

Ink Slings.

-To make matters more ludicrous they say QUAY is in earnest.

-The spring election being over look-out for a precipitation of candidates for next fall.

-French cabinet crises come about as frequently as do the street cars in a small town on a stormy day.

-Bellefonte couples are not ready to be reformed yet. Instead, they seem to be very well satisfied with Republican domination.

-By the aid of the CROOKES' tube it might be possible to recover the body of the long drowned MCGINTY and give it Christian burial.

-Judging from the kind of weather we had on Sunday and Monday Dr. NANSEN must have forgotten to close the gate when he left the North pole.

-There is a skeleton in the closet of the wall-paper trust that threatens to rattle out and bust the concern. When the trust was formed everyone said it was a put up job on prices.

-The Bellefonte cow kicked BUSH such a mighty kick that she didn't have quite enough strength left to knock the other curtailer of her liberty, GENDERICH, out in the West ward.

-There will need be no identification when BILL NYE pokes his head in at St. PETER'S door. BILL has paralysis and was reported to be dying yesterday, and it "aint no joke, either."

-The President of the Transvaal republic receives within \$10,000 per annum of as much salary as the President of the United States. It is no wonder Dr. JIM wanted to get such a job.

-General Weyler, the new captain-general of the Spanish forces in Cuba, had better be careful lest the drastic measures he is resorting to to purge the island of its insurgents might bring down recognition of Cuban belligerency.

-The two Bellefonte fellows who called at a minister's house, on Tuesday evening, to get a "pull" at a half pint were, of course, mistaken as to the house, but nevertheless were not too full at the time to appreciate the joke on themselves.

-To-day MAHER and FITZSIMMONS ought to fight. If they do the former intends to punch the red head of the latter and the latter intends to fix the former's eyes so that he will never be able to see whether there are snakes in Ireland or not.

-BEN TILLMAN would more than likely dispense something a little harsher than foul language or more deadly than South Carolina whiskey if he could get hold of the English newspaper men who are saying that he is a representative of the "low white trash" in the South.

-ANDREW CARNEGIE was black-balled by the CLEVELAND chamber of commerce, when his name was proposed for honorary membership, on Monday evening. It was done because he is "a protectionist and an oppressor of the poor." This sounds very much as if TOM JOHNSON was back of it.

-The combine seems to have been given DEWIDE by the unloading of the Governor, whom the New York Sun calls DANIEL HANDSOME HASTINGS. MARTIN swept Philadelphia clean as a whistle and MAGEE did the same in Pittsburg. Now since QUAY has always been sure of the country precincts we'd like to know where the Governor's dung hill is.

FRANK WILLING LEACH, the man who resigned a \$5,000 job in Philadelphia, to support QUAY in his late fight with the combine, has just announced that the junior Senator intends to fight it to a finish for presidential honors. We would suggest that MATTHEW employ DAN STUART to pull his battle off for him. DAN is a monumental flasco maker and that is about what would result in such a fight.

-The vote against the admission of Arizona and New Mexico to state-hood is to be reconsidered in the House. The Congressmen must imagine that there are not enough vest-pocket States now to effectually block legislation in the Senate. It is all very well as a means of gaining electoral votes for political parties, but to give such territories the same weight in the U. S. Senate as is given populous States, is all wrong.

-If Dr. NANSEN has actually discovered the location of the North pole what, after all, has he accomplished? It is said that a hundred boats have been lost in a vain endeavor to find the spot on ground or water where this imaginary pole is located and the Lord only knows how many men of perfect physique have laid down their lives about it. If NANSEN has found it the business of the Arctic explorer is ended and it is hardly likely that many people will flock up to verify his statements.

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Helping Democratic Prospects.

The last two annual elections had the effect of putting the Republican party in a cock-sure frame of mind that would not allow it to doubt the certainty of its electing the next President. That was regarded as a decree of fate, and the only question was whether it should be MCKINLEY, TOM REED, HARRISON, MORTON or some other Republican who would be put into the White House on the 4th of next March.

These oversanguine people did not take into account the proverbial fickleness of political fortune. They even overlooked so recent an example of the vicissitudes of politics as was furnished by the change from a sweeping Democratic victory in 1892 to an equally sweeping Republican victory two years after. The change that occurred in that brief time was due to a deception of the popular understanding, which, however, has been nearly dispelled by a better conception of the facts, and the work of enlightenment will go on for nine months until the presidential election.

There are many things that are aiding this enlightenment. Nothing is doing so much to help it along as the Congress that is now in session at Washington. It must be a very dull man who cannot see that its only purpose is to derange the finances and depress business in order that the trouble arising from such conditions may be blamed on the Democratic administration. This is intended for political effect in the coming campaign. It may be classed as congressional manufacture of calamity. The people see what it is intended for.

Congress has been in session nearly three months and there has not been a single measure passed. It is not the intention to do any legislating, although the President and secretary of the treasury have almost implored the passage of measures that would save the public credit from the ruin caused by previous Republican legislation. But the managers in Congress want ruin. That is what they intend to run the next campaign on, and they will endeavor to make as much ruin as they possibly can, for a political purpose.

But they are making a woeful mistake in thus trifling with the public intelligence. The people understand the game that is being played in Congress, and the longer it is continued the more it will increase the chance of electing a Democratic President.

It Ought to Adjourn.

Senator SMITH, of New Jersey, spoke exactly the truth in regard to the popular opinion of the national Legislature when in a speech before that body on the Venezuela resolution, he said:

"The great majority of the people throughout the country are disgusted with Congress in general and the Senate in particular. The most popular thing we could do to-day, and probably, in the present condition of affairs, the most beneficial thing we could do, would be to pass the necessary appropriation bills and go home. The mere fact that we are in session is a menace to the revival of business and the return of prosperity!"

The Senator could not have more correctly gauged the sentiments of the people, particularly in regard to the Senate. The conviction is becoming general that it is more of a hindrance than an aid in carrying on the government.

But what a commentary it is on the character of a legislative body, when it can be truthfully said that the best thing it can do for the country is to adjourn. The public interests would be promoted, as Senator SMITH says, by Congress passing the appropriation bills and then going home, but there is a probability that the President will have to veto some of their appropriations on account of their culpable neglect, or rather partisan refusal, to pass measures of legislation affecting the currency and revenue, without which the treasury will not be able to respond to their appropriations.

Senator SHERMAN, censuring the Senate's treatment of the bond bill, and its general disposition to impede legislation, says that the President would be justified in stopping public works for which Congress refuses to furnish adequate means. When the leading Republican Senator is forced to make such an admission it furnishes a poor certificate of character to this Republican Congress.

Quay's Boom.

The presidential candidacy of M. S. QUAY cannot be regarded as anything more than a sham. The Boss has cunningly arranged to have his henchmen in Pennsylvania start a boom in his behalf as an actual candidate, but those who have the least political discernment know that its only object is to give QUAY the control of the Pennsylvania delegation for trading purposes.

There are some foolish members of the party who really believe that this movement is intended to present a Pennsylvania candidate in good faith to the nominating convention, and they are whooping it up in the interest of the Boss whose election to the Presidency would put his henchmen knee-deep in clover; but the trading politician whom they are booming for in the Presidency has no other purpose in putting himself forward as Pennsylvania's "favorite son" than to have the delegation at his disposal so that he will be able to handle it to his own advantage in the dicker which he will be sure to make with the candidate who will succeed in getting the nomination.

QUAY has been a bold politician, no gambler having ever dared to make more desperate ventures than he has in the game of politics; but he would not be bold enough to seriously seek a presidential nomination. In the event that his party should overlook his vulnerable character and put him at the head of its presidential ticket to what a terrible scoring it would expose him. His public record would be subjected to a merciless but just exposure which even so tough-hided and morally insensible a politician as he is would be afraid to encounter.

Will the American People Allow It?

It is scarcely possible that the American people will allow Gen. WEYLER to carry out his barbarous method of suppression in Cuba. It will be probably more than they will be able to stand, to see him employing military practices which belong to the dark ages, when cruelty and utter disregard for human rights and feelings were the rule of warfare.

WEYLER proposes to declare every Cuban a rebel who will not give active assistance to the Spaniards in enslaving the island, and will treat him as such. Private property is to be seized and converted to the use of the Spanish cause. Commercial establishments are to be vacated and turned over to the military authorities. The people of the island are to be concentrated as much as possible in a few separate localities so that they may be kept more completely under military guards; and the centre of the island is to be desolated and rendered fruitless with the object of starving out the insurrection. In other respects his plan of military operations is patterned after the barbarism of the dark ages.

We repeat that it is scarcely possible that the American people will permit the practice of such barbarities upon their neighbors who are struggling for the heaven-born right of freedom.

Pharisaical Senators.

The person recently nominated for secretary of the United States Senate was post master at Spokane, in the State of Washington, and discoveries have been made that implicate him in official irregularities in that position. His election was accordingly suspended until investigation should discover whether he was a fit person to act as an officer of so pure and unblemished a body as the one that is now suspending the public business, fearing that what it may do will injure the interests of the Republican party.

Some of the honorable Senators declare, with well-veiled indignation, that a man guilty of crookedness as a post master is not a proper person to associate with gentlemen of their high political calling, and the Senator who raises the strongest objection to having a shady character in the employ of the Senate is the junior Senator from Pennsylvania whose political reputation is about the shadiest thing that can be found in American politics.

Of course if the man who has received the Republican caucus nomination for secretary of the Senate has been a defaulter, as a post master,

he should be rejected, but the pharisaical display made in this instance by Senators who are notoriously derelict in their public duty is simply disgusting.

The Power of the Bosses.

A disposition to rebel against the rule of boss PRATT is developing in the Republican party of New York, and that tricky politician, who has gained a predominant influence over the party in his State, may find it more difficult to manage it than QUAY does in his State. PRATT has succeeded in becoming boss by securing control of the rural Republicans, and he uses his country influence to enforce measures that are oppressive to the great city of New York, against which the city Republicans are beginning to kick.

The party in Pennsylvania is more submissive to boss rule, and furnishes an example of slavish obedience which must be the envy of the Republican bosses of other States. There was some kicking last summer, but it was a futile effort to make a change of bosses, and the rebels were easily whipped back into the traces and are now tumbling over each other in their haste to tender their service in helping the QUAY presidential boom. These whipped political spaniels are headed by the Governor, who crawls back to the feet of the master who unmercifully lapped him less than six months ago, and craves the privilege of doing his dirty political work. The Republicans of New York city rebel against boss PRATT's interfering in the affairs of their city, but in Philadelphia scarcely a councilman or alderman can be nominated without consultation with the State boss.

This one man power has become a factor in the Republican party that permeates and controls its entire political system. It has reduced machine politics to an exact science, and its baleful influence is seriously affecting the character of our government. Less than half a dozen Republican bosses will nominate the Republican candidate for President this year, and if he should be elected the head of the government would owe his elevation to a handful of tricky and corrupt political managers. This is not a pleasant thing for free and intelligent American citizens to contemplate.

The Control of the Senate.

The decision of the committee on elections in the Senate that DUPONT, the Republican contestant from Delaware, is entitled to the contested seat in that body, was to be expected, judging from the usual manner in which such contests are decided when the Republicans have the power. This decision was not reached without disregarding the law of Delaware that confers upon the speaker of the Senate the right to vote in the election of a United States Senator.

Some very scaly expedients have been resorted to by the Republicans to secure a majority in the United States Senate, of which this Delaware case is an example. Another is the manner in which "the grand old party" took the mormon polygamists to its bosom in order to gain two Senators from Utah, after it had for years been rolling up its hypocritical eyes in holy horror over the iniquity of polygamy.

In addition to these more recent cases, the g. o. p. has admitted half-baked States into the Union, with scarcely sufficient inhabitants for a single member of Congress, the purpose being to increase the Republican strength in the Senate, and it is the Senators from these sparsely inhabited settlements that are now preventing the passage of measures that are of the greatest importance to the balance of the country.

Having gained a majority in the Senate, the Republicans should be held responsible for its action; but it being their purpose, for a political object, to prevent legislation at this session, they have surrendered the control of the Senate to the free silver Populists, who will be made to shoulder the responsibility of blocking the course of legislation, which the Republicans want, in order that the administration may be embarrassed, and business put in a condition that may enable them to set up a calamity howl in the coming presidential campaign.

Is This Free Trade?

From the New York Times. A great deal is said in the Republican papers and by Republicans in Congress about a "demand for the restoration of protective duties." Were the protective duties swept away on Aug. 28, 1894? Let us see what the official reports say about this.

For the first fiscal year of the new tariff (the year 1895, during a little more than ten months of which the present duties were in force (the average ad valorem rate of duty upon all dutiable goods imported was 41.75 per cent. During the four years of the McKinley tariff the average rate for each year ranged from 46.28 to 50.06 per cent., the annual average for the four years having been 48.66 per cent. In the last year of the McKinley tariff the duties collected were \$125,568,892 upon imported goods valued at \$297,645,709. In the first fiscal year of the present tariff the sum collected in duties was \$147,901,218 upon goods valued at \$354,271,990. Was the fall from 48.66 per cent. to 41.75 per cent., so great that it marked a substitution of free trade for protection? If a tariff averaging 48.66 per cent., is protective, does the protective quality disappear in a tariff averaging 41.75 per cent.?

Because wool and lumber were transferred to the free list some of our Republican contemporaries would have their readers believe that the entire tariff was shifted from a protective to a free trade basis, but when one goes through the long list of dutiable articles he finds, as we have shown, that the average rate of duty is still 41.75 per cent., as against the McKinley tariff's 48.66 per cent., and that the value of the dutiable goods imported during this first fiscal year of the new tariff (\$354,271,990) was less than the annual average (369,978,534) in the four years of the tariff of McKinley. The "good" of dutiable imports was to \$400,282,519 in that tariff's third year.

Moreover, in the present tariff there are, as there were in the tariff which preceded it, many duties so high that they are prohibitory. It is merely an exhibition of partisan dishonesty and absurdity to assert that "protection" was cut out of the tariff when the average duty upon the long list of products actually imported was reduced from 48.66 to 41.75 per cent.

Is the Trend of Trade Southward?

From the Pittsburg Post. The grain exchanges of some of the northern seaport cities are much excited over the way the grain trade is being diverted to New Orleans. The official statement of the exports for the week ending the 8th of February is what has started them. The exports of corn were as follows, there being very little wheat going out at this time:

Table with 2 columns: Port and Bushels. Rows include New York, Philadelphia, Boston, New Orleans, Norfolk.

New Orleans, it will be observed, exported alone three times as much corn in the course of the one week as did all the three northern ports of New York, Philadelphia and Boston put together, while Baltimore, Newport News and Norfolk each of them exported more than did the same three northern ports together.

The reason of New Orleans' preeminence as a grain-exporting port is that it has a regulator of railway freights in its mighty river. Its water route never freezes over and shuts off navigation, as is the case with the northern water route, by the lakes and the Erie canal. Winter fall or spring is the ideal time for river transportation in the southwest. The New Yorkers complain that in the winter season, when the canals and lakes are closed, the railroads take full advantage of their opportunities and put up the rates of transportation to a figure very much in advance of what they are able to charge when the canals are in operation. This being so, the grain exporters send their produce by more southerly routes, where river navigation can be relied on to check the excessive charges of the railroads. The northern ports will have to take winter drawbacks with summer benefits.

In 1794 New Orleans exported nearly 7,000,000 bushels of wheat, being exceeded on the Atlantic side only by New York and Baltimore. Ten years before New Orleans exported only 648,337 bushels of wheat, and was surpassed by Boston and Philadelphia, as well as by New York and Baltimore.

He Should Enter It at the Mott Haven Games.

From the New York Sun. As the Hon. Matthew Stanley Quay contemplates the Hon. Christopher Magee and the Hon. Dave Martin, delving disconsolately in the ruins of the hog combine, and the Hon. Daniel Handsome Hastings, formerly of the same institution, falling rapturously upon Mr. Quay's neck whenever opportunity is offered, and flinging up his lustrious dicer for the Quay boom, the customary humorous flicker of the left eyelid of the Beaver philosopher develops into almost a running high jump.

Intensely Cold Weather in Michigan.

DETROIT, Mich., Feb. 19.—Dispatches from northeastern lower Michigan and the upper peninsula state that a severe blizzard is prevailing in those sections of the State. Railroad traffic is badly interrupted. The weather is intensely cold.

Spawls from the Keystone.

-The town of Glen Campbell is to have electric light.

-There are three cases of smallpox at Gilberton, Pa.

-Williamsport is still afflicted with bogus money.

-In one month 763 wanderers were lodged for a night in the Bristol station house.

-Thirteen new cases were presented on Tuesday at Harrisburg to the pardon board.

-Luzerne county license court will act on 1239 applicants, or 20% more than last year.

-While skating near Shamokin, Samuel Straw broke through the ice and was drowned.

-Miss Hattie Benedict, of Wilkesbarre, who has been in a comatose state for four months, is reviving.

-More than 2000 suits for State taxes have been brought against Pennsylvania corporations and individuals.

-The annual meeting of the State school superintendents will be held at Altoona on March 5 and 6.

-About one hundred post offices in Allegheny county may be consolidated into one central system about Pittsburg.

-An effort is being made to have the mails between Lock Haven and the Flemington and Mill Hall post offices carried on the trolley cars.

-Last Friday an overheated furnace caused the new Baptist church at Jersey Shore to be damaged by fire to the extent of \$300; insured.

-Harry Mitchell, a roller at the Columbia company's bar mill, made 68,000 pounds of iron in eleven and one half hours Friday, breaking the record for production at that works.

-The Westmoreland county commissioners offer a reward of \$100 for the arrest of Angelo Riegler, the Italian who, last Wednesday evening, stabbed to death James Daugherty, near Donohue station.

-The Acme manufacturing company, of Reading, bought a block of ground for \$28,000 upon which they will erect bicycle works to cost \$150,000. The new plant will have a capacity of 500 bicycles a day.

Hazleton suffered with a temperature of 23 below. Near that place Frank Bralnard was picked up with his arms and feet so badly frozen that it was necessary to amputate the arms when he reached the hospital.

An artesian well sunk at Mount Carmel tapped the water at 1,130 feet and has a flow of 150,000 gallons per day. This method of securing water is being adopted by a number of municipalities, and promises satisfactory results.

The spiritualists of Philadelphia have formed an organization to keep out of the hands of the police. That's a sensible scheme. If all men would see to it that they kept out of the hands of the police we wouldn't need any bobbies.

-Henry Allemen died suddenly about 8 o'clock Saturday evening of apoplexy, in Old Fellows' lodge room, at Allentown, Clearfield county. He was occupying his chair in the lodge when he suddenly fell forward and in about twenty minutes he expired.

-William Frysinger, formerly editor of the Lewistown True Democrat, died in Brownstown, Indiana, on Friday after a short illness, in the 98th year of his age. He was editor of the Brownstown Banner and a brother of Edward and George G. Frysinger, of Lewistown.

-Negotiations are now pending where, by there will be a continuous line of electric railway from Reading to Lebanon—twenty-eight miles. At present one road extends from Reading as far as Womelsdorf, and another from Lebanon to Myers town, leaving only about six miles to build.

-There is said to be some prospects of the Philadelphia and Reading railroad operating the abandoned ore banks at Bolling Springs. These banks were formerly the best in the Cumberland valley, and were worked for many years when the Cumberland valley was a big iron ore producing district.

-The Carnegie company has made another good strike in the Greene county gas belt. Their well on the Brice-Cordon farm, near the great Hood well, came in a great roarer, and the pressure is almost equal to that of the Wood well. Later the well at the Bayard No. 2 came in and is a strong gasser.

-The Pennsylvania railroad company has been constructing several locomotives at Altoona recently. One of these monster machines was sent for service to the Philadelphia division, and it was so large that it could not be run in to the round house at that place. The engine will be shunted four feet.

-Twenty-five of the leading business men of Portage, Cambria county, organized a board of trade at that place Tuesday afternoon. Mr. Robert T. Longwell was elected president and John T. Mc Donnell secretary and treasurer. The board is already negotiating with a manufacturing company for the purpose of having it locate there.

-At the Witherow works, New Castle, the company has orders enough to keep 180 men employed till May 1. The new tube mill is turning out 200,000 feet of tubing every month, and the plant will soon be run to its capacity, 500,000 feet monthly. The Red Jacket furnace has started and preparations are being made to start the Rosina, Railway and Bergen and the Etna, and all under Democratic tariff times.

-A cow belonging to Landlord Marietta of the Merchants' hotel, Rockwood, Somerset county, is the happy possessor of a pair of twins. In conversation with Mr. Marietta recently he had the following to say in connection with the great event: "My mother is a twin, I have a pair of twin brothers, am a twin myself, and now the old cow has gone and joined in to help sustain this record of twintots."

-George Smith, or "Big George," as he is called on account of his size, a Columbia colored hog carrier, fell thirty feet Saturday and landed on his head, without sustaining the least injury. He had taken a load of mortar to the third floor of a building and while distributing the mortar the elevator descended. Not noticing this, Smith stepped into the shaft and dropped thirty feet, landing on his head.