

Ink Slings.

The Cuban war still goes on. The death rate has not been materially increased, however.

Since QUAY has a new son-in-law we wonder if the exalted RICHARD will be relieved of any of his duties as agent for his pap.

The doctrine that "all the world loves a lover" is exploded so far as MCKINLEY and REED are concerned with HARRISON.

A McKeesport theatre is being converted into a brewery. Not a very radical change after all for the step from a concert hall to a beer brewing establishment is purely mechanical.

Ex-burgess MCGLUCKY, of Homestead, who has undertaken the self-imposed task of ruining ANDREW CARNEGIE will find that neither his bark nor his bite will have much effect on the millionaire iron manufacturer.

Fashionable New York is just now showing itself at a dog show and the pity is great that some of the simpering noodles over there are not caged and exhibited in the poodle class. Let us see, no, that would be a disgrace to sensible dogs.

HARRISON'S letter, in which he emphatically denies all rumors to the effect that he is out for presidential honors again, is the best evidence that he prefers to spend his declining years at the conjugal and not the political Mecca.

An exchange remarks that QUAY has touched the Hon. WILLIAM A. STONE with the finger of preference for gubernatorial honors. If this be so what is to become of the ambition of that red-plumed angel of peace, the hopeful Thos. V. COOPER, of Media?

It was a good deal easier job to pull the St. Paul off that Long Branch sand bar than it will be for the Republican party to attempt to haul their craft, if it contains either REED or MCKINLEY, off the bar that public sentiment will leave up between it and the wharf in Washington.

An ex-State Senator has just turned up as defendant in a bribery case in Ohio who stated to the court that he was too poor to retain a lawyer to defend himself. Now, in Pennsylvania things are different. The State and not its Legislators becomes poverty stricken in Pennsylvania.

With SULLIVAN falling from a flying passenger train and CORBETT being thrown down stairs by an irate firemen pugilistic stock has been knocked about in a way that gives great public satisfaction and enjoyment. It is known now that there are some things in the world that can get ahead of such bruisers.

A new whistle that can be heard for a distance of thirty miles is to be placed on Sing Sing prison to sound a warning whenever any prisoners escape. It is said to have ear splitting power which, if true, will leave all that community, within a radius of thirty miles, with the ear marks of Sing Sing the very first time a blast is sent out from it.

It is probable that JUSTIN MCCARTHY will resign the leadership of the Irish parliamentary party at its meeting in London tomorrow and that THOS. SEXTON will be chosen to succeed him. Ill health from over-work in the Irish cause will be the reason of the change, if it is made. Alas, how many men have worn themselves out fighting for the forlorn hope of the Emerald Isle.

Ambassador BAYARD'S prompt denial of the statement that he had authorized President CLEVELAND to present his resignation, should a resolution censuring his official conduct be passed by Congress, proves him to be a good deal bigger than the body that is trying to defame him. The United States have few BAYARD'S, the greater pity that there are so many saddle-pates like some who constitute the 54th Congress.

If the report be true that the Emperor of Germany is only waiting until grand-mother dies before he attacks England we certainly admire the chivalric forbearance that stays his hand against a woman. WILLIAM evidently has a more wholesome dread of the female tongue than of the booming of English guns, but we fear that the impatient young ruler will not have patience to hold out until the demise of his long-lived grand-ma.

It was a noteworthy fact that the great American line steam-ship St. Paul ran aground on St. Paul's day, the 22nd of January, which among superstitious people has always been regarded an unlucky day. It will be remembered that the St. Paul stuck on her stays at Cramp's ship-yard, Philadelphia, at the first attempt to launch her and when the old sailors looked on her dogged determination not to stick her nose into the Delaware they said: "It's a bad omen. A boat that sticks will always have bad luck." Verily, their superstitious remark seems not to have been ill-grounded.

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Far From Being a Certainty.

The Philadelphia Times concedes entirely too much when it says that "it is fortunate that the next Senate will be strongly Republican, so that a Republican President, who seems certain to be elected, can be in position to assume entire responsibility for legislation," etc.

There is nothing in the political situation that makes it appear sure that the Republicans will elect the next President. It is true that since 1892 there have been elections that the Republicans will elect the next President. It is true that since 1892 there have been elections that the Republicans will elect the next President.

The deceptive influences that produced the tidal wave of 1894 will have entirely lost their effect by the time the next presidential election comes off. It will be impossible to make the average voter believe that the reduction of the MCKINLEY duties was the cause of the hard times.

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As there is no other reason why it should "seem certain" that the next President will be a Republican than that recent elections were carried by large Republican majorities, the prospect loses its certainty by the disappearance of the influences that produced those majorities.

The political situation never before furnished such good reason for a change of public sentiment. We can not agree with the Times that the next President seems certain to be a Republican.

The Colored Men are Not to Blame.

The practice of Republican presidential aspirants in buying the colored delegates from southern States is a most pernicious and degrading means of paving the way to the greatest office within the gift of the American people, yet it is so common as to be given little attention by the public.

If colored men can squeeze anything out of these aspirants they are certainly not to blame. For all the fidelity of their race to the Republican party they receive no recognition, whatever, and who will gaudy these attempts at getting some share of the spoils upon which their white brethren have fattened after their votes have placed them in positions of public eminence.

It is true that there is danger in the practice, that it will eventually react against the stability of our institutions, but when the crisis comes we must remember the men and the party that precipitated it.

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Might Have Been Worse.

The people who had hoped for a different result in the election of supreme court judges, last November, have reason now to feel that even a greater mistake might have been made than the election of PETER P. SMITH. Two or three weeks ago, judge YERKES, who, during last fall's campaign, seemed to be the popular favorite with the Democrats and who every one predicted would receive the highest vote on the Democratic ticket, aired his judicial robes outside his own district, by presiding over one of the criminal courts of Philadelphia.

When it is remembered that the records of the very court over which judge YERKES presided, show that an indictment, found by a grand jury against a police officer for "criminally assaulting a little girl," has been pigeon-holed in the district attorney's office for over five years; that other indictments, found by grand juries against assessors for the fraudulent registration of voters and against others for false registration and padding the registry lists, have been virtually set aside by the failure of the district attorney to do his duty; that election officers who have flagrantly and openly violated the election laws go about that city unmolested and without fear of prosecution, and that to-day there are more uncaught and unpunished criminals, within the city of Philadelphia and within the reach of the power of this same district attorney than in any city on this continent, it looks very much as if judge YERKES is willing to put his official seal to matters of which he knows nothing, or can be made a tool, of some power, to purposely deceive the public, by the assurance that such an official is faithfully and fearlessly performing his duties.

In either event, judge YERKES has made such an exhibition of his carelessness, or unfaithfulness, as a judge, that the Democracy of the State may congratulate themselves that even PETER P. SMITH found more supporters in the State last fall than he did.

Foreign Entanglements.

The government of the United States should be careful not to drift away from one of its earliest principles. It was WASHINGTON who warned it against the danger of foreign alliances, and during the whole course of our history up to this time the leading statesmen of the nation have recognized the wisdom of that precaution.

But there is no telling to what extent some of our later-day statesmen may carry the government in a departure from the wisdom of the founders in regard to foreign entanglements. The Senate has recently been a perfect hot-bed of schemes not only for the regulation of the affairs of this continent, but for a meddling interference in matters on the other side of the Atlantic.

The Senate chamber has recently rung with the oratory of buncombe statesmen who have demanded not only that the United States should snub the English in Spain and America and sit down on the Spaniards in Cuba, but should also take a hand in the Transvaal difficulty, and give the Turks to understand that their conduct towards the Armenians would not be tolerated.

There is no question that in preventing the encroachment of European powers upon this continent our government has a duty imposed upon it by a regard for its own safety as well as by the claim which the weaker American republics have upon it as the strongest representative of the system of free government which they have alike adopted.

Minister TERRELL has demanded \$100,000 indemnity of the Sultan of Turkey for the destruction and pillaging of American missions at Maraah and Kharpout. The high and mighty ruler of the Ottoman empire might put up a few of his wives to raise the wind for this demand.

A Logical Effect.

A political fact that is plainly observable is the rapid decline of MCKINLEY as a presidential probability. His chance of getting the nomination is every day becoming less. This may appear singular in view of the circumstance that he has planted himself especially on the policy which is claimed to be the leading principle of Republicanism, and which, in consideration of his being the author of it, gave him the claim to being considered the logical candidate.

Two years ago when the MCKINLEY bill was repealed, and direful predictions were made as to the ruin which that repeal was going to bring about, MCKINLEY was regarded as the champion who would lead the tariff forces back to victory in the next presidential contest. Republican enthusiasm for him was so great that no other candidate was thought to have a chance against him.

Why is it that the MCKINLEY boom, launched under such apparently auspicious circumstances, is petering out, with a possibility of its not being long enough to reach the nominating convention? It is because the actual logic of the situation has turned against him. The tariff that has succeeded the one which he originated has proved to be a benefit to the country instead of the injury upon which he based his claim of vindication.

But is it not likely that the effect of such logic will extend still further? THOMAS B. REED was a partner of MCKINLEY in forcing that monopoly measure upon the American people, and was equally implicated. By the time their party's nominating convention meets it will be found unsafe to nominate any of the men who were leaders in the perpetration of the MCKINLEY fraud, and the g. o. p. will try to save itself from defeat by shelving REED along with MCKINLEY.

Rather a Dear Price.

The action on the bond bill by the Senate has been a very costly piece of business to this country. It has not even the excuse of effecting its object by the passage of a free coinage bill, for the cogitate bill that was substituted for the bond bill has not the ghost of a chance of becoming a law.

The only effect of the Senate's action will be to make the taxpayers of the country pay about fifty million dollars of excessive interest. This is paying rather dear for the privilege which the Republicans have given half a dozen Senators from rotten-borough States to hold up the legislation of Congress.

A Wide Straddle.

That is queer reasoning on the part of the Philadelphia Times, of last Saturday, that agrees with the minority of the Senate election committee in reporting that DUPONT, of Delaware, is not entitled to a seat in that body, and yet concludes that the adoption of the report of the majority of that committee, which would give him the seat would work no wrong or establish no dangerous precedent.

The importance of attending the spring elections is paramount to any other duty you may have to perform. Self government is an American heritage and he should not cast it away.

It Costs Money to be Governed.

Secretary of internal affairs Latta has prepared a report showing the taxes paid last year by the people of Pennsylvania for the maintenance of State, county, city borough, and township governments. The report contains returns from the commissioners, of every county except Schuylkill, and is the most complete and comprehensive ever issued by the department on the subject of taxation.

The consolidated returns show that the total amount of taxes collected for the support of the poor was \$1,593,755.93. This amount is levied and collected directly and does not include all money expended for the purpose. There was appropriated during the year from the county treasuries for the support of the poor in counties having almshouses \$742,664.06, which added to the amount collected directly makes a total of \$2,336,419.99.

Under special subjects of taxation it is found that personal property has been made to pay \$2,733,273.33. There have been collected on occupations taxes to the amount of \$1,084,828.60. The total amount received during the year from licenses was \$4,943,937.65. Of this amount Philadelphia collects \$2,484,181.56 and Allegheny county \$993,898.26.

The total amount of taxes for the year collected on the real estate of railway corporations was \$741,293.66. Philadelphia and Pitsburg are the only localities in the State where real estate of railway corporations is subject to taxation for certain local purposes. The taxes on real estate of corporations other than railways amounted to \$1,863,835.41.

Has the Zenith Been Reached?

The pension appropriation for the ensuing fiscal year amounts to \$141,000,000 in round figures. As the reduction from the previous year is nearly \$8,000,000 the indication is that the maximum has been reached unless new legislation is adopted extending the pension system. During the last fiscal year the total pensions paid aggregated \$140,900,000, and \$9,500,000 of this amount was disbursed in the Southern States.

From the Philadelphia Times. The pension payment reaching \$15,553,567. There comes Pennsylvania with \$12,469,416, New York \$12,321,771, Indiana \$10,534,982, Illinois \$9,927,647, and Missouri \$7,894,876. The payments in Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York and Indiana amounting to \$50,989,838, were almost double the disbursements during the first year of the Hayes administration, which were covered by \$26,644,416 for the entire country.

Fragrant Flowers Plucked from an Orator's Bed.

The garbage talk of Mr. Tillman should not make the country forgetful of the jets of honeyed and perfumed speech spouted by the Hon. William F. Vilas. He took the bad taste out of the mouth of the country and filled it with the milk of paradise. His similes trooped sweetly by with chocolate pistache on their lips like school-girls going to a matinee.

Official Absentees.

Auditor General Mylin was the first to return from the jaunt with Quay to the latter's retreat in Florida. He turned up for duty to-day, and the others of the Hastings cabinet, who were off while the Governor was bracing up in the southwest, are expected to-morrow.

Spawls from the Keystone.

—Eagle Hill coal mine at St. Clair is on fire.

—There are in Pennsylvania 33 tin plate establishments.

—A powder mill will be built at Bradford by S. M. Johnson, of New York.

—It snowed over the greater part of Pennsylvania Monday and Tuesday.

—Stepping in front of a train at Easton Jacob F. Richter's life was snuffed out instantly.

—The Homestead prisoner, Hugh Dempsey, was released from penitentiary on Friday last.

—Berlia, Somerset county, will vote on the project of new water works at the coming election.

—Joseph Cregie and John Gable were killed by a fall of coal in the West End mine at Mocoanqua.

—The court decided that the Union railway company must sprinkle Chester streets, as provided by ordinance.

—Being chastised, S. Williams, a Pitts-town miner, shot at coal inspector George Bryant three times, but missed him.

—Thompson Bros., of Milroy, have leased the Keller planing mill in Lewis-town, and will use it for a knitting factory.

—The strike at the Eleanor Iron works, Hollidaysburg, was declared off, the piddlers returning to work at the former price, 43 a ton.

—Governor Hastings has issued a requisition on the Governor of Ohio for Herman Walter charged with larceny in Westmoreland county.

—John White and his wife Amelia, at Wilkesbarre, have separated, after 14 years of wedded life, she claiming that he has been living with another wife 39 years.

—There is a man 50 years old in the Montgomery county almshouse, who boasts that he has never done a day's work in his life, and he says he never will.

—The superintendent of public instruction has completed his appointments of committees on permanent certificates for the several counties, under the provisions of the act of 1895.

—Thirty prisoners were brought to the Huntingdon reformatory from Philadelphia on Saturday, which swelled the number of inmates to over 500, and total consecutive number to 2,901.

—At Atkinson's Mills, Milford county, a woman claims to have made a fine quality of molasses from corn cobs. One who has partaken of the product pronounces it superior to the best maple syrup.

—At the request of physicians who believe that many of the articles of infants' food contain deleterious materials the department of agriculture at Harrisburg has ordered the analysis of a large number of samples of this class of goods on sale within the State.

—After living to the age of 103 years, Mrs. Reily, of Wyoming, Luzerne county, on Saturday suffered a paralytic stroke which temporarily affected her speech and right hand. She was very much improved to-day, had recovered her speech and talked cheerily with those around her.

—William Cahagan, an aged and respected citizen of Walker township, Huntingdon county, died on Friday, 21st aged about 83 years. Funeral services were held Sunday morning at his residence, at 9 o'clock, conducted by Rev. Slinghoff, his pastor, after which the body was interred in the cemetery at McConnellstown.

—The secretary of agriculture is preparing for the Governor a brief statement of the status of the agricultural societies of the commonwealth. His books show 101 county organizations, sixty three being represented by members on the state board of agriculture, and which under the act of 1881, are entitled to a county bounty.

—It is reported that the Buffalo and St. Mary's railroad, which Hall & Kaul are building from Clermont to St. Mary's will also be extended to connect with the Erie somewhere in the vicinity of Mount Jewett. With the completion of the proposed extension the Erie will have a direct line into the Toby Valley via the Buffalo, St. Mary's and Southwestern.

—On the evening of the 31st ult., a large number of friends and members of the Reformed church, at McConnellstown, Huntingdon county, gathered at the parsonage for the purpose of giving a reception to Rev. C. H. Slinghoff, and bride, who arrived on the evening train, and after congratulations an elegant supper which had been prepared was partaken of. After an hour or two of social enjoyment they all retired to their homes, feeling that it was good to be there.

—The Pennsylvania railroad has just issued orders for the construction of twenty-eight new locomotives at the Altoona and Juniata shops. Six class V switch engines and twelve class M heavy shuffers will be built at the Altoona shops, and eight class L heavy fast passenger engines and twelve of the new compound moguls will be built at the Juniata shops. A number of the shifting engines and moguls will be for lines west of Pittsburgh, and five of the new class L engines will be for the Panhandle.

—William O'Brien, aged about 60 years, an uncle of Mr. William O'Brien, the city clerk of Johnstown, was found dead in bed at his boarding house, 174 New street, Johnstown, at an early hour Monday morning. He boarded with his relative, Mrs. Ann Highland. His wife and one of his daughters were among the persons who perished in the great flood, and his son John dropped dead in the Twelfth ward, Johnstown, a few days ago. He was a life-long member of St. John's Catholic church.

—We received official notice this week that the directors of the Juniata Valley camping association have made arrangements with Rev. A. R. Lambert, of Huntingdon, to take charge of the meetings this year, with the full understanding that the gates will be open on Sunday and everybody invited to tent, and those who cannot make it suit to tent to fit least attend some of the services on the ground. * * * Lambert is the right man in the right place, and, if he is accorded the proper ministerial and financial support he deserves, there will be much good done at the coming camping.