

Ink Slings.

-If reports have any reliance CERVERA is badly "stuck on" Santiago. -Spain now has reason to regret that her Columbus ever discovered America. -If our navy hasn't got much work in as yet, it has at least kept itself fairly busy fishing for cables. -Our navy has shown to the world that it is not always the boss tenor who is greatest on the high C. -It has every appearance now of becoming universal. Even the Peace society of Philadelphia is at war. -Next Tuesday the ticket will be named that the people of the county will elect on the 8th day of November. -And now it is believed that the first effort of the QUAY forces will be to chloroform the WANAMAKER issue. -Although there is a constant fall in iron about the West Indies, it don't seem to make the price come down. -Possibly the reason most of our war bulletins come by water is the fact that they have no ground to stand upon. -Evidently with all his scouts and grappling Mr. QUAY has failed to find and cut Mr. WANAMAKER's principle cable. -If New Jersey has been slow in getting her troops to the front it is hardly the proper thing to charge it to a lack of sand in that State. -What Mr. QUAY now needs is a censor who can succeed in blue penciling the political war news transmitted via the WANAMAKER wires. -To the casual observer it is beginning to look as if this administration is made up of men who believe "that everything comes to him who waits."

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Dangerous Aspirations. There is danger that the minds of our people will be filled with imperial notions as a consequence of the war. Although we have not as yet permanently conquered any territory, yet we hear much talk of the extension of our territorial limits by conquest. There is a demand that the Philippine Islands must be retained and converted into a great East Indian dependency of the Republic. The possession of those islands will require that we should have Hawaii also, as we shall need a halfway point in the ocean passage to our domain in the East Indies. Porto Rico will be necessary as a coaling station and must be retained as one of the prizes of the war, and it may turn out that the liberation of Cuba, which was claimed to be the chief object of hostilities with Spain, will stand in danger of being lost sight of in the prevailing desire for territorial extension. These are the aspirations that appear to be shaping themselves in the public mind in connection with the war. Of course these territorial acquisitions at remote distances from our shores will require a mighty navy to keep them safe under the wing of the American eagle. For this purpose there is a demand for a large addition of battleships, monitors, cruisers and torpedo boats. A bill was introduced in the House last week for the building of forty-five of these warlike vessels in one batch, and one of our contemporaries declares that we should have a navy larger than that of Great Britain, which we can easily secure by the trifling expenditure of a billion dollars. This intoxication that has taken hold of the minds of some of our people appears to have been brought on by the smell of gunpowder, but we hope it will subside after the close of the war. We trust that after their common sense is given a chance to consider the matter they will see that in case of our conquest of the Philippines it would be better to sell them at a good price than to retain possession of what would likely be a trouble and expense to us. As to the leprous Hawaiian Islands they would not only be an incumbrance but an actual nuisance in our possession. It might be advisable to retain Porto Rico, as it could be made useful as a coaling station, and as regards Cuba, it should be remembered that we are pledged to the liberation and not to the annexation of that island. We certainly do need a stronger navy than that which we now have as the result of many years of Republican neglect, but it would be absurd to attempt to rival the great navies of Europe. It will be for the benefit of our country, if these notions of conquest and territorial extension, and the desire for a great navy and army, shall be dispelled from the minds of our people after the war fever shall have subsided. It should not be forgotten that the American nation is a Republic and not an empire, and that our aspirations should not be of an imperial kind.

The Paramount Issue. The people of Pennsylvania never had so momentous a duty entrusted to them as that which is presented for their performance in the pending state election. The issue which they are to determine is whether the State shall cease to have a popular government and be permanently handed over to the rule of an oligarchy of corrupt politicians headed by a party boss, or whether the control of the people shall be restored and a truly republican government be re-established—in this old Commonwealth. This is really the issue forced upon the people of the State by the usurpation of a political machine who has secured supreme control through the instrumentality of a corrupt party machine. It is unnecessary to go into details in recounting the methods and processes by which a government of the people was displaced in this State by the rule of the Republican boss and his assistant henchmen. A party that for years has wielded the power of a great majority has been made the medium through which the State has lost its popular government. By a base betrayal of its honest membership the Republican organization has been used as the weapon by which Republican institutions have been nearly annihilated in Pennsylvania. The rule of the boss and the machine that has sprung from this source has inflicted every form of political abuse and bad government upon the State. Its control has been so supreme and vicious that it has converted the politics of the State into a skillfully organized system of public plunder. The executive power is required to be subordinate to the will of the chief oligarch, and the Legislature is filled with servile tools who in every act of legislation are governed by his supreme direction. This is the condition to which the rule of the boss and his machine has brought the government of our State. It is as complete an usurpation of supreme power as could be evolved from debased and perverted politics. The long obedience of the Republican majority has nurtured this despotism, allowing it to assume such authority that it imperiously forces its retainers upon a reluctant party as the candidates which it is required to elect to the state offices. Such arrogant assumption of power by an upstart political leader insults his own party and challenges the resistance of every independent voter in the State. It makes the state election hinge upon the question whether the will of a corrupt professional politician shall be supreme, or whether a government of the people shall be restored to Pennsylvania.

It is Mr. McKinley's Way. From an Unknown Exchange. There is an old saying that an army of stags led by a lion are more formidable than any army of lions led by a stag. President McKinley is doing all that is in his power to place us in the latter position by appointing as military and naval officers party hacks who "never set a squadron in the field," and who have no other merit than that they are sons of their father—John Jacob Astor, Jr., James G. Blaine, Jr., Wm. B. Allison, Jr., Ulysses S. Grant, Jr., Russel Harrison, G. C. Webb, of New York, a scion of the Vanderbilts, John A. Logan, Jr., son of Senator Logan, deceased, G. H. Hopkins, C. E. McMichael, Joseph Benson Foraker, Jr., son of Senator Foraker, Bradley Strong, and a whole array of young sports who, with the exception of young Grant, have never given any evidence of fitness for their commands. Blaine has none of his father's brains, and his reputation is not of the cleanest, being mixed up with half a dozen women, while Russel Harrison was the bete noir, the blacksheep of his father's administration. It is a disgrace to our nation that men of known qualifications, experience and valor, men of the regular army, too, are thrust aside to give place to these carpet knights who are never expected to draw a sword or anything else except their salary. Quay Nominates his Ticket. The machine ticket was jammed through the state convention but not by so large a majority as to assure the boss and his henchmen that there is no trouble ahead for them later on in the campaign when the bolters will have their innings. The majority for the QUAY candidate was of rather small dimensions and it would have been smaller, and probably wiped out entirely, if every known machine device, including the intimidation and bribery of delegates had not been employed to secure the nomination for the man whom QUAY had selected for Governor. The managers of the convention evidently thought that it would not require much of a platform for a campaign that had no other purpose than to carry out the designs of the machine that maintains QUAY's autocratic power. All that they considered necessary were a few platitudes commending McKINLEY's administration, a few patriotic flourishes about the war with Spain, the usual rot commending a Republican monopoly tariff, and other stuff in no way relating to real state interests. There was not, however, a repetition of the promises of reform with which the last two state conventions humbugged the people of the State. Cheeky as the machine rascals usually are, they hadn't gall enough to revert to a subject on which they had faked the voters in recent campaigns. The machine enters this state contest evidently under a cloud. There are indications of a lack of confidence in the efficacy of its usual methods. The gang who compose the leadership depend for the success of their ticket more on the division of their opponents than on the strength of the Republican vote. The diversion that SWALLOW is making may be of such material assistance to the QUAY ticket that the boss would be willing to contribute most of the funds necessary to keep it going. But the enemies of the vicious QUAY domination will be wise if they unite upon the question of state reform and defeat the corruptionists by pinning them down to that issue. Robbing the Government. The nation has a more dangerous enemy in this war than the Spaniards, and the enemy consists of the corrupt and sordid characters who are using the war as an opportunity for the practice of the most scandalous public robberies. The plundering of the treasury will be limited only by the opportunity for stealing, and every fellow who has a pull on the administration will be given his chance. MARK HANNA is making his big profits in furnishing coal for the navy, in addition to being permitted to work off on the government for \$100,000 a yacht that could not have cost him half that amount. It is in furnishing ships for the alleged use of the navy that Uncle SAM's despoilers are making their biggest steal. An astounding instance of this form of public swindling has been exposed in the case of the steamer Merrimac that was sunk at the entrance of Santiago harbor some days ago. This ship was an old Norwegian tramp steamer, called the Solveig, which a year since was bought for \$48,000. Repairs were put on her that brought her cost up to \$192,000, and when the Spanish war broke out and all sorts of crafts were being bought for the navy, she was offered among others, but was rejected as unsuitable. This, however, didn't keep her from being bought by the government. A politician who had a "pull" was given an interest in her, and he worked her off on the navy department for \$342,000, the government being swindled out of \$150,000 in the transaction. This same ship, re-christened the Merrimac, was sent down to Admiral SAMPSON was found so worthless that the best use they could put her to was to sink her in the channel at Santiago to prevent the Spanish fleet from coming out. In this performance the gallant HOBSON risked his life for his country, furnishing a striking contrast to the rascals who in the sale of the ship made their country the victim of a villainous swindle.

From the Philadelphia Ledger, (Rep.) The ticket would not be a strong one if it did not in its chief parts represent nothing so much as the sinister spirit and the purposes of Quayism. He made it; it is his, not the Republican party's ticket. The election of W. A. Stone for Governor would simply mean the continuance of Quay influences in the government of the State, an influence that has corrupted our politics, and fostered grave abuses in the administration of the treasury department. For that reason W. A. Stone will be opposed at the polls by independent Republicans, who demand a business-like administration of state affairs, and perhaps successfully opposed if time should bring forth a candidate about whom all the anti-Quay forces can rally. A Bitter Dose for Republicans. From the Philadelphia Press, (Rep.) With almost any other candidate that could be named success was assured. Only one man could make the issue doubtful, and he was chosen. We profoundly regret this action of the convention. It has forced upon the party a candidate who is distasteful to thousands of Republicans and cannot command their votes. It has disregarded and over-riden public sentiment to an extent that will not easily be forgiven. The Old Man is Still de Boss. From the York Gazette. The Republican ticket is, from a Republican view point, not a good one, but the way in which it was named clearly demonstrates that Senator QUAY is just as much a power in Pennsylvania politics as ever. He is the man who must be watched between this and November. He cannot return to the Senate unless he controls the Legislature, and the people know what that means.

Spawls from the Keystone. -Norristown's Board of Health will rigidly enforce an ordinance prohibiting the throwing of garbage in the streets. -There is general disgust at Camp Hastings over the repeated delays in furnishing supplies and indorsing recruiting officers. -The coal diggers in the third Monongahela pool have decided to strike for the 66-cent rate adopted at the Chicago convention. -From valvular disease of the heart, induced by excessive smoking, Robert W. Stadden, a Williamsport printer, on Monday, fell dead. -While out hunting Morris J. Thomas, of Warrior Run, Luzerne county, accidentally shot himself in the shoulder and bled to death. -Attorney J. H. McCreery, of the Allegheny county bar, is sentenced for 18 months to the workhouse for embezzlement and false pretense. -Mahlon Powers, of East Vincent, Chester county, picked up a land tortoise, with the following inscription cut on the shell: "H. K., 1777, C. F." -The coffin manufactory of E. E. Tubercak, at Dushore, Sullivan county, was destroyed by fire last night. Over eight hundred coffins were consumed. -Representative C. W. Stone, of Warren, the defeated candidate for the Republican gubernatorial nomination, announces he will make an open fight on Senator Quay from this time on. -The Chambersburg engineering company has received an order for the largest riveting machine ever made. It will weigh 80,000 pounds and will stand 16 feet high. It is for the Pittsburg locomotive works. -Michael Grant died in the miners' hospital at Ashland on Sunday from the effects of being struck on the head with a stone in the hands of Michal Dormer at Centraia. The men had quarreled. -Frank Tevee, aged 26 years, of McKeesport, was instantly killed in the Bull steel mill, at that place Saturday night by being struck on the side of the head with a piece of steel. His skull was crushed in. -The time for opening bids for the publication of the Legislative Record has been postponed from Monday next to July 6th, in order that some of the bidders may make a change in the form of their proposals. -Samuel Bernhard, a brakeman on the Philadelphia and Reading railway, while in the act of making a coupling at Tamaqua yesterday, was caught between the bumpers of the cars and so badly crushed about the hips that he died a short time after the accident happened. -While a farmer was plowing on Milton Sultzbach's land, in Hellam township, York county, his two horses suddenly sank almost out of sight. It is believed there is a large cave under the farm. The horses were finally hauled out of the cavern, which is about twenty feet deep. -Frank C. McCaulley, of Bellwood, was drowned at Big Run, four miles from Winslow, Jefferson county, on Monday. He was working at a log camp and went to the creek to wash. Somehow he got in where the water was sixteen feet deep and was unable to get out. -The united mine workers' union representing 10,000 anthracite miners, on Monday at Hazleton adopted resolutions declaring that distress exists in the region owing to dullness of trade, and appealing to Congress for an appropriation to relieve the people, and asking that the government use anthracite coal wherever practicable. -Samuel Henderson, of Philadelphia, the 15-year-old boy murderer, has been sentenced to twenty years imprisonment from April 2nd, by Judge Audenreid. Young Henderson caused the death of Percy Lockyer, aged 5 years by stabbing him and concealing the body in the creek and placing heavy stones on it, to keep it from view. -Nearly all of the Pittsburg distilleries have closed down for this season. Usually they do not suspend operations until July or August, but the increase in government tax, and the over production in 1897 have brought about a business depression which has resulted in the early closing. Business will not be resumed until about September 1st. -The three troops of cavalry stationed at Mount Gretna, comprising the Sheridan Troop of Tyrone, Governor's Troop of Harrisburg, and City Troop of Philadelphia, have been ordered to Dunn Loring, Virginia. This will bring them into the neighborhood of Falls Church, the location of Camp Alger, which is in Fairfax county, only a few miles from Washington. -Clark Bedell, of the Walter Main circus, had a narrow escape from death by a ferocious tiger making an attack on him while parading through the streets at Scranton on Tuesday. As he was about to leave the cage the tiger caught him and tore the flesh from the thigh to the knee on the right leg, exposing the bone. Bedell was taken to the Lackawanna hospital. -A terrific explosion, causing the ground to tremble and the houses to shake for miles around, occurred on Saturday at Colebrook furnace No. 1, West Lebanon, operated by the Lackawanna iron and steel company, of Scranton. The explosion resulted from molten iron eating its way through the furnace bottom into the canal of water encircling it. Several men were injured, but no lives were lost. -Reading's sesqui-centennial opened on Sunday afternoon with three concerts—on Penn Square, Penn Common, and Mineral Springs park. The features of Monday, were a reception of visiting city officials at the Court house and a parade of civil societies and visiting associations. Over 8,000 persons were in line. In the evening its principal street was illuminated with 4,300 incandescent electric lights and a discharge of fireworks costing over \$2,000. -Paul and Edward Bottger, brothers, aged 8 and 10 years, of Williamsport, were arrested for attempting to wreck trains on the Linden branch of the Philadelphia and Erie railroad. For several weeks the lads have been breaking the locks, turning switches and piling obstructions on the tracks. A strict watch resulted in the detection of the young offenders, who are now inmates of the city almshouse. The reason given for committing the offense is that they wanted "a little fun."

Strategy of the State Campaign.

What the Boss Relies On.

Testimony from a Republican Source.