

Ink Stings.

If Turkey keeps on heaping indignities on our people we'll run our new navy over there and soon put her in the soup.

The Liberty bell will take a new lease on life and begin ringing "chestnuts" if its junketing tours are not soon stopped.

Official figures place the number of inmates in jails and almshouses in the United States at 82,829. GIBSON MARSH is not among the number however.

As every season opens we read that some exploded base ball phenom is going to play the game of his life. Such statements always lead to the conclusion that ball players, like cats, have nine lives.

In all instances it is a case of the office seeking the man, but the man is usually so liberal minded that he makes himself known in many ways just so the office won't have to wear itself out finding him.

Poor, poor Kansas! Last fall it was floods and grasshoppers; during the winter cyclones and populists, last week prairie fires, and on Sunday a meteor knocked the arm of the JOHN BROWN which HORACE GREELY built in Ossawatimie, in '63.

There are just seventeen lawyers in the State Legislature, the smallest percentage of disciples of BLACKSTONE there has ever been in that body, yet there is just enough of them there yet to keep the farmer, shoemaker and merchant law makers rattled most of the time.

The name "Peacemaker" is painfully significant as attached to KRUPP's one hundred and twenty-ton cannon. We should think that the most desperate belligerent would be entirely pardonable for changing front in the face of such a preponderance of argument.

Who wouldn't be a paymaster in the army and draw fifteen dollars a day additional for having a good time in Paris? LIGE HALFORD shouldn't be censured. He would have been a fool indeed for not crawling into such a berth. The fellows who made it up for him are to blame.

The idea of objecting to the appointment of ISADORE ZACHARIAS to be post master of Bainbridge, Ga. simply because he plays poker and seven-up. Why if the people of the South keep on at that rate Kentuckians will have to give up their bourbon and wipe off the "Col." before they can serve their constituents.

The scheming of French jailors can be discerned behind the great project to span the English channel with a \$165,000,000 bridge. Possible by the time the great structure would become a realized failure. Panama canal convicts would be no more and a new source could then be looked to fill up the French prisons.

Miss BESS DAVIS, the Chicago young woman who has just toured ten thousand miles around the country without touching ground with her feet, has accomplished a greater undertaking than people generally conceive. The enormity of the average Chicago girls feet must be known before one can thoroughly appreciate Miss DAVIS' big feat.

At last after years of study and profound meditation we have been able to trace the genealogy of the common, ordinary, every-day sucker back to a talking fish which was caught on the coast of Africa in 1754. It was taught to say "papa, mamma," and like words, by the natives, but as time has evolved the species we now find its articulations to be "cigawette," "deah fellah" etc.

The London Lancet sent a man all the way over here to examine the water of the Chicago river for the benefit of Europeans who will visit the World's Fair. He reported the water not as bad as it might be, but urged his readers, who come over to drink it only after it has been boiled, and to avoid ice water. It looks very much as if the Chicago brewers had tampered with the Lancet representative.

The editor of a very country weekly in writing of an old subscriber who had taken the paper for forty odd years and had never paid anything on it since his first two dollars weighted down the editors thread bare pants, called the old gentleman, who had been in to say that he was "coming in to pay up soon," "our venerable friend and subscriber." In some way the compositor got it "vegetable" instead of venerable and when the paper was published the old man studied a long time, wondering why the editors should call him a "vegetable friend." For some reason or other he and his seven sons visited the print shop and "cleaned" the whole force out. It is quite evident that the only vegetable he could think of as describing himself was the beet.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

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Something to Be Proud Of.

The naval display that is about to come off in Hampton Roads and in New York harbor, in which the great powers of the world are to participate, will gratify the patriotic sentiment and national pride of the American people, in the fact that their navy will make a show of warships that will surpass in number and equal in efficiency those sent by European navies to take part in the great Columbian naval parade.

The decay into which the American naval establishment was allowed to fall was a remarkable and a humiliating episode in our national history. It was certainly not in accord with the maritime disposition and nautical reputation of our people. From their very colonial origin they were famed for their prowess on the ocean. In their revolutionary struggle they did not fear to grapple with England on her favorite element. In their second war with that power, by their numerous victories, they humiliated the "mistress of the sea."

But as soon as the Rebellion closed, our navy for some unaccountable reason became the object of shameful neglect. No effort was made to maintain its strength. The repairs were more for the purpose of spoliation than preservation. Decay, superannuation and pillage almost obliterated it. So low became its condition that the weakest powers looked upon it with contempt, and if even third rate nations had heaped upon us the grossest international indignities we would not have been in condition to resent the affront. Chili, which was supplied with stronger iron-clad than we had, could have bullied us with impunity, and it is remembered what a relief it was when it turned out that Italy, a much weaker nation than ours in every respect except that of her navy, was not disposed to push to hostilities the misunderstanding we had with her in regard to the Mafia difficulty.

Fortunately for the honor and safety of our country this apathy in regard to the condition of the navy has passed away and been followed by a different spirit. The old naval ambition so natural to our people was revived by a Democratic administration eight years ago. It must be said that it was fully maintained by the succeeding Republican administration, and the joint effect of their efforts in the way of naval regeneration is seen in the fact that the United States is able to invite the nations of the world to join in a naval parade, and is able to bear aloft her flag as proudly as any of them.

The Right Man.

The President acted wisely in exercising the greatest care in the selection of a Commissioner of Pensions, his purpose being not only to secure an official of the best ability as far as mental and moral equipment was concerned, but also one whose physical endurance would stand the great strain which the exactions of the office would put upon him. A number of names were suggested, including some who were applicants for the place but most of them were deficient in the most essential qualifications. Some, who in other respects were exactly fitted for the great trust, were too far advanced in life to successfully grapple with its difficulties. And that its duties will be of the most exacting and laborious character, under the reform policy that will be adopted in regard to pensions, may be taken as a matter of certainty. The whole system has become permeated with abuses which have been prolific of fraud and corruption, and to correct these evils where there are so many interests and influences work-

ing for their continuance will require an official of unusual mental, moral, and physical capacity.

In the selection of Judge LOCHREN of Minnesota, for Commissioner of Pensions, President CLEVELAND no doubt believes that he has the right man for the place, and what is known of the Judge appears to fully justify this belief. He is known to be a man of great capacity, of high moral worth, resolute in his disposition, and of sufficient endurance to stand the strain which the labors of a reform Commissioner will impose upon him. He is also an ex-soldier, who did heroic service, having particularly distinguished himself at Gettysburg. In addition to this military experience, which will enable him to discriminate between the worthy and unworthy pension claimants, his training as a lawyer and a judge since the war gave him the legal experience necessary to a proper performance of his duties. The President has evidently selected the right man to correct the abuses of RAUM's and TANNER's administrations of the Pension Bureau.

Southern Prosperity.

The improvements that have taken place in the southern section of the Union, in all the places of material progress, since the local governments were wrested from the combination of negroes and white scoundrels, have been of the most gratifying character, indicating a spirit of advancement which promises a brilliant future for that important part of our country. Industrial enterprises are branching out into every form of industry, as is shown by the monthly announcements of new industrial movements, which are particularly noticeable in cotton manufacturing, iron production and lumbering operations.

The multiplication of cotton mills in the South is especially remarkable, showing that the seat of that industry is gradually shifting to the sections which produce the raw material. The advantage of the proximity of cotton field and cotton mill will in a few decades place the South in the foremost position in supplying the world with its most largely used and indispensable fabric. In the development of its iron product, the South in the last decade, can show a larger percentage of increase than any other section of the Union, while its inexhaustible forests of wood valuable for every purpose of joinery and cabinet work, are receiving the active attention of southern enterprise.

The aroused energy of that section is showing itself in the conventions that are being held to give the most effective direction to its activity. A convention has just been held with representatives from all parts of the cotton districts, the object of which was to urge upon the planters the importance of giving more of their acreage to the production of cereals. The crops of cotton recently produced have been so immense as to reduce the price and diminish the profitability of that special product. Industrial thrift calls for a more diversified agriculture, and it is industrial thrift that is now governing the movements of the southern people.

Another important convention is about being held at Richmond in which all the South is taking a lively interest, the object of which is to devise measures to divert the stream of foreign immigration to that section. They want to add to their colored labor element a larger accession of white labor, and in doing so they will not only benefit their own section but relieve the North of too large a proportion of the immigrants who seek our shores. The South in every respect is on a high road to industrial prosperity, and every patriotic American, no matter to what section he may belong, will rejoice to see her prosper, as a part of our common country.

Hypocritical Objections.

There was something more than ordinarily cheeky in the futile attempt of the Republicans to oust Senator ROACH from his seat in the United States Senate to which the Legislature of North Dakota elected him. He made his appearance in the higher branch of Congress, not through the process by which too many Senators secure admission to that body. It was not through the influence of money used to purchase his way to that position, but it was in consequence of the high esteem in which he was held by the people of his State that the Legislature turned to him, after a prolonged contest between other candidates, and elected him by a vote in which members of both parties participated. In this result Republicans as well as Democrats paid a tribute to his high standing in their community.

But after he had taken the oath as United States Senator some of his Republican colleagues discovered that many years ago as a bank officer in Washington, he had been a defaulter. They made this the hypocritical basis of objection to his acting in a Senatorial capacity. They wanted to have him expelled on account of this emirch upon his reputation. Although many of them hold seats which they secured by bribing State Legislatures they assumed that Senator ROACH was too dishonest a character to be a United States Senator.

Nothing could be more contemptible than such an assumption coming from a Republican source in the Senate. The motive is clearly comprehended, bearing all the earmarks of its hypocritical intention. The Democratic majority in the Senate is a close one, and in objecting to Senator ROACH it is more the purpose of the Republicans to reduce that majority than to remove an objectionable character. If the situation were reversed and it were necessary to keep a couple of horse thieves in Senatorial seats to maintain a Republican majority, the Senators of that party would be found voting for their retention. The whole policy of their party verifies such an assertion. It is verified by the fact that there has been no scruple in stealing State Legislatures in order to gain Republican United States Senators. It is substantiated by the outcome of every contested election in which Republicans had the power to seat their man, no matter how flimsy his claim, or how objectionable his character.

In the case of Senator ROACH the offense charged against him appears to have been condoned by his subsequent good conduct in the new country where he went to re-establish his reputation. That he succeeded in this object is shown by the circumstances under which he was chosen to represent North Dakota in the United States Senate. But if he had gone to that region, amassed great wealth, by crooked speculation, bought up the State Legislature and made his appearance at Washington as a Republican Senator, he would have been received with open arms by the Republican plutocrats who have gained admission to that body by such means.

The new salary bill which has just been reported by the State judiciary committee increases the annual pay roll of the State just \$23,000. It is a well known fact that government officials in many branches are receiving less remuneration than employees of private concerns for work far harder and requiring a greater degree of responsibility. Whether the present bill will meet the approval of the Governor remains to be seen.

Postmaster FIELD, of Philadelphia, has resigned because he has been an object of persecution ever since his appointment. His honest convictions led him to do things which provoked the wrath of all the Republican brewers in the city, and in trying to serve the people and his masters he spilled the waters of dissatisfaction in all directions.

Revised playing rules have done away with the 4x6 confines for the pitcher and now we will hear no more of the champion ball tosser being pounded out of his box.

The hoop skirt is a horrible thing for man to look at. It reforms many women, nevertheless.

An Idea for Pennsylvania Prohibitionists.

The idea upon which this plan is based is that drunkenness is unnecessarily increased by the desire for large profits on the part of those engaged in intoxicating drinks. In other words, private liquor dealers, whether licensed or otherwise, drum for trade and offer inducements to men to drink. Under the State plan this motive is removed, and while alcoholic stimulants are placed within the reach of all who are not minors, no one has a money interest in inducing others to drink.

The South Carolina experiment will be watched with a good deal of interest. There are some absurd provisions in the statute, however, such as allowing only one dispenser of drink to a county, which are likely to defeat its purpose.

England Should Profit by Experience With the Thirteen Colonies.

Mr. Gladstone's speech on the second reading of the Home Rule bill cut the ground from under the opposition. His points that no incorporated union effect could be maintained by force had ever proposed, that unions not incorporated but autonomous had been attended with success and that in all unions but one principle can be applied—whether they require permanent maintenance by force—were strongly fortified by allusions to the forced unions of Holland and Belgium, Austria and Hungary, and Russia and Poland, as compared with the voluntary union of the United States. The passage of the Home Rule bill seems now assured, and the foolish talk of civil war in Ireland in the event of its becoming a law is as wild as it is unjustifiable.

Lawmakers Are Not Students.

People who closely watch the manner in which voting is done in the legislative bodies are surprised with the lack of clear understanding on the part of very many legislators of all the bearings and objects of the measures on which they vote. The facts show that bills become laws which those who enact them do not understand and have no intelligent comprehension of what will be their effect as laws. It is an unfortunate fact that too many men are sent to all legislative bodies who do not interest themselves in the work they are expected to do, and who take no pains to inform themselves on all bills as they should to enable them to vote intelligently on them as they pass through the stages of legislation.

Visitors Must Pay to Hear What the Wild Waves Are Saying.

The latest gaudy story from Chicago is enough to make one's hair stand on end with terror at the thought of such audacity in a civilized country. Second thought causes one to take off his hat to the genius that conceived such a mastodon thought. The Illinois Central railroad, which owns and controls a large portion of the lake front, proposes to build a fence enclosing its property and then charge an admission fee to people who desire to stand on the beach and watch the ripples or catch a little of the ribald conversation of the wild waves.

Slandering the Newspapers.

A modern Ananias has made the statement that the newspapers of the United States ask for \$6,400,000 worth of passes to the World's Fair. As there are only 19,000 publications in the United States and as each publication will not ask for more than half a dozen passes, on the average, the idiosyncrasy of such a statement must be apparent. The sum above mentioned would give each newspaper office, whether large or small, 676 tickets. The editor in a small town could take the entire population to Chicago, if this statement were true. But it isn't; it is utterly false.

A Sensible View of It.

Turn him out that political barnacle, Col. Fred Grant, should be boomed out of his \$12,000 Austrian office as soon as possible. Why should he be left in office after the expiration of his term? He is strong and able-bodied and has a good right to earn an honest living as any of the rest of us. Rotate him out, that he may become an independent, self-supporting American instead of a tax consumer, which he has been ever since his father sent him to West Point twenty years ago.

Philadelphians Are Not Unanimous in Your Opinion Mr. Editor.

Postmaster John Field, of Philadelphia, who has shown himself to be an able official, has sent in his resignation. As the postmastership in Philadelphia is a big prize, interest is considerably aroused over the question of who shall fill the vacancy.

Spawls from the Keystone.

It snowed at Bristol Saturday.

The Pittsburg Republican primaries will be held June 3.

Rain extinguished the forest fires near Reading Saturday.

Reading wants \$3,000 from Council to build a garbage crematory.

Mrs. Charlotte Moulton, of Pottstown, has passed her 102d birthday.

There are four cases of smallpox in the family of Peter S. Machmer, Leesport.

Northampton county's Christian Endeavor elected J. B. May of Bangor, president.

Lehigh University, at Bethlehem, will have a new laboratory, to cost \$200,000.

It is said that ninety-eight inches of snow fell in Wayne county during the past winter.

The fire in the Cleaver mines, near Ashland, still consumes hundreds of tons of coal daily.

At one swoop 22 1/2 miles of Reading's street railways will be converted into trolley lines.

The finding of a body of a newborn babe at Shannondah has started a search for a murderer.

In jumping upon a Pennsylvania Railroad freight train near Pottstown, Jerry Campo met death.

Miss Kate Drexel, of Philadelphia, gave \$2000 toward building a new Catholic church in Carlisle.

Jackson Gearhart and Mrs. Fannie Schuler were arrested at Wilkesbarre for eloping from Utica, N. Y.

Murderer Pietro Buccheri, of Reading, will make one more appeal to the Board of Pardons to save his neck.

On Friday and Saturday the Reading brought 3066 cars loaded with coal down the Schuylkill valley.

West Newton will be 100 years old in 1898. In 1794 the town was laid out in lots, which were disposed of by lottery.

Thirty ball train men of the Pennsylvania Railroad at Reading won their strike for a 10 hour day and \$1.35 pay.

Rev. Dr. L. A. Gotwald, who is being tried for heresy in Ohio, was formerly pastor of Zion's Lutheran church, Lebanon.

J. C. Van Nostrum, a salesman, who was in Lancaster jail for embezzling money from J. L. Metzger & Co., has become insane.

Assistant Secretary of the Interior John M. Reynolds, of Bedford, will go to Washington on Tuesday next to begin business.

Although he was fatally stabbed John McCray for assaulting Mrs. Abe Hughes, of near Huntingdon, the husband has not been arrested.

Crawford county, with a population of 65,324, has 35 licensed liquor houses. Erie county, with a population of 86,074, has 161 licensed houses.

Inflated citizens are looking for William Smith, of Coudersport, who is charge with having caused the death of his young niece, Theresa Hatter.

The cavity from which a tooth was extracted from the mouth of Charles Bruch, Muncy, has bled for eight days, and his condition is critical.

The report of the First National Bank of Towanda shows deposits to the amount of \$1,000,000. This is a big showing for a town the size of Towanda.

Oil City is not on the gain evidently. The empty houses are numerous and rents have gone down 10 per cent, says the envious Titusville Citizen.

Somebody's negligence allowed an express and a freight train to collide on the Pennsylvania Railroad, at Tonhickon, and the mail clerk's leg was broken.

The Pennsylvania Railroad Company contemplates erecting a number of cottages at Cresson to be occupied by the officials of the Cambria and Clearfield roads.

The reports of the seven national banks of Lancaster shows that they have \$3,135,961.56 on deposit. This of course, does not in any way include the stock and surplus capital, which, in the several banks, aggregates the sum of \$2,382,000.

In the matter of ancient linen relics, Mrs. Sarah Heston, of Pineville, says she can beat Mrs. M. L. Worthington, of Penn's Park, Bucks county, and have a few years to spare. Mrs. Heston is the owner of a pair of pillow cases marked with her great-grand-mother's maiden name, Phoebe Smith, and dated 1772.

One of the largest trees in Lancaster county is to be found on the farm of Levi Sener, at Sener's Curve, on the Pennsylvania Railroad, not far from Mounville. It is a button wood, and six feet from the ground the circumference of the trunk is 23 1/2 feet. On it are nine branches that are each a fair sized tree in size, and five of these are each estimated to be seventy-five feet in length.

Susan Smith, a dressmaker living at Humboldt, Luzerne county, has brought suit against Mrs. Andrew Papachs to recover for making a dress with organeline. Mrs. Papachs in ordering a new gown, had looked on surplus her friends. As she looked in the glass she cried with mortification. She pronounced the thing horrid and refused to accept it or pay Miss Smith for her trouble. The latter won her suit, but all hopes for further organeline orders are shattered in the mining regions.

A singular coincidence in the moving line occurred in Oxford last week, says the Press. Two families of the same name came up from Cecil county, Md., with their household goods on the morning train Wednesday and moved into neighboring houses at the same time. They were John M. Campbell, of Rising Sun, and John M. Campbell, of Perryville, strangers to each other. They both took houses of dentists—Dr. Boice's and Dr. Clement's dwellings—which have removed to Philadelphia. The first named Mr. Campbell is engaged in the warehouse business at Barnsley and Sylum, and the second Mr. Campbell is a brakeman on the local Central Division train.

The Berks county Auditors have filed their report. They took no action upon the protest filed by Constable Lyon that the County Commissioners be surcharged with the bills amounting to \$150,000, but will present it to the court along with their report. The Auditors find the present indebtedness of the county to be \$58,823 and the balance in the hands of the Treasurer in March, \$21,301. The Commissioners' orders during the year aggregated \$343,306; poor house, \$50,232; prison, \$29,233, a grand total of \$423,772. On the Commissioners' orders the sum of \$4,000 paid Ex-Recorder Dunn for indexing deed and mortgage books, which was paid without the approval of the Court, was disallowed and charged against the County Commissioners, Jarius Reiser, Frank Seidel and Cyrus Kaufman. The bills for beer, amounting to \$36, used at the poor house, were disallowed.