

Ink Stings.

Crinolines promise quite a bustle in the feminine world, Let everything keep Lent but your umbrella and your quarters. There can be no doubt that Congress is nearing its end, but what has it finished? If HARRISON had begun appointing Democrats to Federal offices four years sooner, it is hard to conjecture what would have been the status of things to-day. The Populists must have control of the Kansas rail-roads too. Under a late ruling by the companies in the Sunflower State ministers must pay full fare if they want to ride. Scientists are still at sea as to how many volts of electricity are required to put a man's light out. It is not likely that they will find out from any of their subjects either. St. VALENTINE will have his day next Tuesday and in view of the fact that GEORGE WASHINGTON was never sainted, old PATRICK will be the next patron to have his inning. It has just leaked out that Mr. FRICK built that high fence around the Homestead mills last summer to keep his striking employes from stealing the hams out of the pig iron in stock. It is really amusing to hear Republicans talking about political BURCHARDS now. 'Tis true that a BURCHARD figured as a cause of their defeat in 1884, but the Lord knows no one man effected the land-slide of '92. If the Quaker City police don't look a little out some of the audacious thieves down there will be carrying them off and holding them for a ransom.—Who do you think would offer it, the City or the speak-easy proprietors? With Governor FLOWER after Labor Commissioner PECK and a congressional committee determined to oust JOHNNY DAVENPORT they might indeed be looking for the intervention of the hand that tempers the winds to the shorn lamb. American industries are something to be proud of. Just think of it even the little honey bees turned out \$20,000,000 worth of products last year. In the language of the street urchin they're "hot stuff," especially the business end of them. The hosts of newspaper correspondents who are embarking for Hawaii should remember that "discretion is the better part of valor," for if the natives should run them into the sea they will have a long, damp walk ere they reach the sunny climes of California. Queen LILIUOKALANI evidently has a much longer head than the average newspaper man gives her credit with possessing. If her monarchy had lasted she would never have had to face a \$150,000,000 pension bill so long as she kept her standing army down to sixty men. 'Tis a pity that a man's good points are never discernible until after his demise, political or otherwise. President HARRISON has won more praise by his appointment of Judge JACKSON to the supreme bench, as L. Q. C. LAMAR's successor than he did in all rest of his experience as head of our government. Representative TUBBS, of Missouri, has jumped at the conclusion that we want the Sandwich Islands and has presented a measure, in Congress, favoring their annexation. If Uncle SAM acts favorably on it and we get into trouble with any foreign powers over the matter, we'll launch the Missouri congressman along with our naval tubs and let him fight it out. General BALLINGTON BOOTH, the head of the Salvation Army in America, is in Omaha, Neb., carrying on a great revival. In a recent interview he expressed his desire of colonizing Christians in this country as they have done, with such good results, in Europe. If the General has any doubts as to the most effective methods of colonization we would refer him to the ex-Republican campaign managers. MATTHEW STANLEY QUAY has indeed turned a reformer. Not content with laboring for the Sunday closing of the World's Fair he has even gone so far as to let the Inquirer undertake the work of reform in the Quaker City. In its Sunday issue it actually said: "In two weeks there is to be an election for Councilmen. If better and cheaper gas is wanted vote only for the best men, regardless of party." Never fail to take the advice of a man who doesn't practice what he preaches, for it is invariably the case that bitter experience has made him wise in the course he aims to point out for you, and weakness of purpose alone has made it impossible for him to keep on it himself. The drunkard, though he continues in his bacchanalian orgies and knows his life is lost, will always tell you to leave alcoholic drinks alone.

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Improvement of the New Ballot System.

The Australian ballot, adopted in a number of States with various modifications, has fully vindicated the excellence of its main features. It has thrown around the right of suffrage a protection which it never had before. It has limited the opportunity of those who would coerce voters, or corrupt them. It has removed most of the influences which heretofore have, to a large extent, perverted the expression of the people at the polls. These good results have been effected in most of the States which have adopted the reformed ballot system, with consequences which proved that the purer and less affected by improper influences the ballot is kept, the larger the Democratic majorities are, and the more fully the principles of Democracy are vindicated and enforced. It cannot be doubted that to the reformed method of voting much of the Democratic success at the last election was due, and that it was a powerful factor in securing the election of CLEVELAND and in solving the problem of tariff reform. With the new safeguards to the secrecy and purity of the ballot in New York and Indiana the agencies which carried those States for HARRISON in 1888 were powerless at the last election. Pennsylvania has a modification of the Australian system. It had its first trial at the last election, and while its good points were clearly demonstrated, some deficiencies were also manifested. The defects in the law were pointed out at the time of its passage; they proved themselves to be such when the system was put into practical operation, and the Governor in his last message recommended the correction of such defects in the election law as were made apparent at its first test in November. A bill for this purpose has been introduced in the Legislature, the provisions of which, if passed, will make an election law as perfect as it can be made under the new system. It requires that the mark indicating the choice of the voter shall be put opposite each candidate he shall vote for. The method practiced last fall in using but one mark to include an entire group, led to frequent errors; besides it interferes with those who wish to split their tickets. The new bill also provides for greater safeguards in the cases of those who require assistance in marking their tickets. They must make oath that they require such assistance, and the parties who may be called in to render it must be sworn that they will perform that service in good faith and with no fraudulent intention. The name of the assistant is to be endorsed in the ballot to fix his responsibility in case there has been any crooked business in the transaction. These are the principal amendments and if the bill embodying them is adopted, it will make our elections as safe against fraud, corruption and improper influences as elections can be made. What "the Country Members" Will Do. The Philadelphia Record makes public a report which it claims is current to the effect that the "country members" of the State Legislature will be made the cat's-paws by which the Philadelphia Public Buildings Commission will be pulled out of the fire. Such an expression is altogether unwarranted at this stage of the proceedings and whatever the outcome may be the Record can make up its mind right now that the "country members" will have voted just as the majority of the Philadelphia members did. If the members from Philadelphia, who are supposed to represent the sentiment of their Districts, vote against the dissolution of the Commission it would be presumptuous for those from other parts of the State to step in and say how a thing, which they know nothing about, should be run. If the Commission is continued it will be simply because a majority of the Philadelphia members vote that way, and the very fact that they have done that will be face evidence, at least, that their people wanted it continued. If Philadelphia can't trust their own representatives they should not expect those from other Districts to make up for the shortcomings of the men they have sent to look after their interests.

President Harrison's Agreeable Surprise.

President Harrison certainly treated the American people to a pleasant and gratifying surprise in going outside of his party for a successor to the late Supreme Justice LAMAR, who was a Democrat, and, in consequence of his having been such, propriety required that his place should be filled by a Democrat, under the conditions now existing in the political apportionment of the Supreme Court. But the proprietaries are not always regarded in the exercise of the appointing power, and President HARRISON particularly has shown a disregard for them in some of his past appointments. He fairly won the reputation of being a close partisan, and it was reasonably expected that at the heel of his administration, regardless of the better right of his successor to make the appointment, he would embrace with avidity the chance of putting another Republican on the Supreme bench. But he has not done so; he has not availed himself of this partisan opportunity, and hence the very great and pleasant surprise he has given the people in his appointment of Judge JACKSON; hence the thanks that are due him for his liberality and fair-mindedness in this particular case. But even the best acts will arouse the carpings of habitual fault-finders. The President is condemned for this excellent appointment by some of the Republican mossbacks who can't appreciate a high-minded and non-partisan action and are disgruntled because Mr. HARRISON did not do so improper a thing as to hurry through the appointment of a Republican Justice at the close of his administration. Such partisan fault-finders would be better satisfied if every seat in the United States Supreme bench was filled by a red hot Republican put there for the especial purpose of making partisan decisions. There are also some Democrats who are not exactly pleased with President HARRISON's proceedings in this matter. Probably it would have been more correct to have handed over to a Democratic President the appointment of a Democrat to the Supreme Court, but in choosing Judge JACKSON for that exalted position Mr. HARRISON made so excellent a selection that in our opinion there is no room for the fault finder to get in his ill-natured strictures. The President selected an excellent Judge, a man of the purest personal character, a Democrat whom President CLEVELAND had previously appointed to a Judgeship, and what better could he have done? The present tax collector S. D. RAY aspires to re-election. He has not complied with the law with regard to settling the duplicate. Elect some one who will. Vote for HUGH TAYLOR one of the most energetic young men in our town. Hazleton wants to be a county-seat and has cropped off bits of Luzerne and adjoining counties to make a district for itself. The Plain-dealer admits that the taxes would be high for a while but the increased valuation about Hazleton would make up for that. The would-be-county will be called Hazle, but we fear its only a witch-hazel that is goading the projectors on. Council has been run in the interests of private concerns and individuals long enough. Vote for SECHLER. Vote for KIRK. Vote for BUSH. They are the people's candidates and are not tied down by obligations to anyone. If ice jams were as palatable as they are dangerous, humanity would find little trouble in putting up enough provender now to do for several seasons. Let Bellefonters' live under a Democratic mayor, a Democratic sheriff, a Democratic governor and a Democratic president. Vote for Mr. YEN. On Tuesday the U. S. Senate refused to consider the repeal of the SHERMAN silver bill by a vote of 42 to 23. It looks very much as though old BOREAS is trying to corner the ice market.

Hawaiian Annexation.

Since the last issue of the WATCHMAN, when we gave our preliminary views on the Hawaiian question, events in connection with this emergent issue have rapidly advanced. The delegation from Hawaii, invested with the right to offer us the sovereignty of the islands, were then on their way to make the momentous presentation, their intention having been telegraphed ahead. They are now in the national capital; they have opened their headquarters and are ready for business; the flag of their provisional government has been unfurled to the breeze in the capital city of this Republic, and they announce upon what terms they are willing to give Uncle Sam the exclusive ownership of the fairest gems that stud the bosom of the Pacific. Their terms are easy and very flattering to the American government. They want to be a part of the Republic. They desire association with no other powers. They offer to us the exclusive sovereignty of the most desirable islands that lie in the commercial highway between the shores of Asia and America. It is for the United States government to determine whether it shall accept the magnificent offer, and it is hardly possible that it will be declined. In our opinion the annexation of the Sandwich Islands to the United States is manifest destiny, to be followed in due time by the acquisition of Canada and Cuba. The wings of the American eagle are adjustable to a broader spread. As to the particular method by which the ownership of Hawaii shall be acquired, that is something to be settled by the wisdom of our statesmen. As the question has been sprung in the expiring moments of the HARRISON administration, it will have to be exclusively determined by President CLEVELAND and the Democratic cabinet and the Congress that will have control of affairs under his administration. It can be left to their determination with full assurance that American honor and interests in the case will not suffer at their hands. There appears to be no other alternative than direct annexation, but whether as a State or a Territory is a reserved question. There are grave objections to a protectorate, as it would not invest our government with the sovereignty that would give it effective control of the islands. The Hawaiian delegation express a preference for such a government under the United States as is exercised over the District of Columbia, their object being to avoid the polyglot suffrage which a State or Territorial form of government would confer upon the hybrid races that compose the larger portion of the population. We last week alluded to the agricultural, commercial and strategic advantage of the possession of these islands. But the great object of their acquisition is to prevent England from getting them. It is fortunate indeed that this question was not precipitated when our navy was in the low condition in which Republican mismanagement had placed it. A Democratic administration put new life into it, and it is due to the policy inaugurated by Secretary WHITNEY, under President CLEVELAND, that we now have a navy strong enough to make arrogant old England restrain her disposition to interfere with our annexation of islands that are of the first importance to our Pacific commerce and indispensable for the protection of our coast bordering that great ocean. Newspaper piracy has come to be such a common thing with the press of our country that when a really good article appears, the reader hesitates to give credit to the editor whose journal publishes it, for the simple reason that in the next column his eyes might fall on an article which he has read before in another paper to which credit is not given. This thing of appropriating the work of others is bringing our newspaper standard to a very unreliable state. Statistics show that the average life of a lawyer is 52.1 years or just 4.8 years longer than that of a mechanic. This is because the disciples of BLACKSTONE have such a fat thing of it.

The Sherman Act Should Be Repealed.

From the New York World. There are the strongest business reasons for a repeal of the Sherman act. It is a measure of unnecessary taxation. The Treasury is compelled to pay out nearly \$2,000,000 each month for silver which it does not want. This is a monstrous wrong upon the taxpayers for the sole benefit of the silvermine owners. It is a losing investment. Since the compulsory purchase of silver began in 1878 the Government has bought 418,401,497 ounces at a cost of \$432,372,907. The present market value of this silver is only \$351,457,257, representing a loss of \$80,915,650. It is reducing the United States alone of the great industrial and commercial nations to a cheap-silver basis. Gold is steadily flowing out of the country and being hoarded in Europe. The "free gold" in our Treasury—the amount above the reserve fund for the redemption of greenbacks—is only \$8,000,000. This is a danger-signal which no prudent business man can disregard. It has failed of its avowed purpose. It has not sustained but rather depressed the price of silver. It has not made money more plentiful in the pockets of those who have no acceptable equivalent of labor or product. Include Chewing Gum and Letter Press. From the Philadelphia Times. The bill to prohibit the manufacture and sale of cigarettes in Pennsylvania, which has passed the House of Representatives with only eighteen votes, is about the most violent piece of sumptuary legislation attempted in this Commonwealth during the present century. As it was introduced by a Democrat, who presumably believes in personal liberty, the bill was generally regarded as a joke, a burlesque of the meddling enactments that cumber the statute books of so many States. The vote in the House would indicate that the members still take this view of it, since there must be more than eighteen men who recognize its absurdity. But the joke has now been carried far enough and it will be necessary for the Senate to put an end to it. Perhaps an easy way to do this would be by amendments extending the prohibition to pipes, chewing tobacco, peppermint drops and various other things more or less obnoxious. If the Legislature is going to regulate conduct, it should not stop at half-way measures. Senatorial Inequalities. From the Phila. Record. There were not as many votes polled in the State of Nevada at the recent Presidential election as were polled in the Twenty-sixth ward of Philadelphia. Yet this inconsequential rabble of half-starved mountaineers have been put in a position to balance the weight of five million people in Pennsylvania by the votes of their two Senators! This is the outcome of the policy of dilution which has sought to keep control of the Government by weakening the authority of populous States, and filling the Senate with political titmice and the Electoral College with obedient puppets. The disgraceful squabbles that are going on in the election of Senators by the Legislatures in some of these mountain fastnesses show that they are turning against the party that is responsible for them, and furnishing a new proof that the devil sometimes gets burned with his own fire. It Doesn't Enter the Hawaii Question. From the Philadelphia Evening Herald. The Richmond Times says it has always "regarded the Monroe doctrine as the most preposterous proposition that ever emanated from a sensible man." The value of that doctrine depends entirely upon the strength which the United States may have to enforce it. It can't be backed by sufficient power it is certainly preposterous. But we believe that Uncle Sam has the requisite muscle. His Sins Have Found Him Out. From the York Gazette. The people who saw Senator Matthew Stanley Quay at Harrisburg Tuesday, were amazed as they look upon him. The Senator has grown thin, cadaverous and weak, and a sickly pallor overspreads his face. He looks like a dying man. Put to a Profitable Use. From the Louisville Courier Journal. Should we annex Hawaii we can perhaps, turn an honest penny by hiring out the Queen's army of sixty men to serve in the chorus of some comic-opera company. When He Takes a Step Everything Goes. From the Brookville Jeffersonian Democrat. Governor HOGE, of Texas, evidently does not belong to the "razor back" breed. He is 39 years of age and weighs 375 pounds. If you want printing of any description the WATCHMAN office is the place to have it done.

Spawls from the Keystones.

Small-pox has broken out at Wernersville. Bethlehem has set its heel upon grade crossings. Dikinson College will erect a new \$25,000 building. Cars crushed to death Michael Vernato at Milnersville. Painters in Reading demand 25 cents more wages a day. All the Clear Spring Colliery hands are on a strike at Pittston. The Girard estate will build a \$75,000 mine dam at Girardville. There is an ice flood in the West Branch of the Susquehanna River. Rev. Covert's endeavor to indict officers of Solon, at Pittsburg, flunked. Thieves stole 400 cigars from Samuel Guter's store, at Shenandoah. An ordinance is pending in Williamsport Councils to abolish street fakirs. Owing to dull market the Birdsboro Nail Works closed Saturday temporarily. Struck by a train, George Die, expired at his home at Marysville, York County. A prominent Ashland politician, Valentin Depner, died in bed Monday morning. Bristol will borrow money to construct sewers as a means to prevent typhoid. Jeremiah Roth was re-elected president of the Lehigh County Agricultural Society. Jack Clifford, the Homestead striker on trial for murder, will try to prove an alibi. Four of Reuben Smith's children, at Easton, have died of diphtheria in nine days. A shortage of natural gas is attributed a great many pneumonia deaths in Pittsburg. Jacob Mumma, a Hanover recluse, aged 74 who has lived secluded in a cellar since 1847, is dead. Lytle Colliery, on the New Minersville Branch, near Pottsville, has resumed operations. The coal mine near West Newton in which Jacob Newton was lost is burning like a furnace. While walking on the railroad track near Christiansa, Joseph Beckman was run down by a train. The Vigilant Fire Company, of York, celebrated the 113th anniversary of its organization. Francis Murphy, the temperance apostle proposes a church for all workmen in Pittsburg. Water from the city's trench undermined and wrecked a new house of William Rhoads at Reading. Cyrus T. Fox, of Reading, will have charge of Pennsylvania's display of fruit at the World's Fair. Commissioner Bows, of Schuylkill County, surcharged \$1500 by auditors, has appealed to the Court. A red hot hook seared a hole through the hand of Jacob Billet, employed at the York rolling mill. Elijah Dillon is in Berks County Jail accused of breaking the ribs of Edward Gault's 3 year-old child. Lehigh county auditors Friday began an investigation of the accounts of the County Commissioners. Injuries sustained by falling from the roof of Allentown hotel resulted fatally to Annie Adams, a servant. Safe robbers got \$100 and other booty in Joe Wenger & Son's office, at Brownstone, Lancaster County. The baby of Mrs. Morris Yosty, Lebanon nearly died from drinking ammonia given to it by an older child. Gum boots caused blood poison in the leg of Mrs. Daley's little son, at Pittsburg and amputation is a necessity. For embezzling \$500 of the Wilkesbarre Deposit and Savings Bank, Charles Voigt goes to jail for 15 months. A conference of the Pennsylvania State Woman Suffrage Association will be held at Harrisburg, February 23. Smallpox has broken out at Wernersville and Milmont, in addition to the farming districts in Western Berks. Sixteen-year-old Emil Wagner, of Philadelphia, a Nazareth Military School trainee, has been captured in Allentown. The new Lalanco-Grosjean bar and sheet iron plant at Harrisburg, employing hands, began business on Saturday. Bishop Escher told Reading friends that he will shortly go to Japan, to organize the first Evangelical Conference there. Mrs. Hannah Leib, mother of Carriage-maker George C. Leib, of Ashland, was found dead in bed Monday morning. The coal monument 50 feet high built for the World's Fair by the Lehigh Valley Company, at Shenandoah, is completed. The Pennsylvania lines west have ordered 1000 gondolas to be delivered by May 1, to be used in the coal and coke traffic. Twenty-eight dozen quail have been taken to Washington County from Tennessee, and will be released for breeding purposes. The Philadelphia and Reading Company, will be sinking a new shaft near Minersville the output of which will be very great. W. H. Dech, of Lincoln, Neb., the recently defeated Populist candidate for Congress, who attempted suicide, was a former Allentown man. All the mines of the Delaware Lackawanna and Western Company, employing 13,000 hands, were put upon eight hours a day. In a collision of coal trains on the Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad, at Ninewah, Engineer Andrew Histed was killed. Suit will be brought against the bondsmen of ex-Treasurer Obold, of Reading, to recover the deficit amounting to several thousand dollars. Tom Brown, accused of the murder of an other negro named Robinson, at Ebervale, has been arrested at Niagara Falls and taken to Wilkesbarre. County Treasurer Pepper, of Pottsville wants that part of the Auditor's report set aside which charges him with the Court House commissions. Stricken with paralysis and unable to call for help, Hotelkeeper W. A. Eby, of Shamokin was frozen to death within sight of his home Sunday night. At the same shaft and in the same manner but at different times Friday Thomas Moran and John Thomas, driver boys in Wilkesbarre mine, were fatally squeezed.