

Ink Stings.

He don't have the wealth of a Croesus Nor creases in his pants; He is just plain old farmer CREESEY But he'll make some one dance.

Everybody knew that it would be harmonious. How could it have been otherwise when all laid out beforehand by the boss.

Every day of the DREYFUS trial convinces the public the more that he is not guilty but that French justice wont have the courage to say so.

The preachers who are praying for rain these days evidently are not inspired with the same faith that buoyed PETER up on the surface of Galilee centuries ago.

It is but natural to inquire as to whether OTIS is using the blue pencil so dexterously so that there will be some reserved facts for the government blue book.

It isn't so much the fear of the outcome of hostilities that deters great powers from going to war as it is the question as to what the balance of the world will think about it.

There was no mistaking 'de main guy' at Harrisburg yesterday. The whole push was turned out for him except two from Centre county and a few others who didn't count.

There must be something in a name after all. On Tuesday young LLEWELLYN STOUT marched to the gallows in the jail yard in Easton without evincing a sign of dread for the terrible ordeal he was to pass through.

That the war vessels of the United States are angels of mercy as well as engines of death could not be illustrated in a nicer way than in the trip of the Panther, freighted with provisions for the storm swept Puerto Ricans.

Eight thousand gallons of whiskey were seized by government officials in North Carolina on Saturday last. If this does not prevent illicit distilling it should at least make it a little longer between drinks down in that neighborhood.

With the Democratic party in 1900 it should not be so much a matter of a winning platform as of a winning candidate. Let us make a Democrat the next President and have faith in his Democracy to do what is right after he is elected.

The New York man who is married to two women and has been refused a divorce from either one of them needs no prosecution for bigamy. His punishment, if left to the women he has deceived, will be quite severe enough to be a terrible example for most men.

BILLY KOUNTZ, the author of the unique 'Billy Baxter Letters,' is dead. We have felt sad ever since hearing of his demise, but we can't keep from wondering whether, if ST. PETER should give him the 'marble heart,' he will 'roll his hoop' some where else.

KID McCoy's being knocked out in the first round by a comparatively unknown fighter in Chicago, Friday night, simply goes to show that over-confidence is dangerous to all men. The KID thought he had his man licked before the fight begun, but the trouble was that 'his man' didn't wait until he was ready to do it.

According to the letter of private FISHEL written home to his friends in York county the American soldiers consider it great fun killing Filipinos and they view it much the same as rabbit hunting. Of course 'it is more fun to kill' than to be killed, but this terrible warfare against those uncivilized blacks seems to be blunting the finer sensibilities of our men and effacing the memory of the courageous tenderness that vaulted the boys in blue all over the world after their conduct before Santiago.

From the personnel of the Philippine commission it was but reasonable to believe that great things would be accomplished by such a body of distinguished and eminently learned men. President SCHURMAN, of Cornell University, is a member of the commission who has lately returned home and declines to say anything on the two all important questions as to when the war will possibly end or of the advisability of annexation. The professor's quietude is significant. It is quite evident that he would answer 'nit' to both questions, if he were not afraid of offending the gentleman who appointed him.

Congressman THOMAS BRACKETT REED, of Maine, has resigned his seat and retired from the activities of a long and certainly distinguished political career. Distinguished because his record as speaker of the House will probably continue without a parallel in the history of that body. Autocratic at all times, domineering often, he held the majority in that body so effectually in leash that the fifty-fourth and fifty-fifth sessions, over which he presided, enacted his policies and eschewed what he did not favor. While there was ignominy for a free people in such a one man power this very autocracy proved a vast good during the last session. When the President and his thoughtless advisers were run war made speaker REED stood an immovable barrier between their wild notions and the people. Though it was not that he loved the people more, but because he disliked McKINLEY most, it had the same good effect and the former Speaker retires to private life with the knowledge that he was able to accomplish the rare feat of doing a public good while squaring a personal grudge.

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Is It an Effort to Defeat Him?

We pity ex-Governor PATTISON. From away down deep we pity him. Four weeks ago he was a presidential possibility. Two weeks ago he was a vice presidential probability. Now it is doubtful if he is either. The interviewer has been about, and, whether authorized or not, has put into his mouth the expression of doctrines, which if left uncontradicted or unrepudiated, will leave him in that political forgetfulness that comes to all who run counter to that which the public believe to be right, and will force him to be content with the glories of his past public record and the knowledge of how easily one can undo himself by talking when there is no demand for it.

Two weeks ago the ex-Governor went west. Through an interviewer the public was given what purported to be his opinion on the financial question. It was not an opinion, however, but simply a reflex of what is presumed to be the general Democratic idea of the position the party will occupy in 1900. Because it neither attempted to point out new paths for the party to follow, or new doctrines for it to espouse and defend, it left the Governor, in public estimation, just about where he was before.

The last effort of the interviews, changes the situation entirely. It puts him in a new light before the people, and one that will effectually end all hope his friends may have entertained of presenting him as a hopeful candidate for presidential honors, unless it is promptly and forcibly repudiated. In this last effort, which comes by the way of the New York Tribune, he is represented as favoring imperialism, expansion, the subjugation and control of the Philippines, along with all the costs and devilities the McKINLEY administration is fighting for. In fact, after reading what the Tribune's interview would have him say, one has reason to doubt if, in his mind, there is room for any other candidate than McKINLEY or excuse for the Democracy holding a convention or placing a ticket in the field.

Knowing Governor PATTISON as we do, nothing will convince us that he has gone so far wrong as the Tribune would place him, but his own acknowledgement of the correctness of the statements attributed to him. He has too much good sense to fly in the face of the universal sentiment of his party and is too fair and truthful a politician to resort to such arguments as are assigned as reasons for the strange position of the Philippines, nor is he that kind of a jingo statesman who would justify the wrong we are doing to our own professions of devotion to the principles of republican government by promises of untold benefits in a business way through the acquisition of this new and remote territory.

He knows when we purchased Louisiana we were given title to every foot of land in that vast territory as well as all the rights the former government exercised; that through that purchase millions upon millions of acres of the most productive soil on this continent became the absolute and undisputed property of the United States; that the small population then inhabiting portions of that territory, acquiesced in the change of ownership and became citizens of their own volition. There was no war made to compel them to acknowledge allegiance, or no force required to establish for them such a government as they desired. In that instance we got what we paid for. It was part and parcel of our own country. It was worth all we paid for it. We violated no principle of Republican government, nor did we make ourselves governmental robbers simply because we had the power to take that which belonged to others, and to force them to accede to our terms and dictation.

It is not so with the Philippine purchase. In truth that was no purchase at all, it was a payment of \$20,000,000 for a doubtful and disputed claim to the governmental authority over a country, every foot of which is owned and occupied by people who owe us no allegiance, whatever. Our rights in the Philippines, under any circumstances, could go no further than the right to tax, for there is no uninhabited or unclaimed land there. It was a purchase of the 'right to govern,' and that only, and surely no man, who is as generally right as is Governor PATTISON, will insist that a war to enforce our right to govern any people outside of our own government is either just or honorable.

It is for the reason that Governor PATTISON is alleged to have attempted the justification of the Philippine war by comparing its purchase and all the inconsistencies, evils, wrongs and disgrace that follow in its wake with the Louisiana purchase and the blessings and benefits that came with it, that we doubt its authenticity. To us this last 'interview' looks like a rank job, put up by those who are jealous of the position he occupies. Governor PATTISON may believe in expansion, but he is not an advocate of wrong, in order to accomplish it.

Dare Not Meet the Issues.

What will be heralded as the Republican state convention, but what in reality was a meeting to ratify the selection of candidates made by Mr. QUAY and to endorse and adopt resolutions proposed under his direction, was held in Harrisburg yesterday, (Thursday.) The nominees named weeks ago, by the little coterie that held its consultation at Atlantic City, were duly ratified and J. HAY BROWN, of Lancaster, for Superior Judge, and JAMES E. BARNETT, of Washington county, for State Treasurer, will constitute the boss' ticket during the campaign. At the time the WATCHMAN went to press a copy of the resolutions had not been received, but a summary given out to the newspaper correspondents endorses every act, policy and purpose of the McKINLEY administration, promises that the people of the State will vote their approval of it; points with pride to the administration of Governor STONE; glorifies the soldiers of the Cuban and Philippine wars and declares for gold as the only safe standard and for the DINGLEY tariff bill as a model of protective legislation.

State issues are left untouched as if there were neither State nor state questions at stake. The only matters with which the ticket, if elected, will have anything to do go unmentioned. There is no promise that the judges will act independent of the malign influences of the boss who decrees their candidacy. There is no assurance that efforts will be made to reform the management of the State Treasury. There is no pretense of securing less expensive and more effective administration of state affairs. Nor is any account taken of the recent robbery of the public school fund; the pitiable condition of the state insane, poor and helpless; the inequality of taxation that compels the farmer and laborer to pay higher taxes that corporations and others may pay less, or of any of the vital questions that the people must pass upon at the coming election.

All these are dodged—openly, squarely, defiantly dodged. And it is the hope of those trying to continue their corrupt rule in this State that they can dodge them.

Whether the people, who are so vitally interested, will permit this silence on matters of such grave import to them remains to be seen.

It is no wonder the Republican party is anxious to evade reference to the condition of affairs in the State. It has been in power for years. It is responsible for every condition that shames and disgraces this great Commonwealth.

Its insane asylums are crowded like slaughter pens at butchering time, because the money needed to enlarge them has been squandered and misappropriated. Its hospitals are unable to extend relief to the suffering poor, because of 'Bird Book' jobs and other thievings of public money.

Its trade schools are closed because of increased clerks and padded pay-rolls. Its deaf and dumb are put on half rations, that useless officials and retainers of the boss may draw fat salaries. Its charities are paralyzed and helpless because the bills of junketing Legislators and rollicking officials must be met.

Its public asylums are rotting without repairs, because the public moneys are needed for political jobbers and henchmen of the ring.

Its public school fund is robbed that beer brewers and corporations may escape taxation.

It is to be wondered at that there is a silence, more profound than death, on these matters, on the part of those who are responsible for them? And it is to Mr. QUAY and the party that follows his dictation that these conditions are to be charged. Of them they are ashamed to speak. For them no explanation can be made. Silence is their only hope and to silence they have resorted.

Suppose.

Supposing that after France had given us the substantial aid she did in achieving independence that government had declared our unfitness for self-government and demanded submission to its dictation, what course, is it likely, our brave old forefathers would have pursued? Would they have thrown down their arms and submitted to that dictation? Would they have acknowledged the right of France to dispose of such rights as they believed they had acquired, or to tax them at its pleasure and for its own purposes?

Or, suppose France, in the midst of our war for independence, had purchased for \$20,000,000 the claim that England had to the government of the colonies and after receiving that title had garrisoned the forts that England vacated and had proceeded by bitter, blighting war to enforce her demands, would the grand old patriots have done? Do you think they would have quietly gone to their homes and allowed a foreign power to set up such a government as it deemed proper? Would they

have forgotten that their fight was for independence and self government and that France's title was only that which England sold because she could not enforce it? And suppose, further, that after a war of years France had succeeded in dispersing our broken and dispirited army; that she had established her dictatorship and compelled us to formulate such kind of government as her rulers believed best suited to our needs, would that have increased our respect for France or secured for her in the future the benefits of our good will and trade?

And what is the difference in the situation of the Filipinos to-day and that of the American patriots of 1776? Self government was the aim of both. It was but an experiment in 1776 and yet France, opposed to the theory as she was, was great enough and broad enough to acknowledge our right, and to assist in the attempt to make that experiment.

How different with us. We boast of self government as a God given right. We glory in the thought of people governing themselves. We denounce the idea of dictatorship. We are proud of our independence, and yet we go to war to deny to others that for which we glorify the patriots of the revolution for securing, and which we declare to be the natural right of others.

How narrow and inconsistent must we appear to others, when our treatment of the struggling Filipinos is compared with what we received from France one hundred and twenty years ago?

Want to Evade the Issue.

The fact that Democratic state conventions are not bothering about general issues is creating no little concern among Republican politicians. They fear to meet the questions that properly belong to state campaigns, and would be only too well satisfied if the local tickets could be run on national issues, and congressional and presidential candidates on local issues. Its a cowardly position to occupy but its the one the Republican party has for years resorted to, and we presume will continue doing so, as long as it can fool the people and secure their votes on false pretenses.

There is not a State in the Union this fall that will elect any official who has a thing to do with questions outside of those connected directly with the management of state and local affairs. As in Pennsylvania, where we elect two state Judges and a State Treasurer, so is it in every State. State tickets only are to be elected, and issues arising out of the administration of state concerns are the only legitimate issues that should be considered.

But this doesn't suit the Republicans. Their control of state offices has been so corrupt, so rotten and so detrimental to the interests of the people, that anything is better for them than reference to their mismanagement, thievery and the purposes for which they have used the public offices and public moneys.

If the people of the different States in the Union now under Republican control would forget outside matters and vote directly on the question of a continuation of present methods in their public offices, is it probable that one half of them would favor the prolongation of the wrongs they are now suffering? How would it be here in Pennsylvania? Does any one suppose that if the people of the State would forget all other matters and vote directly on the question of unbosomed courts and the careful and correct management of the State Treasury, that there would be any doubt of the overwhelming defeat of the ring ticket?

It is because there would be no question as to what the result would be, if the issues made paramount were those, and those only, that pertain to the offices to be filled, that makes Republicans attempt to dodge these and arouse the prejudices of the people on other questions.

This is why they are so concerned about the refusal of Democratic conventions to have anything to do with financial, tariff, trust and other matters. They will be legitimate and necessary issues when we come to elect a President and Congressmen.

It is to avoid the real issues and prejudices that are practiced upon them, and to prevent the exposure of their rotten rule in state, county and municipal governments that they are eternally blathering about other matters. It has always been so. It will always be so, until the people waken up to the deceptions that are practiced upon them, and understand how often and effectually they have been fooled by those who want the offices to fleece them.

Lord, Send Us Rain.

That we can now no longer win The moistened breath, so sweet with rain, To save from death the burning plain: O thou, to whom the trees up-pout In burning agony and pain, They ask thee to the land anoint, With thy rare ointment, luscious rain. Then shall the healing springs outpour Their cooling drafts from shore to shore; While nature to the desert shows, The way to "Blossom like the rose."

An Honest Candidate who Will Keep His Pledge.

The bold charges and sacred pledges made by candidate Creasy at Williamsport on Wednesday are alarming the Republicans and they don't know how to overcome the influence that his unquestioned honesty and sincerity is likely to have upon the voters. William T. Tilden, chairman of the executive committee of the Philadelphia branch of the Business Men's league, had this to say in response to a query as to his opinion of the charges presented by candidate Creasy: "I have read candidate Creasy's speech at Williamsport. He tells the truth in unmistakable language regarding the past. He states in clear terms the duties of a treasurer, and promises to do, if elected, precisely what the people of the State know to be right, and would, if alive to their full duty as citizens, demand should be done, not only by their State Treasurer, but by every public servant, and which if done would not deprive either party of a proper organization, but force what some of us have contended a long time for—a clean, honorable political Republican organization in this State, in place of the present debauched and debauching machine, which is utterly devoid of patriotism, but is living on, and for spoils only, at the expense of our voters who permit it to exist." Mr. Tilden expresses the hope that the Republicans may nominate candidates who will dare to promise as well as Mr. Creasy and whose character shall be a proof that they will make good their pledges. It will be no difficulty to nominate candidates who will promise, but will they be permitted to fulfill their promise? There's the rub.

Let Us Be Mindful of Our Liberties.

The liberty of the American people should be jealously guarded by them. We should be always vigilant in caring for it, in order that we may not be deprived of such a precious thing. On this subject, the anti-imperialist league has issued an address to the American people. Its words are of warning and counsel; it is sound in argument, virile in its sentiment. The document is signed by George Boutwell, one of the most prominent citizens of the State of Massachusetts and a member of the cabinet under President Grant. Mr. McKINLEY is scored and the infamous policy that he is championing is condemned. The dangers that are now confronting the country and threatening the life of the nation are pointed out in words that burn as if they were formed of fire. It is a masterpiece of logic, patriotic in a degree that cannot be surpassed, thoroughly American and Republican in all its tendencies and teachings. The country should heed its appeal. The people are the masters and they should put an end to this war of 'criminal aggression.'

The Difference That Leads to the Issues That Destroy Governments.

The advantage of sinning largely if one is going to sin at all is aptly illustrated by two incidents from the Regular army. A few weeks ago Patrick Fahey, private, Fourth United States Volunteer Infantry, got drunk at Fredericksburg, Va., and had a fight with a civilian. A court martial has sentenced Patrick Fahey to five years' imprisonment. He is serving his term, the finding of the court martial having been approved. Oberlin M. Carter, Captain United States Engineers, the "crack" corps of the Regular Army, and a gentleman of very aristocratic and influential political connections, stole \$1,500,000 of government money. A court martial sentenced Oberlin M. Carter to five years' imprisonment likewise. He is not serving any time like Patrick Fahey however. The finding of the court martial has not been approved, nor is it likely that it ever will be approved. He is meeting with every kind of leniency, and the President has already suspended the execution of the sentence over a year.

And the World Helped to Elect Its Stupendous Blunderer.

Many volunteers who have returned from the Philippines have been asked plain questions and their brief answers have been stenographically reported by the New York World. As a result of its investigation the World has arrived at the conclusion that the returning soldiers are unanimously agreed upon these points: 1. The islands are not worth fighting for nor fit for a white man to live in. 2. It will take years to subjugate the people and they would be good for nothing for our purposes when whipped. 3. General Otis is a monumental failure. "Such testimony as this, from the men who have helped to win whatever glory this country has gained in the Philippines," says the World, "is worth more than all the cut-and-dried resolutions and unbecome speeches that have been or may be emitted in support of Mr. McKINLEY's stupendous blunder. The uncensored truth has revealed the results of this blunder in all their ghastliness."

Spawls from the Keystone.

W. J. Henry, who killed George Rutledge, formerly of Renovo, at Sayre last spring, was refused a new trial in the Towanda courts, Thursday. He will be sentenced in a few days.

The West Branch Hose company, of Renovo, won the second prize in the drill contest at Bradford last week. The prize is a silver trumpet. There were five divisions in the line of parade.

Over 300 rattlesnakes have been killed since June 1st, on the Emery lumber tract near Hills Grove. One man who narrowly escaped being bitten on two occasions refused to work any longer on the job.

A Lewisburg exchange says that the Kulp brothers have fully decided to extend the Buffalo Valley railroad into Logan. The men are now at work on the extension and are working towards that borough.

William Thompson, of Philadelphia, and W. H. Wolverson, of New York, natives of Alexandria, Huntingdon county, where they spend their summers are going to build a town hall and public library there to cost \$10,000.

William J. Henry, who is in the Towanda jail awaiting sentence for killing George Rutledge, formerly of Renovo, attempted suicide a few nights ago by severing an artery in his leg. He was discovered and the wound staunch in time to save his life.

During the heavy storm of Tuesday night a tree on the property of detective Harry B. Thomson, at Malvern, was struck, and a flock of chickens which had been roosting in its branches were killed, their dead bodies being found on the ground Wednesday morning.

A man named Wellman, of Westport, drank wood alcohol last Friday and was found dead in bed Sunday morning. He was about 73 years old. Squire Kepler empaneled a jury and a verdict of death from drinking wood alcohol was rendered. Wellman was a man of temperate habits, and had drank this liquid in small quantities heretofore.

Colonel Henry Cooper, who formerly resided at Elenor, Jefferson county, and who was known as the giant Odd Fellow, died at Calgary, British Columbia, a few days ago. Colonel Cooper was 59 years old. He joined the order over four years ago. He was nearly eight feet tall and weighed 300 pounds. He was well known throughout the United States as he had exhibited himself in many museums.

A short time ago, William H. Harter, of Hartleton, while driving along at Pardee, says the Times, saw a large black snake in the road, and getting out of his wagon, killed it. After the snake was killed William Libby approached, having an axe on his shoulder. A large lump was noticed on the body of the snake, so the axe was put in play and the snake cut open, when they found one of Joe Pursley's young turkeys. The snake measured 5 feet 8 inches in length.

William Hoover, who is serving a year's sentence in the Williamsport jail, attempted suicide Saturday by cutting his throat. The windpipe was severed. The jail physician stitched the wound together, but states that Hoover's chances for recovery are slim. Hoover and John Ayres, while intoxicated, entered butcher Thompson's meat market, Jersey Shore, last winter and assaulted him with a cleaver. Hoover resides about five miles from Jersey Shore. He is 27 years old and is married.

The postmaster's salary at Tyrone, Blair county, has been cut from \$2,900 to \$2,600, and it is said will soon receive another reduction of \$300. The receipts of the office there have been falling off rapidly of late on account of several institutions, which were a great source of revenue, having closed down. The citizens have become much alarmed over the intimation that the free mail delivery may be taken from them unless the receipts at the postoffice soon show a decided increase.

Henry Laning a Luzerne county farmer, aged 23, had just got inside his barn and was un harnessing his horses when lightning struck the barn, setting it on fire and killing the horses. One of the horses fell over on Laning, pinning him to the ground. His cries attracted the attention of the other farm hands, but by the time they reached the barn it was completely enveloped in flames and they were powerless to render assistance. Laning's body was burned almost to a crisp.

Basil Bell is a licensed colored preacher at Huntingdon. Saturday he got drunk and with an ax knocked Mary Winters down then kicked her heavily. A little later he attacked John Rumpert a neighbor, and cut him dangerously with the ax. Bell had been living with Mary Winters, a white woman, for a number of years, and he blamed Rumpert for interfering with what he termed his domestic affairs. Neither the woman or man are expected to recover, and Bell is in jail.

The large tannery establishment of Alley Brothers & Co., of Curwensville, burned to the ground Friday night. The fire broke out about 11 o'clock, and resisting all efforts of the fire department and citizens, the main building, sheds, bark and everything contained on a space of five or six acres of ground were totally destroyed. The fire was intensely hot and after once under full headway it was impossible to closely approach the burning buildings. It is not known what caused the fire. It was solely a currying establishment, where no sole leather was manufactured. The company is a private one, and has no connection with the Elk tanning company. The loss is of course very heavy, but is largely covered by insurance.

Lightning played havoc with the large bank barn of Robert Shaw in Pine Creek township, Lycoming county, Monday afternoon. About 3 o'clock lightning struck the barn and set it on fire. The same bolt also killed three horses in their stalls. The animals were found dead afterwards, when men ran in to rescue them. The building was entirely destroyed. Eight pigs, all the farm implements and the season's crops went up in smoke. When the fire broke out no men were on the premises. A boy was near by, but he could do nothing towards getting any of the contents out. A farmer in his anxiety to escape the storm drove into the barn. He did not know it was on fire until the flying burning pieces dropped on his horse and vehicle. He lost no time in getting out of the building. The loss is estimated at \$5,000; partially insured.