

Ink Slings.

—There seems to be little of encouragement in prospect for the business conditions of the new year. Let us hope that the future will not be as calamitous as predicted.

—About the only thing of note about the recent senatorial fight was the fulfilling of Senator CAMERON's several year's old prediction that he would not be a candidate for re-election.

—The last message of the Governor of Pennsylvania to the Legislature will be preserved as one of the best productions of pure humor that has appeared in print for many years.

—The spectacle of seeing ex-judge FURST having Judge LOVE sign a decree he has written himself had a very facetious side to those who realized the love that the one has for the other.

—The sickness of local political tricksters was sand papered good in the fight for commissioner's clerk. After all the wires were pulled and the thing was cooked and primed a Nittany boy, scarcely known to politics, knocked the persimmon.

—JOE BARTON and J. THOMAS MITCHELL are to be pitied. No one would take either of them to be gullible creatures, yet both of them seemed certain of being made commissioner's clerk. To all appearances they were easily ROBB-ed of the place.

—The Long Island doctor who confronted a burglar and made him throw up his hands must have used a far more powerful emetic than the Bellefonte woman who tried to make her babe throw up a half bottle of arsenic pills that it had not swallowed.

—They are making a great ado now because the Sultan of Turkey's government has scraped up enough money to pay the diplomatic corps in his service. Judging from the display of diplomacy in treating with other nations about the Armenian outrages this fund would not have to be very large.

—It was a sorry start in for the new Republican county officials, on Monday morning. They kicked up a big fight at the very first by not appointing Messrs CHAMBERS, GRAY and HEWES their attorney and from what one of the disappointed ones asserts there is to be war to the knife among them. Too bad that there was not an office for all of them.

—The latest scheme is to have the Legislature pass a bill that will empower local boards of health to look into the sanitary condition of barber shops. If the State is to do something that is really beneficial in this line let a law be made requiring the silence of barbers. More people are talked to death, while in the chair, than run risk of dying from an unclean shop.

—It is somewhat in the nature of a joke, that part of the annual message of the Governor to the Legislature in which he deprecates the low schemes which men resort to in politics. The Governor seems particularly grieved that money should be used for furthering the ends of unscrupulous politicians and urges the Legislature to make earnest effort toward the suppression of such crimes. It is funny, indeed, such goodness, but then funny things happen every day.

—When men like FRANK WILLING LEACH espoused WANAMAKER's cause there was nothing of credit to JOHN. It was not a year ago that LEACH gave up a \$5,000 a year job in Philadelphia to follow QUAY in his state chairmanship fight and then, when he found that he was not to be rewarded for such sycophancy, he turned around against QUAY and was leading around against QUAY and was leading around against QUAY.

—As United States Senator from Pennsylvania BOISE PENROSE is in a position to make a brilliant career. He is a young man, only thirty-six years old, and is sprung from one of the oldest and most influential families in Philadelphia. Besides having grit he has the brains that ought to bring to him a full realization of the high position he holds and guide him to filling it with honor. Notwithstanding the stigma of QUAY's making that will always soil his seat in the Senate Mr. PENROSE has an opportunity presented few young men in this country. The question that most naturally presents itself to the public now is: Will he rise above the methods that placed him there, and, throwing off the odium of low politics, show to the world such action as will be an honor to this great Commonwealth and the making of a statesman of him? He has the ability to do it.

—The business men of Philadelphia have found out by this time that business methods and political methods are not the same. If they hope to cope with such a wily political strategist as MATTHEW STANLEY QUAY they will have to take off the polished silk "dicers," the immaculated linen, the clean kids and ice block manners that caused the frigidity about their headquarters in Harrisburg and get down among "the boys." Fellowship is almost the first principle of success in political leadership and QUAY has cultivated it to such an extent that it will take years to break down his entrenchments. Men who are in politics want something as a general rule, they are there for what there is in it and naturally enough the man who has most to give is the man they are with. In Pennsylvania QUAY is the giver and he will never be dethroned unless it is at his own game.

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NO. 1.

Deceptive Promise of Prosperity.

No one has reason to be surprised that there is already a reaction against the expression of the recent election. This is obvious to those who observe how the people are now expressing themselves since they are no longer affected by the delusions of the campaign; and it is being made more manifest in the result of elections that have occurred since the close of the presidential contest.

For example the recent local elections in Massachusetts completely reversed the political expression made on the 3rd of November. The Republicans were badly beaten, particularly in the city of Lynn, a locality which had been greatly influenced by the promise of better times that were to follow the election of "the advance agent of prosperity."

In the face of this promise, what was the experience of the Lynn shoemakers after the election of MCKINLEY had been assured? Believing the representations of the Republican campaigners they naturally looked for an improvement in work and wages, but the presidential result had hardly been announced before a cut in wages was sprung on them, and this reduction was quite general in the shoemaking communities in Massachusetts. This kind of "advance prosperity" was something they didn't bargain for when they voted for MCKINLEY, and the turn they made at the local elections in December was an inevitable expression of their disappointment and dissatisfaction.

We may add that since the shoemakers of Lynn manifested their displeasure at the manner in which they were humbugged by Republican promises of better times, their wages have been subjected to another reduction, making the second cut since approaching "prosperity" was heralded by the election of its "advance agent."

Is there anything to indicate that the general condition is going to be different from that which is presented in the present situation? The remedies that will be applied are sure to be of the MCKINLEY order. There will be more tariff legislation, more protection to special interests, more favoritism to the trusts and syndicates, but little prospects of a return of prosperity, while the monopolies continue to despoil the people and the currency is subjected to further contraction for the benefit of the money lenders.

The only prospect connected with this situation that will have any encouragement in it will be the prospect of the thorough thrashing which will be administered four years hence to the fraudulent party that stole into power again on a deceptive money issue and a false promise that it would restore the prosperity of the country.

Working on the New Tariff.

All hope of carrying the DINGLEY bill through this Congress having been abandoned, the work of framing a new tariff bill on the MCKINLEY plan was commenced by the committee of Ways and Means on Monday, with the intention of having it ready to launch in the extra session that will be called as soon as possible after the inauguration of the high tariff President.

It is scarcely necessary to note that "there is a more wide-spread interest in the forth coming bill than has attached to any other revision of the tariff," a fact that is announced by a Washington correspondent. As a matter of course all the trusts and monopolies that derive their advantage from the protective system are anxious to reap the benefit of MCKINLEY's election, to which they contributed so much money. They propose to be reimbursed by tariff favors, and they will furnish "the unusually great number of business men" who, the correspondent says, desire to appear before the committee.

From the example given when the first MCKINLEY bill was framed it is well known how the work of formulating tariff bills is managed. The various interests that look for tariff favors impudently push their claims before the committee and are allowed to fix the schedules pretty much to suit themselves. After their unusually large contributions to the MCKINLEY campaign fund their demands will be in proportion, and there will be little if any resistance to them.

Among the "business men" who are to appear in "unusually large number before the committee" the sugar trust will send its full share of them, headed, no doubt, by HAVEMEYER, president of the trust, who says that it must get back its cent-a-pound protection on refined sugar which will enable it to squeeze an additional \$30,000,000, annually, out of the American people. The other trusts will also be on hand with their various claims, and every interest except that of the consumer will be given a favorable attention. This does not admit of a doubt, for was not MCKINLEY elected for this purpose?

—Dr. Goucher, president of the Woman's college and one of the ablest ministers of Baltimore, will preach in the Methodist church, in this place, on Sunday.

"Businessmen" for the Offices.

Some of the parties who worked up JOHN WANAMAKER's candidacy for United States Senator in the "business interest," also propose to enlarge their reform movement by putting a "business man" in the office of State Treasurer. They complain that the state funds are not properly managed, because they are not committed to the care of men who are acquainted with "business."

Now the fact is that in the management of the state money there is entirely too much "business," and it is very profitable business to those who, on account of their official position, are able to place the surplus in the treasury where its use will produce large personal profits or secure large political returns in generous subscriptions to campaign funds. The officers who do this can't be said to lack "business" qualifications. They may rather be regarded as having too much of an eye to business, and not enough care for the faithful performance of official duty.

According to the last report there is now in the state treasury a surplus of \$4,000,000, and yet sums due from the State to various cities and counties are not paid, simply because the state money has been so placed in banking institutions that it is inconvenient for the officers having charge of it to withdraw it for the payment of the state's debts.

The parties in Philadelphia who are demanding a "business man" at the head of the treasury to correct this abuse, are induced to make such a demand by the fact that \$1,000,000 due Philadelphia is withheld by the treasury authorities; but they should know that what is needed as a corrective is not "business men" so much as "honest men" in the management of state moneys—officials who have a regard for the obligations of their trust. But above all is the necessity for a law that will positively prohibit the placing of the state money in banks that are favored by giving them the use of it without paying a cent of interest to the State. There has been no Republican state Legislature with sufficient regard for the public interest to pass such a law.

A Goldite Feast in Kansas.

There is something decidedly characteristic in the manner in which General BUCKNER has entertained some of his political friends, in having the true old Kentucky flavor about it. We refer to the entertainment he gave to gold standard Democrats of Dudley township, Marshall county, Kansas, a voting district which gave a majority for PALMER and BRUCKNER, the candidates of the so-called "JERFERNONIAN" Democrats in the recent presidential election. As it was the only voting precinct in the United States capable of such a political performance the General thought it worthy of a Christmas treat, and accordingly he sent the bootlicots of Dudley township the material for a rollicking jollification.

As the number of voters in the precinct were only twelve, the majority wasn't a very big affair, but the General didn't allow that fact to stint his liberality, and accordingly he sent his Dudley township supporters fifty gallons of the best Kentucky whiskey and a check for \$50 to purchase the accompaniments suitable to such a quantity of good liquor, with his compliments and a request that they should be utilized in a combined Christmas feast and political celebration.

This liberal offering of the gallant Kentuckian of course met with an enthusiastic acceptance on the part of his goldite Kansas supporters, who, however, were so small in number that they had to call in the inhabitants of the surrounding townships, irrespective of party affiliation, to help get away with the General's liberal allowance of whiskey.

Hanna's Nervous Depression.

It is reported that MARK HANNA has collapsed under his weighty task of carrying the Republican party on his shoulders for the last six months. It is said that in consequence of the strain of such an effort he has been overtaken by nervous depression, and absolute rest is prescribed by his physicians.

This may be a dodge intended to keep the office-seekers away from him, for he is undoubtedly beset by numberless applicants who naturally believe that the man who elected MCKINLEY will have the right to hand out the offices; but there may be some truth in the report that he has collapsed under the strain of his campaign work. The exertion of putting sixteen millions of election boodle where it would do the most good was enough to break down the nervous system of any man.

In consequence of the reported failure of Mr. HANNA's health it is said that he is not desirous of a position in the cabinet, but would prefer a seat in the U. S. Senate, along with the other millionaires who are imparting so plutocratic a character to the upper house of the national Legislature.

—Subscribe for the WATCHMAN.

What Would Be Best?

Would it be the best for the country if the new scheme of tariff spoliation, which is being hatched by the Republican Ways and Means committee, should fail to receive the final approval of Congress? It is doubted whether the Senate will pass it, but is that the most desirable fate that could overtake it? Wouldn't it be better, in the long run, if it should become a law?

There is no question as to the evil of a system of taxation laid for the benefit of special interests, such as the MCKINLEY tariff was, and the proposed new tariff will be, but if this measure is not passed it will give the Republicans at the end of the MCKINLEY administration the opportunity of going before the country and claiming that business did not revive as they had promised because they were prevented from restoring the MCKINLEY tariff. They may thus be enabled to divert public attention from the deficiency in the currency as the true cause of existing business disorders, and succeed, by another calamity howl, in laying the blame on the want of protection.

Notwithstanding the temporary harm that would be done by another spoliatory tariff, the ultimate effect would be better if the Republicans were given a full swing to inflict such a measure upon the country.

It brought the business situation to a collapse at the end of HARRISON's administration, but the blame for the break down was adroitly shifted onto the succeeding Democratic administration. If the situation had been such that the country could have had for some time a continued experience of the injury of a monopoly tariff there would be no desire at this time for another installment of MCKINLEYISM. Wouldn't it be well to give the country a surfeit of it, so that in 1890, when the question of the currency is to be determined, the attention of the people may not be distracted and diverted from the true issue by a party bellowing for protection?

Astor Renounces His American Citizenship.

The report comes from England that millionaire ASTOR, who has for some years been a resident of that country, with aspirations of becoming a member of its nobility, has at last renounced his American citizenship and is about to become a subject of Queen Victoria. He is a good specimen of the snobbish class of Americans who, after having acquired or inherited wealth in this country, use it as a means of securing a position among the foreign aristocracy.

ASTOR aims at becoming an English nobleman, but the vast estate from which he will draw the revenue to maintain his position among the nobility of England will remain in this country and be exempted from taxation for the support of the government that will protect him in its ownership. In consequence of there being no income tax, the immensely valuable New York properties that will furnish the revenues of the noble house of ASTOR in far away England, will not pay as much to the government treasury as is derived from the tariff duties on the necessities of every American workman.

Such unfair exemption is accorded to all the American wealth which through the matrimonial process is lavished upon a set of good for nothing foreign adventurers in the purchase of titles of nobility for foolish American women. Immense incomes, which a decision of the United States Supreme court has protected from taxation for government purposes, are sent abroad for the support of an impoverished nobility.

The First Item of Expense.

The contest for sheriff that is now before the court in this county is a matter of much speculation among the tax payers as to the probable cost of the useless investigation that Mr. MILLER has caused to be started of the recent shrievalty election.

While there can be no calculation of the cost of the contest until it is ended a fair idea of the scale on which bills will be piled up can be had from the proceedings at the hearing of sheriff CRONISTER's answer to MILLER's petition, which took place last Saturday afternoon. At that time it was decreed by the court, upon suggestion from Mr. FRIST, that two officers should at once set out to certain named precincts and gather up the ballot boxes used at the late election and bring them to this place to be given into the custody of the prothonotary, who is to provide a box in which to keep them.

As the ballot boxes are very large and the number of precincts quite many this expense will be a large one in itself, not counting the cost of the receptacle prothonotary SMITH is to furnish for them, nor the cost of the new boxes that will have to be purchased for the February election, since these will not be opened until the contestants are ready to recount the ballots in them.

These are only a few of the opening items of expense that will fall on the tax-payers, as a consequence of Mr. MILLER's greed for an office to which he has not been elected.

Pennsylvania's General Assembly in Session.

Henry K. Boyer, of Philadelphia, Selected For Speaker and Jere B Rex for Chief Clerk of the House. Mr. McCarrell Chosen for President Pro Tem. of the Senate. On Assuming the Speaker's Chair Yesterday Mr. Boyer Expressed the Opinion that the Grade of Intelligence in this House is Higher than in the Ordinary Legislative Body. He Impressed Upon the Members the Importance of Care in Increasing Expenditure of Public Funds—He Referred to the Necessity of Wise Legislation for the Municipalities of the State—Senator McCarrell Expressed Some Sound Doctrine—An Honest and Economical Administration of the Affairs of the Great Municipalities is Important.

HARRISBURG, Jan. 5.—At noon to-day its presiding officer, Lieutenant Governor Lyon, called the senate to order. Before the hour fixed for the opening session visitors swarmed through the chamber greeting senators of their acquaintance or talking of the changes that have been made since the sessions of '95. The galleries were crowded and there was lively interest taken in the proceedings. On the desks of Senator Penrose, Magee, Flynn, McCarrell and Vore friends or admirers had placed floral decorations. The Penrose Republican club had placed on Penrose's desk a chair, bearing the word "vindication." A large horseshoe was the gift of Magistrate Devlin, of Philadelphia. On the desk of Magee were two horseshoes, one from Alexander P. Moore, of Pittsburg, and the other from A. A. Hoar, of Philadelphia. The "Bourgeois association," of Philadelphia, presented Mr. Vore with a horseshoe, and on the desk of President Pro Tem. McCarrell was a basket of flowers from a friend.

When Mr. Penrose entered the chamber, as the gavel fell, there was a cheer from the galleries. It was cut short by the lieutenant governor. After prayer by Rev. William Pest, of the Carlisle presbytery, Secretary of the Commonwealth Reeder presented the returns of the November election. These were read and the new members sworn in by Judge Simonton, of the Dauphin common pleas courts.

ONE SENATOR ABSENT.

The roll call showed that there was absent but one senator, B. B. Mitchell, of Bradford. Mr. Gobin, of Lebanon, named Senator McCarrell, on the part of the Republicans, present pro tem., and Mr. Stiles, of Lehigh, presented as the nominee of the Democratic caucus Mr. Cochran, of Lycoming, who received the votes of the six Democrats. Lieutenant Governor Lyon appointed Messrs. Cochran and Walton to escort the president pro tem. to the chair. On taking the chair, Senator McCarrell thanked the members for the honor conferred upon him. He bespoke the co-operation of the senators in discharging his duties. He touched upon the government of municipalities of the state and said that an honest and economical administration of their affairs was of the utmost importance. That evils have grown up which demand a remedy cannot be denied, he said. To what end and in what manner these evils can be properly corrected by legislation is a question which the people demand shall receive prompt and thoughtful consideration. The regulation and control of primary and general elections, was one of the themes considered by Mr. McCarrell. With reference to this he said:

SOME SOUND DOCTRINE.

"If the government by the people is to continue every position within the range of popular choice, either directly or indirectly, must be kept within the reach of every citizen possessing the legal qualifications, whether he be high or low, rich or poor, and the wealth of official station of his fellows must not be used to hinder his acquisition of his legal right. The people can be safely trusted to govern themselves if the enemies of free government can be restrained from corrupt interference with the elective franchise."

When Mr. McCarrell had concluded, Judge Simonton administered the oath of office. Chief Clerk Edward W. Smiley was re-elected. By resolution, the president pro tem was authorized to appoint all special and standing committees. Lieutenant Governor Lyon appointed Messrs. Grady, Meredith and Stiles to inform the house that the senate had organized and was ready for business. On the part of the senate, the lieutenant governor appointed Messrs. Short, Gobin and Kennedy to wait on Governor Hastings and inform him that the general assembly had organized and was ready for business.

On motion of Mr. Penrose the senate took a recess for fifteen minutes. Just before the Senate reassembled, Chief Clerk Smiley announced the joint senatorial caucus to be held in the hall of the house at 8 o'clock this evening, the call being signed by Chairman Lytle, on the part of the Republicans of the house, and John C. Grady, for the upper branch Republicans, he being chairman of the senatorial Republican caucus.

SENATE TAKES A RECESS.

At 1.45 the senate took a recess until 3 p. m., at which hour it was understood the governor's message would be transmitted. When the senate adjourned at 1.45 it was to have met at 3 p. m. The committees of the house and senate, which were to have waited upon the governor to inform him that the general assembly had organized, were not yet ready to report, and it was 4 o'clock before Lieutenant Governor Lyon rapped the gavel for order. Then the committee made its report. The sergeant at arms announced Private Secretary Beiler, who presented the message. During the reading, which occupied considerably more than an hour, respectful attention was given. Chief Clerk Smiley and Reading Clerk Carson divided the task of delivering the message to the senate. At the conclusion of the reading the governor sent in the appointments made during the recess for confirmation. After they had been read the senate, on motion of Mr. Short, adjourned until 11 o'clock to-morrow morning.

IN THE HOUSE.

HARRISBURG, Jan. 5.—An hour before noon the gallery of the house was filled with an interesting throng, many ladies being present. On the desks of prominent members were baskets of handsome flow-

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Spawls from the Keystone.

—Harry Bennett, of Pennsile, who accidentally shot himself Christmas, as he was coming backwards from underneath a board pile, died at the Williamsport hospital, last week.

—At Bechtree, near DuBois, Tuesday, Lewis Anderson was instantly killed by being caught between the bumpers of two coal cars which he was endeavoring to couple. He leaves a wife and three children.

—At Sunbury, Monday evening, August Moeller, foreman at the Cold Spring brewery after a quarrel with his family, committed suicide by shooting himself through the head. He was in his 37th year.

—Mrs. Lusetta Crosby, of Philadelphia, found her husband with another woman, and with out giving further notice proceeded to cut his throat with a razor. She was locked up and he was taken to the hospital.

—August Moeller, foreman of the Cold Spring Brewery, at Sunbury, committed suicide Wednesday. He had some domestic troubles, and, it is said, in a fit of melancholy drew his revolver and shot himself through the head.

—The residents of Milton were thrown into a state of excitement Sunday by the suicide of Sigmond Driefuss, who ended his life by shooting himself while in the bath tub. Despondency is given as the cause for the act. The deceased was a member of the firm of S. Driefuss & Brothers, clothiers, and was only 27 years old.

—Friday was a remarkably fine day for the 1st of January, says Saturday's Clearfield Monitor, but could not be compared with the 1st of January 21 years ago when a party of ladies and gentlemen picnicked on cemetery hill, and one of our hardware merchants had all kinds of gardening and harvesting implements out in front of his store.

—The two tramps, Meade and Martin, who were arrested in the Renovo yards Wednesday on suspicion of being the murderers of Charles O'Brien, at Salamanca, N. Y., last Saturday, admit that they are the men wanted, but claim that the act was done in self defense. Meade made a confession to the police authorities and to the editor of the Renovo News.

—Clarence Bradin, John McMullin, Edward Robison, James Irwin and T. S. Keating, engineers on the Tyrone division, on account of a long period of faithful service, New Year's received an annual pass for themselves and family over the P. R. R. system. This was certainly a very acceptable New Year's gift, but fully deserving, as these men have been faithful employes of the P. R. R. company for a goodly number of years.

—At Williamsport Saturday Dr. Nutt with the assistance of a coin extractor removed from the throat of a 5-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Jno. Fritz, of Hayes Run, Clinton Co., a safety pin, which the boy had swallowed several months ago. The pin was unclamped and rusty. The child had been treated for whooping cough until its sufferings became so intense that an examination was made, which revealed a foreign substance in the throat.

—On Sunday at Williamsport Thomas J. King attempted suicide by jumping off the Market street bridge into the river. Several men saw him jump and hastily procuring boats rowed out to rescue him. When they reached the man he had his head under water and held his nose closed with his hands. His feet were dragging on the river bottom. He was taken to shore and given the necessary attention. King has been suffering from a fit of melancholia for several days. Last Friday he took a run on the streets entirely naked.

—A supposed incendiary fire occurred in Lewisstown at 2 o'clock Saturday morning and burned for five hours before it could be controlled. The total loss will foot up to \$25,000 to \$30,000 with an insurance of about \$30,000. The burned district comprises the entire alley way from Brown to Dorcas streets, and down to Market street. The burned buildings include fifteen stables, a barber shop and dwelling house, wholesale grocery, two liverys, undertaking establishment and tin shop and Miller house badly damaged by water and fire.

—Clifton Knorr, who was arrested at Reading Tuesday on the charge of attempting to blow up the residence of Hon. Levi E. Waller, at Bloomsburg, with dynamite in September last, made a confession Thursday, in which he implicates L. S. Winterstein, another prominent citizen of that place. Knorr asserts that Winterstein offered him \$4,000 to commit the act. Winterstein, as soon as he heard that Knorr had made this statement, went voluntarily to a justice and furnished \$5,000 bail for his appearance at court. The confession has caused great excitement in that place.

—At Williamsport, on Christmas evening, Mrs. Amanda Ward tucked her 4 year old boy in bed, turned the lamp down and leaving an oil heater burning in the room locked the door and went out. During her absence the lamp exploded and the room caught fire and the child was suffocated by the smoke. The firemen made heroic searches for the boy, but he was not found until some time after the flames were conquered. When he was found lying underneath the bed. It is believed that he was awakened by the flames and had crawled out of bed and when at the spot where he was found was overcome by the smoke.

—Renovo had a drowning accident Monday night by which a young man named George Driver lost his life. He was employed as a teamster on the farm of Wm. Stout, above Renovo. He, with a son of Mr. Stout, were skating on the river. Both young men broke through the ice and were dropped in water several feet deep. Young Stout succeeded in getting out, but his companion was not so fortunate. His body was recovered about an hour or so later. Another case was a boy named George Bergenson, of Ridgway, who was drowned near that place on Sunday. He, with other boys, was playing on the ice on the Clarion river, when the ice broke and the lad fell into deep water. His comrades could not rescue him and before help was secured his life was gone. Too much care cannot be exercised by those who indulge in the sport of skating. Children especially should not be allowed to go skating unless their parents are assured that the ice is firm and water not deep.