

Ink Slings.

Soon the troop of spring time poets, With their tender little ode lets, Will with dreams of fame unfading, To the busy sanctum run;

A miss-print—Kissing the wrong girl. Chicago has at last attained true greatness—boodle aldermen.

Over the bar it is set up; at the bar it is sent up, and behind the bar it is pent up.

After this week's free coinage debate the House should not want for silver tongued orators.

Winter got to its close last Sunday night about 10 o'clock, just at the time most mortals were getting out of their's.

Lime will probably go up and the white wash business receive a boom, now that the Huntingdon Reformatory is to be investigated.

The old proverb: "who confides in a woman builds on the sand" seems to be being verified in the falling condition of American womanhood.

The Philadelphia Press might busy itself helping along the pardon for the editors of the Beaver Star. It would be a little round about yet all to the point.

Because they had advertised the "Forty thieves" at a Denver theater, Philadelphia people thought their council had gone west to give entertainments.

The voluntary dissolution of the Standard Oil trust lends some color to Lieut. TOTTEN's millennium theory. Something wonderful must surely be about to happen.

Some of the fools found consolation in the fact that their "green goods" could be used on St. Patrick's day anyway. There was a singular appropriateness about it, too.

What an elixir, to BISMARCK, it must be to see WILHELM's cabinet all broken up. And to see him on his knees begging CAPRIVI, the chancellor, not to desert him.

If poor BENJAMIN vetoes the free silver bill, the wild and woolly west will go harder for his skin than the poachers have been doing for Uncle Sam's seals in the Behring sea.

When a railroad passes an individual its a sure sign its doing something for some one. But when it passes a dividend it is evident that it is doing nothing for itself or anyone else.

The Lock Haven Democrat says that a First ward resident has a hen that is a jewel because she laid an egg that measured 6x10. If she really is a jewel her owner should have her set in a ring.

The fact that the governor of Texas did not enter the list of Senatorial candidates and try to gobble that office in addition to the one he now holds, proves that he is not as much of a HOGG as some people thought he would be.

According to Lieutenant TOTTEN we are already in the beginning of the end, but there's still time to work GROVER in for another term before GABRIEL toots his little toot. If the rascals are all turned out they will have ample time to reform yet.

There is one thing certain, says the Chinese Minister, if the pig tail is excluded from American shores our pigs can't root their way into China. It is about six of one and a half dozen of the other. We don't need Chinamen and they don't eat pork.

They're only College boys on an innocent lark" should not excuse the Yale rowdies for breaking up the performance of a respectable troupe, playing in New Haven. They are usually spoken of as College men, but "men" would be a misnomer in this case.

Scarce had the news reached our shores that the Indiana had arrived, at the port of Libau, in safety, with her precious cargo for the starving Russians, ere a cablegram, to American papers, announced that the Czar had called a conference to consider a plan for war on Germany and Austria. It didn't take much to brace the Russians up did it? Perhaps there was some of Hecker's self rising Buckwheat flour in the hold of the good ship.

The recent uncovering of corruption in the Chicago board of aldermen furnishes much food for thought to the moralist and lover of purity in politics. One shudders for the welfare of the land when he realizes that just such men, as those who put their tools into the governing board of the Windy City, hold the upper hand in matters of State and national import. The Statesman of today has come to be the man who can best farm public trusts for private interests, and so much in danger is the weal of government, that we hesitate to watch its mechanism lest we blush for shame at the fallen virtue of Americanism.

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A Wrong About Which They Are Silent.

It ought to be about time that we hear something about political apportionments from that portion of the newspaper press of the country, that arrogates to itself all the honor that independent action brings, and parades its efforts as being exclusively for the benefit of the whole people.

Last fall when Governor HILL and the Democratic party of New York were making the fight through the courts of that State for the sanctity of the law, and the success of the Democratic party, this same newspaper press, that takes so much glory in announcing its independence of all parties and its contempt for political organizations, spared neither space, efforts nor words, to convince the public that the sole purpose of this Democratic persistency was to secure control of the Legislature of that State, in order that a political gerrymander of congressional and legislative districts could be enacted.

That "gerrymander," as it was then thought proper to stigmatize any effort of the Democracy to secure a fair apportionment, is now in the course of passage through the Democratic legislature of that State, and if these esteemed calumniators, the independents and mug-wumps, will only take the trouble to examine it, and compare it with a measure of similar import that the Republican legislative caucus of Ohio, has determined to enact for that State, they will find food for considerable thought, and evidence of the most incontrovertible kind, that all the villainy and viciousness of modern politics, is not to be charged to the Democratic party.

With a Democratic majority of 45,000 at the last election, the Democratic legislature of New York, proposes to so district the State that of the thirty four congressmen to elect, the Republicans will have fifteen, the Democrats sixteen, and leave three doubtful districts.

With a Republican majority of less than 20,000 at the last election, the Republican legislature of Ohio, has presented and determined to pass a bill districting that state, so that of the twenty-one congressmen to which it is entitled, the Democrats shall have five, and the Republicans sixteen.

Getting down to figures, Democratic New York, proposes to take one congressman for every 40,000, Democratic votes, and to give one Republican representative to every 43,000 Republican votes, basing their apportionments on the last presidential election.

Republican Ohio, fixes up her districts so that every 26,000 Republican votes can secure a representative in congress, while it allows to the Democrats but one for every 79,000 votes.

Could anything show more plainly, a determination to recognize the rights of the people and to do what is fair and honorable, than the action of the Democratic legislature of New York? Or could anything be more infamously wrong, or villainously outrageous, upon the right to representation as supposed to be secured us under the constitution, than the inexcusable gerrymander that is to be fastened upon Ohio by its Republican law makers?

And yet, has any one heard, the boasted, virtuous (?) self-lauded, independent (?) newspaper of the country, commend the one or denounce the other?

When Democrats appealed to the courts of New York for the enforcement of Republican laws, and forcing that party to recognize the enactments it had passed, secured control of both branches of its legislature, there were no words strong enough in the english vocabulary, to express the horror and contempt these self-righteous editors had, for such methods, in obtaining power. But now when 256,455 Democrats in Ohio are to be practically disfranchised; when counties are so bunched that men chosen to congress do not represent the people, but the merest fraction of them; when this rape on popular rights and this wrong on the principles of representation, is proposed by the Republicans, not a sentence in condemnation or a word of warning is heard from one of them.

Verily these political pharisees could look over a barn-yard reeking with Republican foulness and discover a fly-speck on a Democratic stable door.

Will Have Judicial Determination.

The question of the Constitutionality of the BAKER ballot reform law will be determined by the supreme court. That question, has got before that body in the regular way, by an appeal taken from the decision of the court at Scranton, and there will be no way in which the learned Judges who occupy the supreme bench, and who plead informality of proceedings, as an excuse for not considering it some weeks ago, to get round a direct confirmation of the law or a decision that will render it entirely inoperative.

To the people of the state who must bear the expense of putting this new law into effect, the supreme court owes it as a matter of justice, to render a decision on this question at once. If the law is constitutional and is to be enforced, it will take from this time until the election to get the masses to understand its workings, and the paraphernalia of elections ready for use. If it is unconstitutional, any further bother or expense about it would be a useless waste of time and money.

As long as it is before the courts the people, and officials charged with seeing that it is put into operation, will not know what to do.

As the matter must have judicial decision now, let it be hurried up as speedily as possible. There can be no excuse for delay.

If the Democrats in some of the counties of this state, which could be named, would make half the effort or show a title of the earnestness, in harmonizing their difference and organizing for the fall campaign, that they do in trying to elect delegates to the coming state convention and to instruct them for their particular favorites, there would be a very different result, from that anticipated this fall. A party that wastes its energies and divides its forces in foolish, factional feuds, can expect and get but little, and, in truth, deserves no more than it gets.

Is it Only Wind.

The QUAY Republicans up in Blair county are feeling awfully hilarious over the fact that they literally, to use a streetism, "wiped up the political floor" with the opposition to the Beaver boss on Saturday last. After all the professions and pretense of a determination on the part of the Republican masses to rebuke the incompetency, that has disgraced them, their party and the state in the United States Senate, and elect a reputable citizen with character and capacity enough to make at least a respectable senator, the action of the Blair county Republicans is a surprising disappointment. It don't pan out well with Republican promises, or their pretended purposes. It don't furnish any evidence that the much boasted opposition to QUAY is anything more than talk, or any hope that Pennsylvania is to be relieved, through Republican action, of the disgrace that must cling to a commonwealth that persists in presenting as its highest representative, a man without character, qualification or standing.

If there are no more votes in other parts of the state in proportion to the blow, against QUAY-ism than is shown by the returns in Blair, the anti-QUAY Republicans are a long way from making a hopeful fight, and the state a number of years from securing a Senator whom any one will respect.

A Few Points in Politics.

ROGER Q. MILLS is the new U. S. Senator from Texas.

The free silver bill is now being debated in the house.

SPRINGER, BLAINE and MORRILL have all nearly recovered from their recent serious illness.

A large majority of Pennsylvania counties have already declared for CLEVELAND.

The Democratic county Committee of Perry county, at its meeting, on Monday last, recognized the public sentiment of that section by instructing its delegates to the state convention to support national delegates who will favor CLEVELAND as a first, and PATTISON as a second choice for presidential nomination. At the present time this seems to be the general sentiment of the Pennsylvania democracy.

An Issue that Wont Materialize.

The Jingo statesmanship (?) that would rejoice if it could kick up a war with England, until after the election, in order that the tariff and other issues as well as the record of the Republican party might be forgotten, is not getting along very successfully in its efforts in that line. While Mr. HARRISON and his friends may need a new question and a new campaign cry, to make a show next November, Mr. SALISBURY is not in that fix, and can afford to deal with the Behring Sea differences in a way that will settle the question amicably, and to the credit of both countries, without either blood shed or the blow or bluster of war. While Mr. BAYARD was at the head of the department of state, this seal fishery dispute was honorably, and satisfactorily adjusted, but the desire of Mr. BLAINE to twist the lion's tail, of Mr. HARRISON to bring new issues into the next campaign, and of a few "Canucks" to disregard law, treaties and government lines, has brought the matter up again, in a way, that if England was as anxious to forget the condition of her business interests and the local questions bearing upon them, as this Republican administration is, we could have a war commenced in about twenty-four hours.

Unluckily for Mr. HARRISON and the Republican party, their war projects do not pan out any better than did their promises of good times under their MCKINLEY tariff bill; and the chances are now ten to one, that in place of hurrahing for the flag and trying to wallop England next fall, they'll be put to the straits of explaining their record and lying about the effects of their protective tariff.

A Burning Comparison.

The Meadville Republican predicts that the Republicans "next fall will sweep the country like a prairie fire."

No doubt they will if they sweep it at all. Where a prairie fire goes it spares nothing. What it wants it takes. It licks up every thing within its reach. It lives only while it finds plenty and is fiercest when it has the most to ravage upon and destroy. In its approach is roaring, tumult and smoke. In its embrace is strangulation and death. In its wake are the ashes of desolation.

How apt the comparison—a prairie fire and a Republican victory.

An Organization of Which it Seems to Have no Knowledge.

Between squelching that "terrible" Reading railroad deal, a matter that the courts have now before them for determination; downing "boss" HARRIS; teaching the Attorney-general the law and his duties, and maligning a Democratic administration, the Harrisburg Patriot seems to have more than it is able to accomplish, and at the same time give attention to other matters of public import. If its readers have ever heard that there is a Republican party in this state and throughout the entire country that has committed sins that should damn it in the eyes of all decent citizens, and perpetrated outrages, upon the rights of states and individuals, that should forever prevent its receiving the support of any honest voter, they have read it in some other newspapers, or been told so by some one else. So far as the Patriot's efforts go, they seem to indicate that it knows nothing of such a party, or that certain departments of government both at Harrisburg and Washington, are under the control of theiving Republican rings, that in many people's estimation, are much more detrimental to the interests of the state and the citizens, than it will ever be able to make them believe this Democratic state administration is.

The sweetened bait that was offered by the Sugar Trust, has caught CLAUD SPECKELS at last, and the only formidable opposition that gigantic combine had, vanishes. By the arrangement that has been entered into, SPECKELS makes \$3,000,000 in addition to what he will realize from the sale of his plant; the trust makes itself absolute dictator of the price this necessary commodity will command, while the people are made to "pay the piper."

Doing Good Work.

From the Tunkhannock Democrat.

The Democratic House has already begun the work of retrenchment. The estimates of appropriation for the District of Columbia were reduced \$1,000,000 in round numbers, and the Military Academy bill, as passed the House, carries 20 per cent. less money than was urged to be appropriated by an extravagant administration.

Protection from Home Competition Needed.

From the Honesdale Herald.

The Pennsylvania ironmasters will soon be crying out for a protective tariff against southern manufactures. Recently, large lots of Birmingham, Alabama, iron have been shipped right into the midst of our iron furnaces and rolling mills. What can be done to remedy this distressful state of affairs? The trouble is that the colored labor of the South is so much cheaper than that used in this section, which makes it just as bad as if they were "foreign pauper laborers."

Reluctant to Let Go the Teat.

From the Philadelphia Record.

Having been in office in Nebraska for a score of years, ex-Governor Thayer is evidently reluctant to quit posing in the public eye. He accordingly determined to move in the State Supreme Court for a reopening of the case of Boyd vs. Thayer. This is cheeky, in the face of the fact that the Court decided that if anyone but Boyd could occupy the gubernatorial chair it would be Lieutenant Governor Majors and not Thayer, who had no colorable title to hold over. These veterans in politics die hard.

Blathering about War and Asking Favors.

From the National Democrat.

While the administration is threatening retaliatory legislation against Canada our Northwestern farmers are asking for the "privilege of the use of the Canadian canals on the same terms as the Canadians. How likely our farmers are to get any favors from Canada, while the administration is threatening to go to war with England and invade Canada may be inferred from the fact that the Canadian government has been asked by the Marine Association of the Dominion to levy a toll of two cents a ton on American goods passing through Canada on canals.

The Laboringman's Judas.

From the Steubenville (O.) Gazette.

John Jarrett will get a salary of \$5,000 a year for helping the Iron Manufacturers' Association to cut down wages. Perhaps Mr. Jarrett thinks a dollar a day is enough for a workingman. He is not a workingman himself in this controversy. When on the other side of the table as President of the Amalgamated Association, his head bled for the poor workingman at bigger wages than he could get as a common everyday iron worker. The conditions have not yet changed in such a way as to cause a change of mind on this point. The workingman is just as worthy of his hire now as he was then. In fact what he then considered low daily wages was about equal to the weekly wages that he now will work to have reduced, simply because he can get more money himself out of it.

Wildly and Bigotedly Blind.

From the Port Allegheny Reporter.

Even as all roads led to Rome, so, to the protectionist all things center in a high tariff. To him there is no other force in nature or potency in civilization. To him, cheap and abundant lands, limitless forests, and inexhaustible mines, or a hardy and industrious population are ciphers, mere dust in the balance when weighed against a statue, in building up a great and prosperous nation. A free press, free schools, inventive genius, the energetic and progressive type of manhood evolved from the intermingling of all the best races of Europe, under our free institutions, all count for nothing in his mind. He cannot, or rather will not, see that the working population of the country being able to employ itself upon free government lands has been, to a degree, independent of capital and therefore able to command good wages; or that wages are always high in a densely populated country, whether tariff be high or low. He deliberately closes his mind to such facts and attributes every blessing we enjoy to protection and every evil that afflicts us, when he can be brought to admit that any evils do afflict us, to the want of a little more protection. In short he not only despises experience and observation, he not only despises history and plain facts, but in order to bolster up high tariff goods, which, dagon-like will be satisfied with nothing less than our very bodies a living sacrifice; he pillories reason and crucifies common sense.

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

Spawls from the Keystone.

—Steelton counts on an opera house.

—There's splendid sleighing in upper Berks County.

—Christian young women are organizing in Reading.

—The Mount Iron and Steel Works, at Danville resumed Wednesday.

—The snow was three feet deep on some of the Schuylkill County roads.

—Hemorrhage of the brain killed William C. Dreis, of Watchville, in bed.

—Katie Acker (white) eloped from Pittsburg with John Burleigh (colored).

—There are snow drifts 10 to 18 feet deep in the upper part of Northampton County.

—The sitting Criminal Court at Reading has nearly 200 cases for its next docket.

—Lenhartville, Berks county, a borough covering 40 acres, has only 150 population.

—Scarcity of farm laborers and poor times are driving Berks County farmers out of business.

—There were seventy-five accessions to the Duncannon Presbyterian church last Sunday.

—Launching a log-floater's ark at Caledonia, Woodman Dick Roserick was crushed to death.

—A burglar robbed the house of Hiram McHase, of Bethlehem, of \$200 while the family was at church.

—Too short a squib cost Miner William Schwarz a fatal wound in exploding a blast near Ashland.

—Mill girls at Jeannetteville are reported to have been discharged for wearing green on St. Patrick's Day.

—A charter was issued yesterday to the Columbia Coal Mining Company, of Philadelphia, capital, \$150,000.

—A Reading town meeting recommended an appropriation of \$200,000 for storm and house-drainage systems.

—Pittston has raised the \$5000 necessary to secure the State's \$15,000 appropriation for a miners' hospital.

—The Shenandoah and Ashland Electric Railway has been completed from Rappahannock to Lost Creek.

—The dozen puddling furnaces of the Lochiel Rolling Mills, Steelton, resumed Monday with 125 men.

—A. Shoppell, a Bethlehem blacksmith, has challenged rivals to shoe kickers (including mules) as fast as he can.

—Steelton expects to have a Federal building. The borough's postal receipts are up wards of \$30,000 a year.

—In an East Penn. wreck near Temple, a number of cars were piled up and brakeman William Rush was crushed.

—Edward Nelson was fatally stabbed by a fellow negro workman on an Ohio River steamer below Pittsburg.

—Harry Bronsberger, of Lancaster, who was shot by J. Leachey during a quarrel, will recover. Both are boys of 12.

—Morey and Hess, alleged proprietors of a gilded gambling den with livered attendants, have been arrested at Scranton.

—Johnstown magistrates say that if the saloons do not soon open they will have to close their offices forward of business.

—Hazleton borough bonds are missing since the town has become a city, and there are lively developments promised.

—In trying to stop a fight between a cat and dog, John Dantrich, of Ruscomboman, Berks County, was severely bitten by both.

—Mrs. Lydia Stiefel, of Reading, aged mother-in-law of murdered Officer John Merget has quickly followed the latter to his grave.

—Revival meetings in Franklin have so cured 500 converts in a few weeks and practically closed the playhouses of the town.

—Frank Cuffenberger, who stole beer and other articles from Reading Railroad cars at Lebanon, has been arrested at Reading.

—The store of Samuel Pershing, of New Florence, Westmoreland county, was robbed of boots, shoes, clothing, etc., to the value of \$300.

—Hon. Michael Fitzharris, of Cambria county, is not a candidate for fresh legislative honors. One winter at Harrisburg was enough for him.

—Fourth-class postmasters appointed Friday: H. Steel, Ellwell; A. L. Dittenbaugh, Greenland; P. Smith, Gunner; S. A. Toombs Ladona.

—While driving down South Mountain with a pair of fractious horses, E. M. Sebastian, of Reading was thrown from his wagon and killed.

—Charles McGuire, of Bell Township, near Greensburg, saved his life by jumping into a spring of water after oil on his clothing had ignited.

—Fourteen guests at the Exchange Hotel in Montrose were dangerously poisoned by eating biscuits in which rat poison had found its way.

—Thirty kegs of beer, seventeen Italians and eighteen gallons of whisky were sought in conjunction at Mrs. Nolla's "speak-easy," Hazleton.

—A Polish laborer, in Pittsburg, while asleep on a pile of slag, was almost covered with red hot slag, and his entire body was burned up.

—The Young Men's Christian Associations of Berks, Schuylkill, Dauphin and Columbia Counties have just closed a lively convention at Reading.

—William Swann, supposed to be of Philadelphia, died at Altoona yesterday. He had his leg cut off by a train. He had plenty of money in his pocket.

—Formal appeal was made to the State Board of Pardons Tuesday in behalf of Mellon and Porter, the imprisoned Beaver editors who misled Senator Quay.

—Monroe County officers as well as those from Lancaster are after Joseph Greener, or "Bucksin Joe," the alleged swindler of veterans seeking pensions.

—Robert McClure, an agent of the Pittsburg Law Order Society, was Friday indicted for perjury in having a South-side newsdealer fined for selling on Sunday.

—The one hundred laborers of Wilkesbarre, who intended to emigrate to Montana, in April have abandoned the unenterprising owing to unfavorable reports from that State.

—A 14-months-old child of Anthony Sherutski, of Johnstown, swallow'd a quantity of concentrated lye Wednesday morning. She was living at 2:30 a. m., but the doctor said death was inevitable.

—William Johnston, a young colored man living in Dubois, was found dead in bed the other morning, and the verdict of the coroner's jury was that whiskey did the business. Rum will get there every time, regardless of color.