

Ink Stings.

It wouldn't be far wrong to call it the melon-colic season. In GEORGE A. JENKS reform has a personal embodiment. We now know from warm experience what it is to annex a West Indian climate. The higher the SWALLOW vote, the higher the hopes of the Boss will soar. Mr. ELKINS' explanation of how the tax-payer pays no taxes is about as clear as mud. The public wrath over the army outrages is not a summer breeze that will soon blow over. No, Mr. President; censurable as he is, the people are not going to put all the blame on ALGER. Mr. ELKINS is discovering that his political machine is not geared to enter the race for State reform. The stench of Quayism may become too strong for even McCLEURE to defend it without a deodorizer. It's not only the soldiers who have it. Even the thermometers and politics show feverish symptoms at times. A great boom for the lime business is promised. Investigations of the war scandals, it is said, will be begun shortly. What BOSS QUAY and DAVE MARTIN most need just now is the service of a peace commission that understands its business. The President's attempt to keep MILES and SHAFER from talking is, after all, only an effort to "muzzle the dogs of war." Political weather signs indicate a series of hot waves, to be followed by a regular scorcher, for BOSS QUAY about the 8th of October. There doesn't seem to be any sort of protocol that will settle the hostilities between the warring Philadelphia Republican factions. It will take more than one branch of the State government on which to grow fruit necessary for a healthy condition of public affairs. If "ignorance is bliss," what a happy fellow the farmer, who thinks he pays no State taxes and is not robbed by the Republican machine, must be. In challenging QUAY to a libel suit Ajax SWALLOW is defying lightning that won't strike. The Boss never ventures into the courts to vindicate his character. Please excuse us until we get the white-wash over the jobbery and favoritism that sacrificed our own soldiers;—after that the world will hear from us on the DRYFUS affair. In telegraphing to MILES and SHAFER to keep quiet about the war scandals, McKINLEY appears to be imitating BOSS QUAY's celebrated "Dear Beaver don't talk." Somebody is suffering the effects of the mismanagement of the worthless "Sons of Somebodies," who were put in positions of military responsibility by personal favoritism and political pull. There is no telling who will be the Democratic leader two years hence, but the confirmation of the report that DEWEY is a Democrat adds to the available stock of Democratic Presidential timber. HANNA has come forward as the apologist and defender of ALGER. This settles it. The general conviction that jobbery was the chief faction that controlled the management of the army is confirmed. QUAY's machine workers proposed to run the State campaign on the war issues, but the issue that is presented in the shameful treatment of our soldiers is not calculated to make many Republican votes. GEO. A. JENKS prescribes the true remedy for the ills that affect the body politic of Pennsylvania when he declares that Quayism must be wiped out. A sore cannot be expected to heal if the splinter that caused it is not removed. The idiotic representation that BOSS QUAY influenced the nomination of GEO. A. JENKS has been dropped, not because there are no organs rascally enough to repeat it, but for the reason that the greenest gudgeons could not be caught by it. Commander QUAY has concluded to abandon his advanced position and fall back behind the libel lines for protection from the enemies guns. We commend his judgment. When the truth is being fired there is no place as safe for rascals as in the intrenchments of the libel laws. The scene has undergone a startling transformation when the starved and emaciated forms that once pictured the suffering of the Cuban reconcentrados now represent the disease-stricken figures of American soldiers reduced to skeletons by ALGER's jobbing method of caring for them. Candidate STONE has concluded to put on a bold face, claiming that the Republicans have reason to be proud of their corrupt Legislature, but as a specimen of cool impudence such an assumption could only be equalled by a claim from ALGER that his party can point with pride to his rotten camps. We confess to a feeling of commiseration for such Republican journals as the Philadelphia Press, Bulletin and Ledger, which cannot avoid giving their own party a blow when they denounce the abominations of the QUAY machine, and hitting McKINLEY between the eyes when the ex-coriolate the scandalous officials whom he put in charge of the war department.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

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Try Again Mr. Elkins.

In trying to excuse the machine's rascality and its robbery of the people, by its constant raids on the State treasury, chairman ELKINS of the Republican State committee says: "One of the complaints made is that the taxpayers of the State are overburdened by reason of the expenses of the State administration and the cost of supporting our penal, eleemosynary and charitable institutions. This charge is in keeping with others. It is lacking in every essential element of truth. The fact is that THE GREAT MASS OF TAXPAYERS OF THE STATE DO NOT CONTRIBUTE A FARTHING IN THE SHAPE OF STATE TAXATION. The State revenues are raised mainly by the taxation of corporations, collateral and direct inheritances, the license fees, fees of office and bonuses on charters. Real estate has not paid State taxes since 1896. And from whom, pray, is the money taken that goes to pay the "taxes on corporations," but the people who use what corporations furnish or carry? Every man who rides a mile upon a railroad; who has a pound of goods transported by rail-road, or who has to purchase anything carried by rail-roads, pays a share of the tax that is levied upon the corporation. The money goes out of his pocket into the till of the corporation and out of that till into the State treasury. It's but a short distance between his purse and the place the Republican thieves find it. And who pays the "collateral and direct inheritance tax," but the individual or beneficiaries who would receive the entire estate if there was no tax required of it? And who pays the license fees but the person who takes a meal at a hotel, enjoys a glass of beer or plays a game of billiards? It's not the landlord. He is only the tax-gatherer for the State and his patrons are the payers. And who pays the "fees of office" but the citizens of the community in which it is located? Out of the fees they pay, the State treasury demands its share, and the larger the share it demands the larger the fee they must pay. It's a very short cut in the "fees of office" business, between the pockets of the tax-payers and the treasury into which their money is dumped. The people know this, and know that when the treasury is robbed by exorbitant salaries, extravagant appropriations and profligate management, that it is their money that is taken. Mr. ELKINS had better make some other excuse for the thieving of the machine. His "no tax on the people," is a trifle thin. Smoked Out. The Republican leaders in the State and their candidate for Governor have been smoked out from "under the flag" at last, and made to declare themselves on State issues, to at least a small extent. They see there are other issues than those raised and settled by the war, and they have found out that the people were not being fooled a bit by their pretense of patriotism and their huzzas for the flag. ELKINS, who is chairman of the ring committee and has charge of the boss' campaign, settles the whole matter of official stealing, profligate administration and corrupt management in State affairs, by declaring that the "people pay no State taxes," and consequently cannot be robbed. This is a very short cut out of a very unpleasant and dangerous situation, and if the people believe him it is possibly as easy a way to cover up the thievery of the party he represents, as any other. He don't deny the stealing. He don't deprecate or denounce the corruption that has made Republican administrations a reproach and shame in Pennsylvania, but he denies that the people are robbed for the reason, as he says, "they pay no State taxes." You know how that is Mr. Farmer and Mr. Tax-payer. You know if you pay taxes or not, and you know where the money comes from to meet the extraordinary expenses that Republican management entails upon the State government. If you are foolish enough to think that you are not being robbed, when your State treasury is being depleted, to enrich the boss' henchmen, we presume you will go on voting the Republican ticket and doing as the boss bids. Should Be Kept for Reference. The Middle-of-the-Road Populists are bound to be ahead, if not at the election, at least at the start of the presidential race. They have already placed their ticket, for 1900, in the field and it reads: For President—Wharton Barker, of Pennsylvania. For Vice President—Ignatius Donnelly, of Minnesota. With the start this ticket has, and the conditions connected with the race it is entered for, there is every possibility of its running clear out of sight before the final heat; and if you are keeping a record, that will be incomplete without the names of the candidates of all aspiring parties, it might be well to cut this item out now and preserve it. It's about the last you will hear of the Middle-of-the-Road ticket.

The Independents Turning to Jenks.

As those Independent Republicans, who are really impressed with the degraded condition of our State affairs and entertain a sincere desire for State reform, succeed in throwing off the trammels of party prejudice under the pressure of a great public necessity, they are found gravitating to the support of GEORGE A. JENKS, as offering the only means of relieving the State from the ruinous and disgraceful rule of machine politicians. There is evidence of a strong Republican support, for the Democratic gubernatorial candidate, in the sentiment that is rapidly growing among the anti-QUAY Republicans favorable to co-operation with the Democrats in ridding the State of its machine rulers. A large percentage of the Business Men's League, the organization that is directing the Republican rebellion against QUAY's autocratic power, is freely expressing its satisfaction with the position taken by Mr. JENKS as the leader of the State reform movement, viewing it as an auspicious basis for a coalition of all the anti-QUAY elements. There is no longer a reason for such Republicans to consider themselves bound to the support of a corrupt machine and a disreputable leader by the force of party allegiance. The declarations of GEORGE A. JENKS has satisfied them that the only purpose of his candidacy is to relieve the State of a great evil that is equally injurious to men of all parties. They know him to be an honest man. They have the assurance that he is as reliable in his integrity as in his mental ability and qualification for public affairs. Having disabused the public mind of the false impressions that were artfully designed to represent him as being affected by the QUAY influence, GEORGE A. JENKS compels the acceptance of honest Republicans who cannot avoid recognizing him as representing no other issue than that of better State government. It is for this reason that there is a powerful impulse among Independent Republicans to back the Democratic candidate in his championship of the principles of State reform, for which they have long been fighting, and which they know cannot be attained if QUAY shall remain in power. This feeling is showing itself in such Independent Republican organizations as the Business Men's League by such surface indications as the personal expressions of its members. As practical and well intentioned men, who see that strict party allegiance at this time would compel them to support a corrupt power that has secured the control of the party machinery and is using it to the injury of the State, they can adopt no other course than that which gives the only assurance of the redemption of our old Commonwealth from the too long continued misrule of QUAY's combination of political corruptionists. Another Fight For Spoils. Although the fight for the post office in this place has not been definitely settled yet, the turmoil and trouble that it is creating, in the ranks of the party, does not seem to deter the hungry fellows, who are Republicans for what there is in it, raising another hellaboo about the little patronage that is still to be labeled out. This time the fight is for the deputy collectorship, and the way the patriots are coming to the front to claim their share of the spoils, would put to shame the efforts of tramps at the door of a public soup house. This office is supposed to belong to one of three counties—Centre, Clinton or Union. It is worth about \$1200 a year, and although under civil service, each county has a small army of applicants clamoring for it, not one of whom has passed an examination, or under the law—if the law should be respected—could be appointed. This, however, makes no difference to them. They are not bothering about civil service. They know their party leaders will not allow it to stand between their favorite they have, and the spoils that they have fought for, and the scramble for this place goes on just the same as it would were there no civil service law or civil service regulations. Clinton has a dozen or more applicants for the place; Union can add over half that many to the lot while Centre can produce one from every village in the county. In this town out of about a dozen aspirants, the principal ones are W. L. MALIN, whose backer is his Excellency, the Governor; H. B. PONTIUS, who has the Snyder county statesman, THOMAS HOLLOWHEAD HARTER, on his paper; and E. R. CHAMBERS who is after it principally because he wants the salary, and partly because Governor Hastings don't want him to have it. We wish them all luck. It's a nice office and worth fighting for. It's an easy office to fill and the salary is sure. But before they build too much on what they have done for their party, or count to certainly on the emoluments of the place, it would be well for each of them to remember that they belong to a party that is

owned and controlled and governed by a boss; that it is his office to give and not his party's and that whoever he says shall have it will get it, worthy or not worthy, and that will end it. If they'll just remember this fact, it may be easier for them after it is all over, to figure out what a Republican amounts to who is not a creature of the man power that dictates the policy as well as the appointments of the party in Pennsylvania. They will understand what a glorious thing it is to have views of their own, and a thorough knowledge of what independent manhood amounts to in the Republican party. Parallel Campaigns. The Democracy of New York, who never had a brighter prospect of carrying the State, are conducting their campaign chiefly on State issues. They have by no means discarded the great Democratic principles of the last Presidential campaign, but the situation in their State, as in Pennsylvania, calls for special efforts for the correction of evils that have attended the rule of a Republican machine. Foremost among these is the unexampled profligacy, in alleged canal improvements, by which the larger part of \$9,000,000 appropriated for work on the Erie canal have been deliberately stolen by the henchmen of BOSS PLATT, part of the plunder being used for private profit and the balance employed for political purposes. There are different means of stealing public money for party use in this State, where the QUAY machine secures a large part of its corruption fund by farming out the State money among the banks. In addition to ferreting out and punishing the canal thieves the Democrats of New York State are pledged to destroy the trusts and break the rule of monopolies at Albany where they have entrenched themselves behind a Republican Legislature and State administration. They are also fighting for the reform of unjust tax laws; for the re-formation of home rule in the cities, and for the repeal of the odious RAINES sumptuary law, and of the Force bill that strikes at the principles of popular government to enable the PLATT machine to retain political control of the State. It is thus seen that the Democratic campaigns in New York and Pennsylvania are both being run on parallel lines, the objective point in both being the correction of political abuses and the restoration of honest State government. Hanna's Indictment of McKinley. President McKINLEY is beset by many perplexities, most of which he brought upon himself, but the one that should give him the greatest anxiety is MARK HANNA's associating him with ALGER in the mismanagement of the army. When the Ohio boodler boldly steps forward, and proclaims that the President finds no fault with ALGER; that he approves of his conduct and will allow no investigation of it, he would make McKINLEY appear as participating in his Secretary's dereliction. There is virtually an indictment of the President in HANNA's declaration that "the McKINLEY will stand by Secretary ALGER in the trying time through which he is passing; the man who criticizes ALGER criticizes the President." The defiant brutality with which HANNA presents the case indicts President McKINLEY along with his subordinate, who is represented to have acted under the direction and with the approval of his chief, for HANNA declares "I was there nearly all the while and I know that ALGER consulted the President two or three times a day." Under such circumstances the Buckeye boodler would appear to be justified in his assertion that ALGER can't be criticised without criticising McKINLEY. Having "been there nearly all the while," as he claims, HANNA ought to know, and from his character it may be judged that he also participated in the management that proved so disastrous to the army and disgraceful to the country. The Doubt There Is in It. Congressman HICKS, with a blare of trumpets, has sent his check for an unstated amount to the Republican State committee. He might have done it with less blare, about his right to do so, if it were possible for him to do anything without blowing about it. No one doubts his right to contribute; no one doubts that the Republican committee needs funds; or no one doubts that the emoluments of office should bear a share of the expense of obtaining them; these are the doubts that Mr. HICKS created for the purpose of showing how fluently and effectually he could knock them down. He has done it, and the only doubt remaining, about his contribution, is as to whom the money he gave, with such a flourish, really belonged.—whether to some disappointed applicant for a post-mastership in his district, who paid for and was promised the place and then turned down, or whether it is part of the earnings of the laboring people about Altoona who were induced to place their savings in the Pennsylvania Building and Loan Association, with which he had such close connection before it went into the hands of a receiver. There is some doubt as to this.

Blight of a Great State.

From the Pittsburgh Post. At a judicial hearing in Chester county a few days ago there were some strange disclosures about the operations of the Republican treasury ring. It involved the affairs of the defunct Chester Guarantee and Trust company. The president of the company, Smedley Darlington, told how the trust company secured a deposit of \$50,000 of State funds. He said that while he never paid the State treasurer interest, yet he was required to donate 3 per cent. on the investment to the Republican State committee and to the county committee for political purposes. He testified that he never had any written agreement with the State treasurer upon the subject, but there was an implied understanding as to how the interest should be disposed of. "It was cheap money for the company," he said, "for other depositors received 5 per cent." This exposure comes from a prominent Republican. It is only one of the hundreds, possibly thousands, of incidents, in the first place the treasury balances were handled in the way indicated by Smedley Darlington to secure campaign funds. Millions have been in vogue. As a matter of fact it was money stolen from the people by men of the most eminent respectability pillars of the church and all that. In other words, it was used to enrich politicians, to buy and control conventions and for the baser purpose of corrupting elections and bribing legislators. Sometimes as much as six and seven millions of dollars were kept in the treasury for the purpose. Taxes were maintained unnecessarily high in order to keep the treasury overflowing. The State was debauched by it. The position was swallowed from the State capital to the large cities and rural communities. The demoralization was exclusively among the so-called better class. None of the gains went to the wage worker or the heeler of politics. It was essentially an aristocratic and high-toned crime. It had its romances, and could all the facts be known, as they have partially cropped out the last twenty-five years, it would be found that murder possibly and suicide had been in its train, that it has excited bright men, broken up families and sent statesmen of repute to their graves blasted in heart and fortune—some innocent victims and others guilty conspirators or actual embezzlers. More than anything else it stands responsible for the degradation of Pennsylvania politics, stretching through all departments of government, executive, legislative, judicial, and knowing no party in its deadly blight. What is Elkin Driving at? From the Philadelphia Press. (Rep.) Chairman Elkin would have us believe that the prodigal and reckless expenditure of the money in the State Treasury gives the taxpayers no reason to complain because these taxes are realized from corporations, inheritances, licenses and charters. What difference does it make from what source the money comes? Is it not the people's money, and are not the people robbed, therefore, when the State Treasury is looted? This is the thinnest plea we have ever seen in defense of Treasury raids. Mr. Elkin apparently regards the State Treasury funds as unclaimed assets, which any one is free to seize, at least if he happens to be inside the ring. Outsiders are not expected to participate. Certainly they are not given the same show. Even if we accept the absurd assumption that taxes levied on corporations, estates and licenses are not paid by the people, the duldest can comprehend that the more money that is taken wrongfully from the State Treasury the less there is to distribute among the counties for schools and other public purposes, and to that extent increases the tax on farms and other real estate. Does Chairman Elkin hope to make the taxpayers of Pennsylvania believe that robbing the State Treasury is not robbing them? Does he expect by this means to make them indifferent to corrupt raids upon the State funds? If not, what is the object of his argument that the taxpayers are not concerned with the fate of the money in the State Treasury? Send the Soldiers Home. From the New York World. Not one of our camps is a fit place for men to live in. Not one has an adequate supply of pure water and proper drainage. No one, properly equipped and supplied with the comforts and the necessities that sick and debilitated men should have. It is not exaggeration to say that most of them are pest-holes destined to grow worse every day. Why are the soldiers kept there? Their presence is not needed for any military purpose. Their work is done. The war is over. The men need rest and the reanimating influences of home. Let them go where loving mothers, wives and sisters may take such care of them as is not possible in any camp! Break up the camps! Scatter disinfectants over the soil! Send the soldiers home! Pointing Derivative Fingers at Us. From the Toronto (Canada) Globe. Those who had to endure the American army ration in Cuba will read the letter of a private in the Sudan expedition with envy. In a letter to his sister he says: I draw my meat rations every morning, and fry some steaks for breakfast, and then about 1 or 2 o'clock I make a dinner of steak and onions and tea. The pans are not of the best, but do the work pretty well. My frying pan is a square piece of tin, turned up a bulky beef tin with a wire handle stuck on the top of it. I have an oven built, in which I make an occasional tart. Further on he tells her that each man gets one and a half pounds of loaf bread per day. When the difficulties of reaching the interior of Africa are compared with the facilities for reaching the Province of Santiago it must be said that the way the American troops were fed was no credit to the war department.

Spawns from the Keystone.

The public schools at Easton were compelled to close on Monday on account of the heat. Church people at York have attacked the owners of business places kept open on Sunday. A tramp arrested at Hazleton for sleeping on the sidewalk was found to have \$400 in his pockets. Two dozen victims of pickpockets in the Labor day crowd at Williamsport reported their losses to the police. Operations were yesterday resumed at the tissue paper mills at Raubsville, Northampton county, which for some time past have been closed. Army officers have reported the camping grounds at Summit Grove, York county, as a healthy and suitable location for several thousand soldiers. Four hundred employes of the old Bangor Union and Excelsior slate quarries, Northampton county, struck yesterday because of a ten per cent. reduction in wages. An unknown man, who from papers found in his pockets appeared to have traveled in Alaska, committed suicide at Harrisburg by throwing himself in front of a train. George Braunhaver, from Fulton county, while attending the reunion of veterans at McCombsburg, was lodged in jail, and fire breaking out in his cell he died of suffocation. William Donnelly, residing in Mount Holly Springs, while in the South Mountain near Hunter's Run, came across a den of snakes and killed 22, 16 of which were rattlers. A gang of pickpockets, who reaped a harvest at the firemen's convention at Wellboro, were bagged by the Williamsport police when they stepped from the cars at the latter place. While cutting wood with a hatchet, Freddie Gabel, of Chambersburg, dared his little sister, Mary, to put her hand on the block, and then accidentally chopped off three of her fingers. Simon Felix, a private of Company B, died at Montgomery Saturday of typhoid fever, making the fourteenth death in the Twelfth regiment. The young man contracted the disease at Camp Alger. During a thunder storm on Sunday afternoon the barn on Theodore Runyan's farm, near Hughesville, Lycoming county, was struck by lightning. The building, with all the crops, was consumed. The peace demonstration held in Williamsport was a big success. Excursion trains were run from almost every town in Central and Northern Pennsylvania, and it is estimated that 30,000 strangers were there. Fifty snapping turtle eggs found on the Wagon Knecht farm, Bucks county, recently, were set under an old hen, and in a few days about half of them hatched out. The lively little snappers tore all the feathers off their foster mother's breast. Rev. J. W. Henson, a colored preacher, aged 100 years, died at Bloomsburg, on Saturday. During the early part of his life he was a slave, but escaping, he came North. For many years he has been preaching and lecturing throughout this State. John Rothrock, of near Lewistown, undertook to ride his wheel on top of a 20 inch rail on the Newton Hamilton railroad bridge last Sunday, and only rode a few feet and lost his balance and fell 60 feet, crushing himself terribly and died shortly afterwards. Duncannon has organized an Improvement Company and will manufacture knit underwear, corset covers, ladies' shirt waists and a general line of textile goods. The capital stock will be \$20,000. About \$7,000 of the \$10,000 to be raised by the citizens has been subscribed. Three young lads named Wallace, Ricker and Bush, were bathing in a creek near North Corry, Erie county on Sunday, when a storm came. They took refuge under a tree. A terrific flash of lightning killed Wallace, his skull being split open. Ricker and Bush were badly burned, but will recover. At Milton on Saturday, a tramp named Clayton Thomas, attempted to board a moving freight train. He missed his grasp and was thrown violently on the ballast of the adjoining track. His neck was broken, and the scalp and his ears were nearly torn off. He was 25 years old and his home was at Mt. Pleasant, Md. The town of Mechanicsburg, Cumberland county, is now in darkness at night. Since the 1st of August the streets have been in darkness because of a difficulty between the council and the light company. The time of lease has expired, and the light company wants an advance of \$400 a year, which council refuses to grant. The Watsontown Boot and Shoe company are just advised that they have been awarded a contract for fifteen thousand pairs of cavalry boots for the United States government. They must be hand made and consequently the work means a great amount of labor. It was only a week ago that this same company were given a contract for twenty-five thousand pairs of shoes, also for the government. Jacob Lay was drowned at Danville on Monday and his remains were shipped to Williamsport for burial. Owing to a misunderstanding the grave had not been dug when the body reached the cemetery. In fact, the grave diggers had just started their work. The coffin was placed upon the ground, and the friends waited patiently until the last resting place of the unfortunate man had reached the required depth, and as the sun was sinking low in the west the interment was made. Private Frank Hopper, of South Williamsport, a member of the Third Ohio volunteers, died at Fort McPherson, Ga., last Wednesday. Monday his remains were interred at Wildwood cemetery, Williamsport. As the carriages were returning home, the back containing Mr. and Mrs. William Hopper and their children, was upset at a sharp bend on Cemetery street. The driver, W. D. Harman, was rendered unconscious. He was badly hurt by being thrown against a barbed wire fence. A portion of his jaw bone and a broken tooth had to be removed. Mr. and Mrs. Hopper and the children were all cut on the heads and faces, but none of their injuries are serious. What caused the back to upset is not exactly known. The horses stood still after the accident.