

Ink Slings.

—FLOWER is a drug on the market.
—Another kink will be found in the American porker's tail when it roots in to Spain.

—GARZA, CHARLEY ROSS and GID. MARSH would make a fine exhibit at the World's fair.

—Even ELKINS says he will have to support the Plumed Knight. Who is there left for BENNY?

—BLAINE's illness has resolved itself into a simple pain in his side, yet HARRISON can't see through it yet.

—The May-apple has had about as hard a tussle, with the weather, as ADAM's apple had with EVE in the garden.

—BENJAMIN soliloquizing.—So JIM was over to New York, was he. Well, what the devil was he after over there.

—It is not a matter of history that Kentucky Legislators have ever found themselves wrestling with obnoxious liquor laws.

—The New York World still maintains that "the next president must be a Democrat" and we have't the heart to contradict it.

—It has never been conclusively proven that COLUMBUS was not a pirate so a black flag would not seem out of place on the Fair grounds.

—Someone has been mean enough to say that HARRISON has recently allied himself to the young people's Band of Hope, in his Washington church.

—If everyone would run to a fire just when he swears, next day, that he saw it, the whole town would usually be on the scene before the incendiary torch had really been applied.

—Just now when QUAY and his lieutenant's are looking around for a dark horse to run against HARRISON, our colored brethren might judiciously step in and furnish the possibility.

—McKINLEY and the gang that went with him, in the 51st Congress, to perpetrate such a daylight robbery as the tin plate measure has proven to be, should be arrested and given the full extent of the law.

—The great relay bicycle race from Chicago to New York turned out as expected by the promoters of the trial. The riders' promises to "ride the tails off of horses" was generally verified at the expense of their own.

—"Methodists cannot dance." So says the Ogaha conference. This ruling will not hold good with the missionaries of the church, however, for many of them are doubtless hopping about over in China like hens on a hot griddle.

—"I make this announcement in due season" is the way Mr. BLAINE concluded his letter of declination to Mr. CLARKSON but as the seasons have been so badly mixed up thus far it is not known whether he referred to the fall or the spring of the year.

—The only explanation we can give for the floods which annually come in May and June lies in the fact that so many college graduates are then "thrown upon the sea of life" that necessarily it overflows until the embryonic presidents and women's rights advocates adjust themselves to their new surroundings.

—Dr. PARKHURST might try sympathizing with HATTIE ADAMS in her prison cell. The Presbyterians are giving the doctor "Hail Columbia" and deny him to be a "blue stocking." HATTIE comes in under the latter class, however, for the evidence showed that she had them on when that memorable game of leap frog came off.

—It always seems strange to us that when some miserly old duffer comes to die he sends for the parson to pray and sing, but never thinks of his subscription to the county paper. The half of such fellows are laboring under the misapprehension that they are going to heaven quite out of the reach of collectors, but they're fooled. We'll all be up there too.

—The bill to exclude political influence from the 61,000 fourth class post offices in the United States may have a very beneficial effect upon coming generations. Not mentioning the awful strain upon the nerves of such officials, incident to deciding as to which side of the fence they had better drop on, such a measure would do away with the heartless business of chopping off political heads.

—HARRISON is to have a special wire from the Minneapolis convention hall to the White House, so that in two minutes he after the nomination is made he will know his fate. If BLAINE's star continues in the ascendancy it might be wise for Second Term to have a wire from the Sing Sing electrocution dynamo also. For the one current will be about as deadly as the other and as like quantities repel each other, he will at once escape political and physical death.

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The Trouble With Harrison.

That there's a strong opposition to President HARRISON's renomination developing among some of the ablest leaders of his party, is every day becoming more evident. A large and influential Republican element is bitterly opposed to his continuing in the Presidency.

How is this to be explained? He has surely been a strict party President. There were none of the measures which were considered of cardinal importance to the party that he did not uphold to the fullest extent of his ability and zeal. The McKINLEY inquiry had his zealous support. There was no extravagant bill passed by the Billion Dollar Congress that he did not promptly sign. Every subsidy and measure of monopolistic favoritism met his approval. Pension extravagance was encouraged by his keeping RAUM in office. The Republican scheme of bringing the elections under the control of the bayonet was one of his pet policies. No projects of extravagance, of taxation, or monopolistic encouragement, that are calculated to raise a public functionary in the estimation of Republicans and make him solid with his party, failed to receive all the support he could possibly give them.

Why, therefore, is it that so many of the ablest and most influential leaders are opposed to his continuance in the Presidency? It is simply because he is too much affected by what is known as the "big head." His self-conceit, by which his defect of "big-headedness" is manifested, has made him the most unpopular man with the leading politicians of his party that ever occupied the Presidential chair. He is a thorough egotist, and consequently puts on airs of superiority that are offensive to every one who comes in official contact with him. It is this weakness in his character that has made his relations with BLAINE cool and unfriendly from the very beginning of his administration. It is this that has exasperated QUAY, CAMERON, PLATT, MILLER, FORAKER, REED, DUDLEY, CLARKSON, and all in fact who are at the head of the Republican machine.

These men want to beat him for the nomination; they would rejoice in being able to knock his "big head" off his shoulders, and they would do it if they had some available candidate to unite on, but it is probable that such a one cannot be found and that BENJAMIN will be renominated, with the probability that they will help to defeat him as CONKLING helped to defeat the nominee of his party in 1884.

A Better Policy.

One of the indications of a return to Democratic methods, with advantage to the country, is the recent admission of foreign built steamships to American registry. A special act has been passed to allow two of the Inman line, English built, to come under American registration and fly the stars and stripes.

The policy of Republican navigation laws is to exclude from the list of American ships such as may have been built abroad, although by American capital, for American owners. This is intended to "protect" and encourage the ship builders of this country, but it has not had that effect, the only result being that it has made the stars and stripes a rarity on the ocean. American ship owners went to England where they could get their ships the cheapest, and as they were thereby excluded by our navigation laws from American registration, their ships were entered on the English registry, were sailed under the English ensign, and were for all practical purposes English ships.

A more liberal and rational policy in this matter has begun to show itself in the recent case of the two Inman steamers. It is a step towards bringing the merchant marine of this country back to the condition it was when Democratic administrations ruled the country, and when the American flag was seen on every sea. The next step is to reform the tariff so that ship builders shall have the advantage of cheap raw materials and be able to build ships as cheaply as their British rival. Then American ship owners will have no inducement to go abroad to have their vessels built, and there will be no occasion for them to sail their ships under a foreign flag.

The Dawn of a New Day in Politics.

As the time for the conventions of the two great political parties of our country approaches we begin to realize more forcibly that we are on the eve of a campaign which will be entirely different from any of the factional fights of the past that its identification, as a political conflict, will scarcely seem possible to the mud flinging, bloody-shirt campaigners of years gone by.

Clean cut issues, upon which the orators of both parties, will have to debate, will be the battle ground for 1892. Issues upon which the fundamental principles of good government are founded. Upon the successful or unsuccessful promulgation of which depends the weal or the woe of our land. And issues which involve protection to the laborer, or those which guarantee to the latter the same benefits, through cheaper "necessities," that are enjoyed by the former.

The minds of our people have grown beyond the harangues of the partisan liar and demand a logical discussion of the questions at issue. JONES no longer whoops-er-up for SMITH and BROWN because JONES' ancestors were Democrats and SMITH and BROWN are of the same stripe, but because they are the exponents of issues he has concluded, after mature deliberation, to be requisite for the most successful and economical forms of government.

The days when stump speakers hunted down only the vulnerable points in a candidate's private character are gone and in their stead we find ourselves verging out onto a broader plain. A ground on which the education of the voter will play the most essential part.

Yes, the campaign before us will be one of clean cut issues in which Democratic frugality will be triumphant over Republican extravagance and extortion.

—The high water mark along the Mississippi and its tributaries having been reached there are a thousand and one theories being advanced as to how these almost annual inundations, destroying the crops of our country's most fertile valleys and causing untold misery and loss of life, may be averted. Every writer has his own views on the subject and does not hesitate in airing them. The whole trouble arises from the incomplete levee system which is supposed to protect the flat lands along the river's course. As soon as some substantial measures to construct levees of sufficient strength to hold the swollen waters the trouble will be eradicated and we will not be compelled to witness such harrowing devastation every spring.

—Congressman TRACEY, of New York, claims to be able to show figures that will nominate Mr. CLEVELAND easily. The basis of his calculation is that of the 416 delegates elected at the time he makes his estimate, all are for CLEVELAND except 185, who are either uninstructed or are against CLEVELAND. Of the delegates to be elected he claims 96 for CLEVELAND sure, while 209 may be classed as uninstructed or opposed. This will make 505 for CLEVELAND, leaving 394 opposed to him or uncertain as to their preference, and from the latter number Mr. TRACEY is certain that the ex-lauder can easily get the two thirds of the whole convention that will be required to nominate him. This seems to be a reasonable estimate.

—John SHERMAN has always been a cautious financier as was natural to his calculating disposition, and therefore it is not surprising that he gave notice in the senate the other day that the present condition of the revenues would not justify the expenditures which his Republican Senatorial brethren were disposed to sanction. He sees the condition to which the extravagance of the Billion Dollar Congress has brought the Treasury, and calls a halt before complete bankruptcy shall issue. In assuming the attitude of a Senatorial HOLMAN he places himself in danger of being charged with "cheese-paring" by his profligate Republican associates.

—Fine job work of ever description at the WATCHMAN Office.

It Would be a Different Blaine.

We are of the opinion that those who believe that all that is necessary for Mr. BLAINE to get the nomination is to say that he will accept of it, are laboring under a mistake. HARRISON has so fortified his position that it will be difficult to dislodge him.

But in the event of BLAINE's nomination how would he run? Would he be stronger, or as strong as he was eight years ago. The attacks that would be made on him would not be the same as those he was subjected to in that campaign. We believe that there would be few if any personalities used against him, although as vulnerable as ever in that respect. It would not be necessary. As the representative of the Republican party he would have to bear the burden of censure which the party has heaped upon itself by the course it has pursued since 1884. He would have to answer for the sin of the Force bill by which his party showed its disposition to control the elections by the bayonet. It was a pet measure of the administration in which he has held the most prominent cabinet position. He would have to answer for the extravagance of the Billion Dollar Congress which has drained the Treasury and given occasion for a continuance of tariff taxation. The election of Mr. BLAINE would be an endorsement of such measures, and therefore would afford justifiable grounds of opposition to him.

In one important respect he would not be as strong as he was in 1884. He could not bring to bear upon the campaign the power of his magnetic influence. It is remembered how the exigencies of that campaign required him to make a personal canvass over a number of States, and what an effect he was able to produce. This year he would not be in condition to make such an effort. He would break down in the attempt. There would be a wide difference between a campaign with BLAINE in the field exerting his personal magnetism, and one in which he would be kept from the field by his impaired health.

—Wednesday morning's big conflagration forcibly brings to mind the necessity of discipline in the fire Department. The volunteer service of our town is very creditable, and while we are fully conversant with the fact that a fire man's work usually is taken for granted and with very little gratitude, yet too often are petty jealousies allowed to jeopardize property.

Who Their Best Friends Are.

A mistake was made in the Methodist conference, at Omaha, when the remark, of the representative of the Southern Methodists, that the Southern whites were the best friends of the negroes of that section was hissed by some of the members of the conference. If the whites of the South were the enemies of the colored people there would not be that improvement in the condition of the latter that is seen in all parts of that section. There would not be such provision made for their education as appears in the fact that in some of the Southern States the largest part of the school expense is for the benefit of the colored children. That the white people of the South have adopted restrictive measures to prevent the government of their section from falling into the hands of an ignorant mass cannot be construed as an act of hostility and set off against the many material benefits they have conferred upon their negro population.

—Tammany Hall should change its opinion about Mr. CLEVELAND's ability to carry New York. It will be remembered that in 1884 Tammany's representatives went to the National Convention and objected to CLEVELAND's nomination on the ground that he could not carry his own State. He was nominated nevertheless and did carry New York. He can do it again and Tammany should not be backward in helping him to do it.

—Subscribe for the WATCHMAN.

Cheap Clothing Bill.

From the St. Louis Republic.

A correspondent at Boonville notices the assertion that the abolition of the prohibitory duties on woollens will save at least \$25 a year to the average family, and asks the Republic to state "how many families there are in the United States that spend \$25 a year for clothing with wool in it."

The average family consists of five persons. The man will require at least two suits of clothes a year "with wool in them," and he will require at least two extra pairs of trousers. Put the whole of this item at \$30, though for "all wool" now it would be at least \$60. He will require at least two suits of underwear "with wool in them." All wool will cost now \$5 a suit, but put the two for \$5. Add two wool hats for \$1, an overcoat (all wool, now, not less than \$30, \$10, and we have at the lowest possible estimate for one man's winter clothing \$49. Put the wife's flannels, cloaks, woolen dresses, etc., at \$31, and for the two parents we have \$80 for clothing "with wool in it," during the year. Every average family has in it a young man and young girl between 15 and 21. If their clothing does not cost more than that of their parents we are very much mistaken in young men and women, but put the two at \$80, and add only \$20 for the fifth member of the family and we have \$180 for the woollens of a family of five, including carpets, blankets and everything else "with wool in it" used in the family of five during the year.

Everyone who has had to buy for a family of five will smile at this as a ridiculously low estimate for the year's woollens, but it must be remembered that we are estimating down to the average of those who cannot afford real woollens; who must put up with McKinley imitations, consisting largely of cotton mixed with shoddy.

Putting the total annual cost of this for five persons at \$180, at least one-third of that cost is tax and monopoly cost. Of every \$100 spent for woollens or all better woollens in this country at least \$33 goes for nothing except prohibitory duties imposed to prevent imports, to keep revenue out of the treasury and to restrict trade as to establish monopoly.

The abolition of these prohibitory duties, as proposed by the cheap clothing bill which has just passed the house, will be worth much more than \$25 a year to the average family in the United States, for it will enable thousands who cannot now afford real woollens to wear them, and it will give to all better woollens for less money. The estimate of \$50 a year as the tax cost on woollens for the average family of five is as low as it can be put safely, and if these prohibitory taxes are repealed at least \$25 of this tax cost will be a clear money saving to the average family, which will also get more than the value of \$25 additional in better woollens for the money expended for these necessities during the year.

Another Country Heard From.

From the Evansville, Ind. Courier.

There is but one "good Western man" who has been mentioned for the Democratic nomination for President who has always been a Democrat and who measures up to the standard of Clevelandism, and his name is William R. Morrison, of Illinois. All of the other "aspirants" from the West are new-comers in the Democratic party, and all of them have already been rewarded commensurate with their deserts. Cleveland will almost certainly be nominated for President, and Morrison should be his running mate.

Many Other States are Affected in the Same Way.

From the Altoona Times.

Senator Palmer is the favorite of Illinois Democrats for the presidency, but it is only the feeling of state pride which makes him such, and no desperate efforts are likely to be made by the Illinois delegation to secure him the nomination at the Chicago convention. Palmer's candidacy is little more than a sentiment and after Palmer the almost unanimous choice of Illinois Democrats is Grover Cleveland. There is no division of feeling in the matter.

They are Coming Too.

From the Easton Argus.

The vigorous protests against the extravagant provisions of the river and harbor bill, are beginning to make themselves felt, and Congress is awakening to the fact that the appropriation has been too high and in many of its parts needless. The paring now being done is undoubtedly due to the pressure of public opinion. Remarks by Republican organs on the parsimony of the Democratic Congress are now in order.

Concerted Efforts Will Always Win.

From the Richmond Times.

If this thing goes on it looks very much as though Grover could arrange to do without North Carolina and South Carolina in the convention. But Virginia can't arrange to do without them. The good old States must pull in harness with their sister. They have all three stood shoulder to shoulder too long to have any separation and quarrelling now.

Spawls from the Keystone.

—Dickinson College commencement, Carlisle, will begin June 4.

—A large culm bank at Logan colliery, near Centralia, is on fire.

—The body of a female child was found in an outhouse at Shamokin.

—Weeds 12 feet long and thousands of fish were found in Reading's reservoir.

—William Behm fell from a mill trestle in Williamsport and was fatally injured.

—The Army of the Potomac will hold a great reunion at Scranton, June 15 and 16.

—The Presbyterian ministers of Pittsburgh denounce Dr. Parkhurst's methods.

—All railroads entering Allentown will shortly center in the Lehigh Valley station.

—Phares H. Heller, an inmate of the Lehigh county Poor House, ate poison and died.

—The Philadelphia and Reading's pay roll in Reading alone foots up to \$110,000 a month.

—Governor Pattison will deliver the Decoration Day oration, at Millertown, Perry county.

—Francis Tucker was cremated in a burning house, Allegheny City, Sunday morning.

—The body of Frank Stitt, a railroad engineer, of Natrons, was found in Swatara Creek.

—A Philadelphia and Reading train ran down Martin Haas, a trackman, at Hamburg.

—The Cambria Iron Works at Johnstown will hereafter be operated with non-union men.

—Grave vandals regularly rob the Evans Cemetery at Reading of all, so were planted there.

—Scarlet fever caused the death of little James and Annie Kline, at Kutztown, in the same hour.

—On Wednesday the General Assembly of the United Presbyterian Church met in Allegheny City.

—Patrick Fitzpatrick was hanged in Allegheny county jail Tuesday for the murder of Samuel Early.

—The body of a dead male child which had been born alive was found in St. Joseph's Cemetery, Ashland.

—During a quarrel in Shamokin on Sunday night Daniel Reed was stabbed in the shoulder by John Patahan.

—Fighting forest fires at Mountain Top Luzerne county, Juliana Reinard was burned so badly that she died.

—Hugh Williams was found unconscious in the road near Minersville, and died soon after ward. Foul play is feared.

—The Board of Poor Directors, who were tried at Carlisle for malfeasance in office were Sunday night found guilty.

—Archbishop Ryan reviewed a magnificent parade at New Philadelphia, Friday, and confirmed 129 boys and girls.

—A great avalanche in the Wrightsville Lancaster county, stone quarry buried and crushed John Berry to death.

—While at work at Brookside colliery, near Tower City, Monday, Jonathan Updegrave fell to the bottom and was killed.

—Allegheny county will save \$60,000 a year on salaries by the recent decision of the Supreme Court against the increase.

—A man bearing pension papers in the name of Michael Bergner was killed by a train near Auburn on Saturday night.

—James Thomas and Edward Nelbert, serving terms in the Eastern prison, nearly dug their way out of jail Friday.

—A thief stole Harry Longeneough's horse and phaeton, while he was attending a public sale near Tullytown, Bucks county.

—Hugh Curry, of Amity, Washington county, was found guilty of burning his brother's barn and other buildings for revenge.

—At Lancaster, the Court gave a decision in favor of the Bowman faction in the Akron Church, and against Bishop Dubbs.

—Anna McHugh, who resides near Shamokin, was awarded \$5000 damages for injuries received on the Northern Central Railroad.

—Within two months there have been 95 cases of typhoid fever and seven deaths during two weeks, at South Fork, Cambria county.

—One of William H. Buchman's eyes was blown out and he was otherwise badly hurt by a premature explosion in a Tamaqua mine.

—By the fall of a scaffold in Mahanoy City Monday, Albert Gottschall, of Tamaqua, sustained injuries which may result in his death.

—The State Medical Society at Harrisburg decided to ask the next Legislature to establish an insane asylum in Western Pennsylvania.

—The case involving \$167,000 and growing out of a coal land deal between James M. Long and W. J. Rainey, was settled at Pittsburgh.

—With a dozen checks in his pocket, to which business men's names had been forged, Budd Gilbert was seized in Lancaster Friday night.

—Charles Koons, a Lehigh Valley brakeman, of White Haven, was struck by an engine at South Bethlehem, Monday and instantly killed.

—A dozen business men of Lancaster who cashed worthless checks for Benjamin Gilbert, will appear against him since he was arrested.

—Commissioners from the two principal colored Methodist conferences agree in Harrisburg to unite under the name African Zion Methodist.

—As compensation for the love of Mrs. Edward Luckenbach, which Henry Irwin is alleged to have stolen, the discontented husband asks the Court at Bethlehem to award him \$5000.

—No Bethlehem church sociable is now complete without a "pin hunt." The girl who finds the greatest number of pins in 10 minutes gets the prize.

—E. E. Peigler was Saturday appointed freight agent of the Pennsylvania Railroad at Pittsburgh, to fill the vacancy caused by C. A. Carpenters' death.

—The farmers of Lehigh county are planting great fields of potatoes. In Lynn township there are many farmers who have from 20 to 40 acres planted.

—The residences of Joseph Pealer and John Detweiler, at Daltown, York county, were struck by lightning Friday night and both families were badly stunned.

—A new iron bridge across the Susquehanna to connect West Harrisburg with West Fairview will be built by capitalists of the latter town at a cost of \$125,000.

—The 11-year-old son of Dr. Koons, of Allentown, ran away from home and his father is now chasing him across the State of New Jersey, both being headed for New York.

—A coal train on the Northern Central Railroad parted at Nanticoke Monday and came together again with a crash, throwing twelve cars from the track. Brakeman H. J. Miller was slightly injured.