

Ink Slings.

—Is the Hawaiian question really a question, or is it only a bug-a-boo? —"Resumed full handed" is the most interesting head-line in the newspapers just now.

—Philadelphia thinks she has dollar gas in sight. Perhaps when she gets it she will be out of sight.

—Congressmen who won't keep their seats now should be remembered when they begin clamoring for a re-election.

—The Lord loves a cheerful giver, but not the hypocrite, who revels in giving advice which he does not follow himself.

—Bare footed boys are daily seen fishing along the banks of Spring creek. We have been waiting patiently for the Republican to blame it on the Wilson bill.

—Was there ever a time when Governors figured more in public matters? PENNOYER, LEWELLING, MITCHELL and ATWOOD are all up for a share of notoriety.

—If business keeps on improving it will not be long until every manufacturing industry in the country will be running full handed. The Wilson bill is to blame for it.

—The rarity of snow this winter has made times very hard for a certain class of poets, but while they may lose an opportunity to descend on "the beautiful", the coming of Spring is inevitable.

—Mrs. GEORGE GOULD, of New York, has just organized a society which will aim to refine the poor. A noble work indeed, for where there is refinement there society finds its truest types of manhood and womanhood.

—Statisticians figure that the loss by fire in the United States and Canada during the year 1892 aggregated \$156,445,875. This sum does not include the estimated value of countless projected enterprises that ended in smoke.

—While the board of managers were debating as to how they would get rid of the World's Fair buildings, in Jackson park, fire solved the problem. But it did the work before the exhibitors were ready for it and many thousands were lost.

—The first thing Mr. CARNEGIE knows he will be a Democrat. He is getting extremely Democratic in his ideas and this last bolt in favor of reduced tariff sounds very much as if he would like to ally himself with the party of tariff reform.

—If the Democracy of Pennsylvania is not thoroughly and harmoniously organized how was that JACKSON day banquet in Philadelphia and the convention on Wednesday, where so much good feeling was manifested and perfect unity of purpose evinced, possible?

—Has anything so childish ever been heard of as the silly talk of Republican bigwigs impeaching President CLEVELAND. His position on the Hawaiian question is one of the greatest dignity and 'twas only his masterful appreciation of the situation that has saved the honor of our land; which seems to have been held in such cheap esteem by his Republican predecessors.

—It is a singular fact that while MCKINLEY was inaugurated Governor of Ohio, on Monday, there was a mass meeting of five thousand unemployed men being held in Cleveland at which the evil effects of the MCKINLEY bill were being deplored. He is Governor now, but these idle workmen will have to whistle for the realization of the promises he made them last Fall.

—The Baltimore Herald is anxious that Congress hurry up and pass a bankrupt bill as it fears that the government may need it. The Herald is deliciously frank in adding its disapprobation of the pension frauds that have been unearthed in the Monumental city. With ten thousand fraudulent claimants Baltimore does well in advising the government to legislate in anticipation of a financial breaking up.

—The loss of the mental faculties is coming to play entirely too prominent a part in the fatalities of to-day. And the cause can be wholly ascribed to an un-called for modesty which tries to cover up mental weakness when the superior treatment of an asylum should be immediately sought. The loss of mind is a misfortune to which no disgrace can be attached and the friends of those thus sadly afflicted should take prompt means to remove all possibility of danger.

—The talk of returning INGALLS to the Senate will more than likely end in talk. There can be no doubt that on the floor of the upper house of Congress Mr. INGALLS was a man, who always claimed and was given a lion's share of attention, but unfortunately the same talent that made him the eloquent logical debater made him a foul mouthed calumniator whose presence as his State's highest representative in Congress was offensive to the nation.

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Inconsequential Tariff Meetings.

The Lewistown Gazette no doubt thinks it makes a decided score against the Wilson tariff bill when it expresses itself as follows:

"Not one mass meeting has yet been held to urge the passage of the Wilson bill. Scores have been held to protest against the measure. Yet Chairman Wilson has the hardihood to declare that the people demand 'free trade reform.'"

Our Lewistown neighbor makes a mistake in the above statement. There was one very great mass meeting in favor of such a tariff reform measure as is presented in the Wilson bill. It was held in November, 1892, and was attended by millions who declared in favor of a different kind of a tariff from the one which they then passed judgment upon, and which has since brought industrial and financial paralysis upon the country.

The supporters of the Wilson bill can see no occasion for holding mass meetings in favor of a measure which an overwhelming majority of the people have enjoined Congress to pass. On this subject the only injunction that can be legitimately considered is that which emanated from the ballot box when the question was directly before the people.

It is easy to understand how mass meetings against the Wilson bill may be gotten up and by whom they are likely to be composed. They are mainly made up of the same people who at the last Presidential election voted for a monopoly tariff and were defeated. What right have they to a second hearing on a question which was settled at that time by a popular decision against them? With what sense can they claim that the irregular clamor of mass meetings made up almost entirely of partisan material, should annul the deliberate verdict of a general election?

Such meetings may also have a small element of weak-minded people who voted for tariff reform, but have since been bewildered by the calamity howl, and have been foolishly made to believe that the disastrous effect of Republican measures on the condition of business was the result of the Democrats getting control of the government.

Mass meetings composed of such elements can have no influence upon the question in issue, and are entitled to none.

When Grow Was a Low Tariff Man.

The Republican State convention, which met in Harrisburg last week, nominated GALUSHA A. GROW for Congressman at Large, as a representative high tariff man.

In doing this the convention seems to have been ignorant of Mr. GROW's record, and the high tariff supporters will whoop it up for him at the February election just as if he had been an original MCKINLEYITE.

We call their attention to a little tariff history in which their candidate for Congressman at Large is involved. In 1857 he was a Republican representative in Congress from this State. At that time the low Democratic revenue tariff of 1846 had been in operation for eleven years. It had worked wonder fully well for the industrial interests of the country, but it was thought that it would do still better if it was made a little lower. Therefore a Republican house of Representatives, of which NATHANIEL P. BANKS was speaker, in conjunction with a Democratic Senate and President, concluded to reduce the duties of 1846 by passing the still low tariff of 1857.

Pennsylvania had always favored the highest possible tariffs and there fore all the Representatives from this State, both Democratic and Republican, with but a single exception, voted against the tariff reduction of 1857. GROW was that exception. The fact that he did not vote at all was sufficient proof that he had no serious objections to a low tariff.

It is well enough to call this circumstance to the minds of the people while Mr. GROW is being paraded as a champion of a high tariff protective system.

—Furs and fur-be-lows are different things, but they both come high.

A Disgraceful Transaction.

The manner in which the Hawaiian government was overthrown a year ago furnishes a page to the diplomatic history of this country which future generations of Americans will not read with any degree of pride. It supplies a parallel to the dark and devious ways in which the English subverted the native principalities in India in order that they might be absorbed in the English possessions.

Enough of the facts, connected with the Hawaiian transaction, are known to sustain all that President CLEVELAND said about it in his message, and to make it beyond question that the American Minister, sent to the Hawaiian government to represent a friendly nation, deliberately entered into a plot with a body of foreign residents to overthrow the long established native government, and that he added to his offense against the dignity, honor and good name of the nation he represented by employing its military power in carrying out this filibustering enterprise. The haste with which the HARRISON administration endeavored to rush the annexation of the islands, as the fruit of the wrongful transaction, subjects it to the suspicion that it was a party to the plot.

This outrage upon the reputation of the American nation cannot be justified by the assertion that the Queen of Hawaii is a black woman; that she is a dissolute person; that she arbitrarily intended to change the constitution of her government and that those who were in the conspiracy with Minister STEVENS to overthrow her authority were the most influential residents. These are matters which cannot rightfully concern the American government. Would the American Minister to Hayti, where affairs are in worse disorder than in Hawaii, be justifiable in plotting for a change of its government? The American people, no doubt would be pleased to have possession of those Pacific islands but they do not want them so badly as to justify the Republican method of stealing them.

MCKINLEY Bulldozing.

The enemies of a Democratic tariff are resorting to bulldozing in their opposition to that measure. The newspapers are publishing cases of employe discharging Democratic workmen for no other reason than that they voted the ticket of the party that proposes to reform the tariff.

This has occurred in a number of instances in New England, and there have been some cases in Pennsylvania, but a very glaring case is presented in this State in the instance of the KEASLEY and MATTHEWSON company, manufacturing magnesia coverings at Ambler, which notified all the hands in its employ who sympathized with the WILSON bill that their services were no longer needed in that establishment.

This high-handed act of coercion, when it got into the newspapers, attracted considerable attention throughout the country, and the company being coming apprehensive that it might injure their business, published a denial that they had adopted such a method of bulldozing; but, as a rebuttal of their denial, the handbills they posted giving notice that they would discharge their Democratic hands, are brought in evidence.

It may be well for those citizens who are opposed to the monopoly tariff system, to remember this Ambler company which assumes the arrogant right of punishing workmen who are not in favor of MCKINLEYISM.

—From indications on the surface of the Pennsylvania Republican politics, it would appear that General DANIEL H. HASTINGS is likely to be the G. O. P. nominee for Governor in the contest that will come off this year. At the State convention last week there was a good opportunity of comparing gubernatorial booms, and none that were displayed on that occasion, made any show at all in comparison with that of our distinguished townsman. In fact there wasn't any other one that made the least show on that occasion, it being evident that the bosses have slated the General for the next candidacy for Governor.

A Bit of Tariff History.

The hope is entertained by the high protectionists that local interests may induce some of the Democratic Congressmen to oppose the Wilson tariff bill. This expectation exists particularly in regard to Democratic Representatives from Pennsylvania, upon whom it is hoped the coal, iron and lumber interests of the State for whose benefit a high tariff is claimed, may have an effect in deterring them from voting for a reduction of duties.

This appears to us to be a vain expectation. We know of no Democratic Representative who is afraid to meet the tariff issue which the pledges of his party have imposed upon him. They all understand the character of the clamor which the MCKINLEYITES are raising, and know that it does not represent Democratic sentiment.

History teaches that so far as their individual popularity is concerned it is perfectly safe for Pennsylvania Democratic Congressmen to vote for a revenue tariff. In 1846 when it was proposed to reduce the Whig protective tariff of 1842, this State was in a ferment of opposition to such a movement. All the Democratic Representatives from Pennsylvania except DAVID WILSON got scared and supported the Whig high tariff. But thanks to the deciding vote of a Pennsylvania Vice President, GEORGE M. DALLAS, the Democratic revenue tariff of 1846 was passed and it proved to be so beneficial in its effects that, as a party measure, it strengthened the Democracy in this State. DAVID WILSON was re-elected by an increased majority, and he continued to be elected as a low tariff Democrat until the slavery question landed him in the Republican party. Under the revenue tariff of 1846 Pennsylvania became confirmed as the Democratic keystone of the Federal arch.

This is a bit of tariff history which we believe the Democratic Representatives from this State will keep in mind when they come to act upon the Wilson tariff bill.

Wealthy Pensioners.

Judge LONG, of the Supreme Court of Michigan, who draws an annual salary of \$5,000, and has sources of income from the possession of valuable properties, is avaciously disposed to swell his revenues by a pension amounting to \$75 per month. He has resisted the effort of the pension authorities to reduce this unneeded bounty from the government, maintaining the claim that his right to bleed the treasury under the form of a pension is a vested one.

It is true that Judge LONG had been a soldier and had been seriously wounded, but he has not been disabled by it, there being scarcely ground for the assumption that a man who is able to run a court and draw a large salary for such service, is in that condition which is contemplated by the pension laws when they provide relief for disabled soldiers.

Just such cases as that of this Michigan Judge are the ones that bring the pension system into disrepute, and such pensioners stand in the way of poorer soldiers who on account of disability are in need of government relief.

An extremely foolish story is afloat in the tariff organs about the Democratic Ways and Means committee reducing the duty on window glass at the request of THOMAS HART, president of the American Window Glass Manufacturers' Association, a person represented as being a Democrat who contributed to the CLEVELAND campaign fund. The organs say that Mr. HART wants a reduction of the tariff on glass in order that the Glassblowers' Union may be broken up. If protection is required to make the glass industry flourish, as is contended by the tariff papers, before any credit can be attached to the above story it will be necessary for them to show how the Glassblowers' Union could be expected to be broken up by reducing that protection. The truth is that the Ways and Means committee considered the duty on window glass higher than was necessary for any interest but that of the combine which controls the glass business.

And All Under the McKinley Bill.

From the Philadelphia Record. Apart from the statistics of bankruptcies there are other figures that afford proof of the extent of the business depression of last year. The production of iron declined more than 40 per cent; of woolen fabrics 35 per cent; of leather and shoes 30 per cent, and of cotton print goods about 10 per cent. Wheat, flour, corn and oats, which had undergone a considerable decline in price in 1892, fell from 14 to 16 per cent; lard, 20 per cent; sugar, 36 per cent; wool and cotton, 20 per cent. Coffee, on the other hand, mainly because of the civil war in Brazil and of the embargo upon Columbia and Venezuela, advanced about 6 per cent in price. There were, however, few other exceptions to the general decline in prices of commodities in consequence of the widespread financial depression.

The Stock Kept Rolling Too.

From the Philadelphia Times. It seems to have been a bad year for railroads. If there is business depression or stagnation in trade no other great interest feels the effects more quickly. During 1893 investments in railroads aggregating over \$1,000,000 have gone into the hands of receivers. Receivers have been appointed for no less than seventy-one roads, representing 23,000 miles of track, with an outstanding bonded indebtedness of \$754,000,000 and capital stock aggregating \$554,000,000, making nearly \$1,300,000,000 of stocks and bonds in suspension from returns. Two of the great Western systems, the Northern Pacific and Union Pacific, along with the Reading and New England systems, are the principals to the great crashes of the year.

"Yes, By Damn!"

From the Buffalo Printer. This is a big country—best on earth! It isn't going to the "demonstration how-ows" this year—nor any year. Business has been dull, it's true; but does any one suppose it can stay so? Years ago, old settlers say, ice piled up Niagara river one spring and held the water back so that the magnificent falls were dry for six hours; but only a fool of the most colossal foolishness would have suggested that the falls for that reason would never run again. All that water had to come down. Business may be damned for awhile, but it's got to come!

There Will Be No More Assistant Burgesses.

From the Delaware County Democrat. Voters in boroughs operating under the general borough law should remember that, by an Act passed by the last general Assembly, the Chief Burgess to be elected in February next, and thereafter, will serve for a term of three years and will not be eligible to re-election. He is prohibited from presiding at Council meetings but must sign or veto every ordinance or resolution passed by that body. The office of assistant Burgess is abolished.

Two Thoughts on the Wilson Bill

From the Lock Haven Democrat. If workmen would study the Wilson bill themselves and not rely upon the misleading statements of the calamity howlers, they would not be so easily deceived as to the merits of that measure.

The business interests of the country demand that the Wilson bill be passed as quickly as possible. Changes will be made in the tariff schedule and until the exact rates are known business men will be loath to branch out.

Bosh, All Bosh.

From the Altoona Times. This talk about impeaching President Cleveland for what he has done in the Hawaiian affair is the silliest kind of nonsense. It could not be done. The chatter about impeachment comes from the most out and out Republican partisans and it is altogether impossible to presume that the house of representatives would act on their suggestions. These angry and disgruntled politicians must find another method than impeachment to vent their spleen against President Cleveland.

Mr. Zeitler, You Should be Ashamed to Ask Such a Question.

From the Butler Democrat. A woman named Zella Lytle Nicolans some weeks ago made information against George Gould alleging that he had taken a \$40,000 check from her. The case was settled and Zella got some boodle. Now everybody is anxious to know where the cause of settlement is located.

A Thoughtless Moment and They Are Lost.

From the Falls Creek Herald. If a girl who flirts meets with ruin she has no reason for complaint, for she has invited the same, and the sympathy of the people should not be with her. It is a good, but expensive, lesson for the girls not to flirt.

But There is No Danger of It.

From the Butler Democrat. One would be surprised to see Cleveland and Harrison the opposing presidential candidates in 1896.

Spawls from the Keystone.

—In Lancaster last year, 215 weddings occurred.

—Reading policemen made 1,315 arrests during 1893.

—Shenandoah is rapidly redeeming its borough bonds.

—A Womelsdorf factory in 1893 turned out 10,000,000 cigars.

—The Lebanon County Treasurer last year paid out about \$65,000.

—Reading's fire losses last year were \$21,000 in the aggregate.

—A great deal of ice has been cut and stored in the northern tier counties.

—A theatre is to be erected in Hazelton by the Lehigh Traction Company.

—A Grand Jury Saturday recommended a new Court House at Wilkesbarre.

—Block asphalt and vitrified bricks are to be Reading's standard paving materials.

—Allegheny City's real estate is now assessed at \$7,059,575, an increase of \$1,134,472.

—Pittsburg's Pension Agent paid nearly 2300 pensioners on Thursday last week.

—Northampton county, in the year just ended, paid out \$112 for seals of wild animals.

—The survey has begun for a trolley, road from Reading to Adamstown, 10 miles distant.

—Maple sugar making, once a considerable industry in Berks county, is now nearly dead.

—The anti-Bowman Evangelical Conference will be held at Reading, beginning on February 22.

—The new Plymouth Congregational Church, at Stanton, costing \$15,000, was dedicated Sunday.

—The State Hospital trustees, at Hazelton, elected Dr. H. M. Keller, superintendent of the institution.

—A Philadelphia and Reading Railroad train snuffed out the life of aged William John, Girardville.

—At the Berks County Fair the coming fall, prizes will be given to school pupils for certain kinds of display work.

—James Burns was fatally hurt by a fall of slate at Silver Creek colliery, near Pottsville, while preparing a blast.

—Boston Buck, Clarion's notorious old counterfeiter, has written a book of adventures covering a period of 35 years.

—The records of the seven anthracite districts of Pennsylvania show 157 widows and 71 orphans for the year just closed.

—Warrants were Saturday drawn at Harrisburg for \$35,000, half the annual allowance for the National Guard of Pennsylvania.

—Attorneys will make another plea to the Pardon Board for murderer Charles Salyards, sentenced to be hanged at Carlisle.

—The National Convention of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen will be held in Harrisburg, beginning September 10.

—The new residence of Bishop Kullon, of the Episcopal church, at Bethlehem cost from \$10,000 to \$50,000 and is built of stone.

—Watchman John Maloney tumbled through a trestle on the Lebanon Valley Railroad, near Harrisburg, and cannot recover.

—The anesthetic administered to John Doan, at Erie, before a proposed surgical operation was to have begun, killed him.

—Accused of slaying her infant several months ago, Miss Catherine Jones, a sixteen year old girl near Altoona, was locked up.

—A pretty new church of the First Reformed congregation, Ephrata, was dedicated Sunday by the pastor, Rev. S. S. Switzer.

—About 150 offspring survive Mrs. Susan Thomas, who died on Thursday, aged 105 years, at West Wilmington, Lawrence county.

—H. C. Smith, whose name is at Youngstown, O., was Saturday killed by a Philadelphia and Reading express, at Exeter, Berks county.

—A Lebanon county jury refused to award any damages to Jacob D. Miller for the loss of his daughter, who was killed on the Anville Railway.

—Judgment against Lackawanna county for \$14,203.22 tax on personal property was Saturday given the Commonwealth by the Dauphin county court.

—The raid of ghosts upon the vault of Colonel E. E. Norton, in Stroudsburg cemetery, has set half of Monroe county on the lookout for the grave robbers.

—The Allegheny Board of Assessors has just completed the report of the taxable valuation of the property of Pittsburgh. The total valuation is placed at \$73,039,775, or an increase of \$1,134,675 over last year in the way of new houses and improvements.

—The average of anthracite coal prices at Schuylkill Haven in December was \$2.58 4-10 as against \$2.69 4-10 in November, \$2.42 1/2 in December of last year, \$2.31 in December, 1891, and \$2.35 in December, 1890. Wages are three per cent above the base.

—The annual report of the County Commissioners, just completed, shows that the year 1893 was \$279,935 an increase of \$9,895 over the previous year. The three elections held since the Baker ballot law went into effect at the county \$39,000.

—The annual report of the Board of City Trusts, of Philadelphia, shows that the cash receipts of the estate of Stephen Girard amounted to \$1,988,816.26 during last year, and the expenditures to \$1,997,813.32, of which \$492,949.2 was used in maintaining Girard College. There are 1,561 pupils in the college and 545 applicants for admission.

—As an instance showing the effect of the present fall in business in Berks county as compared with other years, these figures are made public: In 1893 the executions numbered 377 and in 1892 they numbered 347. There were 10 assignments of property in 1893; there were 17 in 1892. These figures are regarded as a very favorable showing.

—The hard-times condition of the Blair county Treasury is awful. The local banks refuse to honor the county orders, and the drafts of the Directors of the poor for the outdoor relief of the poor cannot be cashed. The new County Commissioners are unable to find a record of the outstanding bonds and the actual indebtedness of the county is not known.

—James Matthews, a farmer near Uniontown, had a desperate encounter with a huge panther the other night. Awakened by a noise in the stable, he dressed and putting a revolver in his pocket, hurried to investigate. He had barely entered the barn when a heavy body sprang out and bore him to the floor. Realizing his peril, he rolled over. His coat was torn almost to shreds, but finally he found the revolver, placed it at the beast's head and fired. He then broke away, ran outside, closing the door. He could hear the animal struggling, and after it had become quiet again entered the barn. A huge panther was lying on the floor, stretched out dead.