

Ink Slings.

—Even the little fish wagged their tails for joy when they saw the immersion on Sunday morning.

—Statisticians declare that a person can travel on rail-roads for 181 years without getting killed. Now how do they know that? Who has ever done it?

—It is rumored now that all of the Republican possibilities will combine on HARRISON to down MCKINLEY whose growing strength is alarming the bosses.

—The Methodist women have talked themselves into the general conference of that church. What talk won't do is hard to tell, especially when a woman does it.

—Of the 910 delegates in the Chicago convention it is estimated that 399 will be gold men, 329 silver men, and 182 doubtful. What part of the whole number will be PATTISON men?

—If some of the so-called "sound money" advocates would define exactly what they mean by that term they would not find it such a hard matter converting the masses to their way of thinking.

—DAVE HILL has declared that he will stand on the Chicago platform be it what it may. That is the kind of a Democrat he is. He is one very much like the boy who stood on the burning deck.

—The Shah of Persia was assassinated last week, but there doesn't seem to be much sorrow manifested over his demise. Butchery was his pastime, so there is little sympathy expressed for him.

—MORTON, REED, ALLISON, et al, had better be petitioning the Republican national convention to at least recognize them as belligerents, or MCKINLEY won't even let them get their names before that body.

—Murderer HOLMES was hanged yesterday morning, at 10 o'clock, in the county prison, at Philadelphia. His wretched life will hardly atone for the many innocent ones he snuffed out, but such an one is better dead than alive.

—The widow of Admiral TING of the Chinese navy commemorated her husband's death by committing suicide. It will be remembered that he suicided after the surrender of his flag ship at Weihaiwei. Her action will be regarded as quite a proper one by the Chinese. What a foolish TING.

—The friends of women delegates to the general conference worked heroically to have women admitted at Cleveland, and nearly failed. The men fought a grand fight to get them in, but that was nothing compared to the fight they will have to put up to get them out after they are in.

—The Democrats caught the Republicans in a hole, on Monday, in the Senate and forced them to set a time for the consideration of the DUPONT contest from Delaware. It was the intention of the rascally party to hold it over until the next session, when it felt certain of winning, but the little trick, on Monday, settled that business for them.

—The increase of the salary of county superintendent of instruction, on Tuesday, has stirred up quite a fuss over in "the valley." Tax payers are reported to be mad and the school teachers are afraid their own salaries will be reduced to make up the \$300 for Mr. GRAMLEY. No danger of the latter, but the tax-payers will get the dose.

—The California Republicans have declared for MCKINLEY and free silver. At first thought this might seem a strange combination, the idea of associating the Ohio tariff robber with anything free, but he is for free silver and no better illustration can be found than the way MARK HANNA, his manager, has passed it around in the purchase of votes.

—The compulsory school law for Pennsylvania went into effect on Monday. The kid catchers will now see that all youngsters, between the ages of eight and thirteen years, put in at least eighty days a year in school. Parents and guardians can be fined \$2 for the first and \$5 for each infraction of the law, thereafter, for not sending their children to school.

—The WATCHMAN has never believed the tabernacle scheme an advisable one for Bellefonte, but when it turns out that people in various sections of the town are objecting to its location near them, because of its being a nuisance, the wonder is what these people will do when they get to heaven, where there will be nothing but songs of praise and shouts of thanksgiving.

—The Democrats of South Carolina know how to do things when they have unruly people in the party. Now it appears that BENJ. TILLMAN wants to go as a delegate and the people down there don't intend to let him go unless he pledges himself to abide by the nomination made there. It is a good plan to bridle him in some way for should he break loose in Chicago like he did in the Senate, not long ago, there is no telling what would come of it.

—It is quite apparent that Governor HASTINGS doesn't have a very clear idea as to the importance of delegates in any nominating convention. In Pittsburg, on Wednesday, he remarked that he thought QUAY's chances as good as anybody else's at the St. Louis convention. Now as it will be altogether a matter of delegates and Mr. QUAY don't even have a solid delegation from his own State we will leave you to draw your own deduction. The Governor has been in the habit of over-looking the matter of delegates. He did it, you will remember, last fall when he was so cock-sure of his Combine winning over QUAY at Harrisburg.

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The Democratic State Platform.

The state platform adopted at Allentown is replete with sound Democratic doctrine. Its chief characteristic, and one which recommends it to the confidence of the people, is the straight-forward and honest manner in which it sets forth the principles of the party. There is not a shuffling phrase, an insincere word, nor an evasive expression in it.

It sounds a clear note in reasserting the allegiance of the party to the obligations of the constitution. That, of course, is always the key note of a Democratic declaration, and is always impressive because it always means what it says.

It declares the continuance of Democratic hostility to the system of taxation that bears unequally upon individuals, and tends to increase the profits of the few at the expense of the many. It renews the assertion of Democratic hostility to every scheme of tariff robbery by which the rich are made richer and the poor poorer.

It arraigns the Republican party for having brought upon the country financial revulsion and business prostration by a long continued system of financial and fiscal legislation by which the currency was deranged and debased, the public credit impaired, and the treasury depleted, and it holds that party directly responsible for the financial and industrial disorders which have recently overtaken the country and from which it is slowly recovering under Democratic legislation and administration.

It holds up to the deprecation of all decent and conscientious citizens the profligate character of the Republican state Legislature, which, sacrificing its self-respect as a legislative body, gave itself over to schemes of extravagance and plunder, and seemed to have no other object than to increase the state expenses and to bring disgrace upon the Commonwealth, the state executive being included in this arraignment as being accessory to the misdeeds of the Legislature.

In its declaration regarding the currency there is no indirection or evasion in the tone of the platform, but its language is unmistakably in support of the gold standard, differing in that respect from the money plank in the Republican state platform, which waffles between the single standard and bi-metalism, with the evident object of misleading the public understanding.

A proper tribute is paid to the excellent administration of GROVER CLEVELAND, which is so heroically struggling to maintain the public credit against the effects of the vicious currency legislation which the present Republican Congress will neither amend nor repeal.

And, lastly, the declaration of the convention echoes the choice of the Democrats of Pennsylvania in presenting to the national Democracy, as a candidate for President, ROBERT E. PATTISON, a man whom they know to be "honest, able, unassuming, fearless; a consistent Democrat, and in harmony with the highest principles of his party."

Playing a Bold Game.

DAVE MARTIN proposes to play a bold game for the federal patronage of this State. Counting upon the election of a Republican President, which the Republicans have worked themselves into believing to be a sure thing, he is going to throw his political fortune in with MCKINLEY and will go to St. Louis as an opponent of the QUAY boom.

Taking such a position in defiance of the state boss, which will make his championship of the Ohio candidate conspicuous and appreciable, he will have a claim to the handling of the federal patronage in this State, if so unfortunate a thing to the country as the election of MCKINLEY should occur. DAVE would then find himself in a clover, while there would be no pasture of any account for QUAY and those who obeyed his orders at St. Louis.

There is shrewdness as well as boldness in the tactics which MARTIN has adopted. If he had knocked under to the boss, as HASTINGS has done, he would be nothing but one of the henchmen whom QUAY will take along with him to swell his force at St. Louis and to share in the defeat which MCKINLEY will be pretty sure to inflict upon them.

DAVE will be one of the victors at St. Louis, and if his man should be elected he would have a good deal to do in sharing out the spoils. Poor HASTINGS will reap nothing from it but the empty honor of making QUAY's presentation speech.

But let us trust that the whole crowd will be defeated in November and that all of them will be disappointed in their scramble for the spoils.

Why Do They Oppose Him.

The combined bosses and favorite sons, who are opposed to the nomination of the tariff Napoleon at St. Louis, find that something desperate must be done to prevent that consummation. Up until the past week they relied upon their calculations by which they were able to figure out a majority for the field against him, but since

accomplished facts are proving their figures to be unreliable, and the Ohio man has snatched up Vermont from under the very nose of TOM REED, and carried off Illinois before the face of its favorite son, they have determined to make a concerted attack all along the line against MCKINLEY, and with this object QUAY, PLATT, CLARKSON, MANLEY and other anti-MCKINLEY managers, have been revising their tactics, and may rally around HARRISON as the only man with whom they may be able to defeat the tariff major.

To those who are unacquainted with the secret springs of Republican politics and the personal animosities of the leaders, it appears strange that there should be all this working and conspiring to defeat the nomination of the man who is really the most typical representative of the party. To no other hands could be more fittingly entrusted the black flag of tariff robbery. His name is identified with the spoiliary system that is the pet measure of the party. As regards the currency his position is in accord with the general Republican straddle on that subject. In every respect the Ohio tariff spoliator and currency straddler is a fitting candidate for the Republicans, and why should there be such conspiring among the leaders to prevent his nomination?

Bad Smelling Legislatures.

The Philadelphia Record, speaking of that disreputable legislative body, the New York Legislature, says "it has made a record which will be a stench in the nostrils of the people for years to come."

There is no denying the truth of this assertion. The New York Legislature is certainly an unsavory collection of Republican pimps and parasites, who have no other purpose than to obey the commands of their party boss, but with all its stench it is impossible for it to outstink the last Pennsylvania Legislature. The malodorous character of QUAY's collection of lawmakers is not surpassed by the bad-smelling body that is controlled at Albany by boss PLATT. In the comparison of legislative stench the Harrisburg stink really outranked the bad odor that is emitted from the capitol at Albany.

Never, anywhere, was so worthless a body collected for a legislative object as the last Pennsylvania Legislature is admitted to have been. It was deficient in every qualification that should belong to law-makers. The mental equipment of its Republican majority was of the lowest order. Its moral deficiency was displayed in the passage of laws whose chief object was to plunder the state treasury and to serve the interest of monopolistic corporations. In the creation of new offices, the increase of salaries, and the general enlargement of public expenses, it showed its disposition to squander the state funds, while its eagerness to cater to the corporations was manifested in its legislation for the benefit of the Standard oil company and the street railway monopolies.

There may be separate and colossal stenches connected with the New York Legislature that give it an extremely bad smell, such as the passage of the RAINES bill and the constitutional amendment perpetuating the Republican gerrymander, but for a general all-around stink, produced by thorough rottenness, the smell of the New York body is fragrant in comparison with the odor of the last Pennsylvania Legislature.

Unfortunately for the people of Pennsylvania most of the good-for-nothing Republican Representatives are up for re-election, and from the way the party machinery is managed it is probable that there will be a continuation of the bad smell at Harrisburg.

The Democrats Can Meet It.

It looks as if both national conventions will declare for the gold standard. In that event the money question will be eliminated from the campaign and the fight will be again fought on the tariff issue.

MCKINLEY's candidacy would force this issue into the contest, and the Democrats ought to be able to beat their enemies on the question of tariff robbery. That system of spoliation was condemned by an immense popular majority in 1890, within three months after the MCKINLEY bill had been passed. It was again condemned in 1892 by an equally large majority after it had been in operation for two years. Nothing has transpired since then to convince the people that a system which robs the many for the benefit of the few is worthy of their endorsement.

If this issue is to be again pushed forward as the leading one the Democrats will be at no disadvantage in meeting it. They have reason to believe that the people can be convinced of the injurious consequences of again handing the country over to the tariff robbers. The triumph of MCKINLEYISM would be attended with the business disturbance that would accompany the revival of tariff legislation and the agitation of such a disturbing question in and out of Congress.

The Democrats should be able to win on the issue of industrial peace and business tranquility.

Pattison For President.

In endorsing ROBERT E. PATTISON for President the state convention at Allentown displayed its deference to the Democratic sentiment of Pennsylvania. The action of the convention was a reflex of the people's preference, and the expression of that preference was made with such emphasis and unanimity as to leave no doubt that the Democrats of the State earnestly desire to see their distinguished ex-Governor advanced to the higher dignity of the presidential office. In putting him forward they are fully conscious that they are offering to the party a candidate who is in every respect fitted for that position.

When the convention presented him to the national Democracy as a presidential candidate it could do it with entire assurance that he could be matched with any that were named for that high office without his being disparaged by the comparison. It had reason to know that his presentation as its choice reflected credit upon the State. It was aware that his nomination as the standard bearer in the campaign would furnish the party with an exceptionally strong candidate, and that if he should be called to the presidential chair he would perform the duties of that exalted station with ability and an earnest design to give the country a good administration.

These were the features in the action of that convention which gave it an earnest and impressive character. How strongly in that respect it contrasted with the QUAY convention at Harrisburg. That was a collection of henchmen called together to endorse a political trick of their boss. There was scarcely one of them who believed that their master's candidacy was intended for any other than a trading purpose, or regarded their action as anything more than something that was required to enable QUAY to make a dicker at the nominating convention. The endorsement of his candidacy was a sham, it being so regarded by most of the servile tools who made it, and so intended by the putative candidate who would really be afraid to subject his political reputation to the rasping it would receive in a presidential campaign.

In contrast to such a fraudulent proceeding the action of the Democratic convention stood for what it honestly and earnestly intended to be the endorsement and presentation of a candidate for President in whose ability and integrity it had the fullest confidence, whose nomination it sincerely desired, and who it knew would make as strong a leader as could be entrusted with the Democratic banner in a presidential campaign.

Poorly Compensated.

HASTINGS has hardly been compensated for his humiliation by the compliment which QUAY's convention paid his administration. When that collection of henchmen commend him for his "wise discrimination in keeping expenses within their proper limits," it is such a laughable burlesque on the executive who, encouraged and signed every act passed by a most profligate Legislature, that even HASTINGS should be able to see how such a commendation will strike the people of Pennsylvania.

QUAY's Harrisburg platform was intended to humbug and deceive, but that part of it will deceive nobody. The people have too good a reason to know that HASTINGS' administration is prodigal and profligate beyond measure. They see how, in the creation of new offices and increase of salaries, it has wasted the public money. In expenditures for the executive, legislative and judicial departments it has exceeded the expenses of the more efficient PATTISON administration by more than a million dollars yearly. The Governor has taken a personal interest in encouraging and promoting this extravagance for the benefit of his political friends, who had to be rewarded with offices and increased salaries.

These facts being known to the people, the commendation of his economy by QUAY's convention poorly compensates the Governor for the dirt he has eaten in demeaning himself to the boss.

A Badly Used City.

Poor old Philadelphia is again being shabbily used by a Republican Congress. The appropriation for the League island navy yard, for which she had a right to expect a liberal allowance, has been cut down to a few thousands, while the provision of \$500,000 in the River and Harbor bill for the improvement of the Delaware river navigation, has dwindled down to half the amount originally proposed, while in the meantime amounts ranging into the millions are allowed for the improvement of the harbors of New York and Boston.

This is heartless treatment of the champion Republican city by a champion Republican Congress. The Philadelphia bourgeois are blaming their Congressmen for inefficiency in not getting their appropriations through but the fact is that it is so well known that the Republicans of Philadelphia will vote the whole party ticket under any and all circumstances, whether they get kicks or favors, that Republican Congressmen don't think it worth while to waste any favors on them.

Our Growing Prosperity.

From the Texas Siftings. The largely increased exports of American manufactures tell the story of the prosperity and progress of our industries under the Wilson tariff law. True, it is a subject the protectionist organs avoid, just as so many Pennsylvania manufacturers keep on "the dead quiet" about the demand for and export of our manufactures, but the striking facts remain, and are in evidence. The bureau of statistics in its late report shows that during March last the value of our manufactured exports reached the unprecedented total of \$19,125,785, or 25.85 per cent of the gross exports. The phenomenal increase of manufactured exports began in 1895, and during last year they exceeded \$200,000,000. In March the flood of such exports was at the rate of nearly \$230,000,000 a year.

This striking increase, which began with the Wilson tariff in 1895, has not been spasmodic, but has steadily augmented. The bureau of statistics reports that for nine months ending with March last the manufactured exports amounted to \$163,407,926, and were 24.57 per cent of our gross exports.

The great significance of these figures can best be seen by noting that in no year before 1895, when the Wilson tariff went fully into effect, had the exports of our manufactures reached a total of \$184,000,000. In the fiscal year 1891 the exports of domestic manufactures were only \$163,927,315, or 19.37 per cent of all exports of merchandise; in 1892 they were only \$158,510,937, or 15.61 per cent, and in 1893 \$183,718,484, or 21.24 per cent.

In the fiscal year 1891-92, denominated the "boom year" of the McKinley law, our exports of American manufactures amounted to only 15.61 per cent of the gross exports. In the first nine months of the fiscal year 1895-96, being part of the first fiscal year under the Wilson law, our exports of American manufactures reached the unprecedented proportion of 24.57 per cent of our total exports.

Men Must Boost Themselves Now-a-days.

From Texas Siftings. To be a success in these times we must to a horn and toot it continually. To get a front seat we must walk in, push our way past slower men, and take the seat; as if we not only owned it, but had a mortgage on all the private boxes, and could occupy any one of them if we so desired. The man who wants to succeed must struggle for a front seat, even if he has to jostle the real owner, and put his umbrella down on his soft corn. Once in a while he may get set back where he belongs, but he will get in front of other than if he should wait to be invited forward.

The world has not time to analyze character, weigh merit and to decide as to the relative ability of men. This is a fast, hurrying, rushing world of ours, and it is very much influenced by the value that a man puts on himself. If he says: "I am a great orator, or a noted scientist," the world is apt to take it for granted that he is, rather than go to the trouble of holding a civil service examination of his merits. If he says: "I am but a poor, weak worm of the dust," the world will say: "You look like it; get out of the way."

Poor Logic.

From the York Gazette. Since Colorado is increasing so rapidly its production of gold its people are beginning to realize that it is no longer to their interests to be Silverites, and so we find a strong gold sentiment growing there, and as a result Senator Wolcott, of that State, has been noticed laying grounds, in a quiet way, for a flop. No one will be surprised to see him before long an "out and out" sound money man. When this takes place it will be an object lesson the effect of which will be felt in every State in the Union. Take the silver mine owners and their influence out of the free silver movement, and there is nothing left but fanaticism of the Greenback type, and unaided it cannot last very long.

One of the Last.

From the Doylestown Democrat. Ex-Senator William A. Wallace, of Pennsylvania, who has long been ill in New York, is reported nearing his end. He is ranked among the most distinguished men of our State, and has been honored, in many ways, with public confidence. As Legislator, State Senator and member of the United States Senate, he played a conspicuous part, discharging the duties with ability and fidelity. When he had a seat in the upper House of the federal Legislature no member commanded a higher measure of respect. Mr. Wallace is the last of Pennsylvania's public men of the past generation who was prominent in public affairs.

Of Course They Are.

From the York Gazette. There was a time, not many months back, when even the Democrats themselves felt that the campaign this year would be utterly hopeless. But since the McKinley craze has developed the proportions it has there is an unmistakable tone of hope in Democratic talk, and a note of uncertainty in the Republican bluster. The McKinley boom has scared the Republicans. There is no use of denying it. We think that the Democratic chances are improving every day.

Wants Cuba's Belligerency Acknowledged.

WASHINGTON, May 4.—Mr. Woodman, Democrat, of Illinois, introduced in the House to-day a resolution requesting the President to immediately issue a proclamation recognizing the Cuban revolutionists as belligerents. A preamble to the resolution says that the situation in the unhappy island of Cuba is becoming a stench in the nostrils of Christendom; the murders, the outrages, the barbarities and horrors by the Spanish in Cuba are so notorious that civilization, itself stands appalled.

Spawls from the Keystone.

—The Pottsville public schools are greatly overcrowded.

—Citizens of Macadoo, Schuylkill county, want to be incorporated into a borough.

—Rev. C. L. Cooder, of Pottstown, has refused a call to Trinity Episcopal church, at Trenton, N. J.

—The case of attorney W. H. Shoemaker, of Philadelphia, who defended murderer Holmes, will be settled by the superior court at Erie this month.

—William H. Hamilton, of Philadelphia, will represent the state medical society at the Dover (Del.) convention.

—For alleged slander Mrs. Richard Crompton has sued Lawyer R. C. Kemp for \$10,000 damages in Mercer county.

—Pittsburg police are still looking for the thieves who stole \$7000 worth of diamonds from M. S. Cohen's store several days ago.

—Hamilton Disston, the great saw manufacturer, of Philadelphia, whose death occurred Friday, carried over \$1,050,000 life insurance.

—In an opinion at Stroudsburg Judge Craig decided that a pensioner cannot purchase real estate with pension money and hold it against creditors.

—The 180 chickens on the farm of Henry Myers in Warriorsmark valley produced 144 eggs on Tuesday. It was just an ordinary day for eggs, too.

—While playing with a revolver at Altoona which he thought was not loaded, William Arbie shot his cousin, G. A. McCans, in the side, causing a critical wound.

—It is said that Dick Hess, a fugitive from Mercer county, died at San Joaquin, Cal., after confessing that he was a leader of a gang of horse thieves numbering 100 men.

—The Renovo News says that a few days ago two cubs were captured on one of the branches of Big run on the south side mountains by William Snyder and John Byers.

—The Archdeaconry, of Reading, of which Rev. James F. Powers, of Pottsville, is president, opened its sessions at Easton last night with a sermon by Rev. Dr. Elwood Worcester, of Bethlehem.

—The Keating house at Keating, owned by Wallace Gakel, was slightly damaged by fire Tuesday afternoon. The roof of the kitchen caught fire, but the flames were extinguished by the application of a few pails of water.

—Henry Felpel, employed at the Lancaster caramel factory, was instantly killed Wednesday by being caught in a belting and drawn between a pulley and brick wall, a space of about four inches. The shafting was removed to release his body.

—Last Saturday a week ago three Italians were stabbed and badly beaten at DuBois by three men who had been refused tobacco by the Italians. Yesterday Victor Coretti, one of the wounded men, died from his stabs. The other two are lying in a serious condition.

—During a fire in Williamsport on Saturday morning, Mrs. W. B. Rockey narrowly escaped death from suffocation. She is an invalid and only after the greatest difficulty was she carried from the building, which was damaged to the extent of \$500 by the flames and water.

—Lizzie Mitchell, a prisoner in the Williamsport jail, Wednesday night set fire to old clothes and paper on the floor of her cell, in a spirit of revenge for punishment inflicted by reason of obstreperousness. The girl got more than she wanted, for she nearly choked to death with the smoke and had to be assisted to the corridor by the sheriff. The flames on the floor were easily extinguished.

—Farmers in the vicinity of Franklin say that there is a noticeable scarcity of song birds in the rural districts, as compared with a few years ago. They also say that the State is paying the penalty for the destruction of the birds, which being insectivorous, were the farmer's friend. The ravages of insects among the grain and other crops are largely on the increase.

—The statement having gone out that Secretary Edge had decided that "French vegetables," which are colored with mineral or other injurious matter, must be labeled "Artificially Colored," the Secretary states that his decision applies to all canned vegetables so colored, no matter where they have been put up, and that any person offering or selling vegetables thus colored, and not labeled "Artificially Colored" will be liable to the full penalties of the law.

—Miss Bertha MacConnell, the young woman who attempted to kill Harry Thompson at the Keystone House, Lancaster, Pa., on the morning of March 21, and later in the day shot herself at the home of her father, John MacConnell, in Coatesville, is now at St. Joseph's hospital, Lancaster, in custody of an officer, awaiting the time for a hearing before alderman Cummings. Harry Thompson still has the ball in his head, but his condition is favorable for recovery.

—Another surprise was created in Jersey Shore Friday when charges of conspiracy to defraud that brought out of money aggregating more than \$1,000 were preferred by the law and order society against councilman William Selts, Asher Bennet, J. T. Clark, W. E. Stutzman and R. McCullough attempted to cheat and defraud the borough of \$1,000 while the second sets forth a similar accusation against Clark, Bennet, Selts and Stutzman, naming the amount in default at \$5. This action is the outcome of alleged crooked work in borough council relating to the matter of certain stone contracts for street paving, etc., printing contracts and the unlawful abatement of taxes levied on the property of the Beech Creek railroad company.

—There is said to be a movement on foot in Clearfield looking to the removal of the Beech Creek shops from Jersey Shore to that town. It is known that the Beech Creek company contemplate enlarging the shops to double their present capacity, and the Clearfield people, learning of this improvement, have made an offer that if the company remove the works to their town, that they will bear the expense of removal and in addition will furnish the ground for the same. In view of the fact the railroad would get a long haul to the north and east, it is believed that the removal to Clearfield would be advantageous. This movement on the part of Clearfield will not be pleasant news to Mill Hall residents, as it is known that they have been making overtures to the company for the shops.