receiving only the most beggarly wages or because there is no demand or adequate prices for the products of our farms, is no fault of the Democracy. These conditions are attributable directly and solely to an iniquitous tariff measure, against which the Democracy voted and protested in the most earnest manner.

It is because of this condition of affairs that the prospects of Democratic success, the coming fall, are so encouraging. Remove these conditions and where are we?

The Republicans, having the Senate and the President, would be given the same meed of credit for the relief of the manufacturing interests would secure by placing raw materials on the free list, that the Democrats would. Every Republican manufacturer in the country who is now kicking because the past policy of his party has well nigh ruined his business, would be back in the party traces, submitting to the "fat frying" process, for the benefit of the republican organization, and in the hope that its success would perpetuate a high protection rate of tariff on the articles of his manufacture, and thus secure him benefits at the expense of the masses.

If there was any certainty that a Republican Senate and a Republican President are too blind to see and take advantage of the situation, and that these measures if passed by a Democratic House, would meet with defeat in a Republican Senate or be vetoed by a Republican President, it might be good policy to emphasize the Democratic position on this question, by passing them.

But it must be remembered that Republicans are not idiots, even if they do many foolish things at times. They see the drift of public sentiment and feel the pressure of public demands as readily as do others. They can shift their position on any question, as readily as a weather vane when the wind changes, and we do not have the least doubt, that with the pressure that would come from the iron manufacturers for free ore, from the woolen manufacturers for free wool, from the farmer for cheaper binder twine and from the masses for cheaper salt, that they would accept these proposed amendments to the McKINLEY bill and thus take the sting out of it as a public issue. Can we afford to give them this opportunity?

To give it them and have it accepted, is to shift the questions of next fall's campaign onto issues, the results of which no one can fore-see. It is to make doubtful that which is now certain, and to give real tariff reform a backset which it will not get over for years and years to come.

If the Democratic position on the tariff must be emphasized and kept before the public by congressional action, let it be done in a manly, straightforward way. Present a bill that will cover all the questions of a revision of the tariff, just as we would have it, had we control of both the legislative and executive departments of the government. Anything short of this, if action on the tariff question is taken, will be simply child's play, that cannot benefit the party and may do it, and through it the country, an irreparable wrong.

Let well enough alone.

A Recognized Head for a Department Without Brains.

The Republican Supreme Court has put back into the school department, Dr. D. J. WALLER, Jr., as Superintendent of Public Instruction. He is the official whom Governor PATRISON refused to commission, and appointed in his place Z. X. SNYDER, of Indiana county. The case was carried to the courts, the Dauphin county Judges deciding against WALLER's claim, but the decision of the Supreme Bench reverses that action, and places him in charge.

We don't know that it matters much who is at the head of the School Department, for all the good the state derives from it. In the recent investigations as to the loss of the state's money through BARNESLEY and the Republican Auditor General and State Treasurer's manipulations, as well as in those made by the Senate committee into the school book trust, it was pretty conclusively shown that the chaps who have been running that office, knew about as much about the duties of the place or the requirements of their positions, as a goose does of English grammar. About all the use, the evidence given shown it to be of, was to construe the school laws in the interest of the thieves who were robbing the treasury, and to draw the salaries allowed officials and clerks.

That's About the Size.

A correspondent who seems to be of an inquiring turn of mind writes to ask, "what the probable size of the ballot, to be voted in accordance with the new election law, this fall will be?" We are sorry we cannot give him the exact dimensions. Taking into consideration, however, the fact that the names of sixty-four electors in addition to those of the state, district and county nominees of both parties must be printed upon it with "type not smaller than the size known as 'brevier,'" we judge that it would be considerably larger than a mules ear, and somewhat less than a horse blanket. Just how much we do not know.

A Short Legislature or a Liar Somewhere.

When the ever truthful and always persevering newspaper undertakes a matter there is no telling what the result will be until it is all over. For two months the daily papers of the country have been carrying on the SHERMAN-FORAKER Senatorial campaign, and from the number of conversions that have been daily announced, to each of the aspirants, the public generally has been led to believe that the Ohio Legislature was made up of about the same number of representatives, that the Chilean army is of soldiers. Starting with the 40 votes that Senator SHERMAN was said to be certain of the morning after the election, and adding to these the number of doubtful votes that papers in his support, daily announced as having come out for him, his vote in caucus on Wednesday night last, should have been 364, and figuring FORAKER'S strength in the same way, from the reports given in the papers supporting him, he should have polled 424 votes. In place of these figures, SHERMAN had but 53, and FORAKER 33 votes all told. Now the question with the people who were relying upon the reports of the press is, what has become of the balance of the Ohio Legislature, or who was the liar in the case, the doubtful voter or the ever reliable press?

Philadelphia, that promised itself all kinds of unheard of prosperity in case of the passage of the McKINLEY bill, has over 400 business failures to report as a result of its first years operations. Possibly by the time another four hundred of its business enterprises "bust" up, its citizens will conclude, that a high tariff is not such a thunderin' good thing after all.

The wages of steel workers in the Pittsburgh district are down to a lower point at this time than has ever been known, since this industry was first established. While republican papers still prate of the benefits of protection, none of them refer to the kind of protection it seems to be giving the workmen, employed in industries that are supposed to profit by its operations.

No Capital in That.

And after all we are not to be disgraced by going into a war with poor, little, half-starved, sun-scorched Chili—a government less than half the size, in population and wealth, of our own state, and scattered over the earthquake debris of all southwestern South America. We are thankful this humiliation is saved us. We have insulted them with forcing upon them a most obnoxious and disreputable representative; taunted them with their littleness and weakness; carried a chip on our shoulder for months and dared them to knock it off; blowed and blustered and bluffed as if we owned the earth and could "do up" all creation before breakfast; and now when it is over we see what fools we have made of ourselves, and what a little matter we were willing to go to war about, not because we knew we were right, but because Chili was little, and weak, and poor, and we imagined we could wallop it with ease.

With us, in this whole affair, there was neither statesmanship nor manliness. In fact our people went off half-cocked, before they knew anything about the origin of the trouble, and without waiting for facts, information or explanation, tried to make the world believe that we had been wronged, and wronged in a way that could only be righted by showing our ability to whip a people less than one-eighth our size.

Since the facts have come out, there seems to have been much more of the big school boy business about this matter, or a settled purpose to deceive the public with the intent of turning it to the account of President HARRISON, than is creditable to the administration.

Whether the purpose was to get up a war with Chili, in the hope that it would bring about a kind of hip—hurray—star-spangled—banner, campaign that would again carry Mr. HARRISON into the presidential chair, we know not. To the unbiased looker on it has that appearance. If that was the purpose, it has luckily been knocked in the head by Mr. BLAINE, whose investigations have shown that the whole affair was simply a drunken riot, between a lot of American sailors, off the government boat Bakimore, on a spree in Valparaiso, and a crowd of Chilean greasers, over the quality of the "Chinqua" they were imbibing, and had nothing more to do with the American flag, than the discovery of the North Pole has with the result of an election in Philadelphia.

That the whole thing is over, and we are saved the humiliation a war with such a country, on such slight pretext, must have brought, we can all be truly thankful.

A Rather Expensive Experiment.

The new election law which goes into effect at the coming November election, in addition to being a most cumbersome and doubtful legislative enactment, will prove one of the most expensive experiments ever undertaken by the people of this state. If it works right, all well. But if it proves to be no improvement on our present system, or no prevention, of the bribery and bull-dozing it was passed to prohibit, what then?

The cheapest booth that will fill the requirements of the law, will cost in the neighborhood of \$8 a piece. At the November election next year these will be about 4,500 voting districts in the State, and an average of five booths for each polling place will be required. That means 22,500 booths at a total cost of \$180,000. In addition to this there will be the cost of guard rails, which will raise this amount to \$200,000. Then there is a new ballot box to be purchased, and we are told that the commissioners to select the booths and boxes, have decided on a patent one manufactured in New Jersey, the cost of which is \$25 each, thus adding to the above amount \$112,000; making a total for fixtures alone of over \$300,000. This expense will be borne by the State, but all the other added costs, such as securing the proper sized rooms, the printing, binding, mauling and distributing tickets, etc., must be paid by the county and districts.

Whether the benefits will repay the out-lay remains to be seen.

The Tariff is a Tax.

From the Louisville Courier Journal.

Perhaps no five words in the English language so inflame the Republican journalists as these: "The tariff is a tax."

They have denounced the phrase, derided it, denied it, but it is an argument in itself that goes to the root of this whole controversy and it sticks in the public mind.

But even Republicans are forced at times to admit that the tariff is a tax, and to defend it because it is a tax. Some importers have resisted the collection of the duties under the McKINLEY bill, and one of their counsils is that it provides a bounty for the production of sugar, for which bounty no authority can be found in the constitution.

Solicitor General TAFT, arguing for the Government, insists that the bounty is only a change in the method of "protecting" the sugar producers; a change from a tariff to a bounty. Reviewing our tariff history at some length, he concludes:

"The principle" of a protective tariff—"thus established necessarily justifies bounties, for in the beginning of the operation of a protective tariff the amount of duty levied is bounty to the domestic manufacturer, and it is with a view to such a benefit to him that it is levied. The sugar duties have always had the effect of a bounty to domestic sugar producers."

Whether or not legally the Solicitor General is right, the court will determine, but practically, commercially and economically, the amount of duty levied is a bounty to the domestic manufacturer.

We refer our Republican contemporaries to Solicitor General TAFT for instruction on this point, merely repeating what we have said before, that "the tariff is a tax."

A Midwinter Night's Dream.

It was a busy day in Hades. Charon had known nothing like it since the year 2800, when the last of Washington's nurses were gathered in. But his toils were almost over, for the rays of the evening sun were falling, faint and pale, upon the black waters of the Styx. The crickets chirped in the ghostly meadows. Spectral figures stalked away in the gloom. The bubbles on the river grew darker in the wan and sickly light, and the shadows played back and forth on the banks. In the distance the flames sank lower, and the imps drew their pokers from the red-hot coals. The wheel of Ixion ceased to revolve. Tantalus sat down on the stone to rest, and the voices of the night were heard in the infernal regions.

Charon dropped wearily upon the seat of his boat, while Cerberus walked to the river's edge and sympathetically licked the ferryman's hand with his four tongues. But the former raised his head when there came a hail from the farther shore and paddled his boat back for a last passenger.

They brought him down to the bank and laid him, carefully and tenderly in the boat. Charon gazed anxiously at the striking and ancient face. The hair was thin and white as snow. The skin was wrinkled as if with the passage of centuries. Who was he? Some mighty King at whose frown the nations trembled? An illustrious philosopher who had unraveled the secrets of life? A poet whose lines had filled the air with beautiful and majestic visions? No, he had been another and busier one.

The tin plate liar was dead.

Who Pays the Taxes.

From the Rural New Yorker.

One of the foremost claims of the Protectionist is that the foreign shipper pays the duties. If this is true, isn't it strange that when famine threatens any country, one of the first means of relief thought of should be a diminution or removal of import duties on food stuffs? Again, the report of the Treasury Department for the fiscal year 1890 shows that 6,100 gallons of castor oil were imported, valued at \$2,810. The duties were \$5,520. Now, if the foreign shipper paid the duty, is it not certain that he not only made us a present of the oil, but gave us besides \$2,610 to get rid of it? In 1890 imports brought in to the United States 664,653 gallons of spirits distilled from grain, valued at \$456,121 the duties on which were \$1,329,367. Who paid these duties? If the importers, they lost not only the liquor, but \$873,246 besides. These are, of course, extreme cases, but the truth or fallacy of a proposition is generally more forcibly shown by taking extreme cases. Will some learned "protectionist" unravel this conundrum relating to phisic and stimulants.

China as Imported.

From the Boston Herald.

It is truly sad to read the description of the new china procured for the White House. The pieces all bear the insignia of the United States, including the stars and stripes, the American eagle with outspread wings and a steamer bearing the words, "E Pluribus Unum." But the china was all imported from France, and china is one of the items in our tariff law which has for its professed object the protection of our home industries against foreign competition and the encouragement of domestic manufactures. Alas!

Spawls from the Keystones.

—Recorder H. C. Lehman took the oath of office in Lancaster.
—Iron works in Reading resumed Monday, after a holiday recess.
—Hazletonians agree not to buy at stores kept open after 6 p. m.
—Early sown wheat has suffered greatly in southeastern Pennsylvania.
—Pittsburgers are about to ship two carloads of glass to Hong Kong, China.
—Thomas James was killed in the Otto Colliery, near Minersville, Saturday.
—Reading capitalists will build a big hotel on the top of Neversink Mountain.
—Mines underneath their houses in Hazleton compelled two families to vacate.
—Mike Labanko made three ineffectual attempts to shoot a woman in Hazleton.
—The large power house of the electric railway near Girardville collapsed Sunday.
—Commissioner Acton is the new president of Lehigh county's Board of Commissioners.
—The Lebanon Young Men's Republican Club has opened a handsome new club hall.
—Wealthy Adam Heister, of Bern, is believed to be in the waters of the Tulpehocken.
—Epidemic has attacked many horses and cattle in Lancaster, Berks and Chester counties.
—Reviewers reported favorably upon a new \$50,000 bridge across the Lehigh at Catasauqua.
—The Irish Military Union will hold its next encampment, at Seranton, on August 14, 15, and 16.
—Pittsburg is soon to have a columbarium, with 100 cells for the reception of human ashes in urns.
—Pennsylvania's Department of Agriculture will urge Congress to provide a remedy for leprosy.
—Coroner Kautner, of Reading, has appointed twenty-eight Deputies throughout Berks county.
—Judge Albright says the Allentown Poor Directors are not entitled to extra pay for extra services.
—Wooden buildings are now prohibited in Reading and building permits come at half the old rates.
—After a separation of 52 years, William R. Wilson, of Easton, Pa., was visited by his sister from Scotland.
—A quarrel over cards led Tony Barry to brain George Robinson with a club, on a steamboat at Pittsburg.
—Pennsylvania Chautauqua stockholders met in Lebanon, Tuesday, and will apply for a charter on to-day.
—A charter has been granted to the Industrial Building and Loan Association, of Bloomsburg; capital, \$50,000.
—Honest grocers are protesting all over the State over the violations of the vinegar law by unscrupulous brethren.
—The Democratic Central Association, at Reading, has scaled down its membership, which was too large.
—The flames have been driven out of the most important "workings" in the West Lehigh mine at Ashland.
—Rather than go to jail, Ralph Raber a drummer, married Rosanna Garhan, in the Lehigh county sheriff's office.
—The water in Preston No. 3 mine, near Ashland, where the dam broke on Sunday, has raised 11 feet above the rail.
—The seventh injury he received on the New Jersey Central proved fatal to James M. Williams, baggage master, Easton.
—Manager Walton Nelson, of Lickly & Co.'s piano store, Pottsville, has disappeared. There is a shortage of \$300 in his accounts.
—Burglars, at Reading, shot a watchman who interrupted them while trying to rob the Pennsylvania Railroad stock house.
—While making a raid in Carlisle, Police-men Martin and Johnson were larned unmercifully by four men in a dark room.
—Oil prospectors, now taking leases near Ohiopyle, Fayette county, hope for as many gushes as were yielded by McDonald's field.
—Museum Manager E. G. Flood, who left his traps and creditors in the lurch at Lancaster, has been captured at Altoona.
—Half fed and poorly supported by his father, young Lewis Sassenau, of Reading, has secured a guardian to treat him better.
—Four men were peppered by pigeon shooters at Plymouth. One of them, Hiram Knappor, had an eye shot out of its socket.
—The Turbot Horse Protective Association held its 25th annual meeting, in Watonsontown, Saturday and elected E. L. Watchin president.
—The white-tailed fox hunter Bill, near Strasburg, has for years killed huntsmen, has been caught last near Quarryville.
—A horse kicked Sergeant Charles Stuffed of the Star Clay Works, Menton, in the face and knocked him through a door. He may die.
—One of South Bethlehem's 51 legalized saloon-keepers has sworn that his receipts for beer alone on 23 days of last month aggregated \$3000.
—Dr. Ruth's horse ran away near Allentown, jumped into the river and drowned, while the Doctor and his companion swam ashore.
—Andalous Thomas Ford visited a Scranton police station and entered a trumped-up complaint, then stole officer Lewis' pipe from his desk.
—Oscar H. Keller's family of four, at Summit Station, Schuylkill county, eat twenty-four terrapins per week on the average the year around.
—The Lehigh Democratic County Committee elected Prothonotary E. H. Stine, County Chairman; J. H. H. Hendricks, Secretary, and Peter Gross, Treasurer.
—In the state-splitting contest, Thomas Mollen, of Pen Argyl, won, he having 42 states in 6 minutes and 15 seconds. Several hundred dollars were paid in prizes.
—Lancaster officers expect soon to recapture cray "Baltimore Joe," who escaped from among the lunatics while they were being treated to a concert.
—Larry Reynolds, aged 77, has for half a century been a lone hermit in an old stone house whose foundations are lapped by the Octorara Creek in Colerain township.
—State Senator Hines expects to be the next Democratic Congressman to hail from Wilkes-Barre, and Major Ridge Wright hopes to succeed him in the Senate.
—Bank Commissioner Krumbauer, Monday took possession of the Continental Trust and Finance Company of Phila., closed its doors and will apply for the appointment of a receiver.