

Ink Slings.

We wonder what the shade of poor old DANA did when it saw that Sun editorial advocating the retirement of the national bank notes.

The formation of a trust to control the out put of wood working machinery in this country is not likely to effect the price of saws, so that the domestic wood-pile can be made just as seductive to tramps as ever, without a cent more cost.

Next President BRYAN was at Columbia University, Missouri, on Tuesday, and while there he was induced to make the kick-off in a foot-ball game. In doing so he sent the ball sailing forty yards down the field. He'll do worse than that to the golden ball in 1900.

The special election in the Sixth Illinois congressional district, held on Tuesday, was another poser for the Republicans. A Republican majority of 6,000 was needed to 840 and still some people are silly enough as to imagine that BRYANISM is being repudiated.

The rapidity and certainty with which Jersey justice overtakes its victims was given a new pace maker right up here in Elk county last week. They had three murder trials in four days and decided to hang two of the fellows and send a third one to the penitentiary for ten years.

It is probably because Mr. PETER A. B. WIDENER was once a nutron butcher that he thought to pull the wool over the eyes of the voters of Pennsylvania by giving his handsome home in Philadelphia as a free library building for that city. You know PETER would like to be Governor.

The friendliness of the Spaniards for the United States is seen in the enthusiastic receptions they have been giving WEYLER, the butcher, ever since he returned to Spain. It is not likely that if, in their hearts, they regretted his record of blood-shed that they would feté him thus.

Yesterday was Thanksgiving day, proclaimed so by a Republican President and passed along the line by a Republican Governor. To neither one of these, nor to the principles they espouse have we one thing to be thankful for, but to an almighty, all-wise, all-loving Father, the christian people of the United States might well have bowed the head in prayerful thanksgiving for bounteous crops, good health and a peaceful government.

Governor AHUMADA, of Chihuahua, Mexico, has seen the American fire engine and is so pleased with it that he has recommended its use to his native city. We might suggest to the Governor that as they will have little use for the engines at fires down there the Chihuahuans might very profitably adopt a weekly wash day, when the hose would be turned on the entire population, with the hope of getting them half clean at least.

The expected happened and Dickinson defeated The Pennsylvania State College football team, at Sunbury, yesterday, by the score of 6 to 0. It was not because she had a right to or is the superior team, but because State's ambition seems to rise no higher than a victory over Bucknell. If the State College athletes are content to remain in the class with the little colleges, and it looks as if they were, then yesterday's defeat will cause them no chagrin.

Mr. PETER A. B. WIDENER's bid for Governor and his debut in the campaign of 1898 was made, the fore part of this week, when he signified his intention of making Philadelphia a present of his magnificent North Broad street home, to be used as a public library. PETER's generosity seems to be getting the upper hand of him and maybe he'll reduce street car fares too, in the hope of doing something for the working people of that city. Just maybe.

The foot-ball season among the big colleges has ended and while a comparison of scores would indicate the supremacy of the University of Pennsylvania eleven this cannot be accepted as positive proof of it. After last Saturday's surprise in the Yale-Princeton game and past uncertainties of foot ball the University could only claim championship after playing Yale and as no contest is on between them the real status will not be known. It is not such bad judgment that still thinks Princeton the strongest team of them all.

Mr. DAVID MARTIN's attempt to have his brother-in-law re-elected receiver of taxes for the city of Philadelphia has precipitated another fight in the municipal politics down there. Of course both the city and state administrations are with RONEY, but as Senators QUAY and PENROSE are likely to last longer than either HASTINGS, MARTIN or WARWICK it is quite likely that Mr. NEWITT will give the combiners about the hardest run they have had since QUAY beat them for the state chairmanship.

Secretary GAGE is following in CARLISLE's tracks by running off to New York to make speeches on the currency question, so as to please the fattening gold leeches of Wall street. He was over there, on Tuesday night, and spoke at the one hundred and twenty-ninth annual banquet of the chamber of commerce. About all he said was to point to "a happy reaction in enterprise now witnessed," but if the secretary has witnessed such a reaction he has certainly seen something that no man in the American business world has yet beheld.

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Republican Silverites.

There is an element developing in the Republican party that threatens to dispute the supremacy which the goldites have secured in the control of that organization. This element is becoming more outspoken as the evidences of the injurious effects of gold monometallism on the business of the country more distinctly and unmistakably present themselves. Its dissatisfaction is excited by the evident intention of the administration to disregard the pledge favorably to bimetalism that was made in the party platform.

Foremost among Republican leaders who deprecate the surrender of the party to the goldbugs is Senator CHANDLER, of New Hampshire. He is not of that class of Republican Senators who, like TELLER, DUBOIS, WALKOTT, and others from the West, may be said to be influenced by the local interests of the silver States, or by the western antagonism to the money power of the East. CHANDLER represents an eastern State that is not affected by such influences, but his sentiments in favor of silver spring from the conviction that his party is wrong in adopting the exclusive gold policy, and that it is unfaithful to its pledge of bimetalism by which it gained many votes in the last presidential election. Writing on this subject under the head of "The Next Duty of Republican Bimetalists," he begins his observations with an allusion to the lesson of the recent elections, and says:

"As to the elections, they prove with reasonable clearness that if the Republican party permanently acquiesces in 'the existing gold standard' and gives up the struggle for bimetalism, that party will be defeated in the congressional elections of 1898 and in the presidential election of 1900. The silver monometallists will then take possession of all branches of the national government, and a free coinage bill, with silver made the tender for all debts, public and private, domestic and foreign, will pass both houses of Congress and be signed by President BRYAN."

Such a remark as this shows that the New Hampshire Senator entertains a far more correct view of the popular sentiment on the money question than is entertained by those who are directing the policy of the administration. That he is able to foresee that the people will not submit to the domination of the goldbug plutocracy, and will discard a monetary system that is subjected to the contracting influences of the gold standard, is proven by his assertion that

"An intelligent people, with their votes freely cast and honestly counted, will never adopt or submit to the permanent demonetization of silver and the fixed ascendancy of the single gold standard prescribed by England. So the pathway of safety is only one direction. Mr. McKINLEY was elected only because his platform and his previous utterances promised efforts to secure bimetalism."

But can Senator CHANDLER, or any other Republican who is averse to the gold standard "prescribed by England," expect to see President McKINLEY adopt the "only pathway of safety" in this question? It will be impossible for this administration to shake off the influence of the goldbug millionaires and Wall street money lords which is exercised as the inevitable consequence of pecuniary assistance rendered in its election. The Republican party, as an organization, will be compelled to adhere to the gold policy of the New York money changers and London bankers, leaving to the American people the only means of relief through the election of a free silver Democratic Congress, with a President to match, who in all probability will be WILLIAM J. BRYAN.

Electoral Fraud.

If there could have been a motive which more than any other should have moved the voters of Pennsylvania to take the state government out of the hands of the present governing party it should have been the desire to rescue the ballot system from the debased and corrupted condition to which it has been brought by Republican management.

How the ballot law has been perverted from its intended object of protecting the secrecy and purity of the elective franchise, and made the instrument of electoral fraud and corruption, is a well known and shameful fact. It was done avowedly for the purpose of securing a party advantage, and there was not shame enough in the perpetrators to conceal their object. The declaration was openly made in the state Legislature that the Republican party could not afford to have an honest ballot.

But as if there was not advantage enough in perverting the Australian system from its intended object, Republican election officers in Philadelphia, at the last election, made false returns from a number of districts, resorting to such rascally means of swilling the party vote. A number of them were arrested and gave judges ARNOLD, GORDON and SULZBERGER the opportunity of making an example of them, but this method of keeping the Republican party in power can not be stopped until the election laws are thoroughly overhauled and reformed.

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An Evil and Its Cause.

The question has been raised by a contemporary as to the extent to which the demoralization of American politics is due to the foreign vote. There is a class of politicians who attribute most of the political evils from which the country is suffering to that source, and can see no other remedy than the disfranchisement of all who have not been born in this country. This was the view taken of the matter by old time know-nothingism, and the more modern A. P. As are inspired by the same sentiment.

A recent writer on this subject, referring to the general class of foreign voters, says "they become naturalized for political purposes and are led to the polls for the price of a glass of beer, to cast a ballot which will neutralize the intelligent vote of the best citizen of a community."

The truth of this applies but to a certain class of naturalized voters. A large portion of the foreign element in our citizenship is composed of excellent material, and even if there could be any possible harm in their suffrage it is so divided between parties as to be self-neutralizing. But there is a large percentage of naturalized foreigners whose exercise of the right of suffrage is injurious for the reason that it can be controlled by purchase, and the party that has the money to buy it can vote it solidly.

There is no question that this class, consisting chiefly of the ignorant Huns and Italian immigrants, purchased in the bulk, and united with the solid mass of negro voters, overcame the vast majority of intelligent native born white American citizens who voted for Mr. BRYAN last year, and in that way a victory was secured for the money power.

To that extent the foreign born voters exert an injurious effect on our politics, but the cause for it is to be looked for in those native-born politicians who exercise the corrupting influence that is the source of the political degeneracy that menaces our country. If there were no bad boodle funds there would not be hordes of ignorant Slavs, Huns and Dagos, bought up at wholesale, to vote for "protection to American industry," and for "the maintenance of the nation's credit and honor."

Sacrifice of a Great National Interest.

Mr. C. A. GRISCOM, president of the international navigation company, had an interview last week with the President on an interesting and very important subject. He called Mr. McKINLEY's attention to the prostrated condition of our merchant marine with the object of inducing him to recommend in his message such measures as would lead to the improvement of our ocean commerce which has dwindled to insignificant proportions.

The subject which Mr. GRISCOM has pressed upon the President's attention is of a most momentous character, involving the very highest national interests, which have most singularly and culpably been neglected in recent years by our governmental authorities. The decline of our ocean trade is chargeable to defects in our fiscal and navigation laws which, based on the principle of misdirected protection, have sacrificed every other interest for the advantage of special beneficiaries.

In addition to the material injury involved, it is simply disgraceful that a nation which forty years ago, under more liberal and enlightened fiscal and commercial policies, was rapidly gaining the leadership in ocean commerce, has become so insignificant among maritime nations that the appearance of an American ship in a foreign port has become so rare as to be regarded as a curiosity. Nothing presents this disgrace in a more glaring light than the fact that of the many thousands of trading vessels of various nationalities passing annually through the Suez canal there has not, during the past two years, been one bearing the American flag.

When this is contrasted with the activity of American maritime enterprise under the WALKER Democratic low tariff previous to the war, a period in which the English were yielding their commercial supremacy to the rapidly expanding commerce of the United States, a picture is presented that lamentably shows the decline of our merchant marine and the decadence of this country as a commercial nation under Republican tariff and navigation laws.

Productive of a Deficit.

The DINGLEY tariff has already shown its inability to raise the wages of workingmen. The profits of the manufacturers have been increased by the advance in prices along the whole line of their protected productions, but the employees get no more pay for their work.

As a measure beneficial to the working class this tariff has proved a failure, and when it is viewed as a producer of revenue it is found to be equally deficient. One of the reasons given for this new tariff was that the WILSON enactment did not produce enough revenue, and that Republican tariff legislation was necessary to remedy a deficit and bring into the treasury enough

revenue to meet the expenses of government.

Let us see how this requirement is being met by the DINGLEY acts. The treasury deficit for the month of October is officially reported as \$9,322,653, and for the four months of the fiscal year ending on the 23d of last month, at about \$40,000,000, in round numbers.

The whole deficiency under the WILSON tariff during the last fiscal year was \$18,000,000 while in the first four months of the current fiscal year, more than two of which were under the DINGLEY act, the deficiency in the revenue necessary to meet expenses amounts to \$40,000,000. This is the way this new measure that favors the trusts and monopolies acts as a revenue producer.

Since it has failed so completely, both in raising wages and in raising revenue, must it be considered a complete failure? By no means. In that particular in which its promoters intended it to be a success it has been entirely successful. It has enabled the trusts to practice their extortions upon the people with renewed rapacity, and has enlarged the opportunities of the millionaire monopolists to increase their wealth.

Misinformation as to Which City.

It would appear that colonial secretary CHAMBERLIN, a member of the English ministry, is among those Europeans upon whom has been made a false impression as to the effect of the Democrats carrying the New York city election. That he has been made to believe by the false representations of the Republican press that the success of TAMMANY means the plundering of the municipality is evidenced by his remark, in a recent speech at Glasgow, that "in New York the government of three millions of people had been handed over to a party whose object is avowedly to get the greatest amount of spoil."

The English secretary was misinformed as to the city in whose government spoils is the special object, and which is systematically robbed by the politicians who manage its municipal affairs. That city is not New York but Philadelphia, and it is not a Democratic city but is a stronghold of Republicanism. The party whose organs hypocritically denounce TAMMANY for corrupt government in New York, has never lost a chance to loot Philadelphia's city treasury.

At this very time legal proceedings have been instituted against the Philadelphia Republican managers to prevent them from stealing the city gas works and giving public property worth millions to a ring of politicians and speculators. At the last election the better portion of the city's population voted against entrusting the proceeds of a twelve million loan to the political gang who will have the handling of it, and who, there is reason to fear, will absorb a large portion of it for their own personal profit.

TAMMANY has always given New York city something in return for the money it spent, while the chief object of the ring that rules Philadelphia is to enrich its members.

Disatisfied Working People.

The woolen spinners and weavers in Philadelphia are not in a contented frame of mind. They have recently been hearing a great deal about the return of prosperity and the send off which the industries have received since the DINGLEY tariff, but nothing has as yet materialized to their advantage. They are working for the same wages which were said to be so low on account of the WILSON tariff having deprived them of protection.

The operatives in some of the largest Philadelphia woolen mills have been on the point of striking for some weeks past. The case of the woolen workers is attended with peculiar aggravation. No class of manufacturers have had their interest more carefully attended to by the DINGLEY tariff makers than have those who run the woolen mills. They have assisted in lobbying through Congress a tariff bill which gives them extraordinary advantage in practicing extortion upon the consumers of their products, while they have secured a great gain in importing wool, free of duty, which will be converted into goods for which the highest tariff prices will be charged. Yet notwithstanding these advantages from a tariff which was said to be for the benefit of the working people, nothing is being said or done about raising the wages of the operatives. Some of the men in the Philadelphia mills who have large families are getting no more than six dollars and a half a week. No wonder they are getting restless on the subject of wages and are preparing to strike. In fact some have already struck, although there has, as yet, been no general movement.

We do not know how these men voted at the recently state election. Probably the most of them allowed themselves to be humbugged again with deceptive promises, but within less than a year they will be so thoroughly assured that the benefits of the DINGLEY tariff were not intended for them that there will be strikes all along the line.

Suits Suddenly Suspended.

There has been evident reluctance on the part of the leaders of both Republican factions in this State to stir up the party libel and bribery prosecutions if they had been continued to a finish in the courts. The smell of the old party is had enough without a further exposition, of the rottenness of the carcass, and this may be assigned as the reason why the suits in which QUAY and his gang, on the one side, and WANAMAKER and his backers, on the other, figure as the parties, are being allowed to vanish from the court calendar.

The public is disappointed by this sudden cessation of the prosecutions. It is true that the proceedings would not have been very edifying to the moral sense of the public, nor very elevating to the political reputation of the State, but the disclosures might have had a good effect in exposing the turpitude of Republican leadership.

The whole dirty business, which the parties have prudently concluded not to ventilate in the courts, sprang out of the fight for the United States Senate in which JOHN WANAMAKER, the sanctified manipulator of political wires, antagonized the ugly boss and the unregenerate gang who wear the QUAY collar. In such a collision there would necessarily be damaging criminations and recrimination, among which was the charge that brother WANAMAKER had resorted to so unholly an expedient as bribery to secure the honor of wearing the senatorial toga. Detectives employed in working up the case were put on the track of E. A. VAN VALKENBURG to fasten upon him the charge that he was engaged in such political unrighteousness as trying to bribe members of the Legislature to vote for WANAMAKER for United States Senator.

No less a dignitary than Gen. FRANK REEDER, ex-secretary of the Commonwealth, became mixed up in the matter, besides several Republican Legislators, who were involved in the suits that followed, some for bribery and some for libel. It was a complication that would have required a Philadelphia lawyer to unravel. A prosecution against VAN VALKENBURG for bribery, and another against Gen. REEDER for libel, each contributed to the flavoring of the mess, and the thing was getting decidedly interesting when the proceedings were suddenly brought to a close by a settlement of the VAN VALKENBURG suit that consigned the charges and counter charges to oblivion by removing the case from the court docket.

In the settlement of the bribery prosecution the QUAY managers are out \$1,516.12 in costs. What court charges the other party incurred is not known. The suit broke down, it is said, for the reason that it could not be sustained against the defendant who was alleged to have approached a member of the Legislature in WANAMAKER's senatorial interest. If the integrity of the matter were known it is probable that the contending Republican factions became alarmed by the appearance of the vote in November and concluded that they had better stop fighting among themselves and try to save the old party from irretrievable defeat in the State election next year.

Make Charity Beneficiaries Work for Their Living.

Rev. J. Mueller in the Altoona Times. "MR. EDITOR—Looking over your valuable paper yesterday morning my eye caught an item containing 'a suggestion' on the part of a sympathetic enthusiast. It strikes me in all solemnity that it surely had enough to be asked, year by year, to train a class of paupers who are simply waiting for 'the season' to make their pitiful appeals at the office of the Quick Charity society in order to move the kind-hearted superintendent to provide for them with the desired substance, from a ton of coal to a young lady's pair of shoes. But now the climax is to be capped by a great idea. Collection boxes are to be placed on the Twelfth street bridge. Oh, sancta simplicitas! to meet the heart of an unsuspecting public.

The suggestion, if carried out, would be an excellent method of training thieves, who would soon become first class experts in opening and pilfering these charity tills, unless the sympathetic gentleman proposes to be employed as a watchman at a stated salary. I would respectfully suggest that the majority of so-called charity cases in Altoona be employed and taught to earn an honest living, instead of indulging them by yearly alms-giving, which only encourages professional pauperism. Altoona needs a work house for such persons who will not work when work is to be had, and who during 'the season' use the consequent unfortunate condition of their wives and children to gain an existence through the easier channels of charity. Altoona needs a wood yard, where persons should be employed who cannot find any work during 'the season,' and where they would be taught to earn a living. This institution could be made to pay both ways. Altoona needs an employment bureau for female help under the control of an agent who would be responsible to the employers of domestic help, as well as to those looking for work. These suggestions, if carried out by our public spirited ladies and gentlemen, would serve the purpose better than charity tills on Twelfth street bridge and reduce the work of the Charity society to a minimum. Some suggestions to the Altoona churches would not be amiss, but I refrain."

Spawls from the Keystone.

—The Pottsville iron furnace employs 153 men, including the day and night force. —A rich vein of iron ore has been discovered on the Peter Deysher farm, in Berks county.

—The 195 teachers of Adams county attended the opening of the institute at Gettysburg Monday.

—James Horan, of Duryea, was assaulted by footpads, badly beaten and robbed of his month's pay.

—Eleven cows were killed in a wreck of freight cars at Birdsboro, on the Reading railway, Tuesday.

—State superintendent N. C. Schaeffer opened the York county teachers' institute Monday afternoon.

—By the bursting of his gun, John Quest, of Lebanon, was badly disfigured Monday and may lose his sight.

—Labor leaders are organizing the anthracite miners with a view to ordering a general strike next year.

—While gunning near Upper Lehigh, Thomas Wilkinson fell 50 feet over a precipice and was seriously hurt.

—The addition to the Schuylkill county almshouse, recently completed, has been condemned by the grand jury.

—For practicing medicine in violation of the act of Assembly of 1897 Dr. Seely has been held in jail at Lebanon.

—Monsignor Schroeder is assisting at the forty hours devotion in St. Joseph's Catholic church, South Easton.

—In anticipation of a slack coal trade the Reading company has notified its coal workers to practice strict economy.

—The American steel casting company's plant, near Sharon, is to be completely modernized at a cost of \$200,000.

—The Bethlehem iron company Tuesday made a big shipment of armor plate, for the Kearsage, to Newport News, Va.

—It is expected in Pittsburg that the work on the new Pennsylvania railroad depot there will be begun by New Year's.

—David Walters, residing at Tamarack, a few days ago shot a deer within a few rods of his house that weighed 238 pounds.

—Kerosene dripping from a lamp to a stove ignited the clothing of Sallie Patten, at Mount Carmel, and she was fatally burned.

—The Reading company has issued orders to close down all work at the Monitor colliery, at Locust Gap, Pa., affecting 125 hands.

—A horse and buggy stolen a week ago from Jerome Buskirk, a Pen Argyl liverman, by Charles Heckman, was recovered in Easton.

—The other day when Charles Rapp, of Jersey Shore, struck a parlor match a portion of the head flew on to his eye lid burning a hole through the skin.

—An explosion of natural gas damaged the American gas company's plant, near Bakers town, Allegheny county, and killed the engineer, Joseph Thomas.

—In trying to rescue his son, who fell into the canal at Easton Monday Abraham Shirey became exhausted, and father and son were dragged out nearly drowned.

—The school directors of Mahanony township, Schuylkill county are on trial for expensing themselves for their election expenses out of school funds.

—The New Castle trades union has decided a boycott against all meat dealers in the city who handle meat sold by wholesale houses employing non-union men.

—A mail train on the Philadelphia & Erie railroad ran into the rear of a freight train in a fog Sunday morning, at Nesbit, damaging the locomotive and three cars.

—Arthur Allen, a 12 year old boy, has arrived at Jersey Shore on a visit to his grandmother. Arthur's father is the owner of a cattle ranch in Idaho, and the lad came from that State to Jersey Shore alone.

—Near Milton Tuesday, Elmer Smith, a young farmer, was threshing corn with a steam machine, when his arm caught in the gearing in some manner, and was torn from the socket. He is in a critical condition.

—The Jefferson and Clearfield coal and iron company is building a new tipple at Hamilton, and is putting a new haulage system in the Big Soldier mine, which will increase the pit's capacity 8,000 tons daily.

—At DuBois Sunday afternoon Wood Maynard, aged 15 years, in attempting to board a moving freight train fell under the cars directly on the rail. By a quick movement he succeeded in getting his body from under the car, but the wheel caught his foot, crushing it.

—On Saturday while hunting in the vicinity of Ferney Run, at a place known as Lannigan hollow, John E. Fogarty and E. M. Mulhern succeeded in killing three bear. The largest weighed nearly 300 pounds and the two smaller ones weighed 100 pounds each.

—George S. Good & Co., of Lock Haven, have secured the contract for constructing the White Oaks railroad. This road will be 165 miles long, and will run from El Paso, Texas, into New Mexico, with headquarters at El Paso. Work will be started at once and pushed as rapidly as possible to an early completion.

—At South Williamsport Tuesday a trolley car struck the rear end of a wagon on which was seated William Bohartz. The wagon and horses were thrown off the track, but the animals kept on going. Bohartz fell on the tongue and then dropped to the street. The wheels of the wagon struck his forehead, cutting ugly gashes and severely bruising him.

—Near Ridgway a few days ago, Mrs. August Hagg left the house to attend to her work at the barn. During her absence her 2 year old child, Mammie, while playing with the hot coals in the stove, set fire to her dress.

—Her mother ran to the house in response to the child's screams. The little one was burned so badly that she died in a few hours. The child was a sister to the boy who had his arm amputated by a freight train recently.

—A few nights ago night yardmaster Hull, at Tyrone, received a message that a passenger on St. Louis express had lost a pocket-book containing \$118 between Union Furnace and Birmingham. Mr. Hull, with the members of the shifting crew, immediately went on a voyage of discovery and succeeded in finding every cent of the lost money, which consisted of bills, scattered promiscuously along the tracks.