

Ink Stings.

—They say that CLEM is thirty in. —Mr. DALE's efforts to get to Congress can at least be credited with brevity, if not much brilliancy. —It is now said that Col. REEDER finds his end of the olive branch not only wilted but painfully thorny. —The protocol seems to have gotten the exact range of candidate STONE's flags and ammunition magazines. —It will not necessarily make the cabinet meetings more mysterious or difficult to see into if DAY lights out of it. —Blessed protocol. It not only brings peace to the country, but insures a desired and, it is hoped, a long vacation for the war poet. —If Mr. STONE could only secure CORBETT's press agent he might be able to keep his war issues to the front, even in the time of peace. —October 1st is to be Chicago day at the Omaha exposition and weather forecasters have already ordered up the wind storm flags for that day. —The fighting part of the war may be over, but indications are strong that the campaign for plunder will be a long and vigorous one. —The result shows that Col. REEDER could distinguish a cyclone from an ordinary wind cloud and knew when to strike for the storm cellar. —It is generally believed that SAMPSON'S confirmation will experience rough sailing through the windward passage of the Senate. —Dr. SWALLOW, like the bass drum artist of the country band, is working hard to keep up the noise, if he don't add much to the music of the occasion. —As the boys who have carried the flag are about through with their job, the fellows who are for the appropriations may be looked for at the front hereafter. —Mr. DALE may not be much older, but he knows a vast deal more about the gratitude of his fellow Republicans in the country than he did this time last week. —If they had only removed the splinters from the sliding board, the Governor's soreness would naturally have been of shorter duration and much easier to heal. —Secretary ALGER may be responsible for the deplorable condition of the soldiers in the fever stricken camps, but who is responsible for ALGER? You ought to guess this the first trial. —Late information from the front verifies the reports that no efforts to repair the severed cables or restore communication between the HASTINGS and QUAY forces in the country, have yet been made. —Now that CAMBON is through with his peace negotiations between this country and Spain, what's the matter with his being called in as mediator for brother WAMMAKER and boss QUAY. —Talking of the negotiations for Cuban independence, is there no sympathetic soul willing to come to the front and ask the recognition of a little independence for the boss ridden Republicans of Pennsylvania. —Judging from the general expression there would have been but little craze hung out in this country if Spain had captured Secretary ALGER and his war department, prior to the signing of the protocol. —And now Governor HASTINGS' friends claim that it was because of DALE'S weakness, and DALE'S followers are sure that it was on account of the Governor's unpopularity, and the God's truth is they are both about right. —After all, annexation may not prove such a bad policy for our people. The desire of Republican rascals to hold office in the newly acquired possessions may give honest men a chance at controlling governmental affairs at home. Its a small hope, but the Lord be thanked for it. —ARNOLD said "CLEM DALE is a very estimable gentleman and I consider myself under lasting obligations to him for faithful services in the past." Now CLEM said, only a week before, "Understand that ARNOLD is not a very grateful man for services rendered." You see the two had the same notion about the "services rendered," but their ideas didn't see on the matter of gratitude at all. —We would suggest to the Republicans of Montgomery and Chester counties, who seem to be in such straits about combinations to elect their legislative candidates, that they try their hand on the eastern penitentiary. We don't know anywhere else where so many men will be found who are in such full accord with Republican ideas or where a combination for thieving purposes could be more easily effected. —In giving praise to the new heroes whom this war has raised up for American adulation have we not, to a certain degree, neglected those brave and noble men, the privates in the regular army? Some of those who have fallen in battle have left no friend to mourn. Homeless, wretched and almost without hope they have gone into the service years ago and become noble men. Learning to revere the flag that floated over their barracks and to regard it as their own treasure it was love for it that flowed out with their warm life's blood before Santiago.

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The Irony of Fate.

As long as Governor HASTINGS wore the QUAY collar and acted as the subservient tool of the corrupt and overbearing boss, as he did all through the first year of his administration, the Republicans of the county could find no words of commendation too strong or flattering in which to express their approval of his course. It was during this year that he signed the increase of salary bills; the increase of office bills; the consolidation of electric railway bills; the pipe line bill and more other vicious and thieving legislation than was ever fastened upon any State in the same length of time. He was then under the thumb and acting under the dictation of the boss. It was QUAY'S legislators, and it was QUAY'S henchmen who were to profit by it. For some reason or other a break came. Governor HASTINGS threw off the collar of the boss. We do not know why or does it matter now. The meeting of the second Legislature under his administration showed a gathering of legislative roosters such as had never met before to rob the people and disgrace the Commonwealth. They were friends and henchmen of boss QUAY. They met to do his bidding and they did it. Not a man in the country but knows that it was the most corrupt body of Legislators that ever took the oath of office; not a voter in the State, with intelligence enough to get into the dry when it rains, but is acquainted with the many and disgraceful efforts that were made to rob the treasury and plunder the people, and not one of them but knows, just as well, the fact that every act of vicious legislation introduced had the sanction and support of boss QUAY. To his credit, he it said, Governor HASTINGS stood between QUAY Legislature and the treasury. He vetoed bill after bill that it passed to rob the State. He refused to allow the claims of fake investigating committees. He prevented the raid of the bird book thieves on the treasury. He peremptorily stopped the pay of the padded employe roll, and in scores of instances saved to the people of the State thousands upon thousands of dollars that was attempted to be taken from the treasury for the benefit of those who were still doing the biddings of the boss. And what do we see as a consequence here at home? Simply, an overwhelming majority of his party crying him down and denouncing him as if he had committed an unpardonable sin; every candidate that he favored driven from the ticket; every friend who endorsed his efforts to prevent corrupt legislation and official thievery, defeated! As long as Governor HASTINGS helped the thieves to rob the people, he was right in the estimation of the Republicans of Centre county. When he refused to aid the robbers or obey the dictates of the boss, his party defeats and denounces him. Such is the record the Republican party of Centre county has just made. Such is the irony of fate.

He Wants Them to Forget.

The man whom QUAY has put up for Governor has a poor opinion of the common sense of Pennsylvania's citizens, if he believes that they will accept his views in regard to the last State Legislature. In his opening speech of the campaign, among other things that discredited his honesty and sense, he said: "They charge the last Legislature with corruption, but that can have nothing to do with the coming election. That Legislature is dead and gone." It is thus seen that the machine candidate does not attempt to defend that Legislature. He virtually admits its worthless character, but wants the people to forget its many iniquitous actions and again entrust with power the party that has afflicted the State with such Legislatures. He appears to think that it is sufficient that "that Legislature is dead and gone." But are not the machine leaders headed by the party boss, arranging to elect another one like it? Can there be any improvement expected when the wires are laid in every legislative district to elect men who will be as much under the control of QUAY, and as much disposed to serve the corrupt interests with which he is allied, as were the Republican members of the last Legislature? Though QUAY'S nominee wants the people to forget the last law-making body that disgraced the State at Harrisburg, they are not willing to let it slip so easily from their minds. Its misdeeds will keep it in their memory and warn them against electing another which, along with a Governor who would also be the property of the party boss and the servant of the machine, would continue the bad government the reform of which is demanded by the highest interests of the State. —The protocol which Col. REEDER and little PHIL signed was intended to bring about a suspension of hostilities while the Governor would get things in shape, but it didn't.

Its Inherent Bad Character.

It would have been contrary to the natural order of things if there had not been scandalous management of this war by an administration that came into power through the expenditure of the millions by which MARK HANNA bought the chief magistracy of the nation for McKINLEY. Whether in peace or war, an administration conceived in the rottenness of the boodle methods by which McKINLEY was elected, will display its inherent nature. The influences that placed the present presidential incumbent in the position he occupies acted from motives of personal gain for those who put their money into his election. Such characters as HANNA and ALGER are the true representatives of the predominant policies of such an administration, and acting upon so pliable a subject as the man whom they had put into the presidential office, they had but little difficulty in giving the management of the war a direction that served the interests of the politicians, the army contractors and the fathers of rich men's sons, while it brought suffering to the soldiers and disgrace to the Nation. Why should there not be shocking abuses in the army with such a man as ALGER at the head of the war department? Scandals are inseparable from his connection with public affairs. He is as much of a political boodler now as he was when he bought up JOHN SHERMAN'S bigger delegates in a Republican national convention. He holds his position in the cabinet as a reward for his heavy contribution to the HANNA boodle fund, and though the decent sense of the country demands that he should be turned out, McKINLEY durst not do it on account of pecuniary obligations, even if he has not become reconciled to the HANNA and ALGER methods.

Imperialism in the State Campaign.

Chairman ELKINS, of the Republican state committee, has the same desire as is entertained by the other machine leaders to run the campaign on issues that have nothing to do with the affairs of the State. He wants to raise a hullabaloo about matters that have no connection with a state contest, though their use as a screen behind which the machine rascalities may be hidden cannot be denied. With this object he declares that "the United States stands at the threshold of a new government policy and we must see to it that Pennsylvania stands guard, with every man in his place." Now the fact is that the governmental policy in which the people of Pennsylvania are most concerned is not the land grabbing scheme to which ELKINS refers, but a reformed policy in the government of the State that will stop the corrupt practices of the machine leaders and secure more honest action on the part of our Governors and Legislatures. When the public affairs of the State are corruptly managed, and the interests of the people are sacrificed for the benefit of the gang of thieves, it is an insult to their intelligence for the chairman of the state committee to attempt to divert their attention from such a condition of affairs by calling on them to "stand guard, with every man in his place," in support of the new imperial policy of the Republican party. —The ingratitude that was shown in Saturday's fight left no mistaking the character of some men. There are fellows fighting Governor HASTINGS who owe him for every bit of political picking they have ever had. It was ever thus in politics.

Collapse of the War Issue.

The Republican politicians who proposed to run their state campaign on the war as the leading issue, find themselves deprived of ammunition by the sudden collapse of hostilities. There can't be any excitement gotten up in rallying around the flag after the enemy have laid down their arms. The machine managers are welcome to all the advantage they can get out of the war as a campaign issue. In the support of the government as against the Spanish enemy no party can claim superior merit, for all classes of our citizens were equally loyal and patriotic, but for those shocking abuses in army management that were more harmful to our soldiers than the bullets of the enemy, and caused greater suffering and loss of life, the blame rests alone with those Republican politicians through whose influence the war was made to serve their political designs and personal gain. The war is practically over, and its speedy termination is due to the exhaustion of a surprisingly weak enemy, and not to the superior management of the officials under whose charge our brave soldiers were subjected to the most abusive treatment. The shameful record that ALGER has made, without reproof from McKINLEY, is about all that is left of the war, and it is not calculated to be of much advantage to the Republican machine managers as an issue in the pending state campaign.

The Proof Still Continues.

The Kansas farmers who talked of getting up a testimonial for JAS. LEITER in recognition of the benefit he did them by raising the price of wheat, are beginning to see how foolish such a demonstration would have been. LEITER'S operation was nothing more than a gambling performance that resulted in no substantial good to any one. Wheat is selling for sixty cents, a price at which it is likely to remain unless affected by phenomenal conditions of the market, such as that which LEITER attempted to take advantage of by cornering it, and met his ruin. The western farmers, who believed that he was their benefactor by raising wheat from a long continued depression in price, were as much mistaken as were the Republican politicians who pointed at dollar wheat as proof that the market value of farm products could go up permanently to a high figure under the present monetary figure. LEITER'S performance was a pure case of gambling, and proved as unsubstantial a basis for the high price of wheat as the gold standard has proven to be. The present value of that cereal is about the normal figure under conditions brought about by the demonetization of silver, and although there may be an occasional advance in the market on account of scarcity of the crops abroad, and such characters as LEITER may cause an occasional spurt, wheat at 50 and 60 cents will continue to prove the close relation between the price of silver and the price of farm products.

The Grotesque in the Republican Convention.

Everybody recognizes some of the ridiculous and inconsistent situations in which the leading Republicans of Centre county found themselves, on Tuesday, but here are some that have probably never been thought of. Wasn't it singular that JOHN G. PLATT, of Phillipsburg, should have nominated Mr. ARNOLD? It was no longer ago than May 24th than Mr. PLATT was calling JACK DALE any old thing and yet there he was, hand in glove, with the new NAP. What did that committee do "at the rear of the court house?" It was wonderfully inconsistent for a convention that had repudiated Governor DAN to turn around and endorse him. The ARNOLD people commended the economy of the administration of state affairs. Fortunately no allusion was made to the economy in the Centre county campaign. To those who thought far enough back it seemed like the irony of fate that judge FURST should have had to tote around resolutions that were probably written by judge LOVE. How about that thirty. Do you think CLEM might be in? The kind of comfort that the HASTINGS people get out of the fight is about as cold as the weather around the north pole, as they freeze onto it and hug themselves, because they have anything consoling left. They say, now, that it was a HASTINGS convention and he could have done most anything he liked with it. Could he though? —"Git there" isn't likely to get very far on the dark lantern platform he must be standing on, judging from his speech on Tuesday. Speak out ELI. Let the people know where you are at. Certainly the old ad hasn't got the tongue you used to waggle so freely in every convention before the last one.

A New Job for the Proof Reader.

The editor of the *Levisburg Journal* gets up on his hind feet in a recent issue of his paper and displays his asininity in the following paragraph: The State College authorities claim that they were ignorant of the matter inserted in their catalogue, and that the expensive plates, costing from \$500 to \$800 each, showing cows, stunks, owls, cats and flickers were all wickedly put there without their knowing anything about it. A pretty excuse, indeed. It has been suggested that the Legislature pass a law giving them the privilege of reading proof of their generally useless publications before they are sent out. It is possible that they "read proof" of stunks pictures down in Union county, but we doubt if there is another spot in the State where such a suggestion would be made as a remedy for Republican thievery. Other localities understand that it was Mr. QUAY'S henchman, Dr. WARREN and Mr. QUAY'S superintendent of state printing, Mr. ROBINSON, and Mr. QUAY'S state printer, Mr. BUSCH, who are to blame for this attempted steal, but the Union county idea is that the proof reader who failed to properly scan the grammatical construction, the orthography and the punctuation of a skunk's picture is the fellow who should be held responsible. We always thought they had queer ideas down in Union county or they would never vote, as they have done so persistently, for QUAY and his thieving gang. We don't wonder now that they do. —Subscribe for the WATCHMAN.

Let the Expense Be Halted.

From the Baltimore Sun. One of the inevitable and immediate results of the appointment of incompetent officials in the supply and staff departments of the army has been extravagance and waste, if nothing worse. Our three months' war, it is said by competent judges, bids fair to prove one of the most expensive wars ever waged by any nation, and this largely owing to the absolute recklessness with which the people's money has been spent. It has not been a case of saving and the spigot and bung hole have been kept wide open. Unnecessarily large bills for the transportation of troops and supplies have been incurred by the injudicious choice of locations for encampments, apart from the sanitary objections, which in most every instance, have condemned the locations as unsuitable. Want of proper provision and preparation of the necessary facilities for transportation have caused expensive delays, and the congregation of supplies at thither, for no purpose, but all "charged for in the bill." When the war cloud then loomed large and black upon the horizon Congress was thought to have done a very liberal and patriotic thing in placing \$50,000,000 at the President's disposal in order to put the country in a state of preparation for war. When for an additional revenue of \$100,000,000 to \$200,000,000, with a contingent provision in case of necessity for an issue of \$400,000,000 of bonds, was thought to be ample for a war expenditure to cover 12 months. Now there are those who estimate the cost of our three months, campaign at not far from a billion of dollars. Nobody, in fact, knows how much the war has cost or is costing per month, per week or per day. And, apparently, at Washington nobody cares. It is spend—spend—spend. The country's credit is insatiable—why, then, stop at a few thousands or a few millions of dollars? But, by and by, the bills will come and will have to be paid. But how about the certain individuals, certain classes of persons, who will, largely by the war—have been made rich, thanks to their personal relations with parties in power at Washington and the influence they have been able to bring to bear. But how about the millions who have no "pull" or "influence," who have made nothing out of the war, who will only have their dead to mourn and the bills to pay? In the interest of the great, the overwhelming majority of the American people it is high time to call a halt and to say that when the fighting and the shooting cease the spending and the wasting should cease also.

He Knew Him.

From the Meadville Messenger. About twenty years ago an old gentleman of wealth and without any family, resided at Brookville. Like many others he neglected making a will until he became very sick. Then he divided most of his estate among his relatives, giving each a liberal share, but also bequeathed a handsome sum—about \$20,000, if we remember correctly—to churches, schools and other charitable objects. A few days after he made his will his physician informed him that he could not live a week. The law of the State makes void all bequests to churches and charities where the devisee dies within thirty days of the date of making the will. The old gentleman added a codicil to his will, revoking his bequests to churches, schools, etc., and instead bequeathed the total sum \$20,000 to Geo. A. Jenks, without reserve. After his death, when the property came into the hands of Mr. Jenks he turned it over to the institutions named in the will and carried out to the letter the desires of the deceased. Such incidents show the confidence people have in Geo. A. Jenks, who have known him long and intimately. He is the kind of a man required for Governor of the State.

A Few Whys that May Need Explanation.

From an Unknown Exchange. Why did the government pay \$362,000 for the collier Merrimack, in bad condition, that cost only \$102,000? Why was Senator Hanna's brother paid \$102,000 for a yacht that cost only \$48,000? Why did the Navy Department offer Mr. Vanderbilt \$250,000 for a yacht that cost him only \$60,000? How did a wealthy New Yorker get \$150,000 for an old hulk that was raised out of the mud to be sold to the government? Why were certain contracts made for transportation of troops at a rate of \$12 a man when responsible bidders had offered to do the work for \$7.29 a man.

Will Speak for Himself.

From the Milton Record. The Republican press of the State is trying to put a good many things in candidate Jenk's mouth but they fail to create any impression among the voters. It might be better for the prospects of the machine ticket this fall if they could get their own candidate to keep his mouth shut. When Jenks opens his there will be no uncertainty about what he says. —Westward the tide of empire takes its way and we have Hawaii. But it would have been better for the country had the tide been stemmed before it got so far west.

Spawls from the Keystone.

—J. H. Mackey, of Co. G, Williamsport, who was brought to Williamsport from Camp Alger last week, afflicted with typhoid fever died Monday night. He was 18 years old. —Early Friday morning burglars effected an entrance through the rear door of the DuBois postoffice and robbed the money drawer of nine dollars. No stamps were taken. —Near Turbotville, Saturday, William Menges, a young farmer, was kicked by a horse and died shortly after. He is survived by his wife and two children. His funeral took place Monday. —The Lycoming county Democratic primaries gave Judge Metzger and Senator Cochran flattering endorsements; Otto G. Kaupp for district attorney, John Engler for Assemblyman. Jarrett led in the contest for prothonotary. —J. Lee Scher, a member of Company G, Williamsport, died at Fort Meyer, Sunday, of typhoid fever. He was 19 years old. He leaves a widowed mother, a brother and sister. The remains will be brought to Williamsport for interment. —A few days ago W. E. Bickell, of near Jersey Shore, was engaged in raising a barn on his farm. While in a stooping position a piece of falling timber struck him on the upper part of the hip bone, crushing it and forcing it into the body several inches. His condition is critical. —The Messrs. Novensky, proprietors of the Montoursville, Lycoming county, pantaloons factory, have been awarded a government contract. They will make 50,000 pairs of pantaloons for Uncle Sam's soldiers. Work on the trousers will be commenced as soon as the goods is received and the entire contract filled as soon as possible. —Johnstown was to have a shovel factory, but the industry has gone glimmering. A telegram from the Flood City says: "The secretary of the local board of trade called on the school trust on Friday and was informed that they would try, if possible, to prevent the manufacture of any shovels here, but that they thought well of the plan to operate the plant for some other purpose."

—Saturday night Robert Stryker and John Lavason, of near South Williamsport, were returning to their homes from Williamsport. When Lavason entered his home his companion was walking on the railroad track to go to his home which was farther down the road. It is supposed that he either sat down on the track or was struck by a train while walking. His body was found Friday morning ground to pieces. He was about 20 years old. —Arrangements have been completed for the holding of the fourth annual reunion of the Reformed church people at Brush Creek church, Westmoreland county, on Wednesday, August 24th. The old Brush Creek congregation was the first of that denomination formed west of the Allegheny mountains. There on June 22nd, 1793, in the old log school house, which was afterwards burned by the Indians, the first call for a Reformed minister was drawn up. The first regular pastor was Rev. John Weber. —Another development in the war stamp business is a claim set up that a stamp must go with every prisoner committed to a county almshouse from outside the county. This view of the law is taken by the Armstrong county authorities, and the first war stamp prisoner was transferred to Clearmont, in Allegheny county, on Wednesday, his commitment paper bearing a 25 cent stamp on the upper right hand corner. The question is also being agitated in Crawford, Westmoreland and other western counties.

—Gaines, Tioga county, is experiencing an oil boom excitement. Oil has been struck in the well drilled by E. Matwell. While drilling in the second sand at a depth of 800 feet, the liquid was found. It is said that 100 gallons was taken from the well Thursday by means of a bailer. The well flows from eighty to 100 gallons every ten hours and is gradually increasing and work will be commenced at once to either pump the well or shoot through this sand. This is at the same depth that oil was found in the last well drilled, and although some salt water is found it does not in any way interfere with the flow of oil, as has been the case in the other wells drilled in that vicinity. —A strange case of somnambulism occurred to twelve-year old Lloyd Harris, of Dauville. He was with a camping party along the river, near Cameron, and while asleep after the mid-day meal, was seen to arise from his hammock and start to walk across the fields toward the canal about two hundred feet distance. His movements were noticed to be peculiar, but he was given no particular consideration until he was seen to wade directly through a swamp and finally plunge into the waters of the canal. A boatman rescued him, completely exhausted, and as he was sinking for the last time. Young Harris says he was not aware of anything he did until awakened by the water straggling him. —A man has been carrying on a swindling scheme in towns of this section. He represented himself as an agent for a millinery establishment in Lebanon. He was selling outfits to make artificial flowers and said he would forward the wax, silk, wire, thread, scissors and 100 moulds to make 150 in advance. He stated that he would be around the next day to give a lesson of an hour, and would continue for a week. The students in the art were to work one hour every day for a week and at the expiration of that time they would receive \$2.00 for their labor. He succeeded in interesting a number of ladies who are still waiting for the return of the swindler, who left the same day and since then nothing has been seen or heard of him. —The "scorcher" is again at it. The Williamsport *Gazette and Bulletin* tells of the brutal conduct of one in that city on Saturday evening last. It says: "A 'scorcher' was responsible for another accident Saturday evening. Miss Rose Martin, of Hepburn street, was about to cross the street at the intersection of Park avenue and Hepburn street. She did not notice a wheelman who was coming out Hepburn street at a rapid pace. The fellow struck her on the side and she was knocked against a lamp post by the force of the blow. She sustained an ugly gash on the right side of the head and several bruises about the body. The wheelman was thrown, but immediately remounted his wheel and rode off."