

Ink Slings.

Out from the ranks of the G. O. P. BLAINE has gone for naught Than through fear of the presidential bee Since its feet were getting hot.

—A liberal use of beer always makes a fat undertaker.

—BLAINE is off the track, but it cannot be said to have been caused by a mis-placed switch.

—Out in Nebraska they had a very appropriate use for the slang phrase "git THAYER" last week.

—Free coinage is one issue. Free silver another. Literally speaking the masses favor the latter for practice.

—The Louisiana lottery is up the flue, GROVER'S visit seems to have had a wonderful effect upon the Gulf state.

—The retailers now in session in Philadelphia have admitted all classes of merchants except those who retail shirts.

—One way to secure rapid transit is to call on a young woman whose near sighted father takes you for a book agent.

—The Louisiana lottery might have had a last Grand Drawing of QUAY'S BLAINE delegates. They are out in the cold now.

—HARRISON'S cabinet is about as mysterious a piece of political furniture as that used by the average spiritualist and magician.

—DAVE HILL should have been on exhibition at the New York poultry show last week. He seems to be "cock of the walk" over that way just now.

—If the political bee was only a poisonous insect how much of trials and tribulations we would all be spared and what a truthful people we would be.

—Since BLAINE'S withdrawal it is quite the appropriate thing for the Republican to suggest MILLIKEN'S name as a possible presidential candidate.

—They talk of the air of cultured and refined Boston, but what makes it any different than that which we Pennsylvanians breathe? Is it the pork, or is it the baked beans?

—Some green goods men were arrested in the Quaker city last week, and the only evidence of guilt—but an exceptionally good one—found upon them, was a verdant Kentuckian.

—If some of our good farmers, who are going to have sale this spring, would only get a hold of Death's old reaper and sell it with their goods what sunshine and happiness we would all enjoy.

—The New Jersey legislator who suicided, while delirious with grip, evidently intended to wash himself clean of all political sin before he entered the next world for he took a whole stream of water.

—Woburn, Massachusetts, high school girls are kicking because they are required to discard their corsets before entering gymnastic exercises. Perhaps they imagine they can't be staid without them.

—BLAINE'S poor health is supposed to have been the cause of his refusal to be a candidate for a presidential nomination. His action will undoubtedly have a very salutary effect on BENNY'S physical temperament.

—Six Yale students, with their young lady companions, broke through the ice while skating on Lake Whitney, on Sunday, and were given a good cold bath. It was slightly different from the bacchanalian immersions of the "Dickie" club.

—CARNegie's recent sermon on "the Gospel of Wealth" must have had its foundation on the scriptural verse "and at the end I say unto you it is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter into the Kingdom of God."

—Japanese workmen all wear the name of their employer printed across the gable end of their trousers. Such advertising schemes wouldn't work in America, for every time a fellow would be cheated it is altogether probable that he would manifest his contempt for the wily tradesman's name by sizing it up by the foot.

—A superstitious old man down in Lyeoming county has procured a hangman's rope to cure his wife of fits. He thinks if he ties it around her neck the trouble will cease. If he would tie the other end around his own neck and then crawl over the limb of a tree, about ten feet from the ground, we think he would be cured, and so would his wife.

—A New England syndicate will put a powerful search light on the top of Mt. Washington and make a summer resort of the place. They might turn it to good use in keeping track of the rapidly declining republican majorities down that way. But then the rising generations of "Yanks" are strong enough in their convictions of tariff reform to not make it necessary for them to desert the G. O. P. between days.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

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It Was Hollow Pretense.

It is well not to be premature in making up your mind that people are honest, simply because they say they are. Along during the latter part of December and the first week in January, when it became apparent that both houses of the New York legislature would be Democratic, and the power of re-apportionment the state would be in the hands of the Democrats, there were no words too strong for Republican papers to use in expressing their condemnation of partisan apportionments or political gerrymanders. Even the President of the United States and the Governor elect of Ohio, joined in the windy pretense of demanding just and fair apportionments, and the public was left under the impression that so far at least, as the Republicans had the power, the States to be re-districted would be divided in accordance with the intent of the Constitution and the spirit of the law, rather than the needs or contingencies of partisan demands. It is scarcely a month since this professed desire for honesty and fair dealing in the matter of apportionment States was made, and the only state under the control and domination of the party, whose representatives were so voluble about just apportionments, when New York became Democratic, has just exemplified the Republican idea of fairness and honesty in this matter. It is Ohio. On Saturday last, the newspapers informed us that the Republican majority in the Legislature had agreed upon a congressional apportionment bill, that would give to the Democrats four of the twenty-one congressmen to which that state is entitled. There are 400,000 Democrats and, in a pinch, about 420,000 Republicans, in Ohio; so that the Republican idea of fairness, of honesty, of decency and of right, is to allow each hundred thousand Democrats ONE representative in congress and give each hundred thousand Republicans, FOUR.

The infamous apportionment that has disgraced Pennsylvania for years, and the Democratic division of Ohio, which is to be changed by the measure now in the course of passage, and which the Republicans so vehemently denounced as villainous are respectable, honest and just, in comparison with the iniquitous bill that is proposed to be forced upon the people and the state of Ohio. And yet, after all the prating that was done in President HARRISON'S message; in governor McKINLEY'S inaugural and in the Republican papers about the necessity and honor of being fair in this work, does anyone hear a word from either of these sources, in opposition to the flagrant outrage that is about to be perpetrated?

The WATCHMAN stated at the time that there was no honesty in these professions; that neither HARRISON, McKINLEY nor the Republican press of the country, cared a bob-see how wrong or disfranchising a gerrymander might be, only so the Republican party benefited by it, and the present situation—their silent acquiescence in the enactment of the most villainous measure that ever disgraced the statutes of any state, or disfranchised any people—is the evidence of the truth of that statement.

—Seldom have the public and private lecturers, on the folly of dancing, an opportunity to score a point on their side such as the sudden death of Miss KATHARINE SHAW will occasion; but the believers in the other side of the question will receive it in a philosophical manner, for heart failure is not a monopoly of the ball room, and the beautiful Miss Shaw might have met the same fate had she been at home sleeping, as she did while promenading after a waltz at the reception given by the Pittsburg club.

—The editors of the Clearfield Spirit, who told some unpleasant things about lawyer McKENDRICK formerly of that town, and were sued for libel, stood trial last week, and were acquitted easily. We congratulate Messrs SAVAGE and SHORT, on the result of their trial, and are glad to know there is one county in the State, in which the jurors have the good sense to recognize that when the truth is published for the public good, there is no grounds for a libel suit.

A Question.

There is no question that public sentiment is against the multiplication of naturalizations, and were it left to popular approval, so strong is the feeling against the hordes of Hungarians, Italians and other foreigners that are crowding our own workmen out of places and employment, we doubt if any more naturalizations would be granted at all. It is this sentiment that has secured for Judge FURST the favorable comment, that has been accorded him, for refusing to naturalize an Italian at our last term of court because he did not know the requirements of the constitution. At first thought people will be inclined to think the Judge was right, but after reflection many will doubt whether there is a much danger to the public welfare and the rights of the people, from the enforcement of our too liberal naturalization law, as from the recognition of the power of the courts, to add requirements too or take provisions from, the statutes of the country, as their wishes may desire or prejudices dictate. The constitution of the United States empowers congress to make a "Uniform rule of naturalization." It has done so by enacting a law which make a residence of five years within the United States, one of which shall be within the State in which application for naturalization is made, and the renouncing, under oath, of all allegiance to any foreign prince, potentate or power, the required qualification for citizenship. Now if Judge FURST can add to these qualifications the one requiring that the applicants shall be able to read and understand the constitution of the United States, an other Judge can require that he shall know the ten commandments or be familiar with the teachings of the shorter catechism, while another can add such other qualifications as his crankiness or the public clamor might demand, and so on through the entire list of the thousands of Judges scattered over this broad land, and before whom these applicants must appear. With every court there would be a new or different qualification, and the uniformity required by the constitution would simply be abolished by the will of the Judges. If the courts have the authority to add such qualifications as they see proper to one law, why may they not do so to all? And where is there any safety for any citizen or security for any interest when such a rule is recognized? Whether it is not "better to bear the ills we have" in the shape of too lax laws upon certain matters, until they can be changed or modified, to suit existing circumstances, than to recognize the right, or applaud the disposition of our courts, to exercise a power to make, as well as to execute the laws, is a question for thoughtful people to think seriously over.

—Last Saturday's issue of the York Gazette was one of the best specimens of an enterprising, inland, country daily, we have ever seen. In addition to all the other news afloat, it had a condensed history of York and its newspaper, and articles from most of the leading newspaper men of the country, as well as from a half a dozen or more of the most prominent politicians about Washington. It was an issue that will always be an honor to the staid old town in which it is published.

A Big Howl Over a Small Transaction.

The Republican papers are glorifying as much over the confirmation by the senate of a post master up at Elmira, as if their party had won a sweeping victory. They have the senate and why they should howl so loud over doing what they had the votes, the disposition and the power to do, is as mysterious to us as it seems elating to them. When a Republican body like the United States senate gets so run down at the heel, that it is considered an extraordinary event to agree upon the appointment of a third-class postmaster, to the common mind, it would appear as about time to make a change in its membership and political complexion. This is about all we can see in the Elmira result.

Where Blaine's Letter Pats Them.

The letter of Secretary BLAINE stating that he will not be a candidate for President and that his name will not be before the Minneapolis convention, leaves Senator QUAY and his followers in the political soup up to their chin. It was under the cloak of supporting the Secretary of State, who is undoubtedly popular with the Republican voters of Pennsylvania, that the Junior Senator hoped to secure such a delegation as he could trade and traffic as best suited his purpose. It was under the banner of BLAINE that he hoped to carry on his own campaign for re-election, and now that this opportunity is denied him, we are anxious to see what scheme he will resort to to keep himself out of the issue, for by keeping himself out, is his only hope of success. Among Republicans, patronage is greater than principle. It is the slogan that calls forth their every energy; the tool-horn that calls them to partisan work as does the dinner bell the farmer to his meals. Without it the party has no more energy than a suckling calf without milk, and its leaders are as helpless as a revivalist without a hell. It is this fact that has troubled QUAY and drove him to adopt the BLAINE side in the presidential contest. He had lost the patronage and without that what is he worth to Republicanism or Republicans? Now he has lost the BLAINE cover and the query is: what will he do? Without patronage or a cover for his own political depravity, will the Republicans, of a great state like Pennsylvania, cling to this deformed and debauched political god longer? And this is just the question that is troubling them. There is no doubt about what they would do if QUAY could control the appointments, but he can't and the fear of losing their grip on the fat places of the land, or the unpleasant duty of supporting an administration for which they have a sickening disgust, is the dilemma in which Mr. BLAINE'S letter has put his friends in this state, and it has placed Mr. QUAY in a worse one.

—Lehigh county has only eight Democratic candidates, seeking the congressional nomination at this time. A county with so many statesmen to the square yard, is not to be found anywhere else in the state, and the new state chairman who is a resident of it can show his ability as a harmonizer, by satisfying eight aspirants with one office.

Won't Stand Comparison.

In pleasing contrast with the dirty intent of a Republican legislature in Ohio, to disfranchise the Democracy of that state, is the honorable and manly action of the Democratic legislature of New York, in presenting an apportionment bill, that gives to the Republicans of that state full representation in both branches of the Legislature, for every vote they have. With a Democratic majority of over 50,000 in the state, the proposed new apportionment will give that party but five of a majority in the Senate, and an excess of but eighteen in the House. This, when compared with the greedy, villainous work of the Republicans of Ohio, who are rushing through their legislature a bill that will secure them seventeen out of twenty-one congressmen, is a showing so fair for the Democracy, that it should shut the mouths effectually of Republicans blatherers about Democratic gerrymanders. When the Democrats obtained control of the Senate and House in New York, through the decision of the supreme court of that state, it was dinned into our ears, day and night, from every conceivable source, that the purpose was to make the state eternally and forever Democratic by a gerrymander that would throw all other efforts in this line in the shade. The falsity of this charge is proven, by the more than fair measure that is now being considered and which in all probability will become a law. It shows that when the Democrats have the power, they have also the manliness, to do the fair thing by their opponents, and that it is not upon the gerrymander of districts or the disfranchisement of citizens, but upon the good sense of the voter and the free and untrammelled action of the citizen, that they rely for success.

Downfalls.

From the Clearfield Republican. The county of Allegheny seems to have an excess of political downfalls lately. Mayors of Allegheny city are under arrest charged with the cheapest kind of embezzlement, next Collector Warmcastle is thrown overboard for general crookedness, and now we have the knockout of the Postmaster and his assistant, of Allegheny city, en route to the penitentiary. Who the next man will be no one knows. Well, they have too many Republicans in Allegheny, anyhow, for safety.

Characteristic Democratic Honesty.

From the Phila. Record. The New York Democrats have arranged an apportionment bill which will give them nineteen State Senators and the Republicans thirteen, while in the Assembly they will have seventy-three and the Republicans fifty-five, a majority on joint ballot of twenty-four. This is more than fair. A state that gives 50,000 Democratic majority is entitled to a corresponding majority in the Legislature. The Republicans for years past by their last gerrymander have made it necessary for the Democrats to have at least that majority to elect a Democratic legislature.

The Only Issue.

From the Harrisburg Patriot. Senator Vest says tariff reform must be the supreme issue with the Democracy the coming campaign. He says: "In 1888, when Mr. Gorman and the late William L. Scott came to the St. Louis convention with a cut and dried platform containing the old straddle of 1884, approved, as they stated, by Mr. Cleveland, the convention repudiated the movement and I heartily endorsed its action. Not even Mr. Cleveland's name was potent enough to pull down the flag which he had himself placed at the masthead. It floats there to-day and will never be furlled until the war taxes which the Republican party promised to remove upon the return of peace have been taken from the statute books."

A Very Mild Warning.

From the Pittsburg Dispatch. The report of the Surveyor of Customs on the corruption of the New York Custom House inspectors is a document of startling frankness. It charges the general prevalence of receiving bribes and gratuities, a large amount of inefficiency and concludes with recommending removal on the latter ground owing to the difficulty of proving the corruption. This report bears out charges which have been made in the press at times heretofore, and which have been whistled down the wind as the product of muggump or partisan malice. This official report shows that part of the public service to be in as bad a condition as was ever alleged from outside sources, and is an emphatic demonstration of the results of the spoils policy. Such a document will require very decided action on the part of the administration and warns it that something more is required of its control of the public service than to use it as a machine for the renomination of President Harrison.

A Republican Paper's View of it.

From the Philadelphia North American. The records of judicial proceedings in this commonwealth probably do not contain a parallel or precedent for the extraordinary charges and sentence with which Judge Wickham declared his sense of the gravity of the offense committed by two gentlemen who as editor and as proprietor of a little-known paper—the Beaver Star—were convicted of a libel upon Senator Quay. It is particularly unfortunate that such an unheard-of penalty for an offense of this character should come from the gentleman in which Mr. Quay lives, and in which he is supposed to control the political fortunes of every public office, elective or otherwise. If it be true as asserted, that the prosecuting attorneys, the jury, and the judge were all of one political faith, that also is unfortunate. These things are to be regretted, for the case Mr. Quay was one where the absence of the possibility of suspicion of partisan prejudice would have added to the force of his vindication, which was certain in any event. But the criticism of the punishment inflicted upon these erring and possibly contumacious citizens will not be measured by any political standard. To send these men to jail for six months is a monstrous thing to attempt to do, and we do not believe there is a respectable newspaper in Pennsylvania that would undertake to defend such a sentence. There has been times when such a thing would have lifted a community into rebellion, as was the crude method of popular assertion of protest against severity which runs beyond the bounds of justice. We are a more complacent people now, but it is against every idea of American fair play and American independence to permit judicial penalties to be governed by personal feeling. The Beaver Star is a Democratic newspaper, and the North American has nothing of affiliation with its politics or the political opinions of Mr. John A. Mellon and Mr. W. H. Porter, who have conducted it. But the North American has no excuses for sycophancy or for vindictiveness.

Spawls from the Keystone.

—Harrisburg still expects a fine new Reading Railroad station.

—Counterfeit Bland dollars are defrauding South Bethlehemites.

—Burglars got the cash from the railroad ticket office at Dillsburg.

—Lancaster has abolished its separate school for colored children.

—The Stoney Run well in Berks county shows oil at a depth of 600 feet.

—Congressman Beltzhoover is confined to his home at Carlisle with the grip.

—Catasauqua expects to have new water works with filters, at a cost of \$33,000.

—The new city of Hazleton will have a revenue of \$33,500 from liquor licenses.

—Several of the largest stores in McKeesport were victimized Saturday by shoplifters.

—Bert Smith's life was crushed out between mine cars at Bear Ridge Colliery, Shenandoah.

There are many new applicants for space in the Pennsylvania exhibit at the World's Fair.

—Reading's second batch of \$75,000 in city bonds will command 2 percent premium or better.

—A burglar alarm and a gun hustled thieves out of C. P. McClure's store at Newport.

—Sons of America will present flags and Bibles to Allentown schools on Washington's birthday.

—Motorman Jacob Fink was badly shocked and burned by a live wire on the Lebanon electric road.

—Jumping on a freight train at Bethlehem, William Davis missed his hold and fell under to his death.

—Five-year-old Albert Cawley brushed his clothes against a stove, and may die of the burns, at Easton.

—A wicked man calling himself C. B. Arnold has been victimizing confiding milliners near Penfield, Pa.

—Lydia Shantz Henry Yergor and Mrs. Susan Millard are mysteriously missing, from their homes in Reading.

—Applejack Distiller G. W. Spangler, of Albany township, has been held in \$500 bail for violating the Revenue laws.

—Congressman John B. Robinson's Delaware County Ledger came out yesterday as a thoroughbred "Independence."

—The overdrafts on the Chicago (Butler county) bank amount to \$13,000, leaving poor prospects for depositors.

—The Dubs faction retook the Akron Evangelical Church by force and held a quarterly conference there Saturday.

—Four more Sunday newspaper were convicted and fined \$25 each in Pittsburg Friday. They will appeal to the Supreme Court.

—At Denver, Lancaster county, Mrs. Sophia Weinhold and her daughter, Mrs. Susan Shrimp, died of grip-pneumonia within eight hours.

—Charles Ross, a thief who broke jail while serving a four-year sentence at Lowell, Mass., has just been caught at the Easton Almshouse.

—Journeymen bricklayers and plasterers of Easton, South Easton and Phillipsburg ask for nine-hour days at 30 cents an hour after May 1.

—Last week's new wells in the McDonald oil field kept market prices down unexpectedly. This field's daily runs averaged 101,432 barrels.

—Allegheny relatives of William McKelbin, who has for twenty-four years been a pauper, have at last found him out and cared for him.

—Miner Charles Sule, whose back was broken in July 1890, has just been sent home from Pittsburg to Westmoreland county, able to walk.

—Cumberland county Poor Directors will be arraigned this week for neglect of duty in leaving little Joe Diller, a bountiful boy, to be flogged to death.

—William Powell Davis, who was killed by a train at Bethlehem, was warned by his wife not to go out that morning, as she felt that he was going to die.

—The East Pennsylvania Conference of the Dubbs-faction of the Evangelical Association will meet, 120 strong at Lebanon on February 18, Bishop Dubs presiding.

—It is believed that William Meredith, the colored boy who recently died suddenly at Mt. Holly Springs, was a victim of a bullet fired at her-roost thieves.

—The Westmoreland County Court has ordered the McClure Coke Company to place an inspector in every mine instead of assigning an inspector to three mines.

—A surgical operation to release the eyelid from the ball of the eye resulted fatally to George Cooper's three-year old daughter Coopersburg. She was born blind in that eye.

—Captain Mercer and Detective Gumbert are suspended from the Pittsburg police force. They quarreled and the captain knocked the detective down with a blackjack.

—Both of Eliza Scally's arms, run over by car wheels, had to be amputated near the shoulders, at Allentown. Each hand wore its mitten and rings until after the amputation.

—Carnegie is said to be about ready to use in his biggest steel mills, at Braddock and Homestead, the fuel gas plan in which ex-Gov. Beaver and Gen. Hastings are interested.

—Many old canal boatmen, portage, railroad and forwarding men from various parts of the State will attend the Boatmen's Reunion at Newport, Perry county, February 18 and 19.

—Savage and Short editors of the Public Spirit, were Saturday acquitted at Clearfield, of libeling ex-District Attorney J. F. McKendrick, whom they had charged with taking illegal fees.

—Officer Banknecht, of the Reading police, is glad he is alive after arresting a disturbing woman. She threw a lamp at his head, attacked him with a knife and made the arrest a really interesting affair.

—Creek Catholics of seven Pennsylvania towns, New York City, Streator, Ill., Brooklyn and Passaic, N. J., have united their 40,000 membership in a monster beneficial order to aid widows, widowers and orphans.

—The farmers of Washington county are taking issue with the sportsmen of that locality who have offered rewards for the scalps of owls and hawks. The farmers want these birds preserved because of their value in killing destructive little animals.

—Chas. Pietri, Jr., of Erie, supposed to have died of poison administered by his wife, was buried Saturday. At the open grave Mrs. Pietri loudly declared her innocence before heaven; nevertheless she and Dr. Howard a Buffalo are under police surveillance.