

About the only real difference between the two New York dinners will be \$9.

The humanitarian war in the Philippines is still going on and the corpses are piling up, mountain high.

The organization of a Republican party on the island of Puerto Rico is almost equivalent to making MARK HANNA the successor of the boy King of Spain.

O. H. P. BELMONT is right in his ideas for a Democratic platform in 1900 in everything except his proposition for government ownership of canals and railroads.

The moving season is now on and for a few days horses and wagons will play an important part in the moving business as DEWITT's or CARTER's do all the year round.

This is the only real Good Friday in all the year. The appearance of the WATCHMAN helps to make the others as good as they are, but to-day is the genuine thing.

The Ohio man who went to sleep for two hours merely because he had been hit on the head with a jug might train himself down to fifteen minute naps by adopting a pint bottle.

The terrible epidemic of spotted fever that has just broken out at Lancaster is probably a plague on those people for having voted at their primaries for such a spotted political character as QUAY.

EAGAN seems to have promised everything and done nothing for the army. The conflicting testimony of the many witnesses who have been examined has already led to the belief that all the liars are not in the Legislature at Harrisburg.

It takes a brave man to be an honest Legislator these days. With so many tempting baits lying about Harrisburg it is a great wonder, though a monumental credit, that more goodguys have not been nibbling.

The Chinese are not permitted to enter America, yet they are good enough to be of the greatest service to American arms in the Philippines. Under existing circumstances which show the more enlightened christian spirit, the Chinese or the Americans?

If ANDREW CARNEGIE is really making a collection of fossils what he wants to do is to keep his eye on the archives of the Republican organization in Pennsylvania. There will be one of the rarest old specimens of relegatee politicians ever known to antiquarians.

The French commissioners of the Paris exposition for 1900 having declined space for woman's exhibits, the first time anything of the sort has ever been done in Europe, there will remain nothing in Paris to show that woman has any higher plain than that on which some creatures will display themselves at the Cafe Chantant and other such resorts.

With the Keystone State three or four million dollars in debt and the Governor insisting that the State is unable to pay its obligations it is not time to call a halt on extravagance at Harrisburg? Instead of encouraging the beginnings of what will be new and expensive departments would it not be far better to see the ending of a few of the useless ones already established and manned with fat salaried officials.

That Lock Haven youngster who shot the ground hog when it crawled out of its hole down along Bald Eagle creek, Wednesday afternoon, had better have taken a second thought before becoming so handy with his gun. It is beginning to look as if "his hogship" hadn't taken the hypnotic spell off that he put on "Old Boreas" early in February, and what if we should have this sort of weather all the time now?

At last the telephone has been tabooed by the scientific squirmers. They say that the receivers and transmitters are alive with disease germs by reason of people breathing into them and the only way to prevent a spread of disease by the telephone medium is to scrub them frequently. Since we are not permitted to osculate with our best girl any more, for fear of giving or getting disease, this last blow, that cuts our telephonic connection off, is unendurable.

Vice President HOBART sees the handwriting on the wall and thus early is permitting it to be known that he doesn't want a renomination. He says the excitement of another presidential campaign will be more than his health will stand and he wants to retire to private life. If the excitement is what he dreads then Vice President HOBART will do well to keep out of the campaign of 1900. Again the people put the backers of the rotten beef and Philippine murder schemes on the rack there will be exciting times for some one.

The Finlanders, having addressed a patriotic appeal to the world, inspired by the hope that the United States would take up their grievance against Russian encroachment, evidently fail to realize the mare's nest we have already stirred up by this policy of entente for humanitarian purposes. If Finns should be put on his back, in addition to the Cubans, Puerto Ricans, Hawaiians and Filipinos, there would be no doubt remaining as to Uncle SAM's having turned into a big sucker. But his fingers are burning now and the white haired patriots will have to pull their own chestnuts out of the fire.

Democratic Watchman.

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The Ring and Its Servant.

Representative HARRIS, of Clearfield county, is doing his level best to reconquer the Republican ring for the favors bestowed on him at the organization of the Legislature and since. It was probably not anything that he had done theretofore, but that which he might accomplish thereafter that impelled the Speaker of the House, under the direction, according to one of the witnesses before the investigating committee, of Mr. FRANK WILLING LEACH, to place him at the head of one of the leading committees of the body, that of the judiciary general. But he is "getting there" in his efforts to justify the faith reposed in him, and if not efficiently, or gracefully, or successfully, at least after the fashion of the organist in Artemus Ward's show "as well as he knows how."

The other evening Mr. HARRIS gave an exhibition of his willingness to serve his masters, though it must be said that he did it badly. The pending question was the bill creating a vast number of additional employees for and about the Legislature and Mr. HARRIS undertook to champion it. Maybe under ordinary circumstances he would have acquitted himself fairly well. But the trouble is that the machine "slipped a cog," so to speak, the running gears were thrown into confusion, and he was unable to rearrange them properly. All things considered, however, he didn't do badly. He wobbled a trifle, and backed and filled more or less, but in the end came up smiling, and justice compels the admission that he took his defeat as uncomplainingly as possible. But it is manifest that the ring is disappointed in him, and it is not certain that he will be again entrusted with so important a piece of ring work.

The fact of the matter is, however, that those who are not in sympathy with the ring schemes for spoliation took advantage of Mr. HARRIS. That is to say just before the bill to create a lot of new and useless offices was reached in the House, Mr. CORAY, of Luzerne, introduced a resolution of a peculiarly unfortunate character under the circumstances. This resolution proceeded to recite the fact that a considerable number of the employees of the House of Representatives perform no other duties than drawing their pay regularly, and that others faun out their jobs to less fortunate but more industrious individuals, and make a considerable margin out of the transaction. In view of these facts, Mr. CORAY's resolution asked the chief clerk for a list of the employees of the House with the amount of the salaries attached to the several places and a certificate of the time each official devotes to the performance of his duty. Such a resolution of itself might not have interfered much with the well-laid plans of Representative HARRIS on behalf of the ring to create a lot of new offices, but Mr. CORAY was indelicate enough to assert that he had a list of these officers already with all the other information asked for, and that he knows that nearly half the employees are earning nothing but drawing sung salaries, and of course in the face of such a revelation, Mr. HARRIS encountered rough roads for his infamous and impudent bill.

But he was not deterred by these untoward circumstances from trying his best to pay his obligations to the ring. He spoke not eloquently, nor even fluently, but earnestly and laboriously in behalf of the proposed robbery. He admitted that he didn't know anything about the questions involved, but declared that he had been told it was a good bill and alleged he was willing to take the word of those interested, because he knew they knew. He entered what the lawyers call a plea "in confession and avoidance," stammered all sorts of nonsense concerning the proper equipment of the Legislature to transact business, and wound up by sending to the clerk's desk to be read as part of his remarks an argument prepared by some one, no doubt, personally interested in the passage of the bill. After that the House amended the measure, cutting out all the redundant offices and postponed the bill until the next day when it was passed finally as amended.

Mr. HARRIS made a poor showing as the floor manager of machine legislation, but, as ARTEMUS WARD said in reference to the organist before referred to, "gentlemen, don't shoot, he's doing the best he can."

The Carnegie Library Bill for State College Will Probably Pass.

The gratifying report comes from Harrisburg to the effect that the CARNEGIE library bill, now before the Legislature, will likely pass that body next week. There was no fear for it in the Senate, so that the promise of its favorable consideration in the House almost assures its becoming a law.

By its provisions the State will make an annual appropriation of \$10,000 a year to maintain a library which ANDREW CARNEGIE has offered to build for The Pennsylvania State College at a cost of \$100,000.

You ought to take the WATCHMAN

The War in the Philippines.

The war goes merrily on in the Philippines, and according to the reports our armies are winning grand victories, as well as achieving great renown for valor and skill in battle. Each day brings fresh news of military triumphs and though the slaughter of the enemy is not great as such things are measured in the wars of recent history it is sufficient to justify the belief that resistance cannot be long maintained. A few scores of fatalities here and a hundred or two of deaths there will certainly bring the black barbarians to their senses soon and compel them to yield to the beneficent rule of American civilization, before long. It would be folly for them to pursue any other course. They can't have a clear understanding of liberty, of course, for they have never enjoyed such a boon. But they do know the meaning of life and the pains of death, for those things come naturally to the understanding of all men and even to some brutes.

Of course this heroic process of teaching the Filipinos the virtues of American government and the advantages of christian civilization is pretty hard on them, but what of that? It is also a rather severe reprimand to our lamented forefathers, who had the false notion that "governments derive their just powers from the consent of the governed," rebelled against their former government, and engaged in war, and killed thousands of their fellow-beings in support of that idea. It is a plain notice to the world, moreover, that the Americans of this enlightened and progressive period have no sympathy with that fault-finding spirit which impelled their forefathers to quarrel because a foreign power kept among them "standing armies without the consent of their Legislatures," affected to "render the military independent of and superior to the civil power," "quartered large bodies of armed troops among them," and imposed taxes upon them without their consent. All these things were plainly and palpably wrong on the part of our forefathers and we have never until now had the opportunity to make proper apology to the world for the outrages they perpetrated in the name of liberty and freedom. But now we are doing so in the most emphatic way, for we are imposing on a helpless and barbarous people the very things which they protested against with the sword and musket.

There is one thing concerning this matter, however, which in some measure qualifies the satisfaction which existing conditions must afford to all true Americans. It is in the general character of the reports from the theatre of hostilities in that far away tropical country on the China sea. It is in the fact that these reports, showing constantly recurring victories and frequently repeating triumphs to our arms, so closely and perfectly imitate the reports which went from Cuba to Spain describing the operations of the glorious Castilian army against the disorganized guerrillas who were presuming to do business in the name of liberty and independence on the soil of the "Queen of the Antilles." In fact the daily dispatches from the Philippines now, describing the conflicts as they occur, the retreat of the rebels, the flight of the insurgents to the mountains and the certainty that the final blow will be administered in a day or two are so exactly like those which we used to read from the pen of "Butcher" WEYLER and "Boaster" BLANCO, that we have no heart for them and beg that a new model may be adopted.

Short Sighted Huntingdon Enthusiasts.

The announcement that his friends at the bar at Huntingdon have successfully prevailed upon president judge JOHN M. BAILEY, of the 20th district, to become an aspirant for the Democratic nomination for Supreme court judge has been made, and it is but reasonable to suppose that judge BAILEY is now a candidate for that high honor.

No one will question his fitness for the seat, for he is indeed an eminent jurist in Pennsylvania, but there are reasons why judge BAILEY should not be a candidate. In the event that he should secure the nomination and be the one Democrat who must certainly be elected this fall it would be necessary for him to resign his position as president judge of the 20th district, comprising Mifflin and Huntingdon counties. His term does not expire until 1906, thus the opportunity would be given Governor STONE to appoint a judge there to serve out the unexpired term and the appointee would certainly be a Republican.

The district is largely Republican and judge BAILEY is probably the only Democrat who could be elected, so that even the possibility of his removal ought not to be contemplated.

The QUAY fight drags disgustingly on at Harrisburg and every day proves more emphatically the corruption that unites the boss for the high seat he impudently insists on occupying.

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The Bribery Investigation.

The committee of the Legislature investigating the charges of bribery in connection with the consideration of the MCCARRELL bill succeed in uncovering an interesting fact now and then. Those who expected that most of the Members would be involved in the scandal have been disappointed of course, for it may be justly said that a vast majority of the Members of the General Assembly are upright and honorable men. But those who at the outset endeavored to discourage the inquiry by alleging that "no investigation ever investigates" are equally disappointed by the proceedings of this body. It has proceeded slowly but safely and it has revealed facts which, if the courts are as faithful to their duties, will result in the conviction and punishment of some legislative bribers, and the discouragement of others.

Since the revelations made at the first sessions of the committee nothing of importance was developed until the session of last Tuesday evening. Then three witnesses gave important evidence. Representative CALDWELL, of Mercer county, testified that when he asked the present Attorney General of the State for help to get a subordinate position in the Legislature, that gentleman, then chairman of the Republican state committee, replied that the way to get such party favors is to attend the party caucus and obey the party mandates. As Mr. CALDWELL had declared that he wouldn't do one or the other of these things the plain inference is that the suggestion was intended to influence him by an implied promise of favors. But we are not left entirely to inference in interpreting the meaning of the present Attorney General. The man in whose behalf Mr. CALDWELL was acting subsequently learned that a vote for QUAY would produce the desired result, and the fact that Mr. CALDWELL's friend failed to get the place is because Mr. CALDWELL, himself, refused to be bribed.

Other interesting witnesses at the session of Tuesday evening were Representatives FRANCIS E. BROWN, of Union county, and PALMER LAUBACH, of Philadelphia. Mr. BROWN swore that Congressman CULP, of Northumberland county, had offered him \$300 if he would absent himself from the first joint session and any price that he might name for a vote for QUAY direct, and Mr. LAUBACH testified that a business man, whom he named, had offered him a choice of important offices if he would vote for QUAY. These are plain and unequivocal charges and should leave no doubt of the nature of the inquiry. It is not expected that it will make much difference in the vote for Senator for those who are voting for QUAY are "joined to their idols" and cannot be diverted by such a thing as evidence of his corruption. But it must result in the punishment of the would-be bribers and ought to admonish others as to make bribery a rare vice in the Legislature of this State for some time to come.

The Pennsylvania civil service reform association is supporting the bill now before the Legislature, which was introduced by the Hon. CLINTON ROGERS WOODRUFF and which contemplates the placing of all appointive state and municipal offices under the civil service system, the same as in the federal government. We have never become firmly convinced that civil service is right from a theoretical stand point and we are positive its present operation is not right. Were it to be carried into effect, as its supporters insist that it should be to accomplish best results, it would raise up a great office holding class in our government. And if a change is wholesome in the higher offices occasionally, why is it not so in the minor ones? Civil service is naught but a sham. Politicians will always be shrewd enough to surmount it and it is at present merely a cloak concealing much more disreputable practices than were thought of under the old system of giving the spoils to the victors.

The Democrats of New York State are learning the folly of trying to correct their own party evils by joining forces with the Republicans. New York has a Republican Legislature by virtue of Democratic votes and now that Republican majority is casting every legislative precedent and courtesy to the minority to the winds, by the most obnoxious and discourteous treatment of Democrats. Nothing else could have been expected from such a source and the sooner Democrats learn to stick to their own party, even if it is necessary to struggle in vain for a reformation therein, instead of running off to the Republicans, with the hope of gaining the same end, the better off they will be.

The Philadelphia Record is showing encouraging symptoms of being sick over the part it played in electing MCKINLEY. It now sees that BRYAN and BRYAN-ism would have been the lesser of what it viewed then as two evils.

Imperialism Comes High.

From the Pittsburg Post. The Democratic and Republican leaders on the committee of appropriations, Dockery, of Missouri, and Cannon, of Illinois, in the usual balancing of the books of an expiring Congress do not differ materially in their aggregates, but do not put things in the same way.

The facts are that the appropriations for the session just closed, covering the fiscal year commencing July 1st, 1899, aggregate \$673,658,400, with authority for contracts for future payments of \$70,000,000, not including the contracts authorized.

The total appropriations for the famous billion Congress of 1890 were \$1,035,080,109. Deducting the \$482,562,053 from the total for the late Congress on account of war expenditures, we find that it has appropriated for the ordinary expenses of government \$50,000,000 more than the famous billion Congress.

The deficiency in the treasury, between receipts and expenditures for the current fiscal year, will be not less than \$159,000,000. In the fiscal year commencing next July it will hardly be less than \$100,000,000.

By that time, says Mr. Dockery, "the \$402,000,000 of income arising from the sale of bonds under this administration and that of President Cleveland will have been exhausted, and the treasury will pass from the condition of a borrowed surplus to an actual deficit. Such a condition must be met either by increased taxation or by the issue of treasury certificates, or by additional bond issue."

This is as plain a statement as can be made, and a study of it will enable the reader to comprehend Uncle Sam's financial status. Since the fiscal year commencing July 1st, 1894, there has been a constant succession of treasury deficits, under the McKinley, the Wilson and the Dingley tariffs, amounting in the aggregate (including the estimated deficiency for this year) to \$352,900,000.

That's the deficiency of six years. Then it must be recalled that in that time we have received from loans under Cleveland and McKinley \$462,000,000, as well as increased taxes under the war revenue bill. On the other side of the ledger the net available balance in the treasury on the first day of February, 1890, was \$269,624,471, which as a matter of fact stands for borrowed money. Imperialism comes high.

A Michigan Editor Wants the Kind of a Sentence Eagan Got.

Editor Stearns of the Adrian, Mich., Press. The President's punishment of Gen. Eagan is to give him a leave of absence for six years on full pay of \$5,000, and then make him eligible to go on the retired list. Mr. President, we desire to go on record as calling any one a liar.

He lies in every pore of his body. He lies in both ventricles and in the right aricle of his heart.

He lies in the pulmonary artery and through his teeth.

Miles lies. Alger lies. The President of the United States lies. Hanna lies. We are something of a liar ourselves.

If you will sentence us to Eagan's severe punishment, we will plead guilty and save the expense of a court of inquiry.

Take Nothing for Granted With Republicanism.

From the Philadelphia Record. The Democrats who either directly or indirectly supported Mr. McKinley in 1896 and prevented his defeat are pleasantly told that their place is in the Republican party unless they permit themselves the luxury of a party of their own. These Democrats in supporting McKinley and saving him from defeat chose what they deemed the lesser of two evils. In adopting this alternative they did not suppose that the Republicans would signalize their victory by passing a tariff for the propagation of a vast swarm of trusts and monopolies to despoil the people. Republican policy is making it a question with many of these Democrats whether Republican success was the lesser of the two evils.

Most Any One Would Get Married for Such Gifts.

From the DuBois Express. The approaching marriage of W. K. Vanderbilt, Jr., and Miss Virginia Fair, is the brightest post-Lenten New York event in prospect, and it is said that fortunes have already been spent in presents. The mother of the bride-groom will expend \$150,000 upon a diamond riviere and all told, the gifts will amount to considerably more than \$1,000,000.

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

Spawls from the Keystone.

Thomas Eagen and Richard Hero, while working in the yard of the Lancaster county jail, made a break for liberty, running out of the enclosure. An underkeeper who pursued them shot Hero through the hand and captured him. Eagen escaped.

The Pennsylvania R. R. relief fund paid out \$571.80 in sick and accident benefits to members on the Tyrone division during the month of February. The total disbursements for sick, accident and death benefits on the P. R. R. system were \$85,045.30 for February.

Fred Whittiker, the Huntingdon county school teacher, against whom Bertha Counts instituted a damage suit at Pittsburg, and caused the young man to be locked up in the Allegheny county jail, was released on Saturday, the charges failing to stand the test of investigation.

Architect C. M. Robinson, of Altoona, formerly of Phillipsburg, has been chosen architect of the new Highland avenue Presbyterian church, East End, Pittsburg. The structure will cost \$35,000. Mr. Robinson has also been selected as architect for a new Methodist church at Paxanstown.

A clever check forger, who is probably the same man who worked Pittsburg recently has started in at Erie. He forged a check on the Herald publishing company for \$55. His method is to enter a place of business in his shirt sleeves as though he came from some neighboring store or counting room.

Somerset county, one of Pennsylvania's maple sugar strongholds, is this year experiencing one of the best seasons in its history, according to the statements of Mr. Shumaker and Adam S. Miller, two of the county commissioners. They say that the crop of sugar this season will go away ahead of crops for a number of years previous.

While Richard Eckroyd was engaged in drilling a well for Jacob Plankenborn at Muncy Monday afternoon, the boiler exploded and that gentleman was thrown a distance of fifty feet by the force of the explosion. Nearly all his clothing was torn from his body. He was badly scalded and the left leg was fractured below the knee. He will recover.

Mayor-elect Giles, of Altoona, will assume his new duties next Monday. Although he has made no official announcement of his appointments, it is understood in political circles that E. B. Seedenberg will be chief of police, William C. McGuire, police lieutenant, John W. Robeson, street commissioner, and W. P. Pimlott, chief of the fire department.

A person with a considerable amount of spare time on his hands has collected the following list of words which may be spelled forward and backward—plainaromas, ana, bab, bib, bob, bub, civic, dad, deed, defied, dewed, did, ecce, eve, ewe, ere, gog, gig, gag, level, madam, noon, otto, pap, pep, pip, pop, nun, redder, refer, repaper, reviver, rotator, sees, sexes, tat, tit, toot, tot and tut.

A recruiting officer for the United States army has been established in Altoona by Lieutenant S. R. Hancock, of civil war fame, and sergeant H. C. Scribner, of the regular army, who was wounded at San Juan Hill. The office is in the same room with the Fifth regiment headquarters. Lieutenant Hancock is a graduate of Columbia University, N. Y. and also of West Point. He is an officer in the Sixth United States artillery.

Nine weeks ago brakeman George Fisher met with an accident on the Hollidaysburg branch in which his left leg was broken. He was admitted to the Altoona hospital, where he remained until Monday morning, when he was discharged. During the day he visited a livery stable and moving about on a wet floor his crutches slipped and he fell breaking the leg again in the same place. He is again in the hospital where he will remain many weeks more.

The Clearfield county commissioners are charged with having purchased 12,000 miles of transportation over a local railroad at a cost of \$240, last year, and with having made trips at the expense of the county to Philadelphia, Harrisburg, Huntingdon, Altoona, Pittsburg and other places. There are some Clearfield county people who object to such an expenditure of money, and they propose to prevent a like expense this year, if possible.

Rev. Dr. I. N. W. Irvine, rector of the Episcopal church at Huntingdon, has been sued for forgery by Mrs. Alexander Elliot, a rich member of his congregation. Some of the church members want their pastor to leave, but he wishes to remain. The matter was presented to the bishop some time ago. It is alleged that Dr. Irvine wrote a letter to the bishop, stating that the relations between him and his congregation were perfectly satisfactory, and signed Mrs. Elliot's name to it. On this letter the charge of forgery is based.

The report of W. S. Hammond, auditor to distribute the funds in the hands of John Cree, assignee of the defunct banking firm of Gardner, Morrow & Co., of Hollidaysburg, was presented to judge Bell at Hollidaysburg, Monday. The total amount of claims presented and allowed by the auditor in this distribution was \$351,572.49; net amount for distribution, \$12,219.92. The expense of this audit is \$417.02. Included in this amount the auditor charges \$150 for his service and \$25 for services of Miss Mary Ingold, stenographer. The rate of distribution will be 3.374 per cent. The funds will likely be paid out the latter part of this or the early part of next week.

At Williamsport, Thursday evening, Mrs. Elizabeth Mellix, a partially paralyzed colored woman was preparing supper. While approaching the stove she lost the use of her members and fell across the stove. The Bulletin states that she struggled frantically, but was unable to move. The hot iron slowly burned into her flesh and she uttered piercing screams. The neighbors heard her cries, and running into the house lifted the unfortunate woman off the stove. Her dress had caught fire, but the flames were smothered with a piece of carpet. Medical assistance was hastily summoned and Mrs. Mellix's injuries dressed. She was badly burned on the entire left side of her body, her arms suffering the most. One foot was also scorched badly. While the burns are severe and painful, no serious results are feared.