

Ink Slings.

—Who would have thought that a Philadelphia messenger boy had enough life in him to strike?

—Because the price of lumber has gone up so high it need not necessarily be taken as a sign that board at the Seashore is to be higher.

—It was a bright, fresh day, was August 1st, when ALGER stepped down out; and a new policy must now take root; if the Filipinos would be put to route.

—ALGERISM has cost us enough in blood and money to make post mortems a very distressing occupation. It is dead. Let it rest, undisturbed, in the discredited grave it fills.

—What are the Republicans going to do about their state administration? They couldn't endorse it in Centre county, hence it would not be expected that they will have the nerve to ask people to support it next fall.

—"Nobody wants war," says Sir WILFRED LAURIER, premier of Canada, in speaking about our Alaskan boundary dispute. If he were only as certain about not wanting Alaska there never would have been any trouble.

—Did it ever occur to you that the majority of the prominent figures in the Republican factional fight in this county are Methodists. That is, they were, for the Good Man knows they all need "doin' over" mighty bad now.

—Are any preparations being made to receive the "matchless leader" when he returns from Cape May? Really there ought to be a few barrels of juice and a canopy of long green, extending from the station to North Allegheny street, just as mementoes of the great reform (?) victory.

—SAMPSON has filed a claim for prize money for himself and men on account of the boats they sunk off Santiago in July, 1898. It will be interesting to discover what portion of the bonus SAMPSON will accord to SCHLEY, the man who won the victory.

—The rumor that former Governor HASTINGS is aspiring to legislative honors is certainly only a rumor. Not because the position is beneath the "unapproachable leader" but more so because he might consider it so since being stilted up again by his recent victory in Centre county.

—QUAY is to be on hand at the coming Republican state convention at Harrisburg and to that end he has had himself elected as a delegate from Beaver county. It is quite apparent that the "old man" no longer trusts even those who pretend to be his friends and prefers to be there, himself, to throw the lash into his minions.

—While the peace commissioners at The Hague have tabooed the dum dum bullet as an instrument of warfare that has too much savagery in it for civilized nations to use, the manufacture of the rum dum beverage still goes on. The terrible killing it does can not be equalled in any way by the missile that speeds from the Mauser rifle.

—Mrs. George Hacket, of Brownsville, Blair county, recently gave birth to a young son and the happy father, so it is said, became so excited over the event that he told his neighbors there were seven of them. They did not believe him at first, but Hacket maintained that he was right and the report spread. Now the museum managers are after him and his wife and he has settled down to cold facts, realizing that one is quite enough at a time.

—The idea of the Utah Mormons sending agents East to win recruits to their religion is not so ridiculous as the hasty might suppose it to be. Every day the papers tell us of men who are leading double lives, dishonoring their families and disobeying God, and with such knowledge so constantly before us it is not unreasonable to conclude that there are lots about us who would be only too eager to embrace polygamy, were it not for the law's strictures upon such practices.

—A noted old lawyer was once coaching a student of BLACKSTONE, whom he was preparing for the bar, when he gave him this advice: "Young man, the minute you find out that you have no case sail in and give the other side h—l." It looks very much as if all the Republican newspaper men in the country had been under the tutelage of the same old barrister. They know they have no case with which to answer the charges of imperialism, neglect of soldiers, trust pampering and money contracting that are being made against them so they, one and all, turn in and try to divert public attention by giving BRYAN h—l.

—Senator BURROWS, of Michigan, is one of the first Republicans who has had the courage to talk sense on the Philippine situation. He says: "If I could have had my way we would have simply a coaling station or a base of supplies in the island of Luzon; we would not have paid a penny to Spain and we would have our footing in the East without the sacrifice of life and money." "I believe in finding new markets for our people, at the same time we must not overlook the fact that we may run counter, at any moment, to England, France, or Germany, and I believe that England, now apparently so friendly, will strike at us the moment we cross her threshold."

Senator BURROWS appears not to be biased by the same narrow influences that seem to contract the vision of his fellow party men. He looks at the situation as an honest statesman and views it with alarm for the Republican party and his country.

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A "Prosperity" That Breeds Strikes.

To some it may seem strange that just when the talk about prosperity is the loudest, and people are beginning to think there may be something in it, that strikes should break out, lock-outs be threatened and labor troubles loom up with alarming proportions.

The prosperity that we now imagine we are enjoying is not by any means a general betterment of business. It is a prosperity that, like a poor field of wheat, is only in spots. It is seen in one locality and unknown in another; felt in one business and has no effect upon another.

What makes the trouble is the fact that prices have increased at a much greater rate than wages. While iron and articles made from it have advanced from 40 to 150 per cent. wages, in some instances, have not gone up at all, and in others but from 5 to 15 per cent.

To-day, with all our imagined prosperity there are large classes of our people in worse condition than before we heard of it or hoped for it. These are the farmers, and working men in other than iron industries.

With more going out and less coming in, for a majority of our people—is it to be wondered that the prosperity the few are enjoying is making the many restless and unsatisfied? So it is not to be wondered that street car employes and others whose wages have not been advanced, but who are compelled to pay out of the pittance they receive the increased price this seeming prosperity has added to the necessities they require, are growing desperate and resorting to strikes?

Capital is said to be falling over itself in the effort to get stock in the airship company being organized in New York. The proposition is transportation from New York to London or Paris in thirty hours. And it is likely to succeed if the air only holds out.

Some of our contemporaries complain that President McKinley is neglecting his duties and deserves censure for his absence from Washington so much of the time, and at such critical periods as he has chosen for his outings. The WATCHMAN does not agree with them.

It is of the opinion that the less the country has of McKinley and McKinleyism; the less interest he takes in public affairs and the less his ideas have to do with the settlement of questions that properly belong to the Chief Executive, the better it will be for all concerned.

It is true that the country needs a President—needs a wise head and a strong hand to guide it through the troubled and turbulent times of the present. But it is better that the present conditions—unsettled, doubtful and dangerous as they are—continue than to encourage the additional and permanent evils such as any policy McKinley is likely to adopt or favor would inflict upon us.

We can stand the present state of affairs for the year and a half that he has to serve as President, but we don't want it made worse, and then that worse fastened irrevocably upon us, as it would be were he to forget his candidacy for re-election and turn his attention from campaigning to the kind of statesmanship his capacity understands and his inclinations would attempt to enforce.

We know that troubles do not breed themselves, and that mistakes are fewer when nothing is being done or attempted. Consequently so long as the President is absent and not bothering about state affairs we can be happy in the thought that governmental ills are not being added to, or governmental dangers and disgraces increased.

For these reasons we should all rejoice that the President is taking a rest. We shall hope that it will be a long, quiet and enjoyable one.

It will be a rest, not only for him but for the country.

A Divided Disgrace.

Secretary ALGER went out of office on the 1st inst. but before going he dumped a goodly portion of his woes squarely upon the shoulders of the President. In his statement, which is put forth as an apology for his shortcomings, he makes it explicit that the appointments made for the army, and through the incompetency of which so much suffering and disease and death resulted, was the work alone of President McKinley; that the entire list of applications for appointment, with their recommendations, were turned over to the President and that of those named but few were chosen on the recommendations of the Secretary of War.

No one doubts that in this matter Secretary ALGER is telling the honest truth. It may help divide the responsibility for the incompetency that brought such disgrace upon the War Department, and such distress and suffering to those in the field. It may even exonerate Mr. ALGER to a certain extent for the wrongs perpetrated upon the soldiers in camp, at the front and in hospitals; but it brings back none of our dead, it atones for none of the wrongs against those who risked their lives for their country's honor, it takes nothing from the smell of the rotten beef contracts, nor does it lessen the crime of the incompetency that filled so many graves with victims of unwholesome food, unsanitary camp arrangements, uncares for sick, and stale and worthless medicines.

Mr. ALGER may dodge some of the disrepute that will ever cling to his management of the War Department by dividing it, but the public cannot see that his responsibility for the failure and offenses that drove him from the office in disgrace are any the less because they were shared by the President. A competent and brave Secretary would have revolted at the time, against incompetent and unworthy appointments. He would have acted when that action would have saved the reputation of and respect for his department. But Mr. ALGER did not do this. He allowed President McKinley, dictated to and controlled by MARK HANNA, to fill the army with incompetent "sons of great men" because political necessities demanded their recognition. He permitted these appointees to be assigned to positions, the duties of which they knew nothing about, and to place the entire army at the mercy of such service as mercenary jobbers and corrupt contractors would furnish. In his disgraceful leave taking of official life he has tasted the fruit of such subservency, and no excuses that he may now make will ever restore to him either the confidence or respect of the American people.

That President McKinley deserves censure, along with ALGER, no one doubts; but few ever had any doubt about this. The latter's statement fixes and fastens enough of the stigma that clings to the management of the War Department upon the "Commander-in-Chief" of the army to eternally damn any man. It loads Mr. McKinley down with equal responsibilities for acts that have driven ALGER from the cabinet, and with equal responsibilities for offenses that have made him a reproach to the people and an official disgrace to the country.

The one has been driven from public place and public confidence. Should not the other follow?

—It is certainly very polite to say that if the President decides to put another General in command of our forces in the Philippines it will be done only because he "wants General ORIS to have unrestricted sway in the work in which he has been so signally successful, that is, in the forming of municipal governments over there." We say it is polite, because we believe it is not truthful. General ORIS has been a failure in the Philippines, as was SHAFER in Cuba, HOUIDEKOPER at Chicamanga, and ALGER at Washington. If the President makes a change at all it will be because he realizes this. And if a change is to be made why not MILLS where he belongs and no fear for the future need then be felt?

—Good old Republican Philadelphia, the city that always first cries out about imaginary maltreatment of the blacks in the South, has had the race question brought right home to her very doors. The white Methodist brethren down there having refused permission to their black brethren to picnic in their National park there has been a great disturbance kicked up among the Zorites up on Melon street. The very idea of a colored church on Melon street is enough to cause trouble in itself without plunging the embryonic dusky angels into further trouble by refusing them picnic privileges at the National park.

—The recent fight in the Republican fold in Centre county has made it a work of supererogation for the future for Democrats to tell the people of the corruption in that organization.

—Subscribe for the WATCHMAN.

No Fair Election—No Honest Returns.

To punish the indolence of the fellow who is too lazy to get up in time for breakfast he is usually compelled to go hungry until the hour for the next regular meal. We imagine this will be about the case with those newspapers and politicians, who are now proposing so many different plans to secure action on the constitutional amendments, about which they failed to show any interest when that interest would have been of some use.

Three months ago the WATCHMAN called attention to the necessity of some movement that would test the Governor's power to prevent, by veto, the submission of the proposed amendments to the people. It appealed to the newspapers of the State to aid in arousing public sentiment on this question, and it pleaded with those at the head of the party organization to take such action as would secure the interference of the courts in behalf of the people's rights.

Now that it is too late to act; when the date fixed by the constitution for the advertising of these amendments has passed, a great hullabaloo is being raised and all sorts of propositions, suggestive of punishment for those responsible for the failure to submit them to the people, are being made.

Punishment for such usurpation of authority as the Governor is guilty of, and for such failure to perform his duties as his Secretary of State has shown, is all right. But how is it to be accomplished? By impeachment? This is the only method, and when one comes to remember that the Senate, which would finally determine whether these officials are guilty or not, is the subservient slave of the boss, whose dictation controlled the action of both the Governor and his Secretary in this matter, the chances of any punishment fades as does mist before the summer sun. Such a result is not even a possibility. And to talk of getting square with usurpers of official authority in Pennsylvania, by impeachment, so long as the State is boss ridden and the Senate is boss governed, is a waste of both time and words.

The time to have demanded action on the amendment and the acts of those opposing their submission to the people, was while there was time to get a judicial determination of the questions arising out of these acts. There was plenty of time and abundant opportunity for this but forgetfulness, indifference and neglect got in their work and the time has passed. It is now too late to remedy the wrong, and to redress the grievance is an impossibility.

The boss has won again and fair election laws and honest returns will not be ours to enjoy for many years to come. To those whose positions required them to lead in this matter, but whose indifference or neglect, aided the opponents of the constitutional amendment in preventing a decision of the courts on the Governor's usurpation are we indebted for the situation we find ourselves in.

—The HASTINGS followers in the county do not propose to get left, if taking an early start will prevent it. They have already started Col. W. F. REEDER as a candidate for Judge LOVE's position, although in the natural course of affairs there will be no vacancy in that office until January, 1905. It is possible they may imagine that in some way or other they can secure the Judge's resignation or removal, and with this expectancy are "taking time by the forelock," by setting up the pegs for Col REEDER. Just how far this movement will go, or what it will result in, remains to be seen, but if it is to succeed through the talked of and threatened impeachment of the Judge or is to continue on during the rest of his term, there is a chance for a good deal of fun and considerable fight before it ends.

—The Bellefonte Republican announces itself as the recognized official organ of the Republican party of Centre county and we'll have to give it credit for knowing whereof it speaks. HASTINGS is the boss, not only of the Republicans in the county, but of our down town contemporary, as well. Therefore it is only natural to recognize in his own organ the official party paper. Of course there is really not much in it, but then it just goes to show the ups at i down's of politics.

—Now that ALGER has gone let us have a clean sweep. Let CORBIN be given his walking papers and give us a change of commanders in the Philippines.

—The United States navy has gone fairly on record as being in favor of the propagation of the kissing bug.

We All Have a Right to Our Convictions.

From the York Gazette. Those who assume to call traitorous any language opposing the actions of the administration in regard to the Philippines may learn a lesson from our British brethren.

The question of a possible war with the Boer republic came up during a debate in parliament on Friday last. Mr. Chamberlain, colonial secretary, openly avowed the willingness of the government to go to war if necessary to maintain British supremacy. This position was violently attacked by Campbell-Bannerman, the leader of the Opposition, who said that he could see nothing from the beginning to the end of this story to justify armed intervention.

To this Mr. Chamberlain retorted that such observations were calculated to embarrass the action of the government. And he proceeded to justify the government's position and defend its acts. Over here, however, in the land of free speech, the situation is just a trifle different. Here the government does not condescend to explain, but insists on blind support and endorsement and yells "traitor" if anyone dares to express his honest convictions.

A resort to secrecy and epithets always looks very suspicious and sets serious-minded citizens to thinking.

An Explanation that Does not Explain.

From the Altoona Tribune. The explanation which was given to the press by Secretary Alger previous to his retirement was one of the sort that does not explain. There was some just criticism concerning the quality of the appointments to the volunteer force of officers, but the chief complaint of the people came about because of the wretched manner in which the army was fed, the inadequate provision for the care of the sick and wounded, and the utter lack of means for landing the troops that were sent to Santiago. But Mr. Alger is now a private citizen. It is not necessary to continue to discuss his failings in the War Department. It is to be hoped that his successor will prove as efficient in this position as he has been in the other places he has occupied. That is all his countrymen will require of him.

The Law Must Prevail.

From the Philadelphia Record. The persistent violence of the Cleveland mob who have undertaken to champion the cause of the street car employes is likely in the end to be more damaging than beneficial to the cause which they have espoused. Their resort to boycotting and dynamite is a challenge to the authority of the State of Ohio which will have to be met. It is the business of the State to make life, the possession of property and safe transit along the public highways secure at all hazards. When the dispute takes that shape the original cause of quarrel is lost sight of, and a settlement may be reached without reference to the merits of the matter in controversy.

Don't Borrow Your Neighbor's Paper.

From a Southern Exchange. A man in Missouri, who was too stingy to buy a paper sent his young boy to a neighbor's to borrow one. As the boy was going home he fell down and broke his leg. The neighbor heard his cries and ran out to him, but slipped and fell, dislocating his knee and tore the bosom out of his ten dollar pantaloons. His wife ran to his assistance, leaving a two year old baby on the floor. The baby crawled out and fell down the well, and while the mother was fishing for the child the house caught on fire and was totally destroyed. Moral: It never pays, besides it's dangerous, to borrow a paper.

The Victory Does not Whitewash Hastings, by Any Means.

From the Clearfield Republican. The best citizens all over Pennsylvania are glad that ex-Governor Daniel H. Hastings administered such a complete thrashing to Judge John G. Love in Centre county last Saturday because they believe the judiciary has no right to mix in dirty politics. They are not ready, however, to accept Hastings as the embodiment of all that is pure and clean in politics, by a long shot. So please don't give us so much "superb" business when discussing the victory.

"Better Government and Clean Politics," What a Joke.

From the Philadelphia Press. There is a very general opinion that ex-Governor Hastings is to be an important factor in state politics in the future. The suggestion of his candidacy for this or that office is, however, without his knowledge or consent. He is not a candidate for office, but as a good citizen is not likely to shirk any duty in behalf of better government and clean politics.

Yes, When the Time Comes.

From the Williamsport Sun. Judge Love, who was defeated with the Quay machine in Centre county, says he will retire from politics and from the bench at the end of his term. As for that, the people will see that he retires when the time comes.

Entered Suits for Prize Money.

WASHINGTON, July 31. — Rear Admiral William T. Sampson to-day filed in the supreme court of the District of Columbia a suit in his own behalf and also in behalf of the officers and enlisted men of the ships of the North Atlantic station, who took part in the naval engagement off Santiago and the subsequent captures for prize money. The suit is similar to that recently entered by Admiral Dewey in the same court.

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

Spawls from the Keystone.

—Ed. Biting, the young pugilist who was knocked senseless by Eugene Low at Williamsport Thursday night, regained consciousness Friday. He is improving and will recover.

—George W. Gump last week set out 40,000 cabbage plants in a plot of ground in Karn's meadows, near Everett. If the experiment is a success he expects to ship the crop to the eastern markets.

State veterinarian Pearson states that an epidemic of anthrax in Bedford county is feared. Six horses have died from the disease and two more are affected. The disease originally came from China with a lot of hides for a tannery in the county.

—During the prevalence of a thunder storm recently, lightning struck a large butternut tree on the farm of George Taylor, near Peralack, Juniata county. Two very fine cows that were standing under the tree, having taken refuge from the scorching sun, were instantly killed.

—Brigadier General Charles Miller, commanding Second brigade, National Guard of Pennsylvania, has been granted a leave of absence to the 15th of August, and Brigadier John A. Willey has been assigned to the command of the brigade until General Miller returns to duty.

—Charles Ireland's barn at Nesbit was destroyed by fire Saturday morning. The season's crop of hay, wheat and oats was destroyed, as were also the farming implements. The cattle and horses were saved from the flames, except one calf. The loss is \$2,000; insurance \$1500.

—Harvey, the 10-year-old son of Simon Poorbaugh, was found crushed to death beneath a rock weighing about a ton, near his home at Fairhope, Somerset county, Tuesday afternoon. The boy was fishing, and it is supposed, went up the mountain a short distance to gather berries, when the rock fell upon him.

—L. Gonier was the scene of a destructive fire early Saturday morning, Freeman & Son's flouring mills being consumed, entailing a loss of from \$3,000 to \$10,000, which is partially covered by insurance. The fire department did good service in saving adjoining property. The origin of the fire is unknown.

—Governor Stone has allotted the five cannon given Pennsylvania by the national government to Philadelphia, Allegheny, Harrisburg, Wilkesbarre and Bradford. These cannon formed part of the armament of Cervera's fleet, and were among the spoils of the victory of Santiago. Each bears the Spanish coat of arms, with boastful inscriptions.

—Theodore Brundy, a 15-year-old son of Alexander Brundy, of Sabula, a small hamlet five miles east of DuBois, was drowned at Mountain Run Sunday. He and a younger brother, neither of whom could swim, were bathing. Theodore went beyond his depth, and his brother, unable to offer him any assistance, saw him drown. The body was recovered.

—James McIntyre, a wealthy farmer, of Blair township, Blair county, recently laid out a cemetery on his farm for the free use of his neighbors, no other being near. While putting the finishing touches to the work of fencing in the plot McIntyre was stricken with paralysis and died. On Saturday he was laid in the first grave to be dug in the new cemetery.

—Two freight trains were wrecked, Monday, at Panther Run, on the Beech Creek railroad, and a number of cars rolled down a steep embankment. Several of the cars were loaded with logs, and when the wreck occurred conductor Phillips, of Williamsport, was between two of the cars. He was tossed over with the logs, and, while he escaped death, was badly bruised.

—While excavating for foundations for a new building a few days ago, workmen under charge of Foreman Duncan, of the Johnson company, discovered twelve feet beneath the surface, the skulls of three human beings and some partly decomposed bones that they believed belonged to another cranium. Whether the skulls are those of Indians or of some prehistoric race has not yet been determined.

—A score of machine operators at the Lycoming pants factory at Williamsport, struck Saturday for an increase of five cents per dozen. This is the second strike at the plant within a week. The finishers were the first to walk out, protesting against the introduction of improved machinery which they were notified by the proprietor, would reduce their wages from eighteen to four cents per dozen.

—During the heavy rainstorm Thursday evening two of dairyman William S. Stutzman's cows were knocked down by lightning while being driven from a field to Mr. Stutzman's barn, in Upper Yoder township, Cambria county. Mr. Stutzman's son Robert, aged 10 years, who was helping drive the herd of fourteen cows, while opening the barn door to allow the animals to pass in, was badly shocked by the bolt.

—Saturday morning one of the fine horses belonging to R. Widmann, of the Mountain Spring brewery at Lock Haven, was found to have a very sore and very much swollen mouth. On making an investigation, a copperhead snake, two feet long, was found in the manger. It is supposed that the snake either crawled into the stable, or else was brought in with the hay. The snake was killed and the horse's mouth was treated.

—James Robeson died very suddenly Sunday afternoon at his home at Franklinville. After eating his dinner he went into his yard and after sitting under an apple tree for a few minutes was attacked with a hemorrhage of the lungs, and died in a little while. He had been a sufferer from pulmonary trouble. He was buried Monday. He was about 45 years old and leaves a wife and six children, none of which have yet reached the age of maturity.

—The post office department is contemplating the introduction of a new form of postal money order. It will be made to conform to the size of an ordinary bank check, and the marginal figures heretofore printed on the order will no longer be used. A receipt will also be given the remitter at the time of the purchase of the order. The new form will be much more convenient for handling by the people and the banks, and will be introduced about September 15th, 1899.