

Ink Sittings.

—The Mikado of Japan is a sensible man and a sensible man is he; when he launches his ships, there's no loss to the lips, for he uses doves in place of "sold tea."

—Some of the so-called Democratic papers of Philadelphia are showing how much Democracy they are inspired with by their utterances on the present political mix up in that city.

—JOHN BREINER, the South Bethlehem man who has such a nervous affection that he can't stop laughing, has baffled the skill of a great many physicians. He laughs for hours at a time and nothing seems to give him any rest. An English comic paper ought to stop it in a very few moments.

—The Cuban question has been hotly contested in Congress during the past few days and it looked at one time as if the Democrats were going to force the Republicans to an issue, but Czar REND gathered up his "reigns" and drove his slaves through which it can be gotten, pure municipal politics—it is part of its play to get mad.

—The Philadelphia *Inquirer* has a perfect right to get mad at the *Hazleton Plain Speaker* for making fun of its efforts to get pruer water for the Quaker city. When the *Inquirer* pretends it wants something and wants it real bad—except that it doesn't want the only possible channel through which it can be gotten, pure municipal politics—it is part of its play to get mad.

—When the Kasagi, the first Japanese war vessel ever built in the United States, was launched at CRAMP's yards, Philadelphia, yesterday morning, there was no bottle smashing and splattering of spirituous liquor over the boat. Instead of that ceremony the Mikado of Japan had ordered the signal to be given by the release of two snow white doves. Emblems of peace they were far more appropriate than the liquor that makes men turbulent.

—The new immigration bill that has just passed the Senate and is now awaiting action in the House is a step that should have been taken years ago. It puts a certain restriction on education qualification on entrance to this country and requires that all immigrants shall be able to read in some language. The restriction is not as prohibitive as it should be, but will probably prove the foundation for a better act that will have a tendency to save this country from becoming the asylum of all foreign illiteracy.

—The bargain hunters in Bellefonte, who are just now gloating over their purchases of the best muslins at 5½¢ per yard, probably never have a thought for the misery of the poor New England cotton mill workers whose wages have been pounded down and down until such a low price has been made possible. After all, cheap goods are invariably made at the expense of labor and it seems a crime that for the sake of a saving of a few cents to the consumer thousands of those cotton mill people should be compelled to sustain life on a pittance that is far from adequate.

—The Hon. P. E. WOMELSDORFF, of Phillipsburg, so well-known to the Republicans of Centre county as one of the first men who said "nit!" when the Governor ordered the Legislature of '95 to dance to his fiddle, has formally announced himself as an aspirant for the Republican nomination for State Senator from this, the 34th, district. PHILIP has announced that he is willing to abide by the rules of the county convention and we wonder if he is. Waiting in over the sinuous way of the old pike we seem to hear a zephyr, whispering, "nit!"

—President MCKINLEY is displaying anything but a courageous front in the policy of his administration regarding the situation in Cuba. Ever since consul-general LEE was returned to represent this government at the port of Havana he has been left to practically determine his own course of action, and consequently is laboring under the great disadvantage of not feeling assured that his government will sustain him. The President appears to want to force general LEE into taking the initiative in any move the United States might make and the general is rightfully pressing the state department for instructions for he doubtless realizes the shifty policy of the MCKINLEY administration, that fears to declare for the belligerents, yet stands ready to reap whatever credit might accrue from another's doing it.

—The late GEORGE N. WILCOX, of Bradford county, ought to prove quite as interesting to JEFFERSON and JACKSON, when he lands on the coral stand "over yonder," as P. T. BARNUM must have been to old NOAH. What a trio of kindred spirits JEFFERSON, JACKSON and WILCOX will be. JEFFERSON laid down the principles of Democracy, JACKSON showed their value by heaving close to the line and WILCOX died, the other day, leaving \$1000 to each of his grand-sons providing they support the Democratic ticket for the rest of their lives and the same amount to each of his grand-daughters, providing they marry good, loyal Democrats. What we need is more Democrats of the WILCOX kind. We are sick and tired trying to stiffen up the back-bones of the dorsal weaklings who are doing more injury to the government by their wobbling, undetermined methods than their old hickory sires were able to do good.

Democratic Watchman

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Opposition to Mr. Bryan.

Correspondents of the New York *Journal* are wasting ink in discussing the question whether WILLIAM J. BRYAN should or should not be the next Democratic candidate for President. While that is a question which the future will determine, there is cropping out a certain interest that is opposed to his renomination. Expression has been given to this opposition in a long article contributed to the *Journal* in which the points of objection to him were set forth. The correspondent condemns Mr. BRYAN's policy as being narrow, because he is alleged to insist upon the ratio of 16 to 1, and makes his monetary contention hinge upon that point, subordinating to it every other political consideration.

This is certainly not a correct view of Mr. BRYAN's position on the money question. His bimetallicism, if put into political practice, would not be found contracted by narrow views as to what would be the most suitable ratio, and there is nothing in his expressions that warrants the charge that he is hide-bound in that respect. But surely nothing has appeared since the declaration of the Chicago convention in favor of 16 to 1, that can show a reason for abandoning the old historic ratio between the two monetary metals. In adhering to 16 to 1 Mr. BRYAN adheres to the monetary declaration of the party platform, evincing his fidelity to that as to the other principles proclaimed in that Democratic deliverance.

The same writer condemns Mr. BRYAN for not taking a part in the New York city election. He contends that it was his duty to give the weight of his influence to the faction that endorsed the Chicago platform. But the majority of the American people, who recognize the evil of mixing national with municipal politics, approve of the discretion displayed by Mr. BRYAN in keeping out of the municipal contest of a city of which he was not a resident. No one could expect the Democratic leader to imitate the evil example of outsiders meddling in municipal affairs that is set by QUAY and PLATT in bossing the Republican politics of Philadelphia and New York.

It is gratifying to observe that the one or two correspondents of the *Journal* that are disposed to find fault with Mr. BRYAN have brought out an avalanche of communications in support of his leadership of the Democratic party. Their words of praise are a proper tribute to his worth, and a just recognition of the service he has rendered his party and his country. Whether Mr. BRYAN will be the next Democratic candidate for President is a question of the future. A great political party can not be committed to any leader so far in advance of a presidential election, for no one can tell the exigencies that may arise between this time and 1900, but it may be said with certainty that the principles which WILLIAM J. BRYAN now maintains, and the services he has rendered in the past, secure for him the favor and admiration of all true Democrats.

Why International Bimetallicism Failed.

Much interest was excited in the Senate, on Monday, by the speech of Senator WOLCOTT in which he gave the reasons why failure attended the efforts of the international bimetallic commission that was sent abroad to induce the nations of Europe to enter into an arrangement with the United States for the restoration of silver to its former place as standard money.

The Senator was not only the head of this commission, but he was zealous in the pursuit of the object for which it had been appointed. That it failed was not the fault either of himself or of the two able and earnest gentlemen who were associated with him in this mission. They were equally impressed with the benefit which the world would derive from an international agreement that would put silver back in its old place in the monetary systems of the leading commercial nations, and relieve the general financial situation from the restriction to which it has been subjected by the gold standard.

The mission did not fail in its object from a lack of earnestness and intelligence on the part of those who had it in charge; but it is evident from what Senator WOLCOTT said in his speech that the gold monopoly exerting its monetary despotism in London was the obstacle that prevented the consummation of international bimetallicism.

Senator WOLCOTT gives the President credit for having been sincerely interested in the success of the commissioners whom he had sent abroad, but secretary GAGE was severely criticised by the Senator for having planned a monetary policy directly opposite to that which the commission was trying to induce European nations to adopt, thus exposing our government to the suspicion of double dealing in this matter.

It has now become obvious that bimetallicism, with or without European co-operation, has been suspended until the people shall elect a President and Congress that shall give the country the advantage of a currency based on the constitutional equality of gold and silver.

A Design to Use Mayor Van Wyck

It looks as if an attempt is being made to put mayor VAN WYCK, of New York, to improper political use. Neither his own interest nor the interest of the country or Democratic party is contemplated by those who would thus use him.

That the mayor has gained great prominence by his election to the chief office of the greatest municipality on the continent is self evidently true, and it is equally true that his apparent good qualities as a citizen and a public character merited such promotion. It is also true that the cause of Democracy and good government was sustained and advanced by his election, inasmuch as it restored the government of a great city to the control of the majority of its citizens, and put an end to a municipal domination that was as inefficient and corrupt as it was pretentious and hypocritical. But while all these things are true, and while mayor VAN WYCK deserves credit and is entitled to distinction for being a factor in the movement that brought them about, they yet have not secured for him such a claim to merit and such a degree of prominence as to make him an eligible candidate for President and entitle him to the nomination for that high office by the Democratic party.

Mayor VAN WYCK is in a position to do excellent public service. He has a chance to make himself useful in restoring popular government to a municipality in which the citizens had been deprived of their personal liberty, and true public interests were sacrificed under a system of sham reform. In giving his city a true Democratic government in which the interests of all will be served alike, and special favors shown to none, the mayor will secure a reputation that will be worth more to him than those would confer upon him who would like to bring him forward as a presidential candidate to serve their own purpose.

With due respect to so good a man as mayor VAN WYCK evidently is, and without wanting to distract from the high qualities which he may possess as a public character, it may be doubted whether the Democracy have a very strong inclination to take their presidential candidate—at least not the next one—from New York city. The locality is too closely associated with the influence that brought under the control of the money kings even Mr. CLEVELAND, who started out in his presidential career under such fair and promising Democratic auspices.

Philadelphia's Republican Break.

The split in the Republican party in Philadelphia is the natural consequence of the bitter feud between the two factional gangs into which its leadership has become divided. The opposing factions, enlisted respectively in the interest of QUAY and MARTIN, have been trying to cut each other's throats, politically, for some time past, their uncompromising enmity winding up last week in a breach in the nominating convention that has put two tickets in the field.

The MARTIN gang, who are the upper dogs in the fight, carried things with such a high hand in fixing the delegates that the QUAY faction wouldn't stand it and rebelled, drawing off and organizing a convention of their own. MARTIN, after firing a parting shot at his retiring enemy, proceeded to have his brother-in-law RONEY nominated for receiver of taxes by the rump of a convention that remained with him, while the bolters up-held the QUAY interest by putting up NEWITT for the same office. The two factions also nominated opposing candidates for magistrate.

It is a regular and complete split, growing out of the bitterest factional antagonism, and there is every probability of its being fought out to a finish.

—Senator HOAR's resolution to extend the presidential and senatorial terms from March 4th to April 30th, merely proposes to carry out the proposition that has been so often made to fix the time of presidential inaugurations at a more pleasant season than the beginning of March usually is. Should the proposed change be effected by the incoming President would be greeted by balmy April weather instead of being pelted by the snow and sleet of early March. The Democrats who intend to witness the inauguration of President BRYAN are interested in having the inaugural date changed to a later period in the season so that they may have auspicious weather on that glorious occasion.

—The Governors of all the different States, including the executive of this Commonwealth, have called for contributions of money and provisions needed to keep the starving Cubans from perishing. While the assistance required for so humane a purpose should be freely given, it would be well for the government to take action to rescue the Cuban people from Spanish oppression, as well as to relieve them from the starvation which that oppression has caused.

The Danger of Bad Examples.

In speaking of the spectacle of shame that was presented in the manner of MARK HANNA's election to the United States Senate by the Ohio Legislature, an esteemed contemporary, which hopes that good may come out of even so great an evil, says that "if the election of such a man by such means to a seat in the most august legislative body on the continent will serve to awaken the conscience of the country, it is not an unmixed evil."

But is there not reason to fear that the corrupt practices which have marked the political career of HANNA will be condoned in public estimation by their success? Is not the public conscience becoming reconciled to boodle methods by familiarity with them?

There is evidence of general moral debasement in public affairs when the employment of money in securing political ends is repeated, increasing in magnitude at each succeeding presidential election, and making the purchase of the United States Senatorship the accustomed way of reaching that high position.

When in HARRISON's election the result of the campaign was determined by the \$400,000 which WANAMAKER delivered to chairman QUAY to debauch the contest, one example of that kind should have aroused the public mind to the danger of employing such corrupting agencies. But instead of its exciting a popular determination that such electoral corruption must cease if the Republic is to live, its success appeared to have given HANNA his warrant to put boodle to the amount of millions into the MCKINLEY campaign, vastly exceeding the corruption fund which QUAY had used in the election of HARRISON.

Thus it is seen how these evils grow. Familiarity with them leads the people to allow them to become the custom—in fact to accept them as sanctioned by precedent. Their repetition is encouraged by their success. After the triumph of HANNA's boodle method of electing a President could there have been a more logical sequel than the shameless and scandalous triumph of corruption in his own election to the United States Senate?

The public conscience and the sentiment of patriotism may be aroused against these assaults upon our popular government, but there is danger of patriotic sentiment being blunted and the public conscience being debauched by the repeated examples of successful corruption in public affairs, of which MARK HANNA's short and shameless career as a political leader has been so prolific.

Hawaii Needed for the Sugar Trust.

It is a mistake to represent the sugar interest as opposing the annexation of Hawaii. The trust has an indirect interest in the scheme.

In the arrangement by which the sugar kings have divided the United States to suit the purpose of their monopoly SPRECKELS is given the Pacific and other States west of the Mississippi river, upon condition that he will not interfere with the trust's fleeing the balance of the country. Now SPRECKELS gets most of his raw sugar from Hawaii where the bulk of the cultivatable land is occupied by his plantations. Under special provisions of the tariff that was manipulated by the trust he is allowed to bring in raw sugar from Hawaii free of duty. His arrangement with the trust in dividing the monopoly induced it to look after his interest in fixing the sugar schedule in the tariff bill so that there should be no duty on raw materials.

This would serve all the interests concerned, if there should be a certainty that the tariff provision for the free importation of Hawaiian sugar for SPRECKELS' benefit would be allowed to stand, or that in the event of the United States declining to annex Hawaii it would not fall into the possession of some other nation that would be unwilling to continue such special benefits. Therefore to avoid the danger of something turning up that might stop the advantage of untariffed raw sugar from Hawaii, the sugar operators have adopted the bold scheme of annexing the islands and bringing them into the United States.

The trust has as much interest in this scheme as has SPRECKELS, as they are jointly interested in dividing the plunder of the sugar monopoly. It thus appears that the United States is to be required to saddle itself with the ownership of islands, thousands of miles from its shores, that will neither be profitable in time of peace nor defensible in time of war, for no other apparent reason than that SPRECKELS and the trust may be able to carry out their arrangement for the monopoly of the sugar trade.

—The South is the only section of the country that adheres to the good old Democratic practice of electing United States Senators without money and without price, and therefore the approaching election of a Senator by the Tennessee Legislature, unlike the Ohio contest, will not present the spectacle of triumphant boodle.

EMELINE GATES.

The new moon shows a silvery crescent,
The stars gleam white in the northern sky,
Up from the lake the wolves' wild howling
Is borne by the wind as it whistles by.
I feel tired and old and my heart is lonely,
With the loneliness that my spirit hates,
My thoughts drift away to far off places,
To other times and Emeline Gates.

Again I see old Nittany mountain
Green and gray; the valley below
Dark with verdure; and many orchards
Where the luscious cherries and apples grow,
The hillsides farm, the gray old buildings,
The pigeons cooing to listening mates,
The quaint old porch with its grape-vine trellis,
Its rustic seat and Emeline Gates.

Ah! many, many the happy hours
We two spent here, in the vanished days,
Before we learned the stern discipline
Of a harsh, hard world and its evil ways—
Of and off, in my weary wanderings,
Have I cursed again the evil Fates,
That led me away from the dear old valley,
The home I loved, and Emeline Gates.

How many years is it since we parted?
How many years till we meet again?
Around the house the wild winds are blowing,
They moan and sob like a child in pain.
Far out in space the white stars are twinkling;
Somewhere in that vastness her sweet soul
waits.

To greet my coming, with joyous gladness,
When I go to meet her—Emeline Gates.

Sam Jones' Ideal Man.

From one of Jones' Lectures.
The Rev. Sam Jones expressed some sound sense in very vigorous English in a recent sermon when he said:

"The place to take the true measure of a man is not in the market place, or the amusements, nor in the field or forum, but at his own bedside. There he lays aside his mask and you may learn whether he is an imp or an angel, king or our, hero or humberg. I care not what the world says of him, whether it crowns him with glory or pelts him with bad eggs. I care not a copper what his religion would be. If his babies dread his home coming and his better half swallows her heart every time she has to ask him for a five dollar bill, he is a fraud of the first water, even though he prays night and morning until he is black in the face and shouts hallelujah until he shakes the eternal hills. But if the children run to the front gate to meet him, and love's own sunshine illuminates the face of his wife when she hears his footsteps, you can take it for granted that he is true gold—his home in heaven and the humberg never gets that near it. He may be a rank atheist and a red flag anarchist, and a Mormon, and a Mugwump; he may buy votes and bet on the elections; he may deal from the bottom and drink beer until he can't tell a silver dollar from a circular saw, and still he is infinitely better than the man who is all sanctity, but who makes of his home a hell—who vents on the heads of his helpless wife and children the ill nature he would like to inflict on his fellow men but dares not. I can forgive much in that fellow mortal who would rather make men swear than women weep; would rather have the hate of the world than the content of his wife; who would rather call anger to the eye of a king than fear to the face of a child."

Let the Democratic Party be of Democrats.

From the Philadelphia Record.
In years gone by, when that able lawyer and staunch Democrat Lewis C. Cassidy led the Democracy to victory, Republicans were not picked out by him to grace the Democratic ticket, but Democrats stood up as Democrats in honorable candidacy. The party then nominated such tried and true Democrats as Daniel M. Fox, Samuel G. King, sheriff William H. Wright, sheriff Charles H. Krumbhaar, controllers Robert E. Pattison and Robert P. Dechert, and the dissatisfied Republicans voted for them. Moreover, the accounts they gave of themselves in office were a credit and advantage to the Democratic party.

What help to the Democratic party has been the election of Walter E. Rex as register of wills, or John Hunter as receiver of taxes, or of Alexander Crow as sheriff? Such politics as involves the use of Democratic devices in hoisting Republicans out of the mud may help the Republican party, but it does not strengthen the Democracy of this city.

The Sun Editorial Rooms Are On the Top Floor of a Tall Building.

From the New York Sun.
Out of the pages of our esteemed contemporary, the *North American Review*, looks a familiar face and falls a familiar voice. Health to the Hon. William Alfred Pepper of Kansas and Pantomania. Hearken to the words of the wise:

"Why should a man or woman be required to hire space to live in?"

O Trismegistus of the Kaw! Why, indeed? As there seems to be some objection among the cruel landlords to the abolition of rent, therefore be it enacted, that the impenetrability of matter ought to be and hereby is abolished. Then, Trismegistus, nobody will have to hire space. There will be space to spare.

The Chickens Will Come Home to Roost.

From the Lancaster Intelligencer.
Sparking of the evident futility of the protest against the confirmation of Consul Saylor addressed by the Business Men's League to every member of the Senate, the Philadelphia *Ledger* says: "When President McKinley made this most unwise and improper appointment, at the dictation of two patronage mongering senators—who give a fate to shape, would sell the block to every member of the Senate, the Philadelphia *Ledger* expected to rise higher than the source."

Even so. And the *Ledger* helped to elect this president and these precious Pennsylvania senators.

Spavins from the Keystone.

—Ninety-six liquor licenses were granted in Columbia county Monday.
—Rights of way have been obtained for a trolley road between Reading and Boyertown.
—Bloomsburg Odd Fellows Monday night celebrated the fifty-second anniversary of the organization of their lodge.
—Two logs rolling over Edward Greenwood, a woodman, at Hall's Run, near Lock Haven, crushed him to death.
—The ladies auxiliary of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, of Schuylkill county, held a convention in McAdoo Monday.
—The shingle mill of Barclay Bros. at Simonsburg has resumed operations on an order for 1,000,000, winter cut hemlock shingles.

—At the London mine near DuBois, yesterday afternoon, James Walker had his leg caught in a large wheel and the spokes cut it off squarely below the knee.
—Messrs. Robert, John, Samuel and Thomas Myers and John Gritner, of Flemington, Clinton county, will leave Feb. 1st for Seattle, en route for the Klondike.
—The Susquehanna Boom company has selected the following officers: President, Hon. J. Henry Cochran; treasurer, E. R. Payne; solicitor, Hon. Henry C. McCormick; secretary, E. P. Almy; superintendent, J. A. Dinehart.
—Gilbert Neff, who resided near Petersburg, met with a sudden death Monday morning. He was driving to Petersburg when his horse ran away and he was thrown to the ground. When found some time later Mr. Neff was dead. Singularly there were no marks of any kind upon his body.

—By order of superintendent Creighton, of the middle division, all cabin cars shall hereafter be equipped with a medical box containing the following articles: 1 rubber compress, absorbent cotton, 6 bandages, pyramid of pins, to be used in case of injury to any member of the crew until a surgeon can be called.

—The Catawissa shoe factory will be compelled to leave that place for want of room, and because great difficulty is experienced in securing sufficient help. At present the plant gives steady employment to about seventy-five hands. It is in a prosperous condition and the business is constantly increasing.
—On October 18th, 1896, the body of a boy was found in a car in Williamsport. It was buried in that city. Several weeks after a man from Pittsburg identified the remains as that of his brother, Henry Derringer. A few days ago Derringer was located alive at Philadelphia. The dead body in the Williamsport cemetery is still without a name.

—Adjutant General Stewart is preparing specifications on which he asks bids for furnishing 9,000 of the United States army regulation cap for the National Guard of Pennsylvania. The contract will be awarded some time this month, after which general orders will be issued adopting the cap and arranging to furnish them to the troops.

—The report of the number of logs rafted out of the Williamsport boom the past year shows a great falling off as compared with the year previous. During the year just closed 110,000,000 feet were rafted out, being the smallest number handled in twenty years. The previous year showing that 178,000,000 feet of logs were rafted out, a falling off of 68,000,000 feet.

—Several months ago Fred Greaber and Miss Maud Goethe, of Shamokin, while driving on a public road near that place, were precipitated into the bottom of an old mine by the road dropping from underneath the horses feet. Mr. Greaber lost his leg and was otherwise seriously injured and Miss Goethe when found was dead. A few days ago the mineral railroad and mining company, which owned the old mine, paid Mr. Greaber a check of about \$15,000 in full settlement of all damages claimed by the gentleman. Miss Goethe's mother was given \$1,000.

—Monday morning about 9 o'clock Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Kridler, of Dry Hollow, Warriorsmark Huntingdon county, in a spring wagon drawn by a pair of spirited horses, going east were approaching No. 10 bridge on the line of the Pennsylvania railroad just below Birmingham, when a train of cars moving west suddenly came out of the cut and onto the bridge. The horses took fright, and quickly wheeling round to the left upset the wagon into the river and threw its occupants to the ground and under the horses feet. The animals, kicking and prancing, tore loose from their hitchings to the wagon and ran up the road as far as Ironville where they were caught. From the severe fall and the tramping upon them by the horses Mr. and Mrs. Kridler were seriously hurt. The right leg of Mr. Kridler was broken between the knee and ankle, and he was badly cut and bruised about the face, head and body. One of Mrs. Kridler's ankles was severely sprained, a great gash was cut in her head and she sustained other severe cuts and bruises; besides her clothing was torn into shreds by the tramping of the sharply shod horses.

—Friday afternoon H. D. Frazer and son Robert, of DuBois, hired a horse and buggy and took a drive into the country. On their return after dark, as they were crossing the B. & R. and P. tracks near DuBois, the horse and buggy were struck by a passenger train coming from Clearfield. The buggy was demolished and the horse was terribly mangled. The train was stopped and passengers ran forward to tender their assistance. The body of the father was found on the cowcatcher. Several men picked his unconscious form off its temporary resting place and laid it on a stretcher. One of the passengers who was assisting in carrying the unconscious man was a son of Mr. Frazer, who was returning from his work. When he saw that the injured man was his father he was overcome. The elder Frazer was taken to the hospital, where an examination revealed the collar bone broken in several places, the left arm crushed and mangled and an ugly cut above the left ear. The arm was amputated at the shoulder, but the man died shortly after. He was 65 years old. Robert's injuries consisted of several ugly cuts and bruises on the head and arm. Some time after the accident he regained consciousness. He will recover.