

Ink Slings.

—Will any kind person tell me, if they can, why flies choose damp days to annoy a bald headed man.

—Yesterday the trout fishing season ended and fishermen will begin to gather up reputations for veracity again.

—The Governor has at least saved himself the pain of having his fingers burned by leaving QUAY to carry his "fiery cross" by himself.

—The Republican tariff makers are bound to raise the wind somehow, even if it is by putting a tariff of two dollars a pound on vanilla beans.

—It will be in order for MCKINLEY and his friends to claim that the floating ashore of tons of fish, at Atlantic City, on Tuesday, was the first sign of coming prosperity.

—Judge Wilson, of Beaver county, has declared the law making it a misdemeanor to fish or hunt on the Sabbath day to be unconstitutional. Just what his reasons are we do not know. It is a pretty commentary on a Christian people that such a prohibition should even be necessary.

—The failure of the Philadelphia authorities to devise a plan for lighting up the bronze statue of WILLIAM PENN, that surmounts the \$20,000,000 public building in that city, simply carries conviction to the minds of the many that the least light there is on that monumental "job" the better for all.

—To use his own elegant and to a degree famous quotation, Col. McCLEURE's Philadelphia Times "is like HOOKER's bill on the fence. It can neither kick behind nor hook before," now that its two paragons, QUAY and HASTINGS, have picked up splinters while sliding down the same cellar door.

—It is pretty hard lines that whenever there is a great extension of christian people there is always a wreck to kill some of them—instance the fatal collision just outside of Chicago when so many delegates to the C. E. convention at San Francisco lost their lives—but let it be a collection of things going to a prize fight—instance the FITZSIMMONS-CORBETT affair—every train will run with that despatch and safety as if guided by an arch angel.

—Circumstances have just come to light that proclaim Kansas' famous Mrs. MARY ELLEN LEASE a far smarter woman than she has been accredited with being. Her first political speech was made one night when she ran into a hall, in which a political meeting was being held, just to escape a rain storm, and was called upon to talk. It has not been generally supposed that MARY ELLEN knew enough to "get in out of the wet."

—Soup for breakfast is said to be a fad that the English have borrowed from the French and some American journals are growing restless lest the custom be brought to the States by Anglo-maniacs. No need for worry here. The great mass of American people have been eating soup three times a day—and many of them nothing better than soup—ever since this English gold grip throttled the natural monetary system of the United States.

—One of the most interesting bits of information in the shape of statistics, that has been published in a long time, is just fresh from the London press and carries a comparison of the national indebtedness of the United States, Great Britain, Germany, Russia and France, the five greatest nations of the earth. England, alone, reports a decrease. In the last five years the national indebtedness of VICTORIA's dominion has decreased at the rate of £19,488, daily, or nearly \$100,000. During the same period there has been a daily increase of \$125,000 in the indebtedness of the United States, with corresponding increases for France, Russia and Germany. Of course there can be many causes ascribed to this, but the leading ones, most certainly be England's policy of absolute free trade, securing her the most liberal business relations with other countries, and the fact that by enforcing the gold standard so vigorously among her colonies and debtors has enabled her to pay her own debts at half-price by having caused the depreciation in value of half price in the natural products of the countries owing her.

—If ever a man found himself between the devil and the deep sea our Governor is in that predicament now. Left to bear the brunt of the most notoriously scandalous Legislature that has been in session in Pennsylvania for years; almost forced to sign a mercantile tax inquiry, that will turn every large merchant in the State against him, because there is no source from which revenue can be drawn to pay the increased salaries, the useless new officials and the high priced improvements about the executive mansion that he foisted upon the State; fallen out with QUAY, for whom he cowardly deserted the only true friends he ever did have, scarcely more than a year ago; he might well waken up, most any morning, and ask himself the question: "Where am I at?" His rupture with QUAY means that QUAY will be a candidate for United States Senator, himself. The only hope for HASTINGS' ambition lies then in a combine with the WANAMAKER forces, but if he signs the mercantile tax bill that will end such a hope. But why conjecture further. Our Governor could not get into the United States Senate at any event.

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Paying the Piper.

Those who have been able to keep cool enough to read the daily papers, since the adjournment of Mr. QUAY's law makers at Harrisburg, would imagine from the piteous appeals of that class of individuals who parade themselves as the "business men" of the State, that they are to be taxed to an outrageous extent, or robbed in an unjustifiable way, if the new Republican revenue measure, increasing the mercantile tax, is allowed to become a law.

For many years we have heard much of these "business men" in politics here in Pennsylvania. It has always been about the time that the Republican party needed help to cover up its rottenness or money with which to corrupt the voter. As "Committees of One Hundred," "Boards of Trades Leagues," "Business Men's Association," "Reformers," "Mercantile Representatives," etc., they have done duty for the Republican bosses, whenever their services were needed, or their bunco tactics could be made available. They have hesitated at no deception and stopped at no cost, when it was a question between the people and the bosses, to have the bosses win; and it is through their subservency to QUAYISM, and their inexcusable and unaccountable support of all the reeking rottenness of the Republican party of Pennsylvania, that such measures to raise revenues, as those passed by the late Legislature, had to be resorted to.

Three years ago these same "business men" elected Gov. HASTINGS and gave to the Republican party an overwhelming majority of representatives in both the Senate and House. They opened not their mouths in protest when their Governor and their Legislature proceeded to create new departments; to multiply officials; to increase salaries and permanently add to the annual expenses of the state government a sum amounting to over one half a million of dollars.

This political robbery of the public for the purpose of making places for partisan favorites, neither startled nor aroused these "business men." To them it was all right because they supposed the taxes to meet this increased expenditure would be levied upon others, and the Republican party would have the benefit of the new offices.

To them there was nothing wrong in creating unnecessary offices and paying exorbitant salaries, so long as they, themselves, escaped additional taxation. To them there was no outrage in robbing the treasury to make fat places for political heelers, if others were made to bear the burdens of the taxation that would follow. To them it mattered not if, in addition to an overwhelming increase of annual expenditures, upwards of \$100,000 were squandered in alleged repairs to the old Capitol; that over \$50,000 more were taken from the treasury under the pretense of refurbishing the Governor's mansion; that tens of thousands of dollars were uselessly thrown away by the superintendent of public grounds; or if \$500 clocks and \$1,000 curtains were purchased with the state's money and presented to favorites about the Hill.

These were matters that were seemingly too small to attract the attention of the "business men" and "reformers," of the State, or to cause the slightest protest from them against such flagrant robbery of the treasury. They were content to see the people impoverished, the treasury looted and taxation, to an unprecedented extent, imposed upon the masses, so long as the burdens were expected to fall upon others than themselves.

But what a change "comes o'er the spirit of their dreams" now, that they discover that a small portion of this increased taxation must be borne by them. How they wince and wiggle! How they squirm and squeal! What outrages they see and what wrongs they rise up to denounce!

O, "business men"! O, "Reformers"! O, bunco steers for the Republican party! How we rejoice that you are now fearing the extravagance that you have so often endorsed, and are about to feel the burdens you were so willing should be imposed upon others.

It is just that it should be so. It is just that you should bear your share of the taxation you have helped place upon the State, and it will be a cowardly and unjust act, should the Governor listen to your appeals and prevent the act increasing your mercantile taxes from becoming a law.

—Senator McQUOWN, of this district, is entitled to the distinguished consideration of the citizens of this county and the old soldiers of the State particularly for having read in place a bill appropriating five thousand dollars towards the erection of a monument to the late former Governor CURTIS, in Bellefonte, and then allowing chairman MARSHALL to smother it in committee. The citizens of this county, after the service rendered Pennsylvania by her distinguished son, would have considered themselves under no obligation for such a miserly sum. They only desired some recognition of CURTIS' memory.

The Jubilee and the Gold Standard.

It is estimated that the expense of the Queen's Jubilee amounted to over one hundred million dollars. The money was furnished partly by the government, while much of the cost was borne by her loyal subjects, who contributed to the display.

It was a big sum to be expended for such a purpose, and those who are disposed to moralize may question whether the object was a proper one for the expenditure of so much money. In England's large population there are thousands who are suffering for the necessities of life. While so large a number of her people are but little above the level of pauperism, their condition being chiefly due to unequal advantages, the hardship of their situation is brought out in a more repellent light by its contrast with wealth that is able to lavish a hundred million dollars on a royal pageant.

England's pauperism is an ugly thing to be contrasted with this extravagant expenditure for the glorification of royalty, but there is still a darker picture presented within the dominion of the sovereign for whose adulation so much money was wasted. In that Asiatic country which gives Victoria her title of Empress of India, her subjects are dying of starvation by thousands, whose wretched condition could be relieved by a moiety of the millions that were required to give splendor to her jubilee.

So unbounded is England's wealth that, if it were more equally distributed, there would be no reason for any of her people to be destitute; but a class has absorbed her wealth, and the multitudes are poor. She has for years past presented that relative condition of her people in which the few are rich and the many are poor, to which condition our own country is tending. It is lamentable that this should be the case in this Republic where none should be in the enjoyment of special advantages, but there has been favoritism in legislation and governmental policies that is allowing the wealth of our country to be absorbed by a class that has developed into a plutocracy.

That there is sympathy between this American wealth and the aristocracy of England is obvious, and in no way is it more strikingly displayed than in the jubilee demonstrations in which our plutocrats vied with the English nobility in doing homage to the Queen. American millionaires were conspicuous among the worshippers of royalty on that occasion. Such choice specimens of American plutocracy as CHAUNCEY M. DEPEW, WHITELEAF REID, and Ambassador HAY typically represented, at that royal fete, the class of Americans who have grown enormously wealthy through the advantages conferred by favoring fiscal laws and monetary regulations.

A hundred million dollars was indeed a vast sum to be squandered on an old Queen, for no other reason than that she had completed sixty years of a reign that has not been particularly beneficial to anybody. The money could have been better spent in improving the condition of some of her subjects. But it was contributed from that incalculable wealth which England has acquired by putting other nations under tribute to her. Much of it was wrung from American farmers and producers by her maintaining the gold standard by which she is enabled to exact double payment from a debtor nation like ours. The American people have reason to deprecate that monetary arrangement maintained for England's advantage. It depresses the pecuniary condition of a large majority of them; but such is not its effect upon our plutocrats who throng to England to pay their respects to royalty. They are benefited by the gold standard that appreciates the value of their capital and thus increases their wealth.

A Glaring Inconsistency.

The President has hesitated about appointing a currency commission which some of the leading financiers of his party think should take charge of the money question and settle it. Secretary GAGE appears to believe that currency reform should be furnished through the medium of a commission, and no doubt that is the opinion prevailing in Wall street, but there are Republicans who are doubtful of the efficacy of that remedy, and fear that the opening of the currency question, immediately after the passage of the tariff bill would only prolong the business uncertainty that has interfered with the promised prosperity. This is a consideration that has made the President shy of taking hold of the money question immediately upon launching the tariff bill. It may be wise for him to first see how that thing is going to work before trying something else as a prosperity restorer.

It does not require much discernment to see the inconsistency of President MCKINLEY's appointing a commission to investigate our monetary system. He may be credited with being sincere in sending the commissioners to Europe to induce the adoption of bimetalism by international

agreement. If that object should be secured it would mean the restoration of the double standard at the ratio of 16 to 1. Gold monometallism would be discarded and silver restored to its former place in our monetary system.

Now, if the President is sincere in this movement, what consistency would there be in his turning the money question over to a currency commission that would be sure to act directly opposite to the purpose for which the President has sent the bimetallic commissioners over to Europe? Everybody knows what would be the character of this currency commission which Secretary GAGE recommends and the wall street bankers regard with favoring commendation. It would be but a fac-simile of the Indianapolis gold convention. If not composed exclusively of gold bugs it would certainly be under that influence. The only currency reform it would commend would be the retirement of the legal tender circulation, with the consequent contraction of the circulating medium; the issuing of more bonds to raise the gold needed for retiring the greenbacks; the restriction of the paper circulation to the banks, and every other monetary restraint that could aid in fixing the currency on the narrow basis of gold monometallism.

To have such a commission at home, working in the interest of the goldbugs, and another in Europe, laboring for the restoration of bimetalism, would certainly present a very glaring inconsistency.

Correct Estimate of the Tariff Bill.

The need of more revenue was the reason given for the new Republican tariff, but it proves to be less of a revenue producer than the MCKINLEY tariff, which at the end of three years showed a deficiency of over \$90,000,000 and caused the treasury depletion that helped to bring on the panic of 1893.

Being a failure, as regards its revenue qualities, its only effect will be the protection it will afford; but the only interests protected are of the monopolistic class. Its purpose is to help the trusts and not the people.

There could not be a better authority on this point than Senator TELLER, of Colorado, a Republican who adhered to his parole until last year, and who was an honored member of President AUCHER's cabinet. He voted against this bill on its passage through the Senate for the reason, as he declared, that it was "the most outrageous one ever given to the people of this country."

Speaking of this measure more at large, Senator Teller says: "It is a travesty upon the principle of protection, and adds in every way to the already heavy burden of the consumer. It has not only taken care of all the large trusts, but there was no trust so small but what was afforded protection if it had a representative here to assert its claims. It is a measure designed exclusively for the benefit of corporations, with little regard for revenue and none for the people."

There could not be a more correct estimate of this infamous measure. Sacrificing the object of revenue, for which it was pretended to have been made, its only purpose is to increase the advantage of trusts and corporations, and so far as it affects the people, its only effect will be to increase their burden.

What Kills Our Commerce.

Nothing could more strikingly illustrate the almost complete destruction of our ocean commerce by bad tariff and navigation laws than the fact that ships bearing the American flag are seldom seen in foreign ports.

This should be humiliating to the patriotic American, who could once boast, particularly under old-time Democratic administrations, that the flag of his country was seen on every sea. There is certainly good reason for his being made to blush by the report of the Suez canal company for 1896, which shows that out of 3,409 ships that passed through that commercial channel last year there was not one American vessel. Every nation had its representatives in that maritime procession except the United States, which previous to 1860, under low Democratic tariffs, was close on the heels of England in the number of her sea-going vessels.

In the Suez canal report the English ships passing through were 2,162. American, 0.

There is no other cause for this miserable decadence than the Republican protective system that has tariffed American commerce off the ocean. A nation that shuts off commercial intercourse with other countries by high tariffs can't expect to see its flag floating on the masts of merchant vessels. Protection kills its commerce.

—The boltoevists of Kentucky held their convention, in Louisville, Wednesday night and nominated candidates for the various state offices. They organized on the line of reclaiming the strayed sheep, meaning the silverites.

Hastings and Quay at Loggerheads.

Hastings intimates that it is War Henceforth on the Beaver Man.—Had a Stormy Interview. Governor Decided to Veto the Becker Bill, and Quay and Penrose left Angry. He refused to be Cajoled.

HARRISBURG, July 12.—In a brief but notably significant interview Governor Hastings to-day plainly indicated that Senator Quay's bold announcement, made here the other day, that "the fiery cross" would again be carried over hill and dale to arouse the men in blouses is accepted as a challenge. The governor's words are also taken to mean that war is to be declared upon Quay for the United States senatorship, and that the governor himself may be the Beaver man's opponent.

This interview, which may be the prelude of another fierce contest in Republican politics, is very simple, as to words. The governor had been to the Mt. Gretna camp, but it is understood he has since Quay's declaration of his candidacy for reelection, to the senate, been in communication and conference with a number of prominent Republicans, and the few sentences he uttered to-day are a result of these deliberations. He said:

"Yes, Senators Quay and Penrose called on me Saturday morning. The purpose of their visit was to induce me to sign the Becker bill, so-called, relating to Philadelphia, and they were very urgent. When I declined to make any promises Senator Quay announced that he would change his mind and would become an active candidate for United States senator. I was not asked to support him in his candidacy for United States senator. The subject of my approval or disapproval of the mercantile tax bill was not mentioned in the interview."

QUAY AND PENROSE WERE ANGRY.

Notwithstanding that the secrets of the interview between Hastings, Quay and Penrose have been closely guarded, the impression has prevailed here that it was a rather stormy one, and that the two senators went away angry and dissatisfied, and, despite appearances, which indicate the reverse, it is believed that when Quay arrived here he had no intention of declaring his candidacy for reelection. He had long ago pledged his support to the Becker bill, which State Senator Durham and other Quay Republicans in Philadelphia want so badly.

It requires a three-fifths vote of select council to confirm all appointments, and, should it become a law, a Durham council could prevent the confirmation of appointments by Mayor Warwick or any other anti-Quay head of a department. The governor has not been particularly taken with this measure, and he positively will veto it. This belief brought Quay here. His purpose was to either cajole or bulldoze the governor into a promise to sign the bill.

He did not succeed with either plan, although it is said he even hinted very vaguely, that there might be an opportunity for the Governor to go to Washington as senator. That he is offended and disappointed, and then decided to go back to his hotel and formally assert he would be a candidate again, is shown by the governor's words:

"When I declined to make any promises Senator Quay announced that he would change his mind, and would become an active candidate for United States Senator." Had the governor spoken those words to-day he could not have half concealed the sneer in them nor the suggestion they conveyed to a sensible man like Quay. But he didn't speak them; he dictated them in the privacy of his office.

Another significant feature of the governor's interview is his declaration that he was "not asked to support Quay in his candidacy for United States senator." The governor appreciated this neglect. It raised him from the somewhat embarrassing position of announcing to the two senators that he himself is contemplating the same sort of candidacy, which it is believed will certainly be made if he receives sufficient encouragement to enter the contest.

Speaking of the interview between the governor and the two senators, State Senator John H. Brown, of Jeannette, who is here to-day, said:

HASTINGS WILL BE A CANDIDATE

"There seems to be some indications that there was a bit of a row at that noted conference. Anyhow, Quay's declaration that he would be a candidate appeared to me rather premature."

"Do you believe he intended to make it when he first came here?" the senator was asked.

"No, I have reason to know that he did not intend to make that announcement when he left Washington. He reached that determination later."

"Yes, I feel pretty sure he will be. He will want, of course, to find out how much strength he can muster, but I look to see him make the announcement when he thinks the proper time has come."

Governor Hastings will to-morrow take a party of guests from here to the Third brigade encampment, Mt. Gretna. It is believed in well-informed circles that the anti-Quay wing of the party is contemplating rallying around the standard of either John Wanamaker or Attorney-General McCormick in the gubernatorial contest next year, and that either would be acceptable under the circumstances. Nobody here doubts that there is a big factional war on, and that the leaders will be Quay and Hastings, as in the famous chairmanship fight of two years ago. Governor Hastings has a clear appreciation of the fact that Senator Quay sold him a gold brick last December, and he is not purchasing any more bricks now.

Quayites and the Governor in Conference.

Went in Interest of Bills.—Loch Believes Hastings Has Thrown Down the Gauntlet to the Beaver Man.—Will Not Be Bulldozed.—Gubernatorial Contest Next Year Gives Promise of Many Serious Complications.

HARRISBURG, July 14.—Governor Hastings had plenty of opportunity to talk politics.

Spawls from the Keystone.

—Daniel Bucher fell from a cherry tree at Boyerstown and broke both arms.

—Dr. George Price has been reinstated as a pension examining surgeon at Altoona.

—An unknown man was run down by a fast freight at Scranton and instantly killed.

—Jacob Boyd, a trotting horse trainer, was killed in jumping a fast freight at Scranton.

—Chas. Ackerman, who cut his throat at McSherrytown, last Wednesday, died Sunday.

—Seven-year-old Charles Rieger was run over by a team at Reading and seriously hurt.

—Lancaster county Prohibitionists will hold their annual convention at Columbia, July 19.

—Five-year-old James Aikman played with matches, at Pottsville, and was burned to death.

—Steeleton has a mad dog scare and eleven canines have been killed to prevent a spread of hydrophobia.

—Thomas M. McKeone died of heart disease an hour after being admitted to the Pottsville hospital.

—Huntingdon's burgess is against the proposed \$13,000 loan and has vetoed an ordinance authorizing it.

—Near Lancaster two highwaymen held up Paul Buckoscki took his money and the shoes from his feet.

—Farmer Aaron S. Knoll, aged 50 years, was drowned in a 12-foot mill-dam, near Bernville, Berks county.

—The 18-month-old child of Jeremiah Derr, at Corning, Lehigh county, fell into a dam and was drowned.

—The freshman class at State College has decided to resist hazing and do what it can to abolish the practice.

—Berks county tax collectors have been notified that the taxes must all be in the county treasury by August 1.

—While bathing in Strack's dam, at Meyertown, Oscar Yingsst cut his arm on a sharp stone and nearly bled to death.

—John Schwenk died from lockjaw at York, the second victim of the toy pistol at that place since the Fourth of July.

—Thirteen-year-old David Goodman, of Philadelphia, was arrested as a vagrant at Wilkesbarre. He wants to go home.

—Sadie Baker was sentenced to jail for four months at Reading for till tapping and took her 4-months-old baby along to prison.

—William Humphries had his hands badly chewed in a fight at Reading, and gave hospital surgeons a big job to fix up the injured digits.

—The 8-year-old daughter of Henry Bretz, of Tamaqua, handled a shot gun and got a death wound by the weapon's accidental discharge.

—Fellow railroaders found the corpse of brakeman Thomas Pressell between two cars at Altoona. He had been killed making a coupling.

—Oscar Wagner, a farm hand, near Muncy, Lycoming county, drank from a bucket that had contained paris green and nearly lost his life.

—A York syndicate, headed by George Billmeyer, bought the Middletown water works for \$19,200, subject to a mortgage of \$25,000.

—United States commissioner Frank W. Grant, of Erie, has been reappointed by the United States court. He has held the office since 1875.

—Fireman Henry Missimer, of Allentown, went to Quakertown to be married and found that his promised bride had eloped with another man.

—A fall from a plank in his barn dislocated the neck of John Brightbill, aged 80 years, living near Jonestown, Lebanon county, giving him instant death.

—A turtle crept into the feed pipe of the planing mill plant of Henderson, Hull & Co., at Montgomery, Lycoming county, and caused a shut-down for half a day.

—An explosion occurred in the mixing department of Oliver's powder mills, at Laurel Run, Luzerne county, and workmen had a hard time saving the building from flames.

—Charged with stealing diamonds and jewelry worth \$1000 from a pawnbroker's wife at Scranton, Milton Breckstein, a Honesdale clothing cutter, was arrested at Coney Island.

—The dead body of Calvin Miller, the 19-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Miller, of Conemaugh township, Cambria county, was found in the woods Sunday morning. Death is supposed to have been caused by sunstroke. The remains were in a badly decomposed condition.

—The Legislature just closed granted an appropriation of \$20,000 to the Adrian hospital association, for the purpose of erecting a hospital building in the borough of Punxsutawney. The conditions are that the association shall secure a site and be prepared to erect said hospital building, and shall have paid into the treasury the sum of \$5,000, including the value of the site.

—Arthur J. Harlan, aged 20 years, was drowned in the river at Williamsport in view of a large number of people. He was bathing, could not swim and got beyond his depth, but no one went to his rescue, because boys have been in the habit of shouting for help "just for fun." There were plenty of experienced rivermen around, but they discovered the true situation when too late.

—During the demonstration at Canton, Pa. Monday a man drove around the town-square a vehicle that had the longest shafts on record. The shafts were 164 feet and 10 inches in length. The horse was driven with clothes lines and when the animal would stop, the driver would use a spy glass and throw stones at it until it would move forward again. A prize of five dollars was given the man.

—Harry Woods, an employe of the Pennsylvania railroad company, and a well known resident of Altoona, is in great danger of dying from injuries received at the hands of William Herr, a prominent contractor. Several days ago Herr quarreled with Woods, and it is alleged that he struck him several times. As Woods has not fully recovered from an illness the blows caused hemorrhages and he is in a critical condition.