

Ink Stings.

December, 1899, made her first touch-down this morning.

It has not been learned yet whether the President dined on stuffed Filipino yesterday or not.

Governor-elect NASH, of Ohio, is a widower. Do you hear me, MARY ELLEN LEASE?

The fellow who is continually on the hunt for trouble usually needs just one fellow about as drunk as he is himself to help him find it.

What is needed in the Philippines now are sprinters, not warriors. The whole trouble is that AGUINALDO is a trifle too fleet for our fellows.

It is queer with what equal facility the Republican press of Pennsylvania condemns election frauds in Kentucky and condones them in Philadelphia.

By the time the next regular session of the Legislature convenes "the old man" will find that he has more anties than he ever dreamed of having before.

The centre of attraction seems to be transferred from Philadelphia, as a ballot box stuffing Mecca, to Clearfield, where Jury wheel stuffing seems to be in vogue.

The latest trust to be formed is that of the electric fan manufacturers of the country. And it is only reasonable that those who want to raise the wind should pay for it.

The FRANKLIN syndicate was a great thing for the fellows who were in on the ground floor, but the upper storied investors got the usual high altitude dividend—pure air.

Rev. Dr. GILLESPIE, an eminent Pittsburg divine, says that "the devil is in Pittsburg." In just what portion of the Smoky city his satanic majesty has been located is not given out, but we'll bet there will be a good many guesses for Second avenue.

The Tunneltown wench who carried her revolver in her stocking until it went off, last Saturday night, at a dance and shot her in the leg will probably realize that it is bad business to devote, from the traditional "culled" practice of carrying a razor in the shoe.

If what some of the preachers and women say is true BRIGHAM ROBERTS, the mormon Congressman from Utah, need only get the signatures of all of his wives to a petition in his favor to offset the longest one that the anti-polygamy people have filed against him.

The silver wing of the Republican party being ready to support BRYAN, on any platform he might run on, there seems to be a daily increasing certainty that CROKER's prediction, that the Nebraska leader will be at the head of our party phalanx again in 1900, is to be borne out by the fact.

GEORGE DEWEY wouldn't need to travel incog to escape unpleasant notoriety at Princeton, N. J., these days. In the sons of old Nassau's eyes young ARTHUR POE's feat of kicking a field goal and winning the foot ball game from Yale, when only a minute remained in which to play, makes our great naval hero look like thirty cents.

QUAY's latest plan to have PENROSE made national chairman of the Republican organization, to succeed MARCUS AURELIUS HANNA, is about as foxy a move as he has made for some time. With PENROSE as national chairman QUAY would be the logical boss of his party and then he would simply demand his being seated in the U. S. Senate.

People can laugh and ridicule "book farming" as much as they please, but if the fellows who do everything by the "up and down signs of the moon" would get a few of the book ideas mixed up in their gray matter there would be a great many more successful men on the farms. All of one or the other is equally dangerous, while a little of both is undoubtedly a good combination.

They are making a great fuss now because five men sit in Chicago and make the price that shall be paid for wheat each day. While it does seem wrong that industrial conditions should have come to such a pass that five brokers can fix the price of the principal product of all the farms in the United States, yet when you get right down to buttons and brass tacks we'll bet there's not a single farmer in the country who wouldn't be one of the five, if he could.

THOMAS JEFFERSON paid \$15,000,000 only for the whole Louisiana territory in 1803 and now the little mining camp at Cripple Creek, Colorado, is reported to be worth that much. President MCKINLEY paid \$20,000,000 for the Philippines and there is nothing there but sand, consumptive monkeys and worthless niggers and all we are certain of out of this undesirable bunch is AGUINALDO's two year old kid, which one of our armies captured a few days ago.

It is bad enough to have our good men shot and holed to death in the Philippines, but it is all wrong to send them over there in unseaworthy ships that they have to man themselves and work night and day at bailing water to keep from going to the bottom of the sea. This was the predicament of the three companies of the Thirty-first who were shipped on the "Manauenz," a boat so dangerous that most of its crew deserted during the stop at Honolulu.

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A Few Practical Thoughts for Impractical Men.

It is strange how very impractical some very practical men can be. In the matter of business there are no more practical men anywhere than those connected with the Business Men's League of Philadelphia.

For years they have kept up an organization for the purpose of trying to better both state and local governments, and to secure honest and fair elections within the Commonwealth. They have used, unstintingly, both their time and money to accomplish these purposes and to-day they find the condition of affairs worse in every way than when they undertook the job of bettering them.

Simply because they ignore the practical methods of the politician and rely upon the theoretical plans proposed by visionary and sentimental dreamers.

It has possibly never occurred to these gentlemen that the basis of all power in the political management of States and municipalities is in the primaries.

These given over to the tools of a boss or the creatures of a ring ends all hope of any results except, such as suit the needs of the ring or the demands of the boss.

It is the control of the primaries that controls all. It is at these that the crop of election frauds is planted. It is here that wrong gets its foothold and right its back-set. This is the foundation on which either official rectitude, or debasing demerchery is built. And it is this most vitally important point, in all political and official results, that is most neglected by the people.

To give over the primaries to the will of the few and those few the heeled of a political boss, or creatures who can be bought to do his bidding, is to give over the elections and all that springs from them to the same power. It is at the primaries that the candidates are named and no matter how objectionable these may be, how much the creature of a boss they are, they must be elected. And there's just where and how the corrupt men of both parties, particularly in the larger cities, get in their work. They attend the primaries and dictate the ticket. When this is done it is then only a question with them whose racial wins. The fight against honesty and decency and right is already won. They know that others may kick and scold about the class of men who have been placed upon the ticket, but that they are there to stay and that no matter how the election goes men of their choosing, and who will heed their demands, are sure to be elected.

Does any one suppose that if the better class of people, of both parties, took an interest in naming who should be placed upon their tickets, at the primaries, that the class of creatures who have been padding the registry lists, stuffing the ballot boxes, making false returns, etc., would be placed in positions to do this dirty and damnable work?

And it is in this that the impracticability or the Business Men's League shows itself. It proposes purifying the ballot by changing the Constitution and the laws—a job that will take years to accomplish and may then not succeed, while it has it in its power, provided there are more honest men in Philadelphia than rascals, to accomplish the same result by simply getting the decent voters of that city to attend the primaries and place upon the several tickets honest, upright men. There will be no necessity, then, of trusting to constitutional changes or legislative enactments for pure elections and honest returns. These will be insured by making proper nominations, and all the long waits and doubtful results that are sure to follow their theoretical way of mending results will be avoided.

Let them be practical and they will be successful.

Congressman ROBERTS, against whose admission to Congress, because of a multiplicity of wives, such strenuous efforts are being put forth by the churches, is not the only Mormon who has the distinction of being a public official. According to Senator RAWLINS, of Utah, President MCKINLEY has appointed, and the Senate has confirmed, a number of Polygamists as federal officers in that State, some of whom have held office ever since MCKINLEY went to Washington. Under the circumstances it might be well for these good-goddy people who are so terribly outraged at the thought of a man with two wives sitting in Congress, to consider the recognition Mormon practices receive through their President's appointments. Possibly it will not look so horrible to them when it has the MCKINLEY endorsement.

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How Different the Two Purchases.

It is a hard job the advocates of imperialism and expansion have in inducing the people to believe that because THOMAS JEFFERSON was right in his purchase of Louisiana, WILLIAM MCKINLEY is right in his attempt to acquire the Philippines.

Between these two purchases no comparison can be made.

The Louisiana purchase secured absolute and undisputed title to territory now comprising one half or more of the United States. It was a part of the same country, and the ownership of the land, with the exception of a small portion lying along the mouth of the Mississippi, and which was owned by individuals, became vested solely in the government. What few inhabitants were included in the territory, welcomed the new government of which they became a part. They were people of the same race, same language, same religion, same customs and same hopes and expectations. That purchase cost us \$15,000,000, and gave to us the absolute ownership of over eight hundred millions of acres of land, that has since furnished homes for over 30,000,000 of our people. All this, in addition to the right to govern and control this vast and valuable territory.

The purchase of the Philippines cost us one fourth more than did that of Louisiana. It gave us title to not a single thing but two old Spanish fortifications, one at Manila, the other at Cavite. It did not secure us an acre of soil, or the fealty and support of any of its people. For the right to govern a territory in which we do not possess a foot of land we are carrying on a war that is costing over one million of dollars every week. When that war is over, and we have won all we bought and all we fought for, the government, that paid \$20,000,000 for Spain's title to what that country owned on those islands, and then expended a \$100,000,000 more, to enforce our right to govern them, will not be the possessor of a foot of territory, outside of the two fortifications mentioned. It will not have land enough to sell to make a home for a single American. For the millions upon millions expended, the lives sacrificed and the sufferings and sorrows and taxations that war has brought, it will have absolutely nothing but the right to govern and that only by reason of its power to do so.

The Louisiana purchase secured us title to land which at two dollars per acre—the price charged by the government to settlers for it—amounts to over one and a half billions of dollars. The Philippine purchase secures no territory that can be sold for homes, for every foot of soil on those islands is now owned and occupied by individuals whose title thereto must remain undisputed, no matter what form of government they may be compelled to submit to.

In what way then can these two purchases be compared? By the purchase of Louisiana are secured property rights from which billions of dollars have since been realized and through which millions of people secured homes, while by the Philippine purchase we secure absolutely nothing of the kind. JEFFERSON'S expansion enlarged our country, enriched and strengthened the government, and increased our population by adding to it people of our own race, our own religion, our own customs and our own beliefs.

MCKINLEY'S expansion adds nothing to our country in the way of homes or wealth, but taxes our people to buy and carry on a war for the purpose of governing alien races, and becoming the sponsors for and protectors of Cannibalism on one island, heathenism on others; polygamy throughout most of them, and Mohammedanism and its sensual rites and customs generally.

What It Is Costing.

For over one year and a half we have been waging war in the Philippine islands. During every week of that time, over one million of dollars have gone out to help pay the expense of keeping up that war. In addition to this we paid \$20,000,000 to Spain for the sites of two old fortifications she owned on those islands, making in all up to this time over one hundred million in gold that the Philippines have cost us, and to-day we control and have authority over not a foot of territory except that which is occupied by our soldiers.

In addition to this cost in cold cash, we have already sacrificed the lives of 1188 brave men, and had 1899 others maimed for life. Five thousand additional are stricken with disease and are now in the hospitals of that far away land, and the good Lord only knows how many more are to be offered up as a sacrifice to the Moloch of Imperialism that we are now worshipping, and the ideas of expansion that have taken hold on us.

When we come to remember that already the Philippines have cost us three times as much in money, as did the Louisiana, Mexican, Texas and Gadsden, purchases, or annexations, altogether, and which represent twenty States and territories of our government, we can have an idea of the kind of statesmanship we had at one time and the kind we have now.

The Beginning of a Big Job.

Mr. QUAY, it is now stated by his friends, will go for the insurgents from this on in a style that they will find out what it means to cross lines with the boss. He has, through others, had suit brought against Senator FLINN for the purpose of trying to show that the Pittsburg leader is no better than others, and that he has been using the city money for his own private purposes.

If he can do this it will materially lessen the Senator's influence and thus lessen the difficulties in the way of the boss.

When he gets through with FLINN his next step, it is alleged, will be an effort to have CHARLES EMORY SMITH removed from the position of Postmaster General, on the grounds that his opposition to the ring is assisting insurrection in the party in the State and that anything that incites opposition to the boss' methods and purposes, endangers the unanimity with which it is hoped to give the State to MCKINLEY.

After he has "settled the political hash" of Mr. SMITH his attention will be given to the aspirations of ex-Governor HASTINGS, which are to be exposed to the public and then rolled out and sat upon by the state boss, until the Governor and his closest friends will neither recognize nor own them. This job, we are told, is to be done up so completely and so fully that the ex-Governor's place forever after will be on the lower rung of the political ladder.

There will be others then to settle with, but it is asserted that there is to be no let-up on the part of Mr. QUAY until the whole "kit-an-caboodle," who have questioned his authority to dictate the policy and dominate the patronage of his party in the State are relegated to the rear and the last of the insurgents are driven into line, or forced to sever their connection with their party.

It may prove a big undertaking and develop into a big job, but conditions are such that either Mr. QUAY or some other people must "lay down" pretty soon in Pennsylvania, and we presume that the big boss has concluded that it will not be him, if he can help it.

What the New Financial Policy is.

The new financial policy that the administration will urge Congress to adopt is in short as follows:

First.—To declare for the single gold standard. This will allow the few syndicates who can control the money market, to demand what price they please from the business and other interests of the country that need and must have money.

Second.—To make all obligations of the government payable in gold. This will give to the bond holder, whether he be a banker or otherwise, gold for that for which he paid in greenbacks, and as the value of gold will be enhanced by making it the only standard, the bond holder will be benefited just to the amount of that increased value.

Third.—To retire the greenback currency as it is redeemed. This will contract the supply of money to just the extent that redemption is made, and will, by making money scarcer, make the rates of interest higher and the value of all commodities that are exchanged for gold lower.

Fourth.—To allow national banks to issue notes to the full extent of the bond security given, and to be established on as low a basis as \$25,000. This will lessen the security of national banks just one tenth, as the entire amount of their bonds, will be held as security for their circulation, and will place in their hands the issue of all the paper money of the country.

If you think this policy will suit your interests, you are likely to get just what you want. It is destined, in the end, to make money scarcer, and scarce money makes tight times and you know how tight times squeeze you, as well as the rest of us.

The sentence given to the members of the Republican state ring—INGHAM and NEWITT—who were convicted of bribery and conspiring to protect counterfeiters, has brought the public to the belief that the judge before whom they were tried is saving his justice to meet out to some poor fellow who don't have a political pull behind him. One dollar of a fine and two years imprisonment looks as if there was scarcely enough justice to reach round, and is a pretty plain intimation to other rascals of the same kind, of a shortage in the supply of punishment. Such sentences may do for a QUAY court but they won't do much towards increasing the confidence of the people in either their honesty or their desire to meet out justice to the culprits brought before them.

Editor JOHN B. COULSTON, of the Potter Democrat, published up at Conderport would probably fall over dead if he should happen to see a real good theatrical entertainment. At least we arrive at a conclusion after reading what he had to say about Cox's comedians.

The next Representatives from Centre county, it is safe to say, will be anti-QUAY men.

The New Treasurer Talks in Verse.

(An Adaptation from the Denver Evening Post.) Well, the election's over wife, we've played the ballot game.

An' your ol' man's a roostin' on the pinnacle of fame!

An honored office o' law upon my shoulders fell,

An' proud are the emotions that within my bosom swell!

In spite of all the fightin', with it hopes, its fears,

The loyal folks have voted me the Centre county 'Treasur'!

An' I will don the duties as becomes a noted man,

An' try to scatter money just the very best I can.

It was a hard-fought battle, wife; their forces was arrayed

In what they call a solid an' invincible brigade,

An' every mealy scheme was worked to throw me off the track,

An' with the knife o' calumny to rip me up the back.

They hinted at me stealin' sheep in down Franklin county,

Said I had served a term in jail for jumpin' o' the fence!

An' had half a dozen wives before I married you—

I was a high-grade devil from them fellers' point o' view!

The husky Howard Huster come a sort o' sneaky way

An' tried to jack me up as an uneducated jay,

A man not fitted fur the place, an ignorant ol' fool,

That didn't know enough to shun the wrong end of a mule.

I owe that lyin' editor a dollar, I'll admit,

An' that's what throwed him into such an agonizin' fit!

But spite of all his scholar talk, to run me up a tree,

I got four thousand honest votes, an' Thompson only three.

It was a glorious vict'ry, wife, an' overwhelmin' scoop,

An' treated Johnny Thompson to a plunge bath in the soup!

The people spoke in clarion tones, an' showed us by their votes

They knowed how to discriminate 'twixt sheep an' billy goats.

It cost me lots o' honest cash fur eider an' seegars

But I didn't spend \$2 across the cussed bars,

But what is filthy lucre, even squandered to excess,

Beside the star of honor that upon my chaplet gleams.

I hope you fully realize in its exalted sense

The height to which I've listed you on the official fence.

Your'e now the wife of one who has winned out in a dash,

A dignified, respectable dispenser of the cash.

Conduct yourself in queeny way, your station try to fill!

An' though when we are all alone you yit may call me Bill,

When company is present from your dignity don't

For it must be Treasurer, or nothing, that's all.

The Probable Lines of the Campaign.

From the Pittsburg Post.

In a voyage of discovery as to the probable position the Democratic party will take next year on national questions Harper's Weekly sent out inquiries to all the States addressed to leading Democrats, members of Congress and of the national committee. It finds that in twenty States, according to the reports made, and they are the States where the bulk of the Democratic strength lies, the party will commit itself against imperialism and militarism, for radical anti-trust legislation and bi-metallicism by free coinage. The "Weekly" comments that both the Democratic and Republican parties, with much greater accuracy than usual, are committed to candidates and platforms a full half year in advance of the meeting of the national conventions. The Republicans will countenance trusts, champion imperialism and a big standing army and oppose bi-metallicism. The Democrats will take the opposite position. All of which is very probable.

Where the Responsibility Lies.

From the Wellsboro Gazette.

The Washington Star of last week declares that Admiral Dewey made this statement when asked as to whether the conflict with the Filipinos could have been avoided. Said the admiral: "If Leonard Wood—that is, General Wood in command at Santiago—had been in command of the forces at Manila there would have been no war, or if there had been, it would not have lasted more than six weeks. You are the twenty-sixth man I have said this to. I am going to say it to the twenty-seventh. The twenty-seventh will be the President."

That is explicit enough. The conviction is universal that if Dewey had been entrusted with the sole command of the army and navy at Manila there would have been no war. On whom does the responsibility rest for the 3,000 Americans killed in battle or died of wounds or disease? Is it not pretty close to President McKinley?

An Ante Election Version of the Twenty-Third Psalm.

From the Hontzdale Citizen.

"The politician is my shepherd; I shall not want any good thing during the campaign. He leadeth me in the saloon for my vote's sake; he filleth my pocket with good cigars; my glass of beer runneth over. He prepareth my ticket for me in the presence of my better judgment. Yes, though I walk through the mud and rain for him and shout myself hoarse when he is elected, when I meet him in his office, he knoweth me not. Surely the wool has been pulled over my eyes all the days of my life, and I will kick myself forever."

Break the Chain.

From the Clarion Democrat.

An endless chain has been started by Miss Edna McClellan, of New York City, with the object of buying a home for Admiral Schley in Washington. It is to be hoped that he will not accept such a present and thus exhibit to the people the fact that he is not the grasping, mercenary official they seem to take him to be.

Spawls from the Keystone.

The Chest Creek Land and Improvement company will mine and ship 1,000,000 tons of coal from their mines at Patton during the present year.

Marie, the 3-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. John Maloney, of Ebensburg, was badly scalded a few days ago by falling into a kettle of hot water that had been left standing on the floor.

The Twenty-eighth regiment has arrived safely at Manila. Major King, formerly of the Twelfth regiment, N. G. P., is a captain in the Twenty-eighth. The regiment upon its arrival was immediately sent to the front.

Mrs. Harry Quarry, who lives near Saltillo, in Mifflin county, killed a wild turkey recently which we believe no other woman has yet done. It was scared from the mountain by hunters and flew into an open field. She shot its head off with a 22 calibre revolver.

Saturday the Cambria company at Johnstown began the preliminary work on the new five-story office building to be erected on the site of the works order office and its completion will mark one of the best of the many improvements the Cambria company has been making in the interest of its employes.

Mr. W. S. Gordon, of Cincinnati, Ohio, was in Everett last week buying and shipping apples to Cincinnati and Dayton. He made his headquarters at W. W. McDaniel's Racket store, where the apples were put in barrels for shipment. Mr. Gordon has purchased almost 7,000 bushels already. The prices paid range from 75 to \$1.05 per barrel of three bushels.

P. F. Custer, of Vinco, was in Johnstown recently exhibiting some freaks in corn that were of very curious interest. One of these showed eleven ears grown together, another showed nine and a third, five. A fourth ear was in the shape of a human hand. The corn is of the gourd-seed variety and Mr. Custer's crop yielded 130 bushels to the acre.

Rev. A. R. Lambert, pastor of the Ridge Ave. M. E. church, Harrisburg, has finally been appointed to the pastorate of the Fowler Methodist church, Minneapolis, Minn., by Bishop Fowler. Mr. Lambert is a son-in-law to J. W. Heath, of Pownall, and received his first recommendation for ministerial license by the Phillipsburg quarterly conference.

Thomas W. Powell, high constable of Clearfield borough was struck by the Beech Creek passenger train in the yard near Clearfield on Saturday morning. His body was frightfully mutilated. The victim was an old soldier and for many years held the position of high constable for the borough of Clearfield. He is aged about 60 years and is survived by a family.

John Guyer, aged 21 years, and his brother, George, of Dudley, Huntingdon county, went gunning Thursday and during the day they became separated. John's failure to return led to a search for him Friday, when his body was found in the woods. A bullet had pierced him through the abdomen. He had been "calling" wild turkeys and it is believed he was shot by mistake by some unknown hunter.

Judge Olmstead, of Potter county, has ordered that all men convicted of illegal liquor selling shall be compelled to work out the \$500 fine at cracking stone at \$1 per day. There are twelve now in Potter county jail for illegal liquor selling, and on Saturday, Sheriff Farnsworth started to put the court's order into effect. Four of them refused to go to work, declaring that they had never done any work and didn't propose to begin. The judge, therefore, ordered them placed on a bread and water diet until they changed their minds about working.

John Warzneck, the trackwalker at Parker's Glen, had a singular experience with a deer. He was walking along the railroad near the station when he heard a commotion overhead and looking up saw a large doe on the edge of the precipice which is more than 100 feet high. The deer jumped and landed a few yards ahead of him on the ground. Its only apparent injury was a broken leg. Warzneck grappled with the animal as it struck the ground and a fierce battle ensued for half an hour before Warzneck succeeded in cutting its throat. He was severely injured.

The Reedsville Water company, to supply water to the towns of Reedsville, Yeagertown, Milroy and Burnham, will get its charter. Secretary of the Commonwealth Grist gave a hearing recently to the applicants and the protesters, the latter representing those who have applied for separate charters for each of the three townships adjacent to Reedsville in which these towns are located. It was the contention of the protesters that a corporation of this kind could not be authorized to supply water to more than one township. Secretary Grist decided in favor of the Reedsville company and against the others.

The distribution of students in State College by counties, for the present year, is an interesting showing. Fifty-three counties are now represented: Centre leads with fifty-two men, and Allegheny follows with thirty-one. Blair county stands third, with fifteen men, and Lancaster fourth, with twelve, followed by Schuylkill, with eleven. The present Freshman and Sub-Freshman classes, alone, are distributed over forty-eight counties. Outside of Pennsylvania six States and one territory are represented: Georgia, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Maryland and Virginia and Oklahoma Territory.

Mrs. Mattie Pryor, a colored woman living at Tunneltown, near Spruce Creek, was out at a dance Saturday night, and on the way home when nearing her place of habitation she tripped in some way and fell to the ground. She happened to have a revolver secreted in the stocking on her right leg, and when she fell a load from the weapon was discharged. The ball entered the outside of her leg about three inches above the knee and passed downward into the calf. Dr. L. F. Crawford was summoned, who probed for the ball past the knee joint but failed to locate it. The wound will doubtless heal and the woman will not be any worse on account of her war experience. She is the widow of the man Pryor who died at Tunneltown and was buried at Tyrone some months since.