Ink Slings

High on the shelf of political fame, Lies the plumed Knight with no one blame: But himself.

Down from the soft piney woods of Maine, Is wafted a spring zephyr a balm for Ben's

"Jim's ill health."

-Perhaps Ingalls is after a pension.

-If the coal trust pans out as such things usually do there will indeed be black diamonds in Pennsylvania.

-Poor Carnot! Poor Harrison Why don't you meet half way and harri-kari for the sins of your followers.

-'Tis sad to see February scoring off into a thing of the past so rapidly, for women always talk less in this month than in any other of the twelve.

-The HILLITES popped champaigne to celebrate Washington's birthday and their exuberance of spirits gave the CLEVELAND followers a decidedly real

-How slight a difference between the phrases: on the rail, and on a rail, with their accompaniments car and tar. Yet how quickly one discerns between the two kinds of riding.

-New York friends of Senator HILL, boast that he has succeeded in accomplishing every thing he has undertaken. They ought to get him to try his hand

at completing the GRANT monument. -Hell bent on election ! is the way a slight mistake of the artist might have made the streamers, at Albany, last Monday; and between the right and the wrong there would have been small

difference. -With a coal trust and seventy cent dollars the workingman could surely congratulate (?) himself that he enjoyed the benefits of so liberal and elastic constitutions as direct our State and Nation-

al proceedings. -Secretary FOSTER, has given mortal offense to the Prohibitionists of the country, by going to Europe on a Spree. To the credit of the government of which he is such a prominent official, he

was off it when he landed at Liverpool. -- Economy, Pa., boasts of a \$3,000 pig pen. We have'nt heard how much the Nebraska gubernatorial mansion cost, but we'll venture the assertion that THAYER'S usurped home was a deal more expensive than the bragged sty of

-Lancaster furnishes the latest warning to people who are in the habit of visiting lawyers offices. SAM'L Young went into one down there on Tuesday last, and in less than a half hour was carried out dead, from heart disease. Moral keep away from them.

the Economites.

-Though pregnant with municipal rottenness the great and generous heart of Philadelphia rose with one mighty throb to freight her white winged angel of mercy, with the lavish offerings of a truly American people, to starving souls in famine stricken Russia.

-The scarcity of pedagogues in the far west is probably because of the failure of their attempts to teach the young idea how to shoot. Western brats usually are better in this one line than any of their tender foot instructors, and that is where they get the drop on them.

--It is in order for some one to write papers are calling General HASTINGS.

-Now that the epidemic is nearly article la which the French prefix before Grippe than we did when the disease first became prevalent. If we put most composite definition of the measly little affliction.

-If ELKINS was a guerilla how can Congress consistently deny ex-confederate officers the right to defend their for. Governor Pattison and his legal country's honor, when the man who adviser have faltered in no duty yet. would make the bullets for them to They will not in this. shoot, is said to have been a member of the most dishonorable and cruel organization in the rebel service.

-- If he only had definite assurance that they would all be as popular as little RUTH, GROVER could get rich by having more babies and entering them in the "most popular baby" contests which are being held all over the country. RUTH's latest triumph is her acquistion of a valuable piece of California real estate in a contest with Baby Mc-

-Prominent Philadelphians objected to sending RUDOLPH BLANKENBURG, as agent of their relief stores to the starving Russians, because he was not a native born American. This is truly a case of straining at a gnat and swallowing a camel, and if you would see the proof of our assertion look at the lapels of their costs, or ir to their store windows, for the emblem of green, on the 17th of thirty of the populace pushed the wagon on next month.



STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

BELLEFONTE, PA., FEBRUARY 26, 1892,

Will Investigate, the Reading Combine.

VOL. 37.

Attorney General HENSEL addressed a letter to President McLEOD, of the Philadelphia & Reading railroad system, on Tuesday, in which he appointed Thursday, March 3rd, as the date and the Supreme Court chamber, at Harrisburg, as the place, when and where a legal inquiry will be made into the recent combination between the Reading, Jersey Central and Lehigh Valley roads.

Possibly no transaction of late years has aroused greater interest than the consolidation of these three lines of railroads for the joint purpose of procuring exclusive control of the anthracite coal regions and for the formation of a more dangerous competitor to the

Pensylvania system. As first looked at by our people it presented the aspect of a gigantic coal trust, but the new organization promptly promised a reduction of the present rates instead of the anticipated increase. It is certainly plausible that one management should conduct the traffic on a much more economical plan than three, but the question here presents itself: will the Reading company be able to pay the promised 7 per cent. dividends to the Jersey! Central and Lehigh Valley stockholders and keep up its own dividends without squeezing coal buyers? It argues that it! can readily do this through the decreased expense of management, though neither of the "gobbled" lines have ever been able to pay more than 41 3per cent while conducted individually. As to the truth of this statement time alone

will tell. It is the matter of the Constitutionality of the arrangement that has demanded an examination of all the circunistances connected with it, and it is in deference to this demand, that Attornev General HENSEL has called the investigation that will be made on the 3rd of next month.

While the Reading claims that its lines never were rivals of the Lehigh Valley or the Jersey Central it seems very strange that two distinctively separate corporations should tap the resources of the same region and carry it to the seaboard without competition. The Lehigh Valley has been under obligations to the Reading for tracks into Philadelphia just as the latter has been indebted to the Jersey Central for its New York terminus, but the existing relation between them has never precluded the possibility of healthy competition.

What the out come will be cannot be told. If it appears from the facts brought out, and the leases which have been called for by the State authorities, that the deal is nothing but a pooling of interests to secure absoa touching little poem on "The Hero of lute control of our greatest field of Johnstown" as so many rattle brained mineral wealth, for the sole purpose of enriching a few at the expense the If wearing top boots through the muddy many, such process through the courts that these journals are as insincere as streets of flooded Johnstown made a as will put a stop to the combination, hero of our DAN, then glory is indeed will doubtless be begun at once. While on the the other hand, if the facts show that the people of the State over we can see ar more meaning in the are to be benefitted by a reduction in a general public opinion that there is the price of coal and better carrying facilities on the part of these lines, through this consolidation, it will be a y to it, in the English, we have a allowed to stand and receive the Godspeed of every citizen of the commonwealth.

Under any circumstancei the people know that their interests will be cared

# Doing the Best They Can.

We have the following evidence from the Philadelphia Record, that there is life and "push" in the citizens of that usually dormant place, although the general belief is to the contrary. The facts as given, while they do not show that the city has reached that degree of haste that requires rapid transit, prove that those of its citizens who are awake are willing to put their 'shoulder to the wheel" and assist their public vehicles to make the best time possible. In this case at least they show a willingness to do the best they can to keep things moving, for desire to deceive, though no one is which they are to be congratulated.

The Record says: Twobalky mules hitched to a rag dray caus- in the growth of the belief that both ed a commotion at the corner of Fifth and Market streets yesterday afternoon, and fully the stapid animals' heels for half a block.

A Change of Power and a Lack of Principle.

Facts are beginning to prove, that it s not so much a matter of principle with the leaders of the two factions in New York, as it is a question of power o enforce their wishes.

Eight years ago the delegation from that state was instructed to cast its vote as a unit, for the candidate of its choice, GROVER CLEVELAND. In that delegation were three prominent leaders of the TAMMANY Hall Democracy, FFLLOWS, COCKRAN and GRADY. They, as was the organization to which they belonged, were opposed to his nomination. They believed the districts they represented were opposed to him, and so believing, raised the question of fhe power of a State Convention to instruct district delegates, that, as a body, t had no voice in selecting. They insisted in most eloquent and forcible speeches, that as they were the representatives of districts, and not the oreatures of a convention, that their duty was to obey the wishes of their constituents, and not the dictum of a state; that the only binding force a Unit rule adopted by a state convention had was upon the delegates-atlarge, who were selected by the convention, as representatives of the State.

This was their position then. The shoe is now on the other foot. At that time Tammany was the under dog in the fight. Now it dominates New York politics, and in the convention held in that State on Tuesday last, the same leaders, who but eight years ago so eloquently plead for the rightful privilege of voicing the sentiment of the districts they represented, came to the front and because they had the power, attempted to tie every district in the state to the candidate of their choice, and to stifle the voice of those who did not agree with them, through the operations of this same unit rule.

That the other element of the party, that sought to be benefited by this undemocratic idea, eight years ago, will complain because of the present attempt to enforce it against them, we have not the least doubt. It is the way men have of doing things, and shows the inconsistency of partisans, when circumstances change the situation.

Tammany Hall, after its fight against the unit rule in 1884, should be ashamed to seek strength and secure united action under it now.

The CLEVELAND Democrats of that state, after their efforts to enforce it then should be men enough to accept it now without a word of complaint, Consistency demands this of both.

-It don't help the Patriot's fight, on a Democratic State administration. a particle, to furnish as their chief endorsers the opinions of Republican newspapers. On questions of the enforcement of Constitutional provisions, the people have long since discovered contemporary may parade its own in- that State has ever witnessed. tegrity and independence in matters of this kind, to its heart's content, there is more of personal malevolence in its efforts than desire to see the right suc-

# They Deceive No One.

It is a curious circumstance that while the Republican press of the State has for eighteen years sustained a Republican legislature in its refusal to enact necessary legislation enforcing the provisions of section 7, of article XVII of the constitution, it should so suddenly waken up now to the necessity of a Democratic Governor, seeing that the 4th section of the same article is not violated by the Reading railroad deal. It we belonged to a party that has had absolute control of all the legislation of the State, since the new Constitution went into effect, and had, during all that time, failed to have its provisions enforced, as against corporate discrimination, we would say but little about constitutional obligations and the wrongs perpetrated upon the people by a failure to recognize them.

But then some people have a gall that recognizes no consistency and a tooled except themselves.

-There is considerable rapidity "Mr." HILL and "Mr." CLEVELAND have laid themselves on the shelf for the A Wroug Way of Doing It.

A New Castle telegram to the Pittsburg Post under date of 21st inst,

"The Prohibitionists and Farmers' Alliance men in this county, by combinations, succeeded on Tuesday night, in electing seven judges of election who will fill their offices in defiance of the Baker ballot law. This will bring up a test as to the constitutionality of the law. Thes seven judges are backed by a strong fund and the crystalized sentiment of the commun ity, and will carry out the plan, even if they

So far as desiring to have the constitutionality of the Baker ballot law tested the Lawrence county Prohibitionists are entirely in the right but just how the defiance of the law is going to make that test is a matter that

to many is not clear. Before assuming their duties as judges these seven men will be required to take an oath binding themselves t) see that the provisions of the new election law are faithfully enforced. To refuse to do so after being sworn will simply commit perjury on their part in place of raising any question as to the constitutionality of the eleciton

If this matter is to be brought before the courts at all it should come not mixed with side issues, and if there is any possible process by which a lower court decision could be secured so that it can properly be carried to the Supreme court, it should be done at once. and not wait until after the expense of buying booths, boxes and railings has been entailed upon the public.

There may be some question as to whether the new law is in strict accord with the spirit of the constitution, but there is none whatever as to the expense it will entail and the trouble. and vexation, and disappointment it is sure to bring. These later, we believe, will far outweigh all the benefits that can be hoped to be obtained through the enforcement of the measure. But if we are to suffer the expense and go through the interminable turmoil and couble that putting it in operation will entail before its constitutionality can be determined, it would be much better to drop the idea of testing the matter before the Supreme court and add to it such amendments as would make it hat the public was led to believe it was at the time of its enactment; a real reform ballot law.

-As it seems to be absolutely necessary to their proper condition, that New York Democrats have a fight every four years, there is consolation to outsiders in the fact, that the one going on now between the two factions was started in time to be fought out before the contest with the Republicans begins. From the heat to which it has already gotten, both parties should have enough of it long before the candidate for president is nominated and should be warmed up to a sufficient degree to make the hottest hypocritical, and while our Harrisburg fight against the common enemy that

# Offers Them the Opportunity.

The resignation of Mayor WYMAN, of Allegheny, will turnish the prohibitionists and other opponents of the new ballot law, the opportunity they seek of getting a Supreme Court decision as to the Constitutionality of the act. The law goes into effect on the first of March. The election of a successor to Mayor WYMAN will probably take place early in that month and must be held under the new act. Out of it there should be no trouble in preparing a case and getting the lower court decision, through which the whole matter can be brought before the Supreme court in time for a final decision from that body before the State has gone to the expense of securing booths,

If the people who are talking so volubly about the unconstitutionality of an Act that not one in ten of them has read and that not one in a hundred wouldfully understand after reading, and are in dead down earnest about knock ing it out because some of its provisions interfere with the supposed constitutional rights of citizens, this will be their opportunity. If they are in earnest let them start their case with the first election that will be held under its provisions.

-If you want printing of any description the WATCHMAN office is the place to have it done.

So Say We All of Us.

NO. 8.

From the New York World. What's the matter with a bill to repeal the duty on tin-plate? There was not a worse or a more oppressive swindle than that enacted in the McKinley tariff. It touches a thousand people where binding-twine touches one. Why should not a Democratic House

### promptly pass a bill to repeal it? A Wooden Man Would be Stronger.

From the Clearfield Republican. The Cleveland Press, in alluding to Blaine's withdrawal, says: "The g. o. p. could run Blaine in effigy and get more votes for him in that shape than it seems likely to poll for the hero of Paddy Egan's war candidate." Press man is evidently mad at "the government," and expected an office

### from Blaine. Washington's Birthday and What it Commemorates.

Inasmuch as we have just celebrated the 101st festival in commemoration of Washington's birthday we thought it might be interesting to the readers to the WATCAMAN to know that the custom is just 101 years old. While we celebrate it simply because it was the birthday of the father of his country, yet the following list of events, from the fourteenth century to the present time, will show that historically it was noted before George was ever thought

1381.—Death of David II. of Scotland, son of the immortal Robert Bruce. 1609.—Death of Ferdinand I., Grand Duke of Tuscany.

1630.—This was the first occasion of a public thanks giving in Massachusetts. The date had already been appointed for a season of general fasting, but, unfortunately, provisions ran very low in February. No cargoes had arrived for a long time. Our forefathers apprehended little difficulty, however, in keeping the prescribed fast. On the morning of the day a ship appeared in the harbor laden with food. It was unanimously decided to change the fast day to a feast day.

1644.—Charles I. convened a special Parliament of 44 Lords and 118 Commoners at Oxford.

1674.-Jean Chapelain died. was a literary protege of the great Cardinal and a man of some talent. He first attracted Richelieu's attention through a preface to the "Adonis" of Marini, which the priestly "bel esprit" affected to admire. Chapelain was one of the original members of the Academie Française.

1717.—Great snowstorm in New England, with snow six feet deep in Boston. Snow commenced to fall February 20, continued for two days.

1731.—Death of Frederick Ruysch a celebrated Duch anatomist.

1732.—George Waghington was born at Bridge's Creek, Va. 1744. -Great naval engagement off Toulon between the combinded French and Spanish fleets under Admiral De Court against the British fleet under Admirals Matthews and Rowley. The Spanish ship Poder was burned. British loss, 92 killed and 185 wounded. 1746.—Death of William Conston.

Director of painting and sculpture in the French Academy. 1770.-A mob attacked the house of one Richardson in Boston, who had

attempted to remove a mark set against the house of a patriot named Lille, who had contravened the non-importation law. Richardson fired on the crowd and killed Christopher Snider, eleven years old. The boy's name is recorded in the prints of the time as the first marter to American liberty. 1780.—An ox roasted whole on the frozen Schuylkill at Philadelphia. Ice

1782.-Island of Montserrat surrend-

ered by the French under Count de Grasse

1787.--Assemply of notables of France.

1797 .- French descended on Wales. 1806.—Death of James Barry, a wellknown Irish painter. His masterpiece was an allegorical series for the Society of Arts in London.

1810 .- Death of Charles Brockder Brown, an American author. 1811 .- The British ships Cerberus and Active captured twenty-two vessels from Otranto with provisions and

1812.-Ogdensburg, N. Y., attacked by the British and Indians under Frazer and McDonnell. Folsythe in command, compelled to evacuate. British took 12 cannon, 1400 stands of arms, 300 tents and all the boats. The Americans lost 27 men, the British 64.

1814.-Blucher defeated by the French, under Boyer, at Mery. The former fired the town and fled. 1816.—Death of Adam Ferguson, the famous Scotch writer. In 1778 he was sent to America as secretary of the mission for effecting a reconciliation. 1835.—Death of Jane Jarmon in

Wodesborough, N. C., aged 105. 1841.-Disastrous land slide in Commune of Gregaro, Italy. One hundred and thirteen lives lost-

Reggio Calabria nearly destroyed by an earthquake. 1855 - San Francisco banks suspended payment. Panic ensued.

Spawls from the Keystone.

-Pittsburg has an epidemic of runaway

-Three men were injured in a riot at Sun-

-No more semi-monthly pay for Hazleton region miners.

-York industries shipped 311 car loads of freight last week.

-Pittsburg's Coal Exchange has condemned Senator Frve's bill.

-Christian Temperance women,in Reading, want to stop Sunday cars.

-World's Fair Executive Commissioner Whitman is ill at Harrisburg.

-Burglars were scared away while trying to rob the Post Office at Carlisle. -Berks county has just 450 applicants for

license, ten less than last year! -Work has been resumed on the Hazleton

Lofty branch of the Reading R. R.

-Top-rock fatally crushed Teddy O'Brien at Waddell's Colliery, near Wilkesbarre

-- The new State insane Hospital, at Wernersville, will accommodate 1250 patients. -The Pennsylvania Chatauqua will raise

funds by means of a stereopticon show, -The Union Baptist church, Pittsburg, has

burned on its altar its \$2500 mortgage. -Having hacked his throat with a knife George Allen, of Steelton, bled to death

-Roof-rock fell and killed Miner Peter Sweet in Pyne Colliery, near Taylorville. -At the Otto Colliery, near Minersvil le,

Benjamin Lewis was killed coupling cars. -The Reading Rolling Mill (Cofrode & Say lor's) has cut 650 men's wages 10 per cent.

-Miss Mary Brown was drowned in a washtub into which she fell in a fit, at Tarentum. -Margaret Mather admits that she is seeking a divorce from her husband at Pittsburg. -For selling cigars and candy on Sunday,

Julius Strehlan has been fined at 'Johnstown -The Lehigh Valley Railroad Easton shops are likely to be moved to Bethlehem, it is

-The restored Carnegie Free Library at Johnstown (cost \$65,000) was rededicated last Sunday.

-Jerome L. Boyer has been elected as the new president of Reading's prosperous Board of Trade.

-Lancaster's new \$75,000 public building is ready for the post office and revenue office -Organ Manufacturer Horace Lehr was

married to Miss Irene Algur, at Easton, Monday night. -The great ice gorge in the Allegheny river

at Parker has broken, after a part of the town was flooded. -Central Iron Works' puddlers have re-

sumed work, at Harrisburg; at the reduced wages, \$3.50 a ton. -Further alarm has been caused by the setling of the surface over the Payne Colliery in

-Wilkesbarre's new postmaster, Mr. Landmesser, will retain Postmistress Bogert's depu ty, Mr. Chapman.

Luzerne borough.

-Trackwalkers Toporo Antonio and Blanchette Pietro were killed, by the Columbian express, near Latrobe. -The Pennsylvania Railroad will tap the

Hummelstown brownstone quarries with a

spur from Middletown. -The Pennsylvania Railroad Company commenced work on the extension of its road

to Scranton, on Monday. -There were three bold robberies of Alcoona houses while their occupants were at church on Sunday night.

-Going under his locomotive, near Uniontown, to tap a steam pipe, Engineer Walter Glenn was fatally cooked. -The granite monument to the Adam's

county soldier dead, at Gettysburg, was dedicated by the Post G. A. R. -An unexpected blast Saturday in a stone quarry near Reading seriously injured John Rumkeller and George Roth.

-Lackawana county Judges won't appoint ' Miners' Examining Boards this year, as the miners show so little interest. -The death watch will stick close to mur-

derer Patrick Fitzpatrick until his execution on March 1, in the Pittsburg jail. -The East Lebanon Rolling Mill has shut down indefinitely, because the employes re-

fused to accept a necessary reduction. -The Pennsylvania Raidroad is represented as having purchased \$1,009,000 worth of property at and near Wilkesbarre recently.

preached his farewell sermon at the church of the Nativity, Bethlehem, Sunday. -The New York, Pennsylvania and Ohio Railroad's block signal system from Mead-

-Dr. C. K. Nelson, Bishop-elect of Georgia,

ville west will beginservice next Tuesday. -Nativity church vestry went South with Rev. Dr. C. K. Nelson, who was Wednesday formally ordained Bishop of Georgia, at Atlant a.

heavy that the 1500 employes in the Reading shops were asked to work last Monday, a holiday. -George Washington, a ninety-five year old colored landmark of Stroudsburg, was buried

-Business on the Reading Railroad is so

on the birthday anniversary of the Father of -Receiver Emerson Collins has taken chaage of the suspended Muncy Bank, and

vill attempt to fathom the mystery of the missing money. -Joseph Stein was killed in the Bear Ridge Colliery near Shenandoah, and Napoleon

Astra was rescued alive after being buried under a rush of eoal. -Mrs. Barbara Long, of Lancaster, while emporarily insane, cut her throat with a butcher knite and gashed herself with a

hatchet. She may recover. -Travel on the Reading Railroad was de layed yesterday at Valley Forge by heavy iron girders bound for the Terminal in this city

falling on the track from the cars. -While under treatment in the St. Luke's Hospital, South Bethlehem, for a crushed arm. Fireman William Burges was seized

with a fatal attack of typhoid fever. -Twenty four thousand beer and pop bottles per year are saved or rescued from careless persons or thieves by the Bottlers' Pro-

tective Association of Berks county. -Well-known Miss Kate Haws, of Johns

town, has disappeared and is believed to have eloped with a young friend whom she met while at St. Joseph's Academy, Greensburg. -Tramps attempted to wreck a train on the Reading and Columbia Railroad, near Lancaster, on Saturday night. Ties were placed on the track, but were discovered and removed.