

BY P. GRAY MEEK.

Ink Stings.

—State reform is more likely to be won when fought for on State issues.

—The "cable" still seems to be intact between the forces of Col. STONE and the head quarters of boss QUAY.

—Thank the LORD. Bellefonte has one thing Mr. McKINLEY's "good times" has not been able to stop running—the water from its big spring. All else is at rest.

—The Republicans don't appear to be willing to supply money for the war unless MORGAN and the other Wall street shysters are allowed to have a percentage of it.

—If the income tax hadn't been knocked out by a compliant supreme court what a nice sum of money it would now be pouring into the treasury for the national defence.

—Rev. SWALLOW's scheme of bringing the ten commandments into politics is more likely to have the effect of bringing Boss QUAY's candidate into the Governor's office.

—From thirty-five yards of speeches to reap less than a dozen delegates cannot be considered a very prolific harvest. Consider the ground, however, brother WANAMAKER you'r don't well.

—The returns from the delegate elections show that while WANAMAKER has been making the speeches the old boss has been attending to the more practical business of gathering in the delegates.

—A union of honest Pennsylvania citizenship on State issues in the coming campaign would be the surest guarantee of redemption for this long misgoverned and plundered old commonwealth.

—Gold hid itself like a coward during the civil war while the government's paper money stood the brunt of the battle. The greenback is the ideal war money. It has been baptised with the blood of American soldiers.

—The large amount of silver bullion lying idle in the treasury may be converted into money excellently adapted to war purposes. When we have such resources at command no favors need be asked of the bond dealers.

—The Naval campaign so far has proven very nearly like to Mr. WANAMAKER's political one. It has whipped the enemy a hundred times on paper and then explained two hundred times how it was that it didn't do it.

—The greenbacks are a kind of money that did the country great service in time of war, and the Democrats in the Senate want to enlist for the present emergency \$150,000,000 more of this currency which is reliable and useful whether in war or in peace.

—The Spaniards are the enemies we have to fight in the field and on the water, but after all, such public characters as the HANNAS and the QUAYS, who corrupt our politics, and by their vicious practices undermine our popular institutions, are this country's greatest enemies.

—Money is the sinew of war. Without it the enemy cannot be fought nor the victory won, yet the Republicans in Congress would embarrass the government by insisting that it can have the needed funds only through an interest-bearing loan that will increase the permanent debt and give the bond-dealers a profit.

—If the farmers were getting their due share of the high price to which wheat has been run by speculation there would be a substantial benefit, but that young LEITER may increase his fortune by some millions is no reason why the poor man should pay more for his bread.

—The Cuban reconcentrados, whose relief was one of the main objects of the war, are being starved to death, and very few of them will be left to receive the aid that will be afforded them by the slow process of a "peaceful blockade," and the hesitancy of an administration run by the MARK HANNAS of the country.

—A nice commentary on Republican billion-dollar government is furnished by the fact that the only battleship it could afford to build for the Pacific coast had to be hurried over to the Atlantic to make up for the naval deficiency in that quarter, and ran a close risk of being captured by the enemy in its passage.

—At this period of naval embarrassment it should not be forgotten that, but a few days before the blowing up of the Maine, a bill for a small increase of the marine force was set down on by the despotic ruffian whose tyrannical sway over the House of Representatives has almost destroyed the deliberative character of that body.

—Americans should appreciate England's good will at this time when our evident naval weakness would be an invitation to European nations to interfere in Spain's behalf if they could secure English co-operation. There is something shameful in the fact that a long period of maladministration has left us almost as defenceless as the Chinese, and dependent upon English friendship for safety from foreign attack.

—There are a great many Republicans right in this neck-o-woods who would be delighted if they could only make a declaration of "neutrality" during the QUAY-WANAMAKER war, that is raging throughout the county. Eight candidates for postmaster here in Bellefonte, would be glad to avoid the "issue" if they only could, but as they can't, they will each be on both sides when it suits, and all of them for QUAY when they go up to vote.

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Why the People Are Apprehensive.

The patriotic people of our country can entertain no fear as to the result of the present war except that which may be caused by the weakness and inefficiency of the men at the head of the government.

The policy of a "peaceful blockade" has allowed the Spaniards to complete their fortifications at points which should have been attacked by our strongest ships and knocked to pieces by our heaviest guns.

The people have reason to fear the consequences of such inefficient management, which is partly due to incapacity, and partly to inherently bad administration, and the want of an earnest spirit in carrying on the war.

There is moreover other reasons for patriotic apprehension. In the question of revenue for our expenses it is seen that the purpose of enriching the bankers, and bond dealers, is given paramount consideration by Republican leaders, who propose that Wall street shall be given a benefit by the sale of bonds, and that MORGAN and his ilk shall increase their millions by the handling of war loans.

Conspicuous for his unworthiness as a military appointee is young JAY COOKE, who was the only member of the Philadelphia troop that backed out when his company volunteered to go to the front, but he turns up with an appointment from the President to a place in the commissary department.

These are things that destroy the confidence of the people in those who are managing this war. That it will be a success in the end can not be doubted since we may rely for ultimate victory upon the valor of our soldiers and sailors notwithstanding the bad management of an incompetent and half-hearted administration.

Wanamaker and Swallow.

The Commonwealth, Dr. SWALLOW's organ, says: "Mr. WANAMAKER continues to tell the truth about the boss and his methods. But what will Mr. WANAMAKER do after the boss has nominated the candidates of the Republican party, as he is certain to do? Will Mr. WANAMAKER swallow his scruples and support those candidates? We shall see."

This is a very proper question for Dr. SWALLOW to ask. Mr. WANAMAKER charges the QUAY machine with every form of corruption in the state government, and he specifies and proves them before public meetings in all parts of the State.

It is therefore entirely pertinent for Dr. SWALLOW to ask Mr. WANAMAKER what he will do after the boss shall have nominated the candidates of the Republican party? But may it not be proper to subject the Dr. to interrogations in this connection? Thoroughly convinced, as he is, that our state government is in

the hands of a gang of political thieves, who are entrenched behind a powerful party organization, does he believe that this corrupt power can be more easily overthrown by dividing the force that will undertake to overthrow it? Is he able to convince himself that he will contribute to this achievement by leading off in a useless diversion a large portion of the force that should be united in the attack, if success is to be hoped for? Can he blind himself to the fact that the votes cast for him for Governor will be of service to boss QUAY in helping to elect his candidates?

JOHN WANAMAKER and Dr. SWALLOW have both given testimony to the fact that our State is corruptly governed, and that its public affairs are in a disgraceful condition. It is reliable and, we believe, conscientious testimony, specifically pointing out the agencies that are responsible for this shameful state of affairs. It is therefore the more incumbent upon them to so shape their course in the approaching state campaign as to render the fullest aid in bringing about the reform that will be secured by the overthrow of this vicious domination.

JOHN WANAMAKER and Dr. SWALLOW will assist in electing the QUAY state ticket.

We Can Win If We Are Wise.

Why any Democrat who conscientiously considers the political situation, as it exists in this State to-day, with its possibilities for the party; the chances for success that are waiting to be taken advantage of, and the opportunities that are offered to defeat Quayism should hesitate to favor any movement calculated to harmonize and unite the Democratic people we cannot understand.

With existing conditions, political sense demands that we so frame our platform and conduct our campaign that every honest voter in the Commonwealth, no matter what his views on "National questions," are, can join with the Democracy in breaking the bonds of boss rule that have so long disgraced the people and government of the State.

Let us at our state convention take care of the State.

Let congressional districts take care that men, true to party interests, party principles and party policies, are duly nominated, and we will win a governor, ten congressmen and the defeat of QUAY for United States Senator.

Raising a Constitutional Objection.

Chairman DINGLEY raises constitutional objections to the tax on corporations, which the Democrats in the Senate have incorporated in their revenue bill as one of the means of raising money to carry on the war.

It is difficult to see why corporations should not pay a government tax. Many of them owe their origin to federal laws and are the subjects of government protection.

When a tariff bill is to be framed the representatives of most of the corporations crowd the lobbies of Congress clamoring for differential favors and they seldom clamor in vain.

The duties in DINGLEY's tariff bill were shaped largely with reference to their interest, but though lavishly benefited by such favors, DINGLEY thinks corporations ought to be additionally favored by exemption from government taxation.

It is wonderful how Republican statesmanship exerts itself for the promotion of corporate interests and the protection of wealth. If the Democrats should succeed in passing their bill that will put a government tax on such concerns as the Standard oil company, the Sugar trust and the other extortionate combines that are screwing millions out of the people, Republican influence would be found urging the supreme court to treat it in the same way that the income tax was treated, by declaring it to be unconstitutional.

Increasing Like Toad Stools.

It is a satisfaction for us to hear that staunch old Republican journal and un-deviating tariff advocate, the Philadelphia Public Ledger, groan under the infliction to which the DINGLEY tariff has subjected the country.

That the protection went to the wrong parties would appear from the assertion of the Ledger that "There are in the United States not far from 150 trusts or oppressive monopolies, the most of them being fostered by the present tariff law and would dissolve at once were the excessive favoritism afforded them withdrawn."

Every word of this is true. The trusts had gone almost entirely out of business under the WILSON tariff, as its lower duties afforded them no favors, but upon the passage of DINGLEY's monopoly bill its "excessive favoritism," as the Ledger calls it, brought those monopolies out as numerous as toad stools after a summer shower.

In enumerating the robberies practiced by those rapacious organizations, in addition to the heavier articles of manufacture, the Ledger says that "such every day commodities as oatmeal, cotton oil, glue, sugar, tacks, matches, salt, linned oil, starch, wall paper, rope, tissue paper, have become the subject of more or less onerous monopolistic manipulation under the forms of law."

What advantage does labor derive from such a system? While the trusts are increasing the cost of living is there any increase in the wages of the working people? Our Philadelphia contemporary concludes its strictures on the DINGLEY style of protection by saying: "Tariff schedules which foster trusts that control the output and price of the necessities and common conveniences of life, and that throw industry out of employment, to feed the voraciousness of plundering combinations of American and foreign capital, are in no sense 'protective' of anything save insatiable avarice."

Fruits of Bad Government.

A navy insufficient for proper national defence is not the only fruit of bad government that makes its appearance in connection with the present war. Captain C. S. DUVAL, of the artillery service, who for the past two months has been engaged in an inspection of the coast defences, makes his report to the war department, which presents faults that are anything but creditable to the authorities chargeable with the public protection.

The responsibility for this state of affairs rests upon the shoulders of the party that has had almost uninterrupted control of governmental affairs for the past thirty-seven years.

May Prove to be an Elephant on Our Hands.

Dr. F. S. Bourns, of Atlanta, Ga., who only a few months ago returned from the Philippine Islands, after a residence there of four years, does not speak very hopefully of the prospects of our government being able to hold these islands and maintain order with a small body of troops.

"All told, I spent four years there. I do not think Spain would yield them without a bitter fight. The brigands in the Philippines are a great power. General Weyler was unable to cope with them. Spain has never succeeded in crushing them. The Sulu group of the islands were the rendezvous of the notorious Malay pirates. They are not yet out of existence. Five years ago there were between 5,000 and 10,000 Spanish troops in the islands. At present I judge there are nearly 20,000. I think the volunteers number about 40,000. I hardly think our army of 15,000 would be sufficient to take and hold the islands very long."

Good for Lehigh.

The Lehigh Democrats under the lead of Hon. W. H. SOWDEN, one of the most earnest "free silver" advocates in the State, have decided for "State issues" in the coming campaign. Their resolution reads as follows:

We also claim and declare, that in the coming State campaign, it is the paramount duty of the local or State Democracy to make earnest warfare upon the corrupt and extravagant management of our State and municipal governments under Republican rule, and with this as our main object in view, the State campaign should be conducted upon State issues rather than upon national questions, and particularly, since the Governor and other State officers to be elected next fall, have no voice in federal matters.

When Democratic counties like Lehigh, and representative Democrats like CHANCY F. BLACK, GEO. A. JENKS, Ex-Judge KREBS, JAS. A. STRANAHAN, W. H. SOWDEN and others, are willing to leave the money and other Federal questions go as side issues, in order to rescue the State from the clutches of those who are robbing and disgracing it, there should be no trouble in getting all good Democrats united in the coming contest.

They Are For The "Money That's In It."

Have you noticed how one word appears and reappears in the discussion of the situation by friends of the administration? It is the word buy. We must buy independence for Cuba. We must buy the Cuban bonds. We must buy Spain's withdrawal from the island. Spain must buy exemption from her crime.

Buy did you say? Then buy something worth buying.

Buy back our dead. Buy back the men whom you, Mr. McKinley, sent to Havana to be murdered in their sleep. Buy them out of the mud of the harbor where their bodies lie rotting. Buy them out of the trenches of a foreign graveyard. Buy life for them. Buy solace for their mothers, who weep for the boys who will never return. Buy back our dead.

Buy back your courage and your patriotism, Mr. McKinley. Buy back the power to defend the right. Buy back the Christian sentiments you learned at your mother's knee.

Buy back honor for the flag. Buy back the national freedom that has been pawned to a tribe of leeches, and usurers.

Buy back the confidence of the people in their President. Buy the things that are worth buying.

Can you do it? In your mind money is omnipotent. Can it, then, arouse the dead from their sleep? Can it make the murdered man again under the flag? Can it do anything more than elect cowards to office and heal the wounds of money-changers?

No, unfortunately. You may stand on the money plank of your platform, Mr. McKinley. But the people of the United States will be neither bought nor sold. Their dead cry for vengeance. They heed no other call.

So Say We All.

Again we reiterate that there is no necessity for issuing a single dollar in national bonds in order to carry on the war with Spain. Open up the mints to the free coinage of gold and silver and issue 500,000,000 in greenbacks non bearing interest inconvertible with gold and silver at the option of the United States treasurer and the financial problem of the war is solved.

And Our Own Blockade Intensifies the Crime.

The saddest news of the war is contained in the hints that come now and then from the interior of Cuba as to the fate of the reconcentrados. These wretched non-combatants, for whom neither the Spaniards nor the insurgents have shown any consideration, are now out of all hope of immediate succor by the hard necessities of war and are dying of starvation by thousands. The fate imposed upon these wretched people is one of the most horrible crimes of the century.

Taking Its Clothes Off.

If there is one citizen in Pennsylvania above all others whom the Republican party should love it is John Wanamaker. He has torn the mask from the hideous monster that the party has been blindly idolizing and revealed the organization in its true light.

Your Head's Level Old Fellow.

If we as Democrats expect to win in the State this fall we must hold up before the people the many and vital state issues that will be involved, in our next fall's campaign.

The Grand Old Man is Dead.

HAWARDEN, May 19.—Gladstone is dead. The venerable statesman breathed his last this morning after a hard fight with the grim reaper for the past week. His wife and family were at his bedside when the end came. All day long the watchers sat beside the dying man expecting each breath to be the last, but the remarkable vitality of the man kept life in his body against the ravages of the disease.

Spawls from the Keystone.

—The Republican primaries in Columbia county on Saturday were carried for Quay.

—A carp measuring 28 1/2 inches and weighing 12 1/2 pounds was caught at Linfield, on Monday.

—The members of Bristol Presbyterian church have organized a society for literary and other purposes.

—A recruiting office was opened in Bristol this week, and many young men anxious to enlist were enrolled.

—The United Irish societies of Rosemont have determined not to participate in the centenary parade of 1898.

—A little son of James Stevenson, superintendent of Bristol, was drowned in the canal at that place Saturday night.

—Farmer Hibbs, of Bucks county, has sold his wheat at \$1.50 a bushel, the highest price ever obtained in that section.

—Survivors of the old Ninth Pennsylvania cavalry will meet in reunion at Lake Carey, Wyoming county, on June 9th.

—Pastor W. Brice Morrow, of Bristol Episcopal church, has volunteered as army chaplain, and his daughter will go as nurse.

—While walking with his mother in Lebanon, two-year-old George Bross was attacked by a vicious dog and terribly bitten in the face.

—Chester Edwards died from injuries received by falling from a Pennsylvania railroad freight at Johnstown, while stealing a ride.

—J. Snyder, of Ottsville, reports having had a terrific fight with a monster black-snake, which attacked him on the road, but was finally killed.

—Senator Quay had a conference with several Republican leaders at Avalon, on Sunday, and decided upon W. A. Stone as the Republican nominee for Governor.

—The smoke houses of Henry Knarr and Philip Walker, in Flemington, were broken open last Saturday night and three fine hams were taken from Mr. Knarr's smoke house.

—For the second time within a month vandals vented their spite against Harry Fesse, of North Cornwall township, Lebanon county, by cutting to pieces his harness and carriage.

—On Tuesday the work of erecting a 12 foot fence around the entire Carpenter steel works at Reading was commenced, to prevent possible intrusion from Spanish agents. Shipments of shells are now made three times a week.

—Miss Eliza E. Smith, of Lancaster, has presented that city with a \$25,000 property to be used as a public library. She will also make the necessary changes in the property and has provided for the permanent endowment of the library.

—Forty five Irish-Americans met at Mahanoy City on Sunday and organized a military company with the following officers: Captain, Edward Fogarty; first lieutenant, Michael Foley. The membership list will be kept open until 125 names are enrolled.

—The Lancaster Electric Light, Heat and Power Company, at Lancaster, has decided to increase the capital stock from \$150,000 to \$250,000 and also to issue bonds to the amount of \$150,000. The increase is to be used in enlarging the plant.

—For the first time in the history of Westmoreland county there is to be no primary election held this spring. The cause of that move is a complete dearth of candidates. The county convention will make up a ticket after the meeting of the State convention.

—The Shiffer Bridge company has been awarded the contract by Laughlin & Co., of Pittsburg, for the construction of the steel viaduct for the big ore yard the firm is erecting at its blast furnace plant on Second avenue. Over 1,500 tons of steel will be used in the superstructure.

—William Cramer, aged 12 years, a boy under the care of the aid society, who has been living at N. B. Ferguson's at Barville, was bitten severely by a dog on Thursday evening. He had been playing with Mr. Ferguson's pet dog, when a strange dog came up and attacked his pet. The boy attempted to separate them, when the mad brute fell on him, biting his wrist entirely through.

—John R. Pfautz, aged about 65 years, a retired farmer living at Elstonville, about a mile from Mt. Hope was hurt badly. He was white washing his barn and to make ladders reach the desired height he tied two together and while at the top, the ladders slipped and threw him to the ground, a distance of probably twenty feet. He broke an arm and one leg, cut his head and injured himself internally.

—Jacob McBride, a resident of South Fork, met a horrible death on the Portage branch of the Pennsylvania railroad Monday evening. He was sleeping on the track a short distance above Portage when a work train ran over his recumbent body. He had evidently been pillowing his head on the rail, with his arm above his head, since the head was completely severed from the trunk and one arm cut from the shoulder. The body was picked up and sent to the family home in South Fork. McBride was aged 45 years. He leaves a wife and several children.

—Friday morning about 11 o'clock, Samuel Carl, the little son of Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Stump, of Franklin boro, a Johnstown suburb, was drowned in a small pond situated in the western part of the borough, near the Conemaugh river. Some larger boys had a raft on the pond on which they played, but none of them were near the pond at the time the Stump child was drowned. The little one was last seen as he walked over the bank and it is not known whether he got on the raft and fell off it, or whether he fell from the embankment into the water.

—The residence of Curvin Gearhart, a short distance from Phillipsburg, was totally destroyed by fire Friday morning about half past five o'clock. Mr. Gearhart arose about five o'clock, started the kitchen fire and then went out to the stable to put on the clothes he wears while working in the country coal bank. Returning to the house, he was startled to find flames issuing from the roof, and hurried at once up stairs to arouse his family, who made a very narrow escape. It was too late to save the furniture, bedding, etc., upstairs, but by the aid of several men who arrived, nearly all the articles on the first floor were saved. The fire is thought to have caught from the stove.