

Ink Stings.

The men behind the guns did it, but how about the grub behind the men?

We pay \$20,000,000 for the Philippines, then fight 'til we get them. That's buying a pig in a poke for sure.

Good roads bills in the Pennsylvania Legislature are like the good boys in the Sunday school books: They all die young.

It can't be denied that every girl who is following the fad of wearing her hair pompadour is afflicted with rats in her garret.

This proposition to divide up China will be very apt to reveal a streak of yellow, somewhere. And it might be in Li HUNG CHANG'S jacket.

The fear of being called a billion dollar Congress had no terror for the Fifty-fifth. It went a half better in its extravagance and made it 1,566,000,000.

Old Sol made it so hot for our troops in Manila, on Wednesday, that they had to retire to their tents for the day. It was something more than the Spanish or AGUINALDO have been able to do.

We have no use for even the tiniest bit of China. Uncle SAM has all the territorial bric-a-brac he can take care of now and if any other powers want to divide up the celestial empire let them do it in welcome.

It is reported now that Genl. OTIS is going to knock the stuff out of the Filipinos within a fortnight. What if he does, stuff ain't a bit better than live Filipinos. Neither are worth a continental damn.

The search light is being turned out at Harrisburg and the bribe givers and bribe takers are flying for cover. Its glaring rays have caught a few, but if the light had the power of penetration it ought to have their name would be legion.

The whole police force and TOMMY SHAUGHNESSY are after the insurgents in the Bellefonte council. They know that they must be captured within two weeks or there will be new policemen and a new street commissioner.

MATHEW STANLEY QUAY is no longer a United States Senator. His term expired on Saturday and Pennsylvania has as yet failed to re-elect him. So much to the credit of the Commonwealth. An empty house is better than a bad tenant.

The Seranton man who filed a voluntary petition in bankruptcy on Monday, placing his debts at \$68,373.14 and his only assets as three gold studs has been "put up" about everything he owned before he came to the conclusion that he couldn't liquidate.

The conclusion of the United States Senators, who, before leaving Washington, met in caucus and concluded that "party interests demand the retirement of ALGER" has demonstrated that for once in the history of its organization Republican interests coincide with public interests.

The German admiral von DIEDRICH who got so gay at Manila last summer that it was feared his indiscretions would precipitate a clash with Germany has been relieved of his command and Prince HENRY, of Prussia, a brother of the Emperor, who is popular in the United States, has been given command of the Asiatic squadron. This apparent expression of friendship on the part of the German government is decidedly reassuring.

A fool and his money have always supposed to be soon parted, but there is a pennurious old Jehu up at East Stroudsburg who has exploded the theory entirely. The other day he lost \$300, which was later picked up by a little girl and immediately returned to him upon hearing of his loss. He rewarded her honesty by giving her a penny. Such miserly specimens of humanity had better be crushed and sold for alum, for all the good they are to any community.

The pledge of the ninety QUAY men in the Legislature to stick to the "old man" to the bitter end makes it look very much as if this session will result in no choice for United States Senator: QUAY has gone to Florida for his health. It is not stated whether it is physical or political reinvention he needs. He will probably fish a little down there, too, because he stands a better chance of having luck with the tarpon than he has had at catching suckers about Harrisburg.

The New York spinster who wants to have the "reprehensible and promiscuous practice of kissing" stopped had better suggest some other means than that of posting notices of warning in club rooms and on street corners. The direful effects she has discovered in the practice are such as to make the curious American man and women more curious than ever and it might not be a surprise if they start in at once to find out whether this old spinster knows what she is talking about.

The typhoid octopus has Philadelphia in its deadly grip. All previous mortality records have been surpassed and it is estimated that the number of deaths for the week ending March 11th, will reach the appalling total of 475. Ordinarily Philadelphia is a healthful city, barring the impurity of its water service, and there would be little trouble eradicating this inevitable germinator of the typhoid bacillus if only a part of the money that is stolen from the tax-payers down there could be diverted to the business of providing a purer water supply.

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Bribery at Harrisburg.

The developments thus far in the investigation of the charges of corrupt solicitation in relation to the consideration of the McCARRELL bill in the Legislature at Harrisburg, justify the grave suspicions which have been current throughout the State for some weeks.

It has been well-known for years that corrupt solicitation of the Legislators has become a regular, though disreputable business at Harrisburg. Usually, as in the present case, those engaged in it are men who have served in the House or Senate and have thus acquired what is by courtesy called "the privilege of the floor."

The first real session of the committee of investigation removed all doubts of the culpability of certain lobbyists whose names have been freely used in connection with this scandal from the beginning.

The Matter of Ballot Reform. There are three ballot bills pending in the Legislature, each one of which aims to promote honesty in elections.

The Fow bill provides for personal registration and to make that possible under the constitution it requires the registering officers to sit at the polls on election day in order to accommodate those who have neglected to personally register previously.

The KEATER bill is superior to the MARTIN bill in that it requires persons who ask for assistance in preparing their ballots to swear to their inability to perform the service for themselves.

Council voted \$2,000 into the sinking fund. Where is the sinking fund? Where are the \$2,000?

A Plan For a Public Improvement Fund.

There could be no more opportune time than the present to discuss means for raising a public improvement fund for Bellefonte. Just now, when the board of trade has been aroused to action and the citizens are beginning to co-operate with it the need of working capital, a fund ready for any emergency, ought to be seen by everybody.

So long as it will be necessary to solicit by subscription such sums as might be demanded in subsidies by manufacturing plants looking for a location, just so long will Bellefonte be retarded in the forward march which it is hoped has at last begun. It invariably happens that the burden of such work devolves upon a few and the contributors represent a very small percentage of the beneficiaries.

A feature more objectionable than the slowness of this process is the burden it carries for the few. Whenever there is a sum of money to be raised for the public good it is taken for granted that a half dozen of the wealthy men of the place will contribute all that is needed.

It has been proposed that a tax levy be laid for the purpose of raising and maintaining a public improvement fund. And what more equitable, easy or speedy way of doing it could be thought of.

In a few years such a fund would have accumulated as would put Bellefonte in the position of snapping up, on a moment's notice, any good proposition that could be made.

What do you think of such a plan, taxpayers of Bellefonte? Talk about it, consult one with another about it and if it is your opinion, as it is ours, that it is a good thing, put it in operation and in less than ten years Bellefonte will be a veritable hive of industry and no one will feel the effect of the increased millage of whatever amount is laid.

Arnold's Fine Sarcasm.

The thought to which former Congressman W. C. ARNOLD, of the Twenty-eighth Pennsylvania district, gave utterance when he said: "Thank God, I am once more a private citizen," might probably have the effect of leading some who don't know the Congressman to the belief that his service has been a sort of martyrdom to the wishes of a people, eager for him as a Representative.

A pretty sarcasm, indeed. He has evidently recognized that the voice of the people, proclaiming his moral and political obliquities last fall, was the voice of God.

The many vacancies in the United States Senate are not so much due to a death of possible Senators as to the fact that there aren't holes enough for the pegs that want to be fitted in them.

A Measure that Should be Passed.

The bill to increase the minimum length of time for public school sessions in Pennsylvania to seven months is again before the Legislature and has passed the House. It is probable, however, that the pressure from the country districts, where five months of school are deemed sufficient, will be strong enough to kill it before becoming a law, as has been the case at every session for the past ten years.

Experience has been such as to warrant little hope that the country districts are changing on the school question. The main desire seems to be to keep taxes to a minimum and educational facilities at the same point.

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The United States government is about to pay the French spoliation claims. At least a clause in the omnibus bill included them. They are of more than an hundred years standing and will never reach the original claimants, but it is certain that plenty of heirs and assignees will appear to relieve the treasury of the sums they carry.

A Hopeful Sign.

One of the newspaper correspondents at Harrisburg, telegraphs his paper that "in their desperation the QUAY shouters have revived their early battle cry: "QUAY or a Democrat." But this is no sign of desperation. It is rather an evidence of lucidity, and reason. They might adopt an infinitely more dangerous battle cry. That cry would indicate progression in the right direction.

It is certainly much better for these misguided men in the Legislature to cry "QUAY or a Democrat" than to demand QUAY or some other Republican. QUAY'S public record is atrocious, to be sure, but after all the stream as a rule is neither purer nor fouler than its source and QUAY, being a Republican, who will dare say that he is better or worse than other Republicans? If, therefore, QUAY is not the safest way to get a Senator who is not bad is to elect one who is not a Republican.

Under these circumstances we are inclined to encourage rather than deprecate the battle cry of the QUAY shouters, if this correspondent has correctly represented it. The election of a Democrat to the office is a guarantee of improvement in the service and elevation in the morals of the Senate and if the shouters will go on until they learn to drop QUAY from the cry they will be performing a useful service to their State, and an invaluable work for this country.

THOMAS DONALDSON, the champion high diver, who plunged from the roof of Madison Square Garden, in New York, on Wednesday afternoon, into an eight-foot tank, sixty-five feet below him, has taken his last dive. He cracked his skull and physicians say he can't live. It would hardly be right to call him a fool, just as he is about to enter the other world; but if he wasn't a fool then we are ready to apologize.

Come and See Us.

The London Spectator in a recent issue, prints another letter, of which there have been so many in the last twenty-five years, pointing out the "defenseless condition" of American seaports.

The past three years have been twice the appropriations for fortifications of the previous twelve years, and considerably more than the appropriations for this purpose in thirty-one years from 1866 to 1896.

With all the constant fire of criticism made upon the size of aggregate appropriations, it is well to remember that the country is getting in return a defended coast. Still, most of the people who attack the size of the appropriations now are the same people who five years ago were denouncing Congress for refusing to appropriate money enough to provide this country with seaboard defenses.

Quay Seventeen Short.

HARRISBURG, March 8.—Congressman-at-large Galusha A. Grow gained two votes on to-day's joint ballot for United States Senator. Mr. Grow made a short address to the House prior to the joint assembly and was among the spectators during the balloting.

Quay, 105; Jenks, 81; Dalzell, 17; Stewart, 8; Irvin, 5; Huff, 9; Stone, 4; Rice, 2; Tubbs, 2; Widener, 3; Ritter, 2; Grow, 3; Smith, 1; total, 242; necessary to a choice, 122; paired or not voting, 11; no election.

Every Senator and Member of the House who has been voting for Senator Quay this morning received a telegram from the Senator, announcing that he was about to start for Florida for the benefit of his health and will be back in ten days.

Representative Spatz, Democrat, of Berks, said, when his name was called: "It has been anticipated for some time that I would change my vote from Mr. Jenks, but I will continue to fool the public and will cast my vote for Jenks to-day."

Mr. Grow was escorted to the speaker's stand by Representatives Robb and Marshall, of Allegheny, amid great applause. He thanked the House for its kind expression. He said the Spanish-American war marks a new era in the history of the world and no more will Spanish colonies send up the cry of despair.

—If you want fine work done of every description the WATCHMAN is the place to have it done.

Spawls from the Keystone.

Moses Leisenring died at Jersey Shore Saturday, aged 77 years. His funeral took place Tuesday morning. He is survived by several children.

John D. Kelley, of Williamsport, intends razing the wooden buildings he owns on Erie avenue, Renova, and will erect on the site a large hotel building.

James Fitzpatrick & Co., of New York, are making preparations to erect a forty eight blower glass factory at Falls Creek. It will have capacity for employing 300 hands.

At Hepburnia, near Gramplan, a few days ago, 12 year old Ernest Rowles was killed by a small truck, on which he was playing, running off the end of a trestle work and falling upon him.

The property of the Tri-County and Agricultural and Driving Park association at Johnstown was offered for sale, Saturday, by the sheriff. The highest bid was \$1,800. There are mortgages aggregating \$28,000 against it.

At Montoursville Saturday, the 18 months old child of Mr. and Mrs. Edward Barrett, pulled over on itself a pan of boiling water. The child was frightfully scalded and died from the effects of its burns on Monday.

It is said that the Northern Central railroad company will fill up the old canal at Halifax and use it for a road bed. This would take the road practically out of the town. Civil Engineers of the company were surveying in that vicinity last week.

Dr. S. H. Gump, of Bedford, disposed of the balance of his apple crop of 1898 last week, receiving \$1 per bushel for the same. He has a fine young orchard of some 50 acres near Napier, which in the past two years has netted him about \$3,000 over all expenses.

Several days ago Abram W. Brown, of Lewisburg, fell from a tree on a fence. A severe gash was cut in his nose. Little attention was paid to the injury at the time, but a few days later his jaw began to get stiff. Lockjaw developed and he expired. He was 57 years old.

Miss Annie Nolte, of Lewistown, was severely scalded last week in a peculiar manner. She had been ill abed, and her mother put a hot water sack in her bed, which unfortunately burst, the boiling water flying over her person and badly scalding her shoulder, side and limb.

Eighty of the local milk dealers of Williamsport and vicinity have signed a pledge to fight the milk trust that has been organized in that city. The local dealers also state that they will refuse to go out of the business and are asking their patrons to support them in their fight against the trust.

Two car loads of walnut lumber were shipped Thursday from Mill Hill. The lumber was consigned to Liverpool, England, and from that city will be sent to Germany. The lumber was purchased in Bald Eagle and Nittany valleys. Three car loads of plank walnut timber will be sent to the same country.

A telegram from Harrisburg Tuesday evening says: The suit of ex-Congressman Josiah D. Hicks, of Altoona, against Rev. Dr. Silas C. Swallow, of Altoona, claiming \$50,000 for criminal libel, has been discontinued. Word has been received by his family at Altoona that Mr. Hicks is ill at his hotel in Washington.

The safe in the post office at Hyndman, Bedford county, was cracked by burglars at an early hour Friday morning, the door being blown clear across the room. The thieves secured \$400 in stamps and about \$200 in cash. There is no clue. It is supposed to have been the work of tramps who have been numerous about the town lately.

A coal train running from Windsor to South Fork was wrecked near Salix Monday night. Several cars were demolished, one man instantly killed and two others badly hurt. The dead man's name was Edward B. Meyers. He was unmarried and lived at South Fork. The wreck resulted from failure of brakes to work on a heavy grade.

William, the 13 year old son of Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Cunningham, of Renova, attempted to jump a freight train in the yards at that place Saturday morning. He missed his hold, fell on the track and the wheels passing over his leg crushed the bone at the ankle. The foot was amputated by Drs. Olds, Fulmer and Heimbach. It is believed that the boy will recover.

Miss Mary H. Smiley, of New Bloomfield, met with a painful accident recently. While walking on the pavement in front of her home she slipped, and in attempting to prevent a fall she grasped with her right hand a barb on the fence. Unfortunately the barb entered her hand and tore its way out between the second and third fingers, inflicting a most painful wound, which required a surgeon's care.

A special to the Bradford Era says that mayor Roland, of Franklin, has appointed a committee of councilmen to confer with a syndicate of New York and Erie capitalists, who have under consideration the construction of a railroad between Erie and Falls Creek, including Franklin, Clarion and Brookville, and will connect with the Beech Creek railroad, passing through lands rich in oil, coal and lumber.

Over two months ago Gregory Dejarlo, who conducted a fruit store in Tyrone, was arrested on the charge of attempting to escape paying a bill of \$2,500 for goods which he had purchased from a Philadelphia firm. Dejarlo secured bail and then skipped out. Tuesday he was arrested at Chicago. When the officers attempted to take him, Dejarlo resisted desperately, he using a revolver, stiletto and a razor. He was finally knocked senseless by the officers. He will be brought to Blair county for trial.