

Ink Slings.

When your throat's a little husky, And you are a little hoarse; If you've corns upon your Tribbles You have food enough, of course.

The Khedive of Egypt gets \$500,000 a year as his salary. How'd you like to be the Khedive?

The fellow who makes no New Year's resolutions is the man with the easy conscience these days.

If a horseless carriage is an automobile then we spent most of our infantile days rolling around in such a vehicle.

The great English victory that was heralded from Colesburg on Tuesday has turned out to have been nothing more than a retreat of the Boers.

All the back-sliders are not to be found on the church register these days. A few of them are noticeable on the slippery side walks of Bellefonte.

Investigating the Democratic vote in Philadelphia would appear to the astute politician like trying to analyze the water that would remain in a sieve.

Ladysmith certainly has wonderful resources. She has been having a British house party for months and hasn't showed any signs of being bored yet.

One of the things Pennsylvanians had to be thankful for was that no session of the Legislature is to be found on the schedule of events for this year.

Mr. KID McCoy is a regular old boss in the prize ring. It took him just five rounds to send PETER MAHER, the Irish champion to grass, and the \$16,000 gate money he scooped by the trick weren't sham "rocks" either.

When the match making begins in earnest at the Bellefonte factory other business interests will likely be stimulated, but not necessarily the marriage license business of register ARCHIEV, yet that is the channel that much match making ought to effect.

Philadelphia is already beginning preparations for the reception of delegates to the next national Republican convention. At that time father PENN expects his sides to bulge out with such a burden of Republicians as will make the months of the stuffed ballot boxes in that city flow copious streams for envy.

The young lady who wore a celluloid collar to a funeral, in Lamar township, Clinton county, on Saturday, and got so near the stove that it caught fire and nearly burned her neck off has doubtless realized, ere this, that linen is the safest, if it does take something more than spit and a handkerchief to clean it up.

Emperor WILLIAM will be getting up on his "hint feet" again if his grand-ma's government keeps on seizing vessels flying the German flag. England had better be a little wary about the way she is stirring the Dutch up. She has about as much as she can handle in South Africa, without running the risk of having her "Tomnies" made into Frankforters by the Dutch across the North Sea.

BRADSTREET'S Trade Review would like to have the country believe that there is a glut of prosperity. A glut, indeed! Such an one as comes to a dyspeptic after dining on a Unede biscuit and a cup of hot water. The great, half-starved industrial system of this country will stand ten times as much as it has now without crying for pepsin tablets in the form of trusts and expansion expenses.

The advance in rents and cost of necessities about here has more than out-reached the slight advance in wages. The working man who has been favored by this McKinley prosperity with a raise of fifteen cents a day in his wages will hardly be able to figure himself out any richer at the end of the month. To gain \$3.90 a month in his wages he has to pay an increase of about \$2 per month rent, 4 cents per gallon advance on all his coal oil, 60 cents a ton on the coal he uses and increased prices for his groceries and clothing.

If the seizure of American flour is to be permitted, just because the British are having a war with the Boers in South Africa, what in the world is to become of the farmers of this country. If there is to be no safe market for their grains abroad, simply because some foreign powers are at war and deem it their right to seize such commodities there is likely to be great losses and damages to trade all the time, for there is always some petty warfare being waged between some foreign powers, and if England is to be tolerated in such seizures every other power will feel at liberty to act likewise.

The Centre county papers that are announcing that register RUMBERGER, having issued 2,013 marriage licenses during his six years tenure of office, "made that many people happy" must be of the opinion that the pleasure giving propensities of marriage licenses are decidedly one sided. It would be only the proper thing to throw the cloak of charity over the work Mr. RUMBERGER has done by saying that he made 4,026 people happy. For if they were made happy when love's young dream bore its first fruits in a marriage license they certainly can't be expected to be so now that they know what sleeping with a cold footed companion is, and have tasted of the sweets of getting up before daylight in a zero temperature to make a kitchen fire with water soaked wood.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

VOL. 45

BELLEFONTE, PA., JAN. 5, 1900.

NO. 1

The Cowardice of Sycophancy!

Weeks ago a cargo of American flour, carried in a German vessel to be unloaded and sold in a Portuguese port, was seized by a British war ship and held as contraband of war. That was weeks ago. It was owned by American shippers—carried on a neutral vessel and destined for the markets of a neutral country. And yet for weeks no word of protest; no request for explanation; no claim for damages, or no demand for apology or reparation, emanated from those whose duty it is to protect the rights and property of American citizens, as much as it is their duty to defend the honor of the flag or the liberties of the people.

Within the recollection of many of us, at a time when our country was in the throes of a relentless and crucial civil war, an American war ship took from an English steamer, two American citizens who were in rebellion at the time and were fleeing the country to escape the consequences of their acts. In less than twenty-four hours after the word reached England, the demand for the release of the two men, and for the fullest apology for the alleged outrage, was made upon this government, and in a way that required immediate action and the prompt acknowledgment of the wrong done.

The seizure of MASON and SLIDELL, upon an English steamer, affected only the rights of those two individuals to the protection of the British flag, while the seizure of American flour on board a German vessel, in Delagoa bay, affects the right of every producer of American bread-stuff, and of every American shipper of the products of our country who are entitled to the protection that our own or the flag of any neutral country, should give them in any part of the world. If English war vessels can seize the flour our citizens ship for sale to a Portuguese port, they can seize that shipped to a German, French, Russian or any other neutral power, and by that seizure place in jeopardy every pound of American food product that finds demand in foreign countries.

There is never a time that some of the great European powers are not at war. If this precedent, sought to be established by the English government, of the right to seize and confiscate our food products, because it is suspected that they may eventually reach the country with which they are at war, under what conditions will the export of American flour, or beef, or corn, or any of the products of the country be safe from seizure by some of the warring nations of the Old World, under the same pretext? What exporter can take the risk this precedent will make? And with these dangers added to the cost of transportation when or how could we market our production of this country?

Of all the questions that have arisen in years there is none that strikes deeper at the vitals of the American export trade—and upon that trade depends the prosperity of the American people—than this very act of an English war vessel. If submitted to and recognized as right, it will, in the future, give every European nation, in time of war, the right to seize and appropriate any of our products, no matter where they are found or upon what kind of vessels they are carried. It will give to the commerce destroyers of the old world the liberty to appropriate any of our exportations that are found on the high seas or in ports over which they have jurisdiction. It will add to the risks of exportation to that extent that will practically close all foreign markets against us. It will leave our cereals and live stock, our flour and meats, the products of our farms and mines and manufactories, upon our own hands, or at the mercy of any foreign power that finds them on the way to the world's market.

And with this condition of affairs staring us in the face; with this danger threatening the productive and manufacturing interests of the country; with this menace to the prosperity of the farmer and manufacturer; with this peril of the material interests and welfare of our people hanging over us, the McKinley administration through sheer sycophancy, cowardice, or treachery, sat with its mouth closed for several weeks and then only expressed a half hearted opposition to the establishment of such a dangerous and outrageous precedent.

But two weeks ago, when the interests of gambling stock-brokers were threatened with a panic, the representative of Mr. McKinley's administration opened the vaults of the people's treasury and poured the public money into Wall street to protect them. Now when the welfare of the great agricultural and manufacturing interests of the country are at stake, through the outrageous and overbearing action of a British official, he and his secretary of State, are stricken with a silence that would shame a mute asylum and with a cowardice that would bring a blush to the cheek of the veriest poltroon the country has to be ashamed of.

May Know Well What He Knows, but He Don't Know All.

Mr. Secretary GAGE may be an experienced banker and a great financier but he evidently has more faith in the patriotism and unselfishness of the bankers of the country than other people have. His idea of settling the financial questions that now agitate the public is to place the financial affairs of the country in the hands of those who own and control the banks. He would give to these men, and these institutions, the power to expand or contract the currency at their pleasure, by opening the vaults of the public treasury when they demand it, and by keeping them closed to all other interests. He believes that by giving them control of sufficient money to "ease the market," when they deem it necessary, that financial conditions will be as satisfactory as they can be made.

Wise Mr. GAGE. Considerate Mr. GAGE. Hopeful Mr. GAGE. How well he reasons for himself and other bankers. How poorly he thinks for the public, and how he would deceive the people with his beliefs and financial dogmas.

Bankers are but human beings after all. They are in the business of banking for the money there is in it for themselves. They prosper most when the rates of interest are the highest. The rates of interest are given when money is scarce. Ergo—give the banker the power to control the supply and that supply will always be short when the business of the country needs it otherwise.

If bankers did business for fun or glory it might be different. If they took the risks that are theirs and laid awake at nights, as many of them do, thinking about the security they must have and the amount of interest they should demand on the money of other people that has been deposited with them, for patriotism or the pleasure of doing so, rather than for the profit there is in it for them, Mr. GAGE's suggestions might seem right. But unfortunately such is not the case, and because it is not, his ideas are all wrong from any other business view except that of the banker.

As long as there is selfishness in this world, and men who have selfish purposes to attain by dealing in money, it will be unsafe for any country to trust the control of the supply of its money to its bankers. It is the government that should issue the money for the people and all its wealth and standing and power should be back of it. It, alone, is given power to "coin money" and whether it is the "coined" or printed stuff that is furnished as a circulating medium, it should come from the government and be backed by it. Every dollar that it sends out should be a full legal tender for any kind of a debt, and there should be no power vested in any institutions, or companies or individuals to contract or expand the amount.

Mr. GAGE may know all about banking but he evidently don't know all about the needs, and welfare of the other interests of the country.

Philadelphia Methods Away from Home.

Whether the Puerto Ricans have taken lessons in Philadelphia or whether the Republican administration has furnished them special instructors in the art of carrying on elections we do not know. That one or the other has been done is almost certain.

Under the effort to reconstruct the local government of that island the first elections were attempted a few weeks ago. They were confined to the principal cities and a few of the larger towns. Local officials alone were to be chosen, yet the citizens divided into political parties, the one under the name of Republican—the other Federalist. What principles these names were chosen to represent we do not know, nor are we informed as to the political issues the elections were expected to decide. The result shows, however, how quick these newly fledged voters caught on to the political methods of those in control.

In the city of Guayama, the Federalists won by one vote, and already there has been fifty-one indictments for fraudulent voting and false registration. How many Philadelphia methods are in Guayama we do not know or what interest Mr. McKinley's office holders, about Washington, have in the results of local elections down there it is difficult to imagine. But fifty-one indictments for fraud at elections in one small city is pretty strong evidence that one or the other of these forces had a hand in the work that gives cause for these indictments. It at least shows that Philadelphia methods are not confined to Philadelphia, and that they take root and grow wherever Republicanism prevails.

The fact that fifty-one indictments have been found against debauchers of elections down in Guayama already shows that the people down there don't propose submitting to this villainy, as the self-righteous and self-glorifying citizens of Philadelphia have done these many years. And in this there is hope for Puerto Ricans.

A New Kind of a Trust.

Is there to be a church "trust" also? This is the first question that arises in one's mind when he reads the suggestion of President SCHURMAN of the Philippine commission, that when missionaries are sent to the Philippine Islands they should be confined solely to those of our protestant denominations. In an article in the last number of the Independent, in writing on this subject this representative of McKinleyism says: "Missionaries are needed in the islands, and I hope they will be sent there in large numbers. There is plenty of work for them to do, and I hope they will go with a complete understanding of the situation and an earnest desire to accomplish good. They must realize that they are contending with a Catholic educated population that knows nothing about the fine differences between protestant sects and denominations. Therefore, it would be highly impolitic to send missionaries of different denominations, to confuse the minds of the people. I do hope that when we send the missionaries we will decide beforehand on one form of protestant Christianity. Send only one type of missionaries."

It is possible that political and moral asininity could go further than this suggestion contemplates, but it is not probable that it will. The idea that the ever working, continuously warring, self-glorifying and ambitious denominations, into which the protestant church of this country is divided, could be induced to so far forget themselves as to join in a movement that would exclude their own missionaries, from the Philippine field, is about as probable as it is that the stars will cease shining in order that the brilliancy of the moon may be increased.

Such a proposition is simply preposterous. The only other way in which the SCHURMAN suggestion could be carried out would be for those in authority to set themselves up as dictators and designate the sect that should send its missionaries to enlighten the heathen and "crush the influences of Catholicism" in this newly acquired country.

And this would be a pretty state of affairs, wouldn't it? A fine condition of political and religious liberty! A glorious exemplification of the freedom of the church from political control and of the right of man, not only to worship God according to the dictates of his conscience, but to carry his gospel to the benighted lands! And yet this is the suggestion of Mr. McKinley's chief representative of his Philippine policy. It is no doubt made in good faith, for imperialism stops at nothing, cares for nothing, recognizes nothing but its own authority, its own dictum and its own absolutism. It has possibly been made a little earlier than those who will eventually advocate this right of an imperialistic President to dictate the religious belief that shall be taught the people, but would have it announced none too soon for the good of the country or the safety of religious liberty.

Americans may be ready for a whole lot of un-American ideas and doctrines, but they are not yet prepared to have Mr. McKinley's imperialistic ideas go so far as to build up and support a sectarian trust or a governmental religion.

The Retirement of Dan Woods.

Almost synonymous with rail-roading in this section of the State is the name of DAN WOODS, of Tyrone, who has just retired from active service under the Pennsylvania company's new retirement system.

His many years as train master of the Tyrone division have gained for him a business and social acquaintance that is as wide in range as it is cordial and deep seated in feeling. DAN WOODS always was a popular fellow. When he began his railroading career as a freight brakeman in 1859, and was promoted to a conductor in January of 1860 and in July of the following year was given charge of a passenger train on the Tyrone division, all through the stations over which he traveled so rapidly to the position of train master, which he was given in January, 1864, he left in his wake nothing but friends. He was everybody's friend and everybody was his and the opening years of his service were like the closing years, except that the list of friends had grown continually.

While he is retired from the duties he has looked after so faithfully for the past thirty-five years he is by no means retired from the greetings of his friends and, as one of them, the WATCHMAN hopes that the evening of his life will be as cheery as the vesper of the nightingale.

There is one or two very unpleasant propositions for the Clinton county statistician to go up against when he gets to comparing the records of births and deaths in his own county with those of Centre. While both show an excess of births over deaths the percentage in those county is so much greater than that of Clinton as to indicate either that our climate is far more salubrious than theirs or we have better men up here than they have.

Subscribe for the WATCHMAN.

A Lost Lesson.

Lancaster county has just furnished an illustration of the illwisdom of Republican promises of honest administration of public affairs, as well as of the looseness of Republican methods of fulfilling public duties. Its county treasurer is a fugitive from justice and its treasury is short \$65,000. To be sure the people of that county will lose but little in the way of money, as the bondsmen of the defaulting official are responsible; and in the matter of political morals it is questionable if a locality does so steadfastly stands by the rotten Republican ring that controls the affairs of the State, as Lancaster county does, has anything to loose through the official turpitude of one of its local leaders. So that the lesson that tax-payers and honest citizens should learn from the results of electing unworthy officials, or the endorsement of loose political methods, is likely to be lost entirely on the bigoted partisans who make up the bulk of the population of this last county to be robbed.

It is to be regretted that the loss occasioned by the rascality of this ring official does not fall directly upon the shoulders of those who elected him. From the time that the "memory of man runneth not to the contrary" the people of Lancaster county have gloried in the majorities they could roll up for every thieving candidate, and for every rascally measure a corrupt state ring put forth. They have helped to pile millions of dollars of unnecessary taxation upon the people of other portions of the State in order that the profligate demands of corrupt state officials might be satisfied and now that the robbing of a public treasury comes so near reaching their own pockets, we are only sorry that there are those who must stand county official and their individual purses.

A little closer and this defalcation might have had some effect in purifying the condition of politics in that stronghold of Republicanism. As it is the lesson is destined to be lost upon the voter, and Lancaster county will continue voting just as it has, for the kind of men who use public moneys for their own private purposes.

The robbery of a treasury is no crime in the eyes of Lancaster county voters.

A Few Occurrences of the Old Year Worth Knowing.

From the Philadelphia Inquirer. Death has in all seasons for its own and it is surprising, in looking over the records, to find how many distinguished people have been gathered in by the dread reaper during the period covered by this review. First on the long list by virtue alike of the dignity of the office which he occupied and his own engaging and resolute personality should be placed the name of Garret A. Hobart, formerly Vice President of the United States. Perhaps none of his predecessors in the Vice Presidency, that tomb of political ambitions, had made his influence so much and so beneficially felt in national affairs as Mr. Hobart, and he was possessed, in addition, of so many amiable qualities that his decease was felt to be a public loss and was the subject of great and general regret. Other American statesmen and publicists of prominence who have passed away during the year are Nelson Dingley, the Republican leader in the House of Representatives and the author of the Tariff bill now in operation; Richard Parks Bland, ex-Senator Charles A. Beckwith, the veteran Justin S. Morrill, of Vermont; James B. Eastis, formerly Ambassador of the United States at Paris, and ex-Senator and Attorney General Garland. Among foreign men of affairs whose deaths are noted are Felix Faure, President of the French Republic; Emilio Castelar, President of the short-lived Republic of Spain; Count Caprivi, Chancellor of the German Empire; and General Blanco, ex-President of Venezuela.

Literature has lost representatives in Mrs. E. D. E. N. Southworth, Grant Allen Horatio Alger, Florence Marryatt, and William Black; science is the poorer by the deaths of Dr. D. G. Brinton, Sir Douglas Galton, and Wilhelm Eberhard Bunsen; the stage has lost Augustin Daly, John Walker, the famous artists, who have gone, include Rosa Bonheur, the illustrious painter of animals, and Birket Foster, the English landscapist and engraver; and music mourns the taking off of Johann Strauss, the waltz king, and of Richard Stahl, the promising young composer of popular comic operas. The dead inventors are Stephen A. More, and Otkmar Mergenthaler. Among the leaders in the world of business and finance the deceased comprise Cornelius Vanderbilt, Frank Thomson ex-Judge Hilton, Roswell P. Flower, Dell Nobit, Charlemagne Tower and Henry B. Plant. Eminent publisher and editors and writers, who have gone are Robert Bonner, Joseph Medill, John A. French, John Russell Young, Robert Ingersoll, and William Henry Appleton. The legal profession is the poorer by the loss of F. Carroll Brewster, Henry C. Townsend, Judge Reeder, Justice Henry Williams, of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, and Justice Stephen John Field of the Supreme Court of the United States. The ministry of religion has lost Bishops Williams, O'Hara and Newman; Dwight L. Moody and Fathers P. A. Jordan and Nicholas Cantwell, and among the prominent citizens who are no more, are H. Rhawn, Wm. P. Tatham, Thomas H. McAllister, Amos M. Slack, Thomas Cochran, Joseph H. Menn, Samuel G. King, James McManes, ex-Protost Charles J. Stille, Allen B. Rorke, Nicholas Maguire, Horace Stephens, and Wilson H. Jenkins.

Spawls from the Keystone.

There were 16 fires in Pottstown during 1899, with an aggregate cost of more than \$9,000, much smaller than for a number of previous years.

Orange Noble, of Erie, formerly a prominent oil magnate and Democratic candidate for State Treasurer in 1881, died on Saturday last, aged 82 years.

Flames from an outdoor fire-place, at a country butchering near Gettysburg set fire to Mrs. Jacob Lady's dress on Monday, burning her so badly that she died early Tuesday.

It is probable that the tax levy in Pittsburg for the coming year will be increased from 15 mills to 17 mills. A 22 mill levy would be needed to keep that city on a good financial basis and reduce the deficit.

Republican State Chairman Reeder issued a call for the convening of the Pennsylvania Republican convention at Harrisburg, April 25, to nominate candidates for auditor general, congressmen-at-large, and presidential electors.

Monday afternoon the two large saw mills of the Lackawanna Lumber company at Cross Forks were destroyed by fire. The planing mill and the lumber in the yard were saved from destruction. The saw mills will be rebuilt at once.

Millard Johnston, former jury commissioner, of Clearfield county, charged with stuffing the December panel, and who has been in the Clearfield jail since last Friday, was admitted to bail Monday. The amount was placed at \$4,000.

The deer season, which closed in Pike county recently, has been the best on record within the recollection of the oldest hunters. Almost 285 were killed. Ex-Sheriff Hoffman holds the championship, having killed with various parties, more than twenty deer.

During 1899 135 persons died in Berks county through violence, accident or suicide. The railroads claimed the greater number of victims, in which the Exeter wreck figures with twenty-four killed. There were thirty three others killed on the railroads.

The barn of Amos Brock, of near Luthersburg, Clearfield county, was destroyed by fire recently. On Monday a large number of his friends and neighbors met at his place and put up a new building which they expected to have completed this week.

Cumberland county possesses two of the oldest persons living in the State. If Mrs. Sarah Cover, of Mechanicsburg, lives until April 1900, she will be 102 years old. Mammy Greenly, a colored woman of New Cumberland, was 99 years old on New Year's day.

Austin Linn, of Sandy Ridge, Clearfield county, was hauling manure to his farm Wednesday. Not appearing at the time expected, a search was instituted, when he was found dead in one of his fields. It is believed that he died from apoplexy. He was 62 years old.

Four Bethlehem boys who stole nearly a ton of horseshoes from a blacksmith, were compelled to carry them back, one by one, through the main street of the town, and were then forgiven. The lads traveled 27 1/2 miles apiece, and were then publicly spanked by their parents.

Gripp's art studio, near Tyrone, it is said will be removed to Washington, D. C. This may interfere with our sister town's free mail delivery, for the mail order part of Gripp's business was of no inconsiderable magnitude. The Tyrone printers, too, will regret this removal.

The courts of Clearfield county have awarded damages of \$2,000 to Miss Virginia Beers, a school teacher who was injured by a fall from a bridge that had no side protections. She was riding a bicycle at the time of the accident. Lime stone township must meet the loss for its negligence.

Michael Wolf, a tax collector for Cummings township, Lycoming county, was arrested at his home in Waterville Friday on a warrant charging him with embezzaling about \$300 of poor taxes. The man was taken before his brother, John, a justice of the peace, where he entered bail for court.

During the last week counterfeiters have been at work in Jersey Shore and palmed off quite a large number of spurious coins on the merchants of that place. One business man found three bad dollars in his money drawer and several others have one or two. The storekeepers are of the opinion that the "queer" was passed on them during the holiday rush.

Three children of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Carr, near Jerseytown, Pa., have within the past week died from the effects of eating applebutter that was permitted to remain in a copper kettle over night, thus becoming poisoned. The children gleefully scraped what applebutter adhered to the kettle after their mother had finished dipping it out. The parents ate none of the mixture.

During the past year register and recorder Jarrett granted 212 marriage licenses. The aggregate number of licenses granted in Clinton county since the marriage license law went into effect in 1855 is 3,378. During the year the births and deaths in the county as registered at the register and recorder's office is: Births 651, deaths 481.

Tramps to keep from freezing on Monday night built a fire in Samuel L. Light's big modern machine brick-making plant, at East Lebanon, and left the place early the next morning. The fire was still burning. A high wind caused the flames to communicate with the frame building, and several hours later it was in ruins. It was the largest plant of its kind in the vicinity, and its destruction entails a loss of \$5000, without insurance.

A terrific explosion demolished the acetylene plant in the small building in the rear of Irwin & Wray's store building at Bellefonte one afternoon last week. The plant was used for the lighting of their store rooms. The explosion was heavy and resembled that of one of the largest cannons; buildings were jarred and glass broken three squares distant. The flames from the explosion reached almost across the railroad, and the large plate glass windows in front of the store were badly shattered by the concussion. The windows of Warbenton's barber shop and Seider's jewelry store on the opposite side of the street, were also shattered. One of the clerks had, but a few minutes before, been in the room in which the reservoir stood, and therefore made a lucky escape. No one was injured.