

Ink Slings.

Talk about it as you please, civil service might be all right in theory, but it is certainly pretty near all wrong in practice.

What HANNA needs more than anything else is a fishing retreat on the Indian river. He might learn something from the tarpon down there.

Congressman ARNOLD, of this district, has announced his withdrawal from the race for the gubernatorial nomination so there will likely be some chance for the other aspirants.

DAVE BATES, the Chicago dime museum attraction, who charges ten cents every time you look at him because he has been brave enough to marry six wives, all of whom are alive, has just been fined \$1,000 and given an indeterminate sentence in the penitentiary.

It is needless to state that it wasn't one of HANNA's friends who remarked that the present Senator from Ohio "stands about as much chance of re-election as he would of escaping from hell on a wooden leg."

War clouds scurry up and then scurry away like grim spectres, but the events of the past decade have proven them quite ephemeral.

The assignment of the OVERMAN wheel company, of Chicoe Falls, Mass., on the 27th ult., is another indication of the growing tendency of the United States to over-do the manufacturing business.

The protest that has been entered by the Woman's Christian Temperance Union against the sale of a saloon privilege for the new congressional library building in Washington should never have been necessary.

New England cotton mill operatives are finding that their prosperous New Year under the DINGLEY tariff is not starting off so auspiciously.

Secretary of the Treasury, though we are not at all alarmed about the new counterfeit one hundred dollar note that is deceiving even the government experts,

The man who protests against a full and accurate publication of the roll of United States pensioners lends his support to a system of fraud so gigantic that no one has a conception of what it is.

With a great appropriation of easily gotten newspaper space JIM CORBETT is blowing off again by indulging in his ostentatious talk about his own greatness and patting himself on the back as being the elevator man of the prize ring.

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NO. 1.

Ohio's Revolt Against Hanna.

The opposition to MARK HANNA's election to the United States Senate has developed proportions that were scarcely expected.

There is good reason for even the Republicans to revolt against the domination of this man HANNA. Familiar as they are with the corrupt practices of their party,

It is questionable whether the Ohio leaders who are now fighting HANNA are opposing him on account of his unexampled crime of making the Presidency an object of purchase, for they are not of the kind that are squeamish about the means they employ in politics.

The monetary commission that has volunteered its services to give the country honest money and a sound currency, has reported its plan of reform and would like Congress to give it immediate attention.

The commission recommends a distinct affirmation in favor of the gold standard and an enactment to the effect that the obligations of the government must be paid in gold.

The scheme of this currency reform commission is likely to come in collision with an element in Congress that will prefer to stand by the existing law in regard to government payments, not as it has been interpreted by Wall street's agents in the treasury department, but as it has been declared to mean by the STANLEY MATTHEW'S resolution.

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General Gobin on the Pension Abuses.

General J. P. S. GOBIN, commander-in-chief of the Grand Army of the Republic, appears to have been awakened to the fact that there is something crooked in the pension system by which so large a part of the government revenues is squandered.

Those to whom the loose methods of the pension system are objectionable have entertained a suspicion that the Grand Army of the Republic was responsible for them in a large measure, as its great influence was believed to have been exerted in securing the indiscriminate and extravagant pension legislation which has caused a heavier draft upon the resources of the government than any other item of public expense.

Granting that the general is correct in his denial that this abuse received encouragement from the Grand Army of the Republic, it is nevertheless unfortunate that the irregularities in the pension system have not met with such opposition from that organization as would have helped to arrest an evil which is not only doing a great injury to public interests, but is casting a stigma upon a system which should be free from the imputation of fraud and dishonesty.

There may be truth in general GOBIN'S assertion that "the Grand Army believes that no one should receive a pension who is not suffering from actual disability," yet the tone of his expression on this subject would seem to imply an ignorance of the fact that persons not disabled are receiving pensions, and that if this wrong could be clearly made to appear it would deserve the reprobation and excite the corrective action of those who deprecate such a perversion of a system of government bounty whose only legitimate object is the relief of disabled veterans.

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Less Sense Than Charity.

The clergy, as a class, are as much distinguished for good sense as for correct religious principles, but there are instances in which clergymen display a lack of common sense, however well they may intend in a spiritual way.

Among the preachers who may be classed with those that are overstocked with common sense are reverends JAMES W. PUTNAM and WALTER RANSCHENBUSCH, respectively belonging to the Baptist and Presbyterian denominations in New York city, who from a mistaken idea of what was their duty foolishly refrained from affording relief to suffering humanity.

The circumstances under which these senseless pastors committed so culpable an error were as follows: After TAMMANY closed the municipal campaign that brought Greater New York under Democratic control, the campaign funds remaining over amounted to a surplus of \$30,000.

inclined, and is more honorable in disposing of such funds. The chiefs directed that this surplus of \$30,000 should be distributed among the poor of the city through the clergy, and \$50 was the share of it sent respectively to Revs. PUTNAM and RANSCHENBUSCH for such distribution.

But let us suppose that an amount of money had been sent to those clergyman from a more congenial source, such as JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER, or some other one of the monopolistic sharks who are robbing the American people by trust methods, is it likely that their consciences would have declined to accept it for the reason that it was "ill-gotten gains"?

A Renegade That Wants to Come Back.

The New York World is evidently affected by a desire to recover the place it lost as a Democratic organ by its opposition to Democratic principles and issues in the last presidential election.

There is no probability that Mr. BRYAN will accept the assistance of the World on such terms. It might be a relief to that rather unprincipled paper if there should be such a back down by the Democrats on the silver question as would give the World a right to claim that the course it took in support of the gold standard was the correct one; but the Democratic party is not going to sacrifice its principles to accommodate a renegade organ by enabling it to come back to the party fold with an appearance of having preserved its consistency.

New York's Canal Steal.

It was a dangerous experiment when the people of New York voted, in 1895, for an amendment of the state constitution authorizing a loan of \$9,000,000 to deepen the Erie and other state canals.

The people were told that \$9,000,000 would be ample for the intended improvement, but that large sum has disappeared without any perceptible results as the fruit of so great an outlay, and the state administration now informs the people that there must be an appropriation of \$7,000,000 more if the State is to derive any advantage from the nine million expenditure.

It has now become evident that the first appropriation was squandered in the most shameless jobbery. The money that was not directly stolen by those who managed the job has been used for political purposes by the PLATT machine.

The New York Times correctly remarks that this canal steal is "the greatest public scandal that has been revealed in the affairs of the State of New York since Gov. TILDEN'S exposure of the old canal ring in 1875."

It Looks Blue for Hanna in the Ohio Senatorial Struggle.

The Anti-Hannates Elect Their Man Speaker of the House—Interest in the Contest—The Voting in the Legislature Bore Out the Predictions to a Nasty—The Extraordinary Combination on Burke in the Senate.

COLUMBUS, O., Jan. 4.—The Ohio Legislature convened to-day. Owing to the senatorial contest, unusual interest was taken in the organization of both houses. The caucuses last Saturday night were not on the usual lines between the Republicans and the Democrats, owing to some of the Republicans members having formed a fusion with the Democratic members for the defeat of Senator Hanna.

STATUS OF THE HOUSE.

The House stands 62 Republicans and 47 Democrats, the former including four fusionists from Cincinnati. At the Republican house caucus Saturday night there were only 52 present and pledged to Alexander Boxwell for speaker.

Owing to the patronage in these offices as well as the preferences in chairmanships and the composition of all the committees, it was generally believed that the fate of Senator Hanna, as well as of all his supporters depended on the organization of the Legislature.

BURKE, THE ABSENTEE, ELECTED.

All were present in the Senate chamber except Senator Burke, of Cleveland, the Republican who is opposed to Hanna and Senator Voight, the Fusionist from Cincinnati. The vote on organization stood 18 to 17 in favor of the Democrats.

As the ballot proceeded there were loud cheers as the doubtful members responded to their names, and when the roll call approached the close and Mason secured the necessary majority there was a long demonstration.

MALLOY BEATEN TOO.

The regular Republican candidate for chief clerk of the house was John K. Malloy, secretary of the Republican state committee. Malloy has held the position three terms and was very competent.

HANNA'S FUTURE GROWING DARK.

COLUMBUS, O., January 4.—The political future of Senator Hanna is certainly to-night in a closely poised balance. While there are now reported to be only nine dissenters among the eighty Republican members, one in the Senate and eight in the House, yet the really doubtful list is limited to two or three.

The doubtful members are being offered their choice of chairmanships and given opportunity to make all other selections they want. The power of the organization of the House is certainly being used to the greatest possible advantage, and its influence is not to be underestimated in turn the rascals out.

Spawls from the Keystone.

Florence McAdam, aged 19, died at Lebanon of lockjaw.

The new hospital at DuBois, with 15 beds, was formally opened on Tuesday.

William Gross, the Allentown jewelry swindler, is in Toronto, Ont., resisting extradition.

The Lebanon firemen Monday night took 44 ballots for a chief, without arriving at a choice.

Judge William Galbraith, a brother-in-law of William S. Lane, of Philadelphia, died at Erie.

Falling on the ice at Bloomsburg, Rush Shaffer sustained injuries to his head that crazed him.

Floyd Shay, aged 20 years, of Milton, was drowned in the Susquehanna river, at that place Tuesday.

An organizer for the united mine workers of America is organizing the miners in Jefferson county.

The farm house of John H. Hain, Wernersville, has been robbed three times within the last six weeks.

Governor Hastings has appointed Joseph G. Isenberg, of Huntingdon, associate judge, vice R. A. Laird, deceased.

The employees of Theilbacher's silk mill, at Allentown, struck Monday for a raise from \$2.50 to \$3.50 per cent.

Robert Dunfield, a brakeman on the Beech Creek railroad, had his head cut off, by cars near Clearfield Junction.

Casper Scharff, a war veteran, living alone at Reading, was found ill on his cot, on the verge of death from freezing.

John Johnening was arrested at Allentown for spitting on the floor of a street car and spent 24 hours in the lockup.

Rev. William B. Anderson and his wife, missionaries, who left Lancaster in November for India, have arrived at Bombay.

Boiling lard ignited from the stove and set fire to the clothes of Mrs. Levi Snyder, of Mount Joy and she was fatally burned.

The new hall of Camp No. 274, Patriotic Order Sons of America, at Landingville, Schuylkill county, was dedicated Sunday.

Two factions are trying to get possession of the Polish Catholic church at Mill Creek, near Wilkesbarre, and bloodshed is feared.

In renewing the 180 liquor licenses in Carbon county Monday, Judge Craig warned hotel keepers to discontinue serving free lunch.

Citizens of Newville have secured an injunction to restrain the town council from contracting for a municipal electric lighting plant.

James Sweeney, aged 19, had the top of his head blown off by the accidental discharge of an old musket, at Tamaqua, Monday.

Thrown backward by a cat she was carrying, Mary A. Kelly, living near Sharon, fell into an open fire grate and was burned to death.

Robert Johnson, aged 28, had both eyes blown out by an explosion of dynamite while prospecting for coal on his farm in Allegheny county.

James Totten, a member of the Salvation Army at Phoenixville, was found dead in a stable at that place, having died of heart trouble.

By the report of the auditor in the affairs of the united benevolent aid society, at Lebanon, \$64,270.77 will be distributed among holders of matured policies.

Warden Wright, of the western penitentiary, says that under the present interpretation of the convict labor law he can give employment to only 45 per cent. of the inmates.

The cortege following the body of Edward Metzger to the grave at Newton Centre, Luzerne county, was caught in a snow drift, and the corpse had to be transferred to a sled.

Thomas Fryer, W. R. Narvel and Harry Pillman were arrested at Pottstown, Monday for the theft of 700 pounds of brass journals from a tool house of the Reading railway company.

Joe Krietal, the notorious Hungarian rioter, who was sent from Elk county with five other men for burning shutes during the coal strike of 1894, to the penitentiary for five years, died in that institution Monday of typhoid fever.

The Rochester mine at DuBois, was closed indefinitely on Tuesday. The miners claim that the shut down is due to the operator's desire to get rid of a number of miners who have been active in organizing since the recent strike. About 1,000 men are thrown out of work.

It is reported that Patton will soon have another newspaper. Will Kinsloe, son of R. A. Kinsloe, of Phillipsburg, is the one who will make the venture. Opposition will likely be the life of trade at Patton, as it has been at many other places. If the new paper is launched we wish it success.

At a meeting of several ministers of the Central Pennsylvania conference, at Williamsport the other day, arrangements were perfected for the semi-centennial jubilee of Dickinson seminary. The jubilee will begin June 14th and will continue two days. Addresses, historical and otherwise, will be delivered, and reunions will be held.

Cyrus Graybill, of Northumberland county, was arrested last week for having in his possession and offering for sale rabbits after December 15th. At the hearing before the justice of the peace he was discharged under section eleven of the act which says persons may have in their possession game, providing it was shot before the expiration of the open season, which is the 15th of December, and also allows fifteen days grace within which to sell the game. The prosecutor paid the costs.

About six months ago Reuben Lane, a one-legged resident of Barnesboro, started to walk to Kansas, with the intention of wedding a rich widow in that state. It now turns out that his only acquaintance with the widow was through the medium of a matrimonial agency, and when he met her in the flesh, with but one leg, and covered with the mingled dust of six or seven states, through which he had tramped to join his fiancée, she decided that he did not come up to the specifications and declined to marry him. He has now sued her for \$10,000 for breach of promise.