

Ink Stings.

There are nearly five hundred towns in Pennsylvania that are not afflicted with newspapers.

The Prince of Wales coming visit to America will doubtless have the result of making the fool killer's course more easily pursued.

American apples are finding new markets under the Wilson bill. Last winter 1,274,886 more barrels were shipped to England, Germany and France than ever before.

It is said now that General Harrison will be the Republican nominee for President and that he will run on a conservative platform. Does this mean that Grand-pa's hat is to be the issue again?

It is strange that trains running through New Jersey go faster than they do in any part of the country. Not so, perhaps, when one knows what a desolate looking area of swamp and sand that State is.

The Easton Sentinel calls Mr. KERR "a back-woods politician." We are in doubt as to the correctness of such an assertion, but it appears to us that he must have taken to the woods after the meeting at Harrisburg last week.

The Philadelphia papers that are trying to drum up trade by giving paper doll clothes away with each Sunday edition, would find their end much easier reached if they would substitute reliable news for the highly colored paper figures as a bid for public preferment.

Bedford county had no cases for its regular term of quarter sessions, and none was convened, while Centre county is having one of the lightest terms in her history, yet Legislators think the people need an "appellate court" to convert a lot of good lawyers into lazy judges.

Spain seems to have forgotten all about apologizing for the Alliance affair. The State Department is possibly trying to make itself believe there never was any affair at all. At all events it doesn't appear to jog Spain's memory on the question of the apology that has already been asked for.

RICHARD CROKER'S horses are winning races in England in a way that is creating great admiration among the sportsy English for the Tammany chieftan. If the Prince of Wales should happen to smile on RICHARD the New York reformer would have to end the reform or be considered woefully out of style.

The McQuown bill should be killed at once. The idea of giving the book concerns any more of a monopoly than they have now with public schools should be promptly squelched, and the Senator from this district should be given to understand that his people want legislation for themselves and not for book trusts.

Sunday was about the first real pretty spring day and the regular program of summer drownings began. Three boys lost their lives, while boating on the Delaware, and a young man and woman upset their boat on the Potomac, in Washington, and went to find MCGINTY. Similar fatalities can be looked for every pretty day from this on. It would seem that so dangerous a pastime would be indulged far more carefully than it is.

The formation of an excelsior trust is the latest monopoly in embryonic form in Chicago. Mr. GREENHUT, the whiskey trust wrecker, ought to get in on the ground floor, then if palaver won't do he could use the product of the new concern to stuff the jurors in his libel case in which he has sued each of his partners for \$50,000. As a stuffing excelsior is unexcelled, but it can't make things any fuller than GREENHUT'S whiskey did.

All that is needed now is a military education law, then we can build a high protection wall around the country, elect TOM REED Emperor and change the name of the 54th Congress to the Reichstag. For with compulsory education and military discipline a part of it we will be on an exact footing with Germany, whose army is the bane of that country's existence. Americans were never intended for a military people and the party that tries to turn the public schools into barracks will surely meet with popular disapproval.

The DuBoise Sunday Dispatch advertises a story for men in its next issue, under the caption "AZELLE'S ankle or the harem of the Sierras." Can it be that a paper that has made such a creditable bow to the world as the Dispatch has made, intends bringing shame on itself by publishing stories that will create a demand for it among depraved manhood? We trust not, but if the Dispatch wants to make a story out of the ornament AZELLE wears on her ankle, it ought to tell it in a clean, pure minded way that will neither do harm to old or young readers. And then not advertise it especially for men.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

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The Most Necessary Expenses.

If a citizen of Pennsylvania had been told, previous to the incoming of the present state administration, that the grand old Commonwealth wasn't able to pay its way, on account of financial deficiency, he would have looked upon the man who said so as being wrong in his upper story. But it is admitted by the heads of the departments at Harrisburg that the old State has the shorts. This admission has been made by the Governor and his subordinates, who got together in conference to determine what was to be done when the amount of money coming into the treasury was not equal to the amount which Republican mismanagement and extravagance were putting out.

This was certainly a puzzling problem that could only be relieved by determining to keep necessary expenses as close to the treasury receipts as possible. This is the only way to get over a financial embarrassment.

But in solving this problem the Governor and his assistants had to determine what were necessary expenses, and the conclusion they appear to have come to was that the expense incurred in the creation of new officers for the party benches and hangers-on, and the increase of salaries, was of the utmost necessity.

This was evidently their conclusion, for while it occurred to them that the strain on the treasury could be relieved by knocking a million a year off the appropriation for the common schools, and the withholding of the usual subsidies to charitable institutions, it didn't appear to strike them that the multiplication of offices and increase of official salaries involved unnecessary expense.

What were the claims of the school children in comparison to the demands of party workers, whose service entitled them to increased emoluments, and for whom there were not enough offices unless new ones were made? Why should the necessities of hospital patients and asylum inmates be considered when money was needed to meet the more urgent necessities of office-seekers who had worked for the success of "the grand old party"? These, no doubt, were the questions they put to themselves.

What the Governor and his advisers consider the most necessary expense to which the money in the treasury can be applied, is shown by their favoring the multiplication of offices and increase of salaries, while the funds are so short that there will not be enough for the usual appropriations for the public schools and charitable institutions.

He is Not the Party.

Secretary MORTON has evidently forgotten the professions of the party platform upon which was won the victory that secured him the position he now holds. It reads as follows:

"We hold to the use of both gold and silver as the standard money of the country, and to the coinage of both gold and silver without discriminating against either metal."

This was the Democratic doctrine in 1892. It is the Democratic doctrine today and will be the Democratic doctrine until a different belief takes hold of the masses, or a convention of the Democratic people changes its position on this question. Mr. MORTON has a perfect right to his opinion. He has a right to believe in a gold standard alone if he thinks proper. His mistake is in imagining himself the party and that he is specially delegated to speak for it on this subject.

The Senate committee screwed up courage enough on Wednesday to favorably report the religious garb bill, that had passed the House. It remains to be seen whether that body owes more to the spirit of religious intolerance and bigotry that is behind the garb bill than it does to the sentiment of every liberty loving person in the State.

The jumps that wheat has been taking in Chicago within the past few days will be glad news to the farmers. The failure of foreign crops promises to put the price of our product away above the figure it has been selling at for some time.

Premature Delight.

The Philadelphia Press is cackling over what it considers the failure of the income tax. It derives pleasure from the curtailment of the tax and the apparent difficulty in collecting what is left of it, circumstances which encourage it to believe that it will be abandoned and will stand upon the record of national legislation as a Democratic fiasco.

Its delight in such a prospect is premature. It is true that the income tax law is far from being what the friends of so fair and equitable a system of taxation could wish it to be, but when account is taken of the fact that it had to encounter the opposition of all the millionaires in the country, both in Congress and the courts, it is surprising that anything is left of it. But enough is left to enforce the collection of considerable revenue from people whose affluence has contributed but little to the support of the government.

The tariff bill, as passed, was far from being as complete as was intended, but who can doubt that it is the beginning of a thoroughly reformed tariff system? So with the income tax law, which although imperfect in some of its features, is susceptible to amendment that will make it a far more equitable method of raising revenue than by means of tariffs that bear more heavily upon the poorer class of people than upon the rich.

The income tax that was adopted during the war was gotten rid of as soon as possible by the dominant party which preferred a method of raising revenue that favored a special class through tariff discrimination. If the tax on incomes, whose constitutionality was at that time conceded, had been retained, millions of dollars that have been wrung from the general mass of citizens by tariff exactions, would have had to be drawn from the superfluity of a class whose stupendous wealth has grown to be a danger to the country, and much of which is wasted in extravagant display among the nobility of Europe. The income tax, as now adopted as a means of revenue, although far from being perfectly developed, is capable of improvement that will make it a method of taxation by which the government will be enabled to largely dispense with tariffs which by their discrimination place most of the burden of taxation on the generality of people least able to bear it. As an equalizer of the burden it will stand as one of the best products of Democratic legislation.

On the Diamond.

Base ball is a distinctively American sport. One that holds its tenure of life year after year while others that have taken the people as fads prove popular for a season or two only to be succeeded by another. The great national game, as base ball has often been called, has grown in public favor from its very inception as an amusement and notwithstanding the always objectionable feature of trafficking in men's services, that has characterized the management of clubs under the national agreement, the game has grown in popularity and gives every promise of holding a lasting place in the hearts of our sport loving people.

It is possible that there are more ball players in the country to-day than any other class of amusement makers and the fact that they are, as a whole, a very well paid lot is evidence that from a financial stand point, the game is a business venture that nets large profit.

In the three cities in the east where the opening games of the League season were played, a few days ago, the receipts for the single day aggregated \$40,000. While this was something abnormal, there has always been large attendances throughout the entire season.

Base ball is certainly one of the most harmless sports in itself, but like everything else the game is traduced by rowdy players and speculative hangers-on. There is no reason why it should be condemned on this account, however, and the very fact that it affords a recreative diversion for all classes will assure its continued playing.

"Speech is but silver, silence is gold" is an old proverb that CLEVELAND might have called secretary MORTON'S attention to.

The Republican Split on Silver.

When it comes to despoiling the city treasury a unity of purpose prevents anything like a split among the Republican leaders of Philadelphia. They are solid on that issue, but the same solidity does not exist among them on the silver question. A division on that issue is making its appearance, one set of leaders being in favor of bimetalism, in its broadest sense, and the other advocating a gold basis. The former has its disciples in the Manufacturers' club, where CHARLES HEBER CLARK and JOHN DOLAN are putting forward the idea that free silver and protection would be suitable yoke-fellows in a presidential campaign. On the other hand the gold interest has its advocate in the Press, whose editor, CHARLES EMORY SMITH, is sailing as close to a "sound currency" as a Republican organ can be expected to go.

Both sides have appeared on the stump, speeches having already been made for and against silver. The sentiment of the Manufacturers' club evidently reflects the political interest of CAMERON, who aspires to get a free silver endorsement from Pennsylvania for the Presidency. The gold advocacy of the Press is the logical outgrowth of its antagonism to CAMERON. This misunderstanding, which has already started, will be carried to the Republican state convention where there will be a nice fight over it, with nine chances to one that CAMERON will get his endorsement. This is the party whose organs are commenting upon the split which the silver question is going to cause in the Democratic party.

It is amusing to see the remarks of Republican organs about the disruption of the Democratic party on the silver question. They say that the object of the President's Chicago letter was to stiffen the party and prevent its going to pieces on that rock. They don't appear to see that there are the same kind of breakers ahead for the G. O. P. The Senators of that party from all the States west of the Mississippi are avowed free silver men. TELLER may possibly be a free silver candidate for President. In all the Western States the majority of the Republicans favor an unlimited coinage of silver. Here in Pennsylvania the wires are being laid for CAMERON as a Republican presidential candidate representing the free silver sentiment. This phase of the currency question is certainly a disturbing factor in the politics of the present period, but the disturbance is likely to be as great, if not greater, in the Republican than in the Democratic party.

The sons of all Americans, whether mechanics, farmers, office-holders, or millionaires, should have an equal chance for the favors of the government. There should be no special favoritism. Congressman KULP, of the Northumberland district, doesn't think so, and has excited dissatisfaction among his constituents by appointing OSBORNE HACKENBERG, son of W. H. HACKENBERG, of Milton, a cadet to West Point, without having given any public intimation that he had such an appointment to make. If it had been known, and he had given them a chance by competitive examination, it might have appeared that there were other boys in the district who were as well qualified for the appointment, and perhaps better, than the son of a State Senator. Congressman KULP, however, thought otherwise, and confined the choice to the Republican official aristocracy.

Those who profess to have inside information claim that the judge's retirement bill, that passed the lower house of Legislature last week, is to be killed in the Senate. Let us hope that such assertions are true; for it is extremely unpleasant to try to bring ourselves to believe that legislative halls could be disgraced by the enactment of such a pernicious measure. The idea of creating a civil pension list is objectionable in the extreme, and why it should have even been entertained by the Legislators at all is a question that has aroused indignation in all parts of the State.

—Read the WATCHMAN.

Between the Devil and the Deep Sea.

From the Lancaster Intelligencer.

We are somewhat interested in the test of courage imposed upon our State Senate by the Religious Garb bill, as it is called. Our upper house of statesmen see that they are between the horns of a dilemma. If they pass the bill they will offend the good sense of the State; if they defeat it they will incur certain secret societies and those who have "a certain lodged hate" for the dress of a Catholic sister. But this last church is not the only one affected. Our own Mennonites, Amish and sweet-faced Quaker girls of Eastern Pennsylvania must doff their customary garb and dress as the legislation of a so-called free State dictates. This garb bill is a matter of Church and State, indirectly, if not exclusively, and has no proper place in legislative consideration. It is as uncalled for as an anti-right bill, or any other measure interfering with men's right to opinion, dress or action so long as they do not interfere with the like liberty of their fellowman. Compulsory education, garb bills and free books are all gross interferences with personal liberty and local home rule which should be condemned by free Americans.

An Imposition on the People.

From the Greensburg Westm'rland Democrat. A civil pension list is another of the extravagant and outrageous schemes which the present legislature intends to impose on the long-suffering tax-payers of Pennsylvania. It is proposed to begin with judges who have served 20 years on the bench and have reached the age of 70 years. If one class of citizens, in civil life in this state, are entitled to pensions, then all are. The laws are supposed to know no class distinctions. As the judges in the different districts of Pennsylvania receive in salaries in 20 years from \$80,000.00 to \$170,000.00 it looks as if the Legislators, began at the wrong end of the line. Instead of commencing with one of the best paid or richest classes of citizens they should have started with one of the lowest paid or poorest. Common laborers and washer-women, who only receive a couple of hundred dollars a year, are much more in need of pensions than are judges who are paid from \$4,000 to \$8,500 per annum.

The Way the Wilson Bill Kills the Farmer.

From the Philadelphia Times. The market for American apples is something the high protection advocates declared would be ruined by the new tariff bill, but Consul General De Kay, at Berlin, sends word that American shippers have found a fine demand in January that augurs well for the future. Since last September 1,443,592 barrels of apples have been sent to Europe, as against 168,706 barrels in the winter of 1893-94. This means a permanent market in the future, with handsome profits. The demand in France and England for American apples is growing, and Germany presents an opportunity that traders find of the most attractive character under the new tariff schedule. Of course, the harvest will be just what the growers make it.

Give Credit Where It is Due.

From the Pittsburg Post. The "Dispatch," speaking of the iron and steel industries of Pittsburg, says "the recovery from the extraordinary depression of 1893 has been very rapid so far as Pittsburg is concerned." True. But pray, what tariff was the country under during that "extraordinary depression?" Of course the McKinley tariff was then in the high tide of its successful operation. And pray, what tariff is the country under now, when we are witnessing the "rapid recovery?" Of course the Wilson tariff. Will the "Dispatch" please turn to its files and reprint its doleful calamity howls—prostrate industries and starving workmen as the assured result of the Wilson law? In the meantime don't prophesy unless you know.

What the Monroe Doctrine Is.

From the Altoona Tribune. The Monroe doctrine does not mean that the United States will defend and uphold any of its sister republics in wrong-doing. The Monroe doctrine does not supersede international law; no American statesman ever made any such an absurd claim. Nor is this doctrine any such insolent and braggart thing as some ranting ignoramuses would have their countrymen believe. It is simply the assertion that the United States would not look with complaisance upon wanton encroachments upon this continent by a foreign power.

Lilliputians Made to Order.

From New York Sun. At Prague a man, called Proschaska, was arrested some time ago for selling to a Hamburg firm a number of children whose growth has been checked by a peculiar diet, that they might be exhibited as lilliputians; for every child 300 florins were paid. The inventors of the system, and the parents of the children as well, have been punished by the courts.

Spawls from the Keystone.

Pittsburg's sweat shops are being investigated.

At a cost of \$70,000, Reading has built a sewage pumping plant.

Fees of Reading doctors are regulated by rules adopted 23 years ago.

Farmers at Hamburg are trying to kill Canada thistle with coarse salt.

Work is about beginning upon the Reading & Womelsdorf trolley.

James Kelly fell into the canal at Harrisburg and was found dead.

The raising of squabs for market is a profitable Berks County industry.

John Vanderslice has won a badge as the champion rifle shot of Pottsville.

Additional puddle furnaces are about to start at the Pottstown Iron Works.

Joseph Blotter, a Wrightsville hotel hostler, committed suicide on Thursday last.

Reading police nabbed 10-year-old George Heine as the leader of a band of boy thieves.

Ashland's high school graduating class is so large that two commencements will be held.

A little son of James McDermott, at Lancaster, drank a fatal dose of strychnine solution.

Collector Shearer says he will gather \$100,000 income tax in the Ninth Pennsylvania district.

Soft coal operators in Western Pennsylvania are now trying to get new men at the 6-cent rate.

As the result of a coasting accident last winter, Benjamin Fisher, of Shamokin, has just lost a leg.

A branch of the Commercial Travelers' Home Association has been organized at Williamsport.

Schuylkill County Monday sent a strong delegation to Harrisburg to oppose the Quay County bill.

In a sermon in Allegheny City, Rev. John Whitehead said it was wrong for women to wear bloomers.

Divorces are on the increase in Lancaster County, 25 applicants having appeared at Court in a week.

For practicing medicine without a license, H. M. Trout, of York, goes to jail a year and pays a \$100 fine.

Eighty new members were admitted to the State Editorial Association, which met at Harrisburg Monday.

The window glass factories of Pittsburg have orders on hand to run them on full time all of this year.

Up to date 105 fire companies have promised to attend the firemen's convention at Reading next October.

An unknown man leaped from a bridge at Wilkesbarre into the Susquehanna River and was drowned.

The Merchants' Protective Association, at Wilkesbarre, protested in Court against the licensing of peddlers.

Professor Haynes attacked the furniture of a Kittanning business college for unpaid salary and closed the school.

In a runaway at Reading, Robert Holmes, member of the Board of Trades was kicked in the face and seriously hurt.

A new Lutheran Orphans' Home will be established in Berks County by the ministerium now in session at Kutztown.

Two sisters at Greensburg, Nana and Sadie Willard, are supposed to have eloped with members of a cheap dramatic company.

Valley Forge is a mecca to which many tourists are now vending their way by the hundreds, among whom are many foreigners.

The Christian Endeavor Society of Northampton county will hold a convention in the Moravian church, Nazareth, on May 24 and 25.

The employees of the Bethlehem Iron company are in the best possible satisfaction with the wages paid and the hours of work established.

Six hundred Schuylkill County Odd Fellows will parade in one division in Philadelphia on May 21, when the new temple is dedicated.

Bonds of local officers are not so easily had as they were formerly, for the reason that the risks of such favors for others are too great for ordinary citizens.

Pennsylvania farmers of experience say that the fruit crop of this year will be large, but it is best to wait for further information on the subject until the trees have produced their products.

Victor Coble, of Sunbury, went to his chicken house a few mornings since to find a dozen of his fine hens gone, and a written notice on the coop suggested that he collect his loss from the borough.

Williamsport possesses some of the most adroit burglars in the state, two of them having lately participated in robberies at Jersey Shore, and the gang of four are now in the Lycoming county jail.

An overhead crossing, Paicker street, Sunbury, has been erected by the Northern Central Railroad company. Like improvements will be made in other towns along its route by the same railroad company.

The American Flag Manufacturing company, of Easton, has shipped to Texas two carloads of newly-made flags of the late southern confederacy, to be used in that state during the reunion of the Confederate armies on May 31st next. The flags cost nearly \$7,000.

In looking for a house to rent a lady in Norristown, Mrs. Comfort, found a gambling den which the neighbors did not know was located near them and the revelation of which caused a sensation. The police are now making a thorough investigation of the find.

The salary matter having been fixed all right, the governor yesterday appointed Thomas Robinson, of Butler, as superintendent of public printing. We believe the salary has been advanced from \$1,000 to \$2,500. It is a very nice plan, with nothing to do of any account and a very good salary for doing it.

The North Branch steel company, whose works are at Danville, Montour county, will soon start up their Bessemer steel plant, which has been idle since its construction in 1893. The rail mill now in operation in Danville gives employment to about 250 men, and the starting of the Bessemer plant will require 500 additional hands.