

The political kickers' season has about closed.

Ladysmith still refuses to fall into the arms of her dutch admirer.

It's the pie counter now that is so intensely attractive to Ohio Republicans.

Possibly Mr. CARNEGIE might be induced to drop a library into Bellefonte's Christmas stocking.

The silence of the Republican papers about the result in Maryland, is almost as doleful as it is dense.

If we could only believe all the newspapers say our boys must be close to AGUINALDO's 5-yard line.

Since the stars have been out of practice so long we don't wonder at their hesitancy in showing how they can shoot.

It's beginning to look as if decency and a fair election in Philadelphia would make a touch down before the game is over.

AGUINALDO's hopes of success in the long run are possibly based on the fact that he has already proven a most successful runner.

The commotion in the ring's camp shows what an exact range the North American has got on the common enemy's fortifications.

It's beginning to look as if Senator QUAY might find more of his Philadelphia friends in the penitentiary than in the next Legislature.

Senator THURSTON'S announced marriage is not likely to work any political change in the Senate if it does make another tie in that body.

If it wasn't for "troubles of their own" in Philadelphia, what a rip-roaring time the Republican papers would have about the Kentucky elections.

Our recent victories in the Philippines, like the Republican victory in Ohio, have proven to be mostly in the imagination of the fellows who reports them.

The events of the past year and the prospects of the penitentiary forso many of his followers, indicates that Mr. QUAY'S rabbit foot has lost its charm.

Considering the condition of the county since the wet season set in in Luzon, it oughtn't to be a hard thing for our boys to get a foot hold in that country.

For a Republican victory, such as Republican papers claim they had in Ohio, it seems to take a deal of a lot of work and a wonderful waste of wind to get the public to see it.

Judge MITCHELL does not intend losing any time in drawing his salary. He resigns his present judgeship to take effect the day the salary of his new position begins.

The smarties who imagine the are spoiling BRYAN'S chances in the presidential race by classing him with AGUINALDO evidently don't appreciate what a runner AGGIE is.

Mr. MCKINLEY'S literary bureau is evidently working over time. During the past week it has entrapped AGUINALDO six times; surrounded him four times; driven him to the mountains ten times; and whipped him a dozen times each day. And all this in a week and the war still goes on.

The newspapers have it that the perfect and complete organization of both the Independent and Democratic parties is to be begun at once. Come to think about it, we have been given this promise before.

After remembering that a JONES in Ohio, a BROWN in Kentucky and a SMITH in Maryland were the controlling powers in the recent election, we can better appreciate the strength of an undecorated name.

Afflictions never come singly. Before we can reconcile ourselves to a longer submission to the rule of the ring, Congress will be on our hands again. Surely, the way of transgressors is hard, and "we the people" are the transgressors.

It's a good long way between the two places, but strange to say the QUAY Republican papers, of Philadelphia, know much more about the way the elections were conducted in the back counties of Kentucky, than they do of how they were run in the wards in which they are published. Such longinquity of vision is truly amazing.

Speaking of trusts, and then judging from the way things went in Ohio last week, Mr. MCKINLEY would be wise to invest a little of his trust in Providence and not so much in the voters of his native State.

Between protecting its appointees, who were caught repeating at the election in Philadelphia, and keeping its literary bureau up to the scratch in its denunciation of alleged Democratic frauds in Kentucky, the administration at Washington has been kept fairly busy the past week.

It is strange how the circulation of news is sometimes limited. As yet the fact of the stuffing of ballot boxes, the arrest of QUAY repeaters and the general debauchery of Republican election officials about Philadelphia has not reached the editorial department of the Philadelphia Times. At least no sign is given, that those in charge of that great reform sheet have ever heard anything about these matters. Curious, ain't it?

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Democratic Encouragement.

A closer view of the recent November election discloses much that should be encouraging to the Democrats. The aggregate result, when considered in detail, loses the appearance of an endorsement of Republican politics that was claimed by MCKINLEY'S supporters upon a premature estimate of its significance.

Take Ohio for example. It was there that the strength of MCKINLEYISM was put more directly to the test than in any other of this year's State elections. In the Ohio fight the support of the MCKINLEY policies was made the specific issue. Yet it is seen that the Republican State ticket, which was presented to the public choice as the representative of those policies, comes out of the contest with a minority of about 50,000 on the popular vote. That which was cast for "Golden Rule" JONES was as emphatic in its expression against MCKINLEYISM as was the vote cast for McLEAN, both together amounting to a majority of over 50,000 polled adversely to the principle of MCKINLEY and his party.

Is there anything in this Ohio result, as an index of popular sentiment, that should be regarded as clouding the prospects of the Democracy in the next Presidential contest?

If we turn our attention to another part of this year's political field we observe a performance in Nebraska which should give encouragement to the Democrats and to all who are opposed to the political and monopolistic abuses of the Republican party, and the imperialism of MCKINLEY, as dangerous to our free government and popular institutions. While MCKINLEY was virtually condemned in his own State by a vote which if it had been united would have defeated the Ohio Republican ticket by a large majority, the leadership of WILLIAM J. BRYAN gained a victory in Nebraska which retrieved that State from Republican control and put the seal of its condemnation upon the imperialistic and plutocratic schemes of the MCKINLEY administration.

Surely there is Democratic encouragement in the Nebraska achievement, as contrasted with the Republican failure to secure a popular endorsement of MCKINLEYISM in Ohio.

Though there is an appearance of Democratic failure in Kentucky it cannot be doubted that the majority against the Republicans would have been large if there had not been a division in the Democratic vote, and that in Presidential issues Kentucky can be relied upon for a Democratic majority of at least 25,000.

The sweeping victory gained in Maryland shows how Democracy can assert itself when its force is united. Even in hidebound Massachusetts the fight made by the Democrats in the recent State election on the issues of the Chicago platform greatly reduced the Republican majority, and in Pennsylvania a decline of the Republican strength was seen notwithstanding the support it derives from the corrupt methods of machine politics.

Viewing the entire field of the recent State contest, it presents features of encouragement to the Democracy, and strengthens the hope of those who regard the overthrow of MCKINLEYISM as essential to the preservation of our free government.

It Won't Work.

Since the Republicans have been caught at the dirty work of stuffing the ballot boxes and debauching the elections, generally in Philadelphia, there seems to be an organized effort on the part of the newspapers of that party to lessen the heinousness of the offenses by an attempt to divide the responsibility with the Democrats. It may be true, as they assert, that for years Democratic leaders have been cognizant of their crimes. It may be equally true that no effort by the Democratic organization has been made either to prevent or expose them, and it may also be true that certain individual Democrats have profited by them.

Admitting these charges, in what way can that mitigate the offense for the Republicans?

They have had absolute control of the registration of votes. They controlled the boards of elections that said who could and who could not vote. They handled the ballots, counted the returns and certified to the results. They had undisputed control of every precinct board that committed a wrong, and had the right and custody of the tickets and papers connected with the election. They had the courts that finally passed all the returns and the district attorney who could cover up or prosecute, for such offenses as the heeler's of his party were guilty of. The Republican party reaped the benefits, and if any individual Democrat profited by this dirty work, it was simply a bribe given for the purpose of making its accomplishment the easier and safer.

The effort to divide the responsibility of this most infamous work, will prove a dismal and a deserved failure.

Wholesale Ballot Debauchery.

The voting machines that are being gradually introduced in the New York State elections are reported as rendering complete satisfaction both in recording the votes quickly and correctly, and in preventing dishonest electoral practices. Such machines, or some similar device that will help to preserve the purity of elections, are now the most urgent necessity of these times when the chief use made of the ballot box is to serve ends of corrupt politics and to strengthen the hold of machine bosses on public affairs.

When the old system of voting prevailed, that enabled the elector to deposit separate tickets for the different candidates, it was thought that it admitted of irregular practices that required correction. As a remedy for alleged abuses under that system, which were more or less real, but to a considerable extent imaginary, a new ballot system, based on the Australian plan, was instituted, with a result that is seen in the terrible abuses that prevail in our State elections.

The evil connected with the present plan of voting is not due to inherent defects in the systems, which, if its original design were enforced and its provisions complied with, would furnish a reliable safe-guard against electoral irregularities. Its introduction as a defence against corrupt election was opposed by the Republican machine politicians of the State until they saw that by rejecting its best features and adding to it such as would suit their purpose, the Australian plan of voting could be converted into just the sort of appliance that would enable them to run their machine perpetually through the agency of a corrupted ballot. The rascally machine Legislators deliberately set to work in getting up something that could not be beaten in turning out such majorities as the interest of QUAYISM would require, and the result is the ballot inequities that are perpetrated at every election in the Republican strongholds.

The fruit of this villainy is particularly observable in Philadelphia where it is admitted by the local Republican press that from 50,000 to 80,000 fraudulent votes are counted at every election, the number being regulated by the necessity of the party that gets the advantage of this fraud. There is a pretense of punishing the ballot thieves who are hired to do this nefarious work, but there is no earnest intention of breaking it up. Since the last election a batch of these miscreants have been arrested, among whom is the Republican deputy coroner of Philadelphia, who is charged with having started the voting in his precinct by putting two hundred fraudulent ballots in the box as a solid upon himself for a heavy Republican vote. Notwithstanding all that had been said about this fearful electoral debauchery in Philadelphia the repeaters, personators and ballot box stuffers more numerous and openly rendered their fraudulent service to the machine than at any former election.

What this condition of affairs is leading to, and will inevitably result in if not checked, is a question that should furnish a subject for serious reflection to those citizens who still retain a hope that our free institutions and popular government may not be utterly destroyed.

The Situation in South Africa.

The strict censorship of dispatches from South Africa makes it difficult to obtain news that can be relied upon relative to the situation there. Up until yesterday, however, it appears that the cities garrisoned by the English forces are all safe and well provisioned to stand until the arrival of the large numbers of reinforcements now on transport.

Aside from the two disastrous engagements at Majuba Hill and Glencoe the English have suffered no serious loss, though the Boers have brought them to a full realization of the fact that they are foes worthy the name and fight with a stubbornness begotten of a determined intention to be subjugated only when they have lost all. They have displayed shrewd generalship than her Majesty's officers and, basing the assumption on the tricks already resorted to, it is only natural to conclude that they will make a desperate effort to strike a decisive blow before the English can land their reinforcements.

The conspicuous feature of the campaign up to date has been the regularity with which Great Britain has anticipated what the Boers have not done. The Afrikanders are capable fighters and clever strategists, if they may be judged by what they have accomplished. It is to their interest not merely to destroy lines of communication and make the advance of fresh British troops difficult, but also to destroy the forces before them. They have been as careful to cut off the avenues of retreat from Ladysmith and Kimberley as to destroy the avenues of approach. From this it appears they intend to attempt the destruction or capture of the garrisons at those places without unnecessary delay. The English opinion to the contrary does not modify the apparent intention, nor will it prevent an attempt to give that intention force.

An Unlikely Removal.

Reports are in circulation to the effect that certain influences in the Republican party are operating for the removal of MARK HANNA from the chairmanship of the party's national committee. An impression prevails that, as its leader, he is doing the party more harm than good, a belief that has been strengthened by evidence of the injurious effect of his leadership in the recent Ohio State election. It is charged that his open advocacy of the trusts and his defence of monopolistic policies excited an opposition, particularly among the working people, that seriously affected the party vote. This injury was especially observable in his own county of Cuyahoga where the heavy opposition vote that wiped out the unusually large Republican majority was an expression of popular hostility to HANNA as a supporter of monopoly and the chief director of the corrupt methods of plutocratic politics. It is for this reason that some of the Republicans are talking about forcing this obnoxious representative of the money power from his position of party leadership.

Though some of them may sincerely wish that this should be done, the impossibility of removing him from his place of power should be apparent to the generality of Republicans. HANNA is at the head of the party because he rendered a service that was indispensable to its success in putting MCKINLEY in office. It was he whose skill in fat frying secured the money that carried the last presidential election. His service in raising the corruption fund for the next presidential election will be needed and his advocacy of the trusts and other monopolies indicates the source upon which he relies for the huddle with which it is proposed to re-elect MCKINLEY.

The Republicans who are dissatisfied with HANNA'S leadership, believing that it is hurting the party, overlook the fact that his methods exactly comport with the party's policies. The interest of the money power and the privilege of monopoly are the chief objects of government under Republican administration. The brutally open manner in which HANNA employs these agencies to effect political ends may be offensive to the better sentiment of the country, but that depraved kind of public policy known as MCKINLEYISM depends for its maintenance upon the appliances which HANNA knows so well how to bring to bear upon presidential elections, and therefore, his removal from the national chairmanship would be the last thing that MCKINLEY would consent to.

Schley's Malicious Treatment.

Secretary LONG reflects but little credit upon himself and the navy department by his letter to the President in which he rehashes the charges devised by the enemies of Admiral SCHLEY to injure the reputation of that gallant naval officer.

It would seem that the navy clique that did SCHLEY the wrong of promoting an officer of inferior grade over him at the beginning of the war with Spain, can't forgive him for not being crushed by their hostile determination to keep him down. Their favorite SAMPSON, unfairly preferred, failed to accomplish anything worthy of note as the head naval commander, the unsuccessful bombardment of San Juan and the killing of the Matanzas mule having been his principal achievements, while fortune repaid SCHLEY'S wrong by giving him the chance of being the leader in winning a great naval victory.

The people understand the motives of the men in the navy department who are trying to depreciate the fame and besmirch the laurels of the hero of Santiago. They know that ill will started with the undeserved advancement of a favorite over him, and that the spite has increased in consequence of their failure to put SCHLEY down, growing into actual malice on account of the distinction he gained by his victory over the Spanish fleet, while the pet of the navy clique is unable to show a laurel gained in the war.

But whatever may be their feelings Secretary LONG can find no justification for the charges against Admiral SCHLEY in his letter to President MCKINLEY. Nothing could have been more contemptible than the story, invented for a defamatory purpose, that was intended to show cowardly conduct in the commander of the ship that bore more marks of the enemy's shot than all the rest of the fleet put together, and there was unpardonable spite in representing as cowardly that movement of SCHLEY in the battle which the Spanish Admiral testified as having been the manoeuvre that doomed his fleet to destruction.

That Secretary LONG should continue to display the malice of the navy department to one of our greatest naval officers, is simply disgraceful, but that the people understand the motive of this official persecution, and resent it, is shown by the applause with which they greet Admiral SCHLEY wherever he makes his appearance.

Subscribe for the WATCHMAN.

Spawls from the Keystone.

Children at play in an old barn near Myerstown found the dead body of an unknown tramp.

Cumberland county teachers will hold their annual institute at Carlisle, from December 4 to 8.

Rev. J. Harper Black, D. D., presiding elder of the Williamsport district, is ill with typhoid fever.

Possibly the oldest voter in this state is William Henry McDowell, Chambersburg, a relative of ex-President Harrison. Tuesday last he cast his sixty-sixth vote.

The strike of the Jermyn miners at Old Forge and Rendham, Lackawanna county, gives signs of extending to the men employed at the mines of William Connell & Co., the Temple Coal & Iron Co., and others of the individual operators near by.

The Greensburg Glass company's plant, that has been closed down for a long time, and recently purchased by the new National Glass company trust, will be started up November 20. It will give employment to about 200 men.

Twenty looms for Renovo's silk mill arrived in that place last week and will be stored until the building in which they will be operated in temporarily can be put in readiness. The superintendent of the mill is expected to arrive in a few days.

The Lilley manufacturing company, of Chester, a textile mill and one of the oldest mills in that city, was closed down on Saturday and will not be started again. The reason given is that it cannot profitably compete with mills of the same kind in the South.

Rural free mail delivery in Delaware is on the increase and is meeting with more favor daily. Last month 4,890 pieces of mail were delivered and 853 collected, or double the number of pieces delivered and collected in July—certainly an excellent showing.

A telephone message to the Toga county commissioners from Arnot states that there is one case of smallpox in that borough and that 13 persons have been exposed. They have been quarantined and every precaution is being taken against the spread of the disease.

The store, dwelling house, barn and other outbuildings of W. B. Potter at Karthaus, Clearfield county, burned down last Wednesday. About one-half the stock was saved out of the main store room and part of the furniture. The loss will be heavy, with a light insurance.

Miss Anna Mohr, a maiden lady seventy-five years old, at Vera Cruz, Montgomery county, is probably the oldest woman corn husker in the state. On Thursday last week she husked twenty-five shocks in half a day, and thinks she has pretty nearly established a record.

As he tried to board a moving freight train at Bridgeport, Montgomery county, Daniel McCaul slipped and fell beneath the cars. He rolled between the rails and stretched himself flat. More than a score of cars passed over him while he lay motionless and he escaped with his life, but had a foot badly crushed.

John F. Meginnis, the veteran journalist and historian of the West Branch Valley, died suddenly at his home in Williamsport, on Saturday evening of heart disease. He and his wife celebrated their golden wedding two weeks ago. He appeared in his usual good health until just before his collapse. He was seventy-two years old.

Anthrax has broken out among the cattle in the vicinity of Wilmore, Huntingdon county. Already a number of deaths have occurred. In what manner the cattle caught the disease is a mystery, as they had been running to pasture in clover and had not been mixed with strange stock nor permitted to run on strange lands.

Grace Methodist Episcopal church, in which the legislature of 1877 held its session after the burning of the capitol, was rededicated on Sunday with impressive services. The sermon at the morning services was preached by Bishop John F. Hurst, of Washington. Governor and Mrs. Stone gave a dinner party at the executive mansion last evening in the bishop's honor. Ex-Governor and Mrs. Pattison, of Philadelphia, were among the guests.

Gomer Jones, superintendent of Lehigh Valley and Wilkesbarre Coal companies, working at Audenreid and Honey Brook, where the famous strike culminated in the Latimer shooting two years ago, and at which mines there have since been numerous strikes, has been superseded by William Mack, of Wilkesbarre. On Saturday night several thousand men of whom Jones had charge paraded and gave expression of their delight over their old superintendent's deposition.

The Quay Republicans of Allegheny county do not propose to elect any but Stalwarts to the Legislature, next year, if they can help it. They are putting these two questions to prospective candidates, and demand an unequivocal answer: "If elected will you pledge yourself to enter the Republican caucus for United States Senator?" "Will you abide by the result of that caucus?" In the event of a negative reply it is proposed to defeat the candidate for nomination, if possible.

Coroner's Physician Miller, in making an autopsy on the body of Frank McDermott who died at Norristown on Saturday last, made an unexpected discovery when he found that McDermott had three separate lungs. Both Dr. Miller and Dr. Herbert Arnold, who assisted at the autopsy, say that they never before saw the like. The three lungs were removed and will be sent to the University of Pennsylvania museum. The extra lung was of good size and fully developed.

About 50 heirs of James Herrington, of Crawford county, who, in 1831, pre-empted 100 acres of land in what is now the heart of Chicago, are about to inaugurate a contest for the possession of the property. They base their claim on a quit-claim deed which is recorded from Herrington to his son, Jas. Herrington, Jr., and which they allege was forged by the younger Herrington, who obtained possession of the property in 1835. The property is valued at \$300,000 and the new Federal building, the corner-stone of which was recently laid by President McKinley, is located on the tract.

The Value of Publicity.

From the Press and Printer.

John Wanamaker's recent contract to pay the Philadelphia Record \$100,000 for a page advertisement every day in the year is itself of the best sort of advertising. This great contract is the subject of universal comment and remark, but it is only a small part of the newspaper advertising done by this house. In New York the advertising done by Wanamaker is as high as in Philadelphia. He is therefore taking up the business of the first American merchant prince, A. T. Stewart, where the latter left off. One of the chief causes of Mr. Stewart's success was his liberal advertising and he was the pioneer in this branch of merchandising in this country.

When Judge Hilton took control of the Stewart store he stopped advertising in the newspapers, believing that the name of the house was so well and favorably known that it was unnecessary to call daily attention to it. A few years of this sort of business management was enough to destroy the property and it was eventually sold under the hammer to John Wanamaker. Mr. Wanamaker had not taken possession of the new business before he began advertising it freely in the New York papers. And he has kept advertising daily ever since. The result is that despite the discouraging prophecies of many of Mr. Wanamaker's friends his store in New York is doing a larger business than his store in Philadelphia and a much larger business than it ever did under the management of Stewart. The street car conductors have orders to stop their car and announce Wanamaker's. This single establishment has restored retail business to the locality where it formerly flourished.

How McKinley Was Endorsed and the Ring Won its Victory in Pennsylvania.

From the Phila Press (Rep.)

One of the methods by which election frauds have been perpetrated in some of the wards of Philadelphia for years has been pretty fully exposed in the evidence taken before Magistrate Eisenbrown on Friday afternoon. To those who have had some knowledge of these methods the exposures present little that is new, but they are a revelation to the people at large, who have been regularly defrauded by the system of election crimes that has been perfected by local machine bosses.

The statement made by one of those arrested for the crime shows that in the Thirteenth division of the Seventh ward, where there has not been an honest election for years, the votes were brought here from Washington acted as election officers; that before any citizen had appeared at the polls to vote the ballot box was stuffed with 200 marked ballots; that afterward fifteen more marked ballots were stuffed in the box; that of the 339 votes returned from that division only 124 had been honestly cast, 215 being fraudulent. The evidence also implicates an ex-member of the Legislature—one who steadily voted for Quay at the late session—in the crime of marking the ballots with which the box was stuffed. This, in brief, is the story of the crime committed in one division of the 1000 voting divisions of the city.

The statement that it is possible to retrace the 215 fraudulent votes in this city, and that it has been done, so often repeated in these columns, has been received incredulously in different parts of the State by those who were unable to comprehend the elaborate plan to cheat the people which is steadily maintained in most of the downtown wards. If a single election division can return 215 fraudulent votes it can be readily seen how 80,000, or more than 80,000, may be piled up without enroaching upon any division where there is a disposition to hold an honest election. The twenty-seven divisions of the Seventh ward alone, on the basis of the operations in the Thirteenth division, could return a fraudulent vote of 5000.

Discriminating Against Decency.

From the Springfield (Mass.) Republican.

Quay's Colleague Penrose says he has assurances from Senator Spooner, of Wisconsin, a member of the Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections, that the Pennsylvania boss will be seated without opposition. It is difficult to believe that the Senate will so stultify itself. It refused only a year or two ago to seat ex-Senator Corbett, of Oregon, a man of the highest character and attainments, on precisely the same grounds presented in the Quay case—that the Government of a State has no constitutional power to fill a Senatorial vacancy when the Legislature has had the opportunity and failed to meet it. To seat Quay after that is to say to the country that the Federal Constitution in the view of the Senate discriminates against the choice of decent men as Senators and in favor of corruptionists like the Pennsylvania boss.

Losses That Cannot Be Made Good.

From an Unknown Exchange.

The Republican party has parted company with some of its strongest leaders or they have parted company with the Republican party. A year ago Thomas B. Reed, George F. Edmunds, Eugene Hale, Senator Mason and Senator Foraker were potent in the councils of their party. Today they are almost without recognition in them, while there are loud calls for the resignation of Mason. The change is due to difference of opinion upon the expansion policy of the president. It remains to be seen how Hanna, Platt and Quay can make up to the party what it has lost. The loss of able leaders whose personal records were clean cannot be compensated for by the methods peculiar to the Hanna, Platt and Quay politicians.