

Ink Stings.

—Methinks nature has still a little snow up her sleeve.

—At last the "old man" stands before Justice. What will the harvest be?

—As the good book assures us that an ever considerate Providence tempers the winds to the shorn lambs, about the most balmy atmosphere to be found on this green earth must be sighing listlessly along Wall street these days.

—The only trust that the people have nothing to fear from is trust in God. Would that there were more of it and less of the great combinations of wind and capital that are so certain to destroy honest business and honest people.

—The attempt of the New York investigation committee to find out how boss CROKER made his money will be very apt to terminate in failure. He wasn't born rich, so there are two conclusions confronting everyone; he either acquired riches or had them thrust upon him.

—Now that the exchange of peace treaties has been made we are supposed to be good friends with Spain again. It is the kind of friendship, however, that two pugilists express for each other in the hand shake that follows a bout in which one of them has been knocked out.

—Far sighted glasses will be in demand at the state capitol, now that the QUAY trial is in progress at Philadelphia. The term is so near an end that the Members and Senators have to stick to their desks, but they will have their weather eyes towards the Quaker city all the same.

—Secretary of War ALGER has announced that he went into the President's cabinet to stay four years and he will stick to it. How considerate he is. It would be such a pity if he were to desert the President now, when such a really competent man as he is needed in the cabinet, we don't think.

—JAMES KNOCKED-OUT CORBETT, pugilist, actor, blatherskite, has decided to give up all his past employments and go into the irrigation business. All of the irrigating will be done through the alimentary canal and he will doubtless keep all the human jail that lines up to his bar flooded constantly.

—The report that Gen'l ROY STONE has made to the effect that in Puerto Rico people are starving and products are going to waste because they cannot afford themselves to the new order of things follows so closely upon the one from that island in which it was triumphantly announced that a Republican party had been organized that we cannot escape connecting the one with the other as a natural sequence.

—The Kansas girls, who have been serving with the 20th Kansas volunteers all through the Philippine war, passing cartridges to them in the trenches and tenderly nursing them when wounded, have been making history of which their State will be proud. The Kansas boys and the Kansas girls are happily showing no inclination to follow in the foot steps of such blatherskites as old bloody bridles WAITE and sister MARY ELLEN LEASE.

—Now that the army contractors have worked off all the job-lot brown overalls they were able to secure, under the more pretentious name of Khaki uniforms, the inspector general has condemned them as unfit for soldier dress in tropical countries and recommends linens, such as are worn by Spanish soldiers. It is to be inferred that the makers of the white trousers that flunked so disastrously on the market two summers ago have gotten a pull and are going to put in their self-worn trash at government prices.

—It is just as well that the American Philippine commission stated at the outset that the object of our "government is to ELEVATE the Filipinos," for if it hadn't been done the world might not have known that the thousands of blacks who are being shot down every day have all been given Uncle SAM's pass-ports to Heaven. You know he has a dead cinch on the golden stairs, by virtue of this glorious war that he is carrying on for christianity and civilization and it is to be supposed that; having evangelized Cuba and Puerto Rico with gospel dipped bullets, the matter of a few more dusky winged angels from the Philippines will not use up all the transportation over his air line to Heaven.

—Rev. WILSON CARLISLE, the sensational London divine, has delivered himself of a very uncompromising dissertation on the American slavishness to dollars. While the confession that wealth takes precedence over intelligence, morality or business acumen in our country should bring blushes to our cheeks England is the last source under the sun from which the finger of scorn should be pointed. What bought the title which MARY LEYER has as wife of the Viceroy of India, the most exalted position in all the British Empire, next to that occupied by VICTORIA, herself, what bought the title of Duchess of Marlborough; what bought the rank of Lady RANDOLPH CHURCHILL, if not American dollars? Since the proud but petered out nobility of England has bent its effete neck to the American dollar is it any more to be wondered at that toyadism to wealth should make our people forget all else that is good and noble.

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An Unavailing Complaint.

The esteemed Philadelphia Press declares its disappointment in and dissatisfaction with the Speaker of the House of Representatives in Harrisburg, Hon. JOHN R. FARR, in very emphatic language, in a recent issue. "At the very outset," observes the Press, "Speaker FARR, instigated by a vicious influence, abused the great responsibility that had been put upon him and misused his official authority to name a committee which was intended to cover up and not expose corruption." It was in connection with the bribery investigation now in progress that this language was employed. Mr. FARR has not done what the Press expected him to do with respect to that matter which is a pet affair of our esteemed contemporary. Maybe what is said is true. We have ourselves had some doubts of the sincerity of the Speaker in his professions of sympathy with the movement for reform, and it will be remembered that when the committee was appointed we suggested that there was something like inconsistency in appointing gentlemen to make an investigation who were opposed to exposures of any kind. But we protest that complaint against Speaker FARR doesn't fit in the mouth of the Philadelphia Press.

When the Legislature met for organization in January last the seventy-four Democratic Members of the House made tender of their votes and help in the organization toward the election of a Speaker whose character would serve as a guarantee against such outrages against integrity and decency as those of which the Press complains now. The proposition was to elect a gentleman to the important and influential office of Speaker who, though a Republican in politics, would use the powers of the office only for the public good. As an evidence of good faith these seventy-four Democratic Members asked no pledge of faith or promise of recompense for their service in reforming the Republican party in the Legislature. Gen. KOONTZ, it was reasoned, would be just to the Democrats because he would be loyal to the State and faithful to his obligations to the constitution and the law, and that was all that was expected or desired. But the Republican people and press of the State refused to entertain the proposition. Such Republican reformers as Senator FLINN, of Pittsburg, and Senator MARTIN, of Philadelphia, preferred a reformer of their own selection and they nominated and elected Mr. FARR. He disappointed them, it is true, but that is only an accident of conditions. If QUAY had been defeated and driven out of power as they promised he would be "within a week" after the balloting for Senator began, Mr. FARR would probably have been with them in every plan they have proposed since.

The truth of the matter is that even the reform Republicans, with rare exceptions, don't want reform. They are against QUAY because he doesn't divide the spoils of party victory with them according to their ideas of fairness, but that is as far as their notions of reform go. FLINN and MARTIN and others of their kind wanted a man for Speaker of the Gen. KOONTZ type no more than QUAY and ANDREWS and DURHAM wanted that sort of a man. Both factions of the Republican party were anxious to put a weak man in the chair, who could be used by whichever faction came out on top, and each accepted FARR, because they thought they were cheating the other. It turns out that QUAY got the oyster and the reformers the shell in the matter of the speakership and it would be more manly, if not more honest, for those who were hoodooed to accept their disappointment more philosophically. It is a case of "diamond cut diamond" and the bogus reformers, represented by the Philadelphia Press, will not secure much public sympathy by crying over their disappointment in Speaker FARR, the thinly gilded gold brick by which they duped themselves.

The government, which really means President MCKINLEY, has rightly declined to grant the application for the temporary release of Admiral DEWEY, in order that he might enjoy the welcome that would be accorded him on such a premature homecoming. The welcome will be all the more cordial when the natural order of events finds the new Admiral once more in American waters, so why rob it of its genuineness by calling him home before he has finished his work. Then too, there is that other reason, which the President probably never thought of, DEWEY might become a presidential candidate if he comes home and finds out what a great man he has become in the public eye.

Governor STONE, on Monday, vetoed the first measures since he has been in office. They were House bills extending the duration of the lien of the debts of a decedent upon real estate to five years and to protect the public from the unlawful use of bottles, jars, vessels and other packages in the sale of milk and cream and their products.

President McKinley's Public Record.

President MCKINLEY is preparing to make an extended trip westward during the coming summer, and if his present plans are carried out he will visit the Yellowstone Park and other far away points of interest in the remote sections of the country. It has been the custom for Presidents to "round the circuit" during the summer following their mid-term, and it has come to be regarded as the beginning of the campaign for re-election. But in the present instance it is not the beginning of the campaign. It is the continuation of a canvass which began almost simultaneously with the announcement of the result of the last presidential vote. Other Presidents have been quick enough and assiduous "appliance." But MCKINLEY has beaten all records. Circumstances almost justify the impression that he was scheming for the second election before he was certain of the first.

In some other respects President MCKINLEY has achieved the questionable distinction of making new records and raising unknown standards. It will be remembered that the Spanish Minister at Washington in service at the time the present administration came into power, was practically dismissed from the capital because in a letter he had expressed doubts of MCKINLEY's sincerity in certain matters and questioned his candor. Yet an impartial review of the public events since the Fourth of March, 1897, force the conclusion that DELOME was more accurate than diplomatic in his expression. That is to say the records show unmistakably that the President has been either lacking in candor or else he has been woefully vacillating in various matters, to speak mildly. For example he has pretended that he had no sympathy with the Imperialists, and actually, by implication, asked the confidence and support of those who are opposed to that dangerous, not to say nefarious, policy. But in every possible way he has himself given aid and assistance to the Imperialists, and to promote their plans he has not hesitated to violate the constitution and pervert the laws of the land.

It has become the custom to speak of MCKINLEY's faults with bated breath, and indulge him in his fancies as if there was something in the nature of "les majestie" in holding him to account as other Presidents and public officials have been and are held. Maybe there was wisdom, if not reason, in this while the war with a foreign foe was on. But the conditions are altered now and we can see no reason why he should not be criticised, when he deserves criticism, as WASHINGTON, JACKSON, LINCOLN and GRANT were. Under that honest and earnest conviction we have no hesitancy in saying now, in the light of the facts which have been developed before, during and since the war, that this country has never in its history had a President who paid as little regard to the obligations of patriotism, of truth and integrity as WILLIAM MCKINLEY. His administration has been from the beginning one of political intrigue, and a foil for conduct that would not have been tolerated by any of his predecessors in office.

Perplexing Conditions in the Senatorship.

The senatorial situation at Harrisburg, continues to perplex the public. That is to say the balloting continues from day to day without material change, and though there are plenty of rumors of impending events, they fail to materialize. This, in itself, is neither surprising nor altogether bewildering, for politics have always been an uncertain quantity. But the fact is that no man can tell one day what turn affairs may take the next, and that is the astonishing thing about the present senatorial contest.

For more than two weeks there have been rumors current that Senator MAGEE, of Pittsburg, intends to withdraw his support from QUAY and any time within that period there have been close friends of the Pittsburg leader ready to bet any amount of money that he would be elected Senator in Congress before the end of the session. Yet as a matter of fact the leaders of the "insurgents" are ready to swear that under no circumstance will any considerable portion of that contingent vote for MAGEE, while the QUAY leaders protest that they will everlastingly be switched if they ever leave the "old man" to go to the support of a man who has been manifestly treacherous to their chief from the beginning, as they allege that MAGEE has been.

Meantime we are within a week of the end of the session and there are no signs of a change in conditions that are discernible by the naked eye. The Democrats are as solid in the support of their admirable candidate as they were in the beginning, the "insurgents" will accept neither QUAY nor MAGEE and the QUAY followers will take nobody but their own and only "old commander." Under the circumstances how is a fellow to make any predictions? To our mind it is utterly impossible, though we can see how all the elements in the contest might promote the interests of the State and political morals by uniting on GEO. A. JENKS for the office.

The Matter of Militarism

One of the military statisticians of the country has been favoring the public with some figures which show beyond doubt that we haven't troops enough in our regular army to serve the purposes for which they are intended, and it is therefore the bounden duty of Congress or some other agency or authority to provide more without delay. Previous to the beginning of the war with Spain, this writer tells us, we had about 25,000 men in arms to man the forts and defend the frontiers but now, though the army is more than twice the strength of that time, there are only 18,000 men to perform the same duty, while the exigencies of our foreign, or to speak more accurately, the requirements of our colonial affairs, may further deplete the force at any time. In his opinion, in view of these facts, the present army of about 62,000 men ought to be increased to at least double that number.

No doubt this man is right. Since we have embarked on a career of militarism we are shamefully short of the military force which will bring us up to the standard of Germany and Russia and France and Great Britain and the other powers with which we are likely at any moment to be brought, not only in competition but in actual conflict. Of course those countries which have maintained large standing armies have been growing poor while we have been increasing in wealth with marvelous rapidity, but what of that? In the matter of parade and panoply either one of them can knock the spots off us with one hand tied behind her back and what do other things matter? Their people there are tax-ridden, down-trodden and poverty stricken, to be sure, but they have vast armies and strut about in regimentals like bullies in a barroom and that is the sum of all greatness, according to the military notion of things. In view of these facts there can be no doubt of our duty in the matter. It is to not only double but to quadruple our military force at once; and if Congress can't be depended on to perform its obvious duty in the premises there is nothing left but for the President to take the matter out of the hands of Congress and attend to it himself. That would be a trifle hard on the constitution, but as TRIM CAMPBELL once remarked, "what's the constitution among friends?"

There is another way to look at the matter, to be sure, but a military statistician could not be expected to think of it and as our "manifest destiny" is the matter of first consideration and highest importance, it is just as well not to give too much attention to it. But for the contemplation of such old-fashioned fellows as have not yet been raised up to the altitude of militarism we might mention that the trouble could be avoided by attending to our own business, cultivating our own soil, developing our own resources, protecting our own property and lives, and living in the future as we have in the past, a peaceful and prosperous people, promoting civilization by setting a wholesome example of industry, ingenuity and progress to the whole world. By that policy our forefathers laid the foundations of a prosperity which has won not only the respect but the admiration of the world, besides laying up a supply of material resources physical strength and moral courage that enables us to command the respect and obedience of all the spendthrift and dissipated powers on earth. Under such circumstances we might discharge soldiers rather than increase the army and restore the force of our military police to the numerical condition it was in before the "dreams of empire" turned our silly heads.

There are plenty of forms of greatness preferable to that which is achieved by stifling the liberties and dwarfing the productive powers of the people. A vast army is one evidence of strength, but it is one that leads to weakness and produces poverty. The true form of greatness and power is that which strengthens the manhood and promotes the self-reliance of the people and a big standing army never has and never can accomplish that result. Because of these indisputable facts, therefore, we shall continue to align ourselves with those of the people, and they will increase in number as time moves on, who believe in the practices and policies which have made this country the greatest, most prosperous and most progressive in the world, and its people the happiest and most enlightened.

Within the past fifteen months trusts with capital aggregating \$4,185,489,000, have been formed in the United States; more than a dollar a piece for every man, woman and child living on the globe. The real value of the properties of these gigantic combinations is not more than \$1,000,000,000, so that there is certain to be a collapse someday and the holders of the stock will be the sufferers. Away with a system of government that permits such air plants to live, parasites on legitimate business.

—You ought to take the WATCHMAN

Quay at Last Before a Jury.

The Ex-Senator Must Defend His Character Now or Fall—On Trial Alone and on Only One of the three Counts.

Ex-United States Senator Matthew Stanley Quay was, Monday, put on trial before a jury in the charge of conspiring with Ex-State Treasurer Benjamin F. Haywood, deceased; John S. Hopkins, former cashier of the People's bank, deceased, and others not named to misuse the State's money deposited in that bank. Richard B. Quay is not yet on trial, since he is not named in the particular bill of indictment, No. 331, on which district attorney Rothermel elected to begin. There are also two other indictments against Colonel Quay upon which he may be tried if either a conviction or an acquittal is secured on the present indictment, but the success or failure of the Commonwealth in securing the verdict in the indictment now before the court will probably decide the fate of the other two.

TRYING ON ONE INDICTMENT. The defense was offered the opportunity of having the two defendants heard on all four indictments at once, but A. S. L. Shields, one of the defendants' counsel, insisted that the cases be tried "according to law," that is on one indictment at a time. At Mr. Shields request also it was not made a matter of record that Ex-State Treasurer Haywood, in the bill which the district attorney elected, was under indictment with Colonel Quay. Haywood was alive when the bill was originally drawn, and in it he was indicted with Quay.

JURY SOON SELECTED. In the selection of the jury which followed it was noticeable that district attorney Rothermel used freely his exclusive right to stand aside as jurors, the right which would have been curtailed and divided equally between the prosecution and the defense by the McCarrell bill. He stood aside 14 talesmen. The Commonwealth used up 3 peremptory challenges and the defense its full amount, 4. One talesman, Talcott Williams, editorial writer on the Press, was challenged "for cause," the cause being that "openly, bitterly and in an ugly manner" he had assailed the two defendants in the editorial columns of his paper. The panelling of the jury was not completed until Monday afternoon, then the State presented an outline of what it hopes to prove.

THE PROGRESS ON TUESDAY. On Tuesday the most important testimony was received from receiver Barlow and ex-Judge Gordon. The chief feature of the day was the offer by the district attorney to stand aside as jurors, the right which would have been curtailed and divided equally between the prosecution and the defense by the McCarrell bill. He stood aside 14 talesmen. The Commonwealth used up 3 peremptory challenges and the defense its full amount, 4. One talesman, Talcott Williams, editorial writer on the Press, was challenged "for cause," the cause being that "openly, bitterly and in an ugly manner" he had assailed the two defendants in the editorial columns of his paper.

The remainder of the day was occupied by Mr. Watson in a legal argument against the admission of the bank books and papers as evidence. The trial went steadily forward in Judge Biddle's court Wednesday, the judge overruling the objections of the defense to the admission of the books of the People's bank. The exception made respecting the famous "red book," which has occupied such a conspicuous place in the proceedings thus far and upon which a judicial decision is temporarily in abeyance, gives promise of a future locking of horns by the distinguished legal gladiators representing the respective sides of this contention. The appearance on the witness stand of ex-district attorney Graham was not productive of the sensational features anticipated by some, his testimony being a perfunctory identification of the "Quay" letters and telegrams that had been offered at the hearing before a Magistrate last autumn. The lawyers are confronted with the knotty problem of how most conveniently to attack the great mass of documentary evidence comprised in the more than two hundred books of the People's bank.

Now at Peace.

Hatchet of War Buried Between the United States and Spain. WASHINGTON, April 11.—The condition of war which has existed between the United States and Spain since April 21st, 1898, terminated to-day when the last formalities in the restoration of peace were performed by the exchange of ratifications of the peace treaty. Coincident with this President McKinley issued his proclamation declaring that the war was at an end and the appointment of Bellamy Storer was conventioned upon as United States minister to Spain.

After the ceremony connected with the exchange of the ratification of the treaty President McKinley issued the following proclamation: Whereas, The treaty of peace between the United States of America and her majesty, the queen regent of Spain, in the name of her august son Don Alfonso XIII, was concluded and signed by their respective plenipotentiaries at Paris on the 10th day of December, 1898, the original of which convention being in the English and Spanish languages, is word for word. And, whereas, the said convention has been duly ratified on both parts and the ratifications of the two governments were exchanged in the city of Washington on the 11th day of April, 1899.

Now, therefore, be it known that I, William McKinley, president of the United States of America, have caused the said convention to be made public to the end that the same and every article and clause thereof may be observed and fulfilled with good faith by the United States and the citizens thereof. In witness, whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed. Done at the city of Washington this eleventh day of April in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and ninety-nine, and of the independence of the United States the one hundred and twenty-third. By the President. WILLIAM MCKINLEY. JOHN HAY, Secretary of State.

Spawls from the Keystone.

—Weavers in the New Holland (Lancaster county) silk mill are on a strike because of a wage disagreement.

—In the Milnesville colliery, Luzerne county, Andrew Dino and a mule he was driving were killed by a fall of slate.

—Postmaster Young, of Gettysburg, Sunday appointed Harry Elliott, a Democrat, his assistant, vice John H. Slenz, Republican.

—While coupling cars in the Philadelphia & Reading railway yard at Tamaqua, brakeman Joseph Swanborough was crushed to death.

—Lockjaw, the result of a wound in his foot, sustained by stepping on a rusty nail, caused the death of Charles Hershock, of Lancaster.

—Inside superintendent Joseph Bierschmitt fell part way down the Locust Spring slope, Northumberland county, and was badly injured.

—As Peter Underlow, of Elysburg, Northumberland county, drove hurriedly with his sick daughter, Nellie, to a doctor the child died in his arms.

—In full war paint and Indian costume the newly elected officers of the Lappawingoe tribe of Red Men of Bethlehem, were publicly installed in the presence of 3,000 people.

—A committee appointed to consider a proposed division of the Protestant Episcopal diocese of Central Pennsylvania met Sunday at Bethlehem for that purpose, but would not reveal the character of its coming report.

—The Buffalo, Rochester and Pittsburg railroad company will erect a four stall round house and a new station at Johnsonburg this season. They will also strengthen the trestlework which spans the P. and E. tracks.

—In the Adrian mine near DuBois, Saturday a fall of coal instantly killed Albert Jenkins, fatally injured William Frew and severely bruised Andy Nicholl. Jenkins' body was horribly crushed. He was 24 years old and leaves a family.

—It is reported that the Pennsylvania railroad company has sold the grounds and buildings of the famous Mountain house, Cresson, to the United States government which, it is said, proposes to establish there a home for disabled soldiers of the Spanish-American war.

—At Jersey Shore, Friday, Benjamin Atherton while standing in his back yard, was conscious of sharp twinges of pain in his cheek. Blood began to flow. A physician picked two bird shot from his cheek. The shot had come from the gun of Peter Knauff, who was shooting pigeons.

—The report of the Danville insane asylum shows that the common laborer leads the list of patients, farmers are a close second and miners are third among the demented. The cause of insanity in most cases is ascribed to worryment, and in this the poorer classes predominate. Of the trades and professions there are comparatively few patients at the asylum.

—A. E. Maxwell, of Montoursville, sued G. W. Hall of that place to recover a balance of over two dollars on a bill. Judgment, Monday, was given the plaintiff by the justice, whereupon Hall retaliated by swearing out a warrant charging Maxwell with setting fire to his own store, which was destroyed about a year ago. Maxwell gave bail for trial at court.

—The old Juniata Iron works at Hollidaysburg, operated by the Eleanor iron company, will again resume the manufacture of iron very soon, after being idle for about fifteen months. R. C. Neal, of Harrisburg, H. L. Sholly, of Tyrone, and others, constitute the company. Everything for an early start is being pushed along as rapidly as possible, and it is expected that the works will very soon be turning out muck bars, various sizes of merchant iron and skelp iron.

—Ex-county commissioner John McLaughery of Clearfield after an absence from the river for ten years, piloted a very heavy oak raft from Hogback run to Look Haven last Thursday. On account of the heavy oak timber it scarcely floated above the water, and several pilots refused to run it. Mr. McLaughery, however, took it through without any trouble, and found the course as natural as when, years ago, he made the trip many times each spring. He is now 72 years of age.

—No sleeping cars will be stored by the Pennsylvania, the Baltimore and Ohio or the Philadelphia and Reading at Philadelphia during the encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic there in September. Two reasons have been assigned for the action of the three roads. One is that the hotel men have objected to the custom. The other reason is that the phenomenal activity in freight movements for the past few months will, in all likelihood, continue, and that it will be a difficult matter for the lines to set aside any special section of a yard or siding for a week or ten days.

—John Rohn, living about three miles from Pottersdale, near Keating, left his home last Wednesday morning to go to the woods. Up to date he has not been seen or heard from. It is feared that he has either been waylaid and killed for his money or lost his way or was injured in some way. Tuesday morning a party of fifty or more neighbors started out on a hunt for the missing man. Mr. Rohn was somewhat eccentric in his habits and is known to have had considerable money about his person. He had a habit of hiding it in peculiar places, such as wood sheds, barns and in the woods.

—The contract for the construction of a large tunnel on the main line of the Pennsylvania railroad, just east of Tyrone, was awarded, on Friday, to the Drake & Stratton company of Pittsburg, for a sum approximating \$200,000. Work will begin on the contract at once, and it will be rushed through before the end of the present year. The improvement is in line with the other extensive work the Pennsylvania road is pushing through in order to perfect its system. The tunnel will greatly reduce the heavy mountain grade at that point. Other contracts of a similar nature will be awarded throughout the year. The point where this tunnel will be driven is at Spruce Creek, not far east of Tyrone, where the grades are very heavy. The tunnel will be over 1,150 feet long and will be double tracked. Two hundred men will be put to work on it at once.