

Ink Sillings.

We wonder whether they will be singing "On the Banks of the Wabash" at the big exposition on the banks of the Seine next summer.

The Berks county goose-bone prophet who predicted a mild winter some time ago is probably getting his throat cleared out to shout I told you so.

How can Philadelphia expect to have a symphony orchestra when there is such discord among front fiddlers like MARTIN, ASHBURGH, WANAMAKER, et al.

From the number of sweet-scented things the editors of the papers say about each other over there the Clearfield hills must be fairly effervescent with perfume — of the skunk cabbage and polecat variety.

If Mrs. MOLINEUX was the kind of a woman the testimony in Monday's trial of the celebrated case in New York made her out to have been before MOLINEUX married her, she was scarcely worth the poison her husband is accused of having used to put her other lover out of the road with.

JOHN WANAMAKER ought to hire Dr. SWALLOW to edit his Philadelphia North American. The Doctor's ideas would fit in very nicely with the policy of the North American and he and JOHN ought to be able to mix up church and politics about as well as any pair we know of in Pennsylvania.

The French must certainly be chaffing under the handicap that Paris exposition of their places on them. With every statesman and gentleman fairly spoiling to get in to the great international mixup that is threatened they have to keep their impetuous natures cooled, lest they offend some who might be contemplating a trip to their show.

The Canadian Indians are said to be in a very restless state as a consequence of the English-Boer war. It is feared that they might rise at any moment and cause trouble, not that so many of the mounted police have been removed from their reservations. If restlessness is all that troubles them JOHN BULL need only pump a few capsules loaded with Paine's celery compound into them from a maxim gun and the trouble will be settled before it is begun.

What a glorious thing if it were only a disease that made HARRY BEATTY, of Pennsylvania, get up in his sleep and work like a Turk for about five hours. Unfortunately it was only a somnambulistic prank. Had it been disease that caused it we would certainly have set some scientist to hunting for the bacilli that made him act that way so that a few lazy duffers around Bellefonte could be inoculated and made to work in their sleep if they won't do it at any other time.

The English board of admiralty has decided that American mules must be vaccinated before being enlisted for service in South Africa. The English are getting a little wary of the American long eared tribe. They seem to be undeniably in sympathy with the Boers. The first thing they did when they got into battle was to stampee and run away; leaving the English cannon to be captured by the Boers. Now they promptly take the ganders when they arrive down there and die rather than aid the effort to rob those honest farmers of their freedom.

The Hon. W. C. ARNOLD, of DuBois, has already had his picture among the Philadelphia Inquirer's gallery of notables (?) and the Clearfield Keftman's Journal has devoted a column to setting forth his virtues — strange that it could be done in such small space — so he is all ready now to be made the Republican nominee for Congress at-Large, by the state convention that will convene in April. Of course the fact of his being ready in no wise carries the certainty of nomination, for he was ready once before and both GROW and DAVENPORT walked in ahead of him.

The Boer war has quite over-shadowed our own troubles in the Philippines to all those except the ones who have friends in those far off islands fighting for this mad expansion policy. The death rate is keeping on, however. It is not lessened one bit by England's fruitless attempts to wrest the liberty from the Boers that Mr. McKINLEY insists we purchased from the Philippines when we paid Spain \$20,000,000 for the islands. Since August, 1898, we have lost 1,391 men from wounds in battle or disease, there have been 1,919 men wounded and there are between four and five thousand in the hospitals. Still the war goes on and is likely to go on as long as there is a single Filipino left to hurt a bo.

It is plain to be seen that the Republican press of the country intends throwing dust in the public eye to keep it from seeing the real issues of the coming campaign. In order to hide the fact that President McKINLEY is bound to turn the circulating medium of the country over to the bankers to juggle as they please, that he is irrevocably committed to the protection of trusts and would give MARK HANNA's ship building friends nine hundred million dollars of the people's money, they keep up the howl that every body who is not with them is a friend of AGUINALDO and should be treated as a traitor. It is all political balderdash and the misguided Republican press will waken up some day to find that the reasonable people are not to be begoggled by this later day trick of crying wolf.

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An Issue that Will Not Down.

Mr. MARK HANNA is to the front again. This time it is to inform the public that the next presidential contest is to be waged on but two questions — The one, the prosperity of the workingman; the other, the retention and control of the Philippines. For this information Mr. HANNA deserves and will doubtless receive the thanks of some people. These are the few who are interested in trusts. They will sleep better, and eat heartier, and be happier, when they know that their well laid plans to fleece the public are not to be called into question. They will rest easier when they are assured that the temporarily filled belly of the workingman is to be used to attract his attention from the exorbitant prices he pays for that which he must have, and their dreams will be less disturbed when they know that the American people are to take greater interest in the welfare of the Filipinos than their own.

It would be a God-send to the trusts, and the monopolies if Mr. HANNA could only make his word good. There is no question about how gladly he would do so. There is no question as to how his proteges and backers—the great trusts of the country—would enjoy such a condition of political affairs, nor as to the liberality with which they would "shell out" to secure it. But there is a question whether Mr. HANNA, and they combined, can accomplish such an end.

The people may be foolish at times but they are scarcely idiots enough to allow the needs of the unwashed and unclothed denizens of far distant islands to make them forget their own interests and welfare. They may be easily gulled, but full stomachs are not going to blot out from them a recollection of the little that Mr. McKINLEY's prosperity has added to what they have to sell, whether it is labor or the products of the farm—and the much it has increased the price of the necessities that the trusts have placed their grip upon. It will take more than Mr. HANNA's command to insure this. And the trusts which he represents and the politicians whom he speaks for may well make up their mind to this fact now as later.

There will be more issues in the coming campaign than those he presents. There will be issues that affect the welfare of every citizen of this broad country, no matter what he may labor at or what his calling may be, so that it is honest and honorable, and one of them will be as to the power of Mr. HANNA, and the party back of him, to build up trusts to crush individual enterprise, destroy private business, tax the people and oppress labor. From this one issue Mr. HANNA and his party cannot get away, no matter what comes of the shirtless and shiftless residents of the Philippine islands, or what degree of prosperity they may allege the workingmen of to-day are enjoying.

Mr. HANNA may as well mark this down.

The Democratic state committee meets in Harrisburg on Wednesday of next week, to fix the time and place for holding the next state convention. Hon. W. J. BRYAN is expected to be in Harrisburg on that day and the Democrats of the city are making preparations for one of the greatest political demonstrations ever witnessed at the state capitol. It is to be hoped that it will prove a wise and auspicious beginning of the campaign work for 1900.

Industries It Has Not Saved.

Mr. McKINLEY's prosperity may be a great thing for some people and for some interests, but for some others it don't seem to be so overwhelmingly advantageous. Duan's Review, which, by those styling themselves business men, is one of the recognized authorities on the business conditions of the country, furnishes, in its issue of January 13th, a table showing the failures in different classes of business for the past five years.

From the figures it gives, and comparing the failures of 1895 with those of 1899—the two years closing the administrations of Mr. CLEVELAND and Mr. McKINLEY,—we don't see that for certain industries, the latter's business boom is much better than was the former's. In 1895 the failure among manufacturers of machinery and tools was \$3, as against 129 in 1899. Of manufacturers of lumber, carpenters and coopers, 299 were closed out by the sheriff in 1895, while 342 went through the same process in 1899. Of printers and engravers but 113 failed in 1895, while 145 were closed out in 1899.

Surely there is nothing to boast of in the prosperity that seems to have struck men doing business in these lines. And as it is with these so it is with many others, particularly the farmer. When the returns from these come in—when the complete work of high prices made by trusts and the special favorites of the present administration get in their work, as against the low prices the farmer is allowed for that which he produces, the gathering of Mr. McKINLEY's harvest will be anything but a happy or hopeful one for them.

Not Only Rob but Discriminate Against Us.

The injustice the people suffer through the protection given to and the manipulations of trusts is exemplified in the prices charged the public for the products of such combinations at home and abroad. The American people foster and protect the trusts by submitting to tariff laws that prevent the importation of articles manufactured by them. They are thus given absolute control of the markets in this country for the different products they furnish, and the return they make to the people for their protection, and for the privileges they enjoy, is shown by the prices they charge them and others.

These corporations that Mr. HANNA and the Republican party have built up and propose continuing have sole control of the barbed wire, and the nail traffic of the country. They have combined the mills that manufactured these articles and fix the output as well as dictate the prices they are to be sold at. Five years ago wire nails were selling at 95 cents a keg; one year ago they could be purchased at \$1.95 and to-day the price is \$3.53. These same nails, that the American people are compelled to pay \$3.53 a keg for, and with all the cost of freights by land and transportation by water, loading and unloading paid, are delivered to European merchants at \$2.14 a keg.

Barbed wire that has become a staple product of this country and in the price of which every farmer is interested, now costs the American purchaser \$4.13 a hundred pounds and Europeans but \$2.20 for the same quantity.

Possibly this kind of discrimination against ourselves and against our own interests may suit the Republican leaders, who have undertaken the task of defending the trusts and the legislation that is maintaining their grip upon the country, but it is hardly probable that the people who are fleeced by these combinations, and are compelled to pay a higher price for the products of American manufacturers, than Europeans are, will admit that it suits them. This is one of the questions that Mr. HANNA and his candidate McKINLEY will avoid in the next presidential contest.

It is not strange that General Lord METHUEN and the titled warriors that England has sent to South Africa have so far been unprepared to meet their Dutch opponents. The many and various photographs that they have been sending home show that they have been kept entirely too busy posing for pictures to bother with the details of the less agreeable work of trying to lick the Boers. The world might get along without a British victory, but what wouldn't it do if our daily papers didn't have a different picture of its lordly generals every day in the week?

Should Be Shortened.

In summing up the good deeds that were done during the past year some one undertakes to itemize the liberality of ANDREW CARNEGIE Esq., in bequests of institutions of various characters, in which the total amount is made to figure up \$5,155,000. This is a pretty good showing for a rich man to make in one year. It is a showing that but few can make and those who can deserve double credit for doing so—credit, not only for the money that is given, but for the spirit that prompts it and the unselfishness that turns private wealth to public good.

Whether the other benevolences given in the list of Mr. CARNEGIE's contributions are correct we do not know, but as to one item—that of \$100,000 as credited to the State College—we are certain that no such sum was given, nor, in fact, was that institution the recipient of any sum whatever from him. During the early part of last year, and while the Legislature was in session, Mr. CARNEGIE offered to erect a library building for the College at a cost of \$100,000 provided the State would appropriate \$10,000 annually to equip and maintain it. The Legislature refused to accept the offer and that was the end of it.

It is right enough that Mr. CARNEGIE should have full credit for every charitable act done and for every liberal proposition extended. He is entitled to this, more he does not need, nor would he have. But it is not right that an institution like the State College should be charged with receiving bequests that were never made, or with being the recipient of money that was never given it. Justice to both Mr. CARNEGIE and to the State College require that this one contribution, at least, be stricken from the list of his last year's benevolences.

It seems strange that a wise man like the superintendent of the water department should marvel at the consumption of 237,000 gallons of water in five hours on Sunday evening, in Bellefonte. Don't you know, SAMUEL, that the bars are closed Sunday and a large percentage of the population is thereby compelled to make a weekly change to water.

A Glorious 'Caston.

Philadelphia boasts that it is a great city and believes it has abundant reason for feeling more than usually proud. It is to have the Republican National Convention, and great are the preparations that are being made for that event. It pays \$200,000 for the show, and expects to have a big time and lots of fun before it is all over. And why shouldn't it? "It pays its money and it takes its choice."

To be sure Philadelphia has water that is neither fit to drink nor clean enough to wash in. Its gas is rotten and without enough of light to make a shadow. Its wharves are but rotten bulk-heads and its piers decaying man traps. Its hospitals and asylums are kept open only by the charity of the State. It has not enough of school houses to accommodate the children within it. It has no money to dredge and clean its only highway to the sea.

But it has \$200,000 to contribute to a convention that will nominate McKINLEY, and declare in favor of trusts. It has also 100,000 Republican majority when its repeaters, ballot-box stuffers and false counters are only recognized.

Great is Philadelphia, and great is the glory that envelops it? Why shouldn't its people feel proud?

They have had a little more shooting in Kentucky. Former Republican Congressman DAVID G. GOLSON pulled a gun in a Frankfort hotel, Tuesday night, and before he got done shooting off three men were dead and two others mortally wounded. He gave himself up then and after being placed in a front room of the dwelling portion of the county jail over two hundred telegrams of sympathy were wired in to him. Kentucky must be fairly boiling with sympathy for when the poor victims got beyond its reach it had to spend itself on their slayers.

Wild Cattle on the Nittany Mountains.

The practice of summer pasturing cattle on the mountain lands in Centre county has become so popular that now many extensive tracts of wild land are enclosed and men are engaged to herd, during the season, great droves of young cattle at rates of from one to two dollars per head. All that is required of the herder is that he keep the cattle salted, free from epidemics and rounds them up in the fall when the owners appear to take them home.

The practice of mountain pasturing has been the natural result of an inclination on the part of farm owners to reduce the number of head of stock a tenant may pasture on the farm. A certain number of milk cows and their increase are usually permissible, but young cattle are not, so if the tenant farmer wants to raise a beef for himself or for the market he must find pasture for it elsewhere, and usually sends it to the mountains. Lots of farmers send their young cattle out to pasture also, so that during the summer months there are thousands of head roaming over the Alleghenies, Muncy, Tussey and Nittany mountains. They are branded with a slit or punch or some other mark in the ear and turned loose. That is the last that is seen of them until fall, when the owners gather at the herder's shanty for the roundup, or, if the cattle have had no herder, a number of farmers join together to roundup their own.

Sometimes several are missed. One farmer might pick all of his out of the roundup, while another would be short a heifer or a steer or several head. It is not often that such losses are permanent, for the estrays are usually found on later and more careful search, but laurel poison, anthrax and even a bullet might drop a few in a herd, so that they are never found.

The Nittany valley farmers have been having trouble of another kind with their cattle. Heretofore they have found it a comparatively easy task getting them rounded up and separated, but last season the very old Nick seems to have gotten into them and they were like deer when the time for the fall roundup came. They would snort and dart away whenever approached by a human being; clearing logs and low brush with the ease of an antelope. The result was that a number of them had to be left in the mountains and are there at this writing; growing wilder every day. Last week several owners decided to try running them down with hounds. By this plan four were caught, but they had to be bound with ropes before they could be dragged out of the mountains. Every scheme imaginable has been tried, but to little purpose. It had been thought that by hauling feed out to them they would grow tamer, but this failed.

It is the general impression that the heavy thunder storms of last August so terrified the animals as to make them wild.

If you want fine job printing of every description the WATCHMAN office is the place to have it done.

The Ending We Could All Pray For.

From the Philadelphia North American. The attempted moral justification for a war of criminal aggression which shocks the moral sense of mankind is that civilization would be the gainer by the substitution of British rule for Boer rule in the Transvaal. This is called the "higher morality" but in reality it is only the old lie, as wicked as it is old, that evil may rightfully be done in order that good may come.

The civilization is benefited by the continued existence of a great power which flings righteous assidues when selfish interests bids, is to be more than doubted by any one who can take long views. But if we are to consider results alone, the argument advanced for England can be employed by the Boers on their own behalf with immensely augmented force. The crushing of the African Republics would mean merely a slight extension of the British empire, whereas should victory for the Boers cause that empire—bereft of prestige and with its weakness exposed to all eyes—to go to pieces, what then?

Republics would spring up among its ruins. All South Africa would be free and at liberty to begin its career as an independent self-governing nation. Canada would be compelled to set up for herself or come into the American Union. In either case the Canadians would step to a higher plane, for the blight on colonial dependence, the belittling jealousy and hatred of the United States, would be removed. A splendid Republic would rise in Australasia, giving the world another Federal Union destined, perhaps, to be as rich and powerful as our own. The British islands of the West Indies would come to us, and wherewith English rule survived it would grow milder at the price of its continuance. England herself probably would begin a new era of progress as a Republic, with Ireland as a sister State, or a neighboring independent Commonwealth.

If republicanism is better than monarchy, government of the people by themselves preferable to their government by Kings, then humanity should pray for the triumph of the Boers, and through that triumph or the collapse of the British Empire, by whose downfall the monarchical idea would receive such a blow as has not been delivered since France arose and avenged the wrongs of a thousand years of rule by divine right. No mediæval robber baron who dashed down from his castle upon the passing merchant and made prize of his wares had ever less warrant in right for his enterprise upon Republicanism in Africa. It would be a just retribution should the outcome be a world-wide revolt of the republican spirit against imperialism.

History has witnessed more unlikely manifestations of common sense.

The Situation in South Africa on Monday.

From the Pittsburgh Post. The censorship on news from South Africa is so close that we are without direct information, and any speculation of value must be on the fact that Gen. Buller has advanced a column east of Colenso, and is threatening the flank of the Boers in that direction. Added to this threatening movement on the right flank of the Boer army is the statement that it is also threatened from the west of Colenso, and that the movement in this direction has the cooperation of Gen. Warren's corps of 10,000 men advancing from the south and east. The Boer line of intrenchments covers a distance of twenty miles fronting and surrounding Ladysmith. The British force proposing to attack the Boer lines is not less than 30,000 with 10,000 in Ladysmith. The Boers have the advantage that their troops are more easily moved from point to point than the British, and that they are operating on interior lines. This flanking movement indicates a purpose by the British to abandon their face-to-face attacks on the Boer fortifications, in which they have uniformly been unsuccessful, and rely on higher military art by forcing strategic methods by the flanking process. The belief is general in London, on the probabilities and not on direct information, that three battles are now in progress on the Tugela—one on the west, another on the east and the third in front of Colenso, which should also have the co-operation of the Ladysmith garrison. The probabilities are that on this extended line the British will be successful on some points and defeated on others. From Warren on the east of Colenso to Buller on the west is forty miles.

The Trusts Make You Pay Their Toll.

From the York Gazette. Some time ago the sales agents of the wholesale houses of Columbus, Ohio, met and drew up resolutions condemning trusts, and the Republican party as the mother of them. In their resolutions they incorporated a table of prices showing the increase under trust influence in one year. This table is an interesting study. It teaches a valuable lesson which he who runs may read:

Table with 4 columns: Item, 1898 Price, 1899 Price, and another column. Items include clothing, food, and household goods.

—Scribe for the WATCHMAN.

Spawls from the Keystone.

—Damages paid in Fulton county for sheep killed and injured during the past year will amount to about \$800.

—The journeyman plumbers, gas and steam fitters of Reading will organize a school to better the sanitary condition of Reading.

—Free mail delivery will be instituted at Lewistown on May 1st. There will be one clerk, three carriers and one substitute. The carriers will receive \$800 each.

—Mrs. Kate Thrush, of Leesburg, several miles east of Shippensburg, is the oldest person in that section. If she lives until February she will be 98 years of age.

—Two hundred and forty-five miners discharged from the Philadelphia and Reading collieries at Shamokin for attending the funeral of a miner killed in Bear Valley have been restored to their places.

—A few days ago George L. Norris was thrown from a load of hay which he was driving through Clearfield. One of his ankles was fractured and he was otherwise bruised. Norris is a resident of Ansonville.

—Ralph, the 5-year-old son of Roland Knoble, of Paxinos, fell into a kettle of boiling fat Tuesday while the family was butchering. The child was quickly pulled out. He was parboiled and died shortly after.

—Four robbers entered the postoffice at Ganister, ten miles south of Altoona, and secured \$82 in stamps, and the Pittsburgh Limestone Co's store, where goods worth \$700 were taken away on a hand car.

—The double frame dwelling house on Boyd avenue, Johnstown, occupied by Abram Brennenman and James Sullivan, was destroyed by fire Sunday night. The total loss is about \$3,000, partially covered by insurance.

—The Everett furnace has been undergoing extensive repairs lately. It was blown out, and a new bell, weighing over five tons, has been placed in proper position, and it will be only a few days until they will be making iron once again.

—Bears are rare in the mountains along the Cumberland Valley, but last week a large one was chased by the Swartz brothers, near Three Square Hollow, in Cumberland county. With their dogs they followed the trail to the Big Knob, near Concord, Franklin county, but the men were worn out and had to give up the chase.

—During the year there were rafted out of the boom at Williamsport, 746,301 logs, or 93,232,091 feet. This is a decrease over preceding years owing to the fact that the river was not high enough to float all the logs to the boom. It is estimated that over 15,000,000 feet of logs are banked at different points along the stream.

—At Williamsport Saturday T. C. Titman, of East Third street, fell from the tower of the old engine house No. 4, to which point he had climbed to take down the flag, to the ground. He dropped thirty-five feet and alighted on his feet. He was unconscious when taken to the hospital. Both ankles were fractured, the bones being telescoped.

—Charles, Thomas and Allen Scott, sons of William Scott, were cremated in their home at Coal Run, Somerset county, last Saturday a week. They were aged 19, 16 and 14 years. They came home from their work early in the morning and retired, leaving the lamp burning in their rooms. It exploded, set fire to the building and they were burned to death.

—The work of tearing down St. Michael's church at Loreto was begun last week, in order to get ready for the erection of a new edifice, which will occupy the same grounds. The old building was in bad shape, and was in fact, really dangerous. Mr. Charles M. Schwab, of Braddock, will bear the expense of erecting the new church, which will be one of the finest in the country.

—John McKiernan, of Latrobe, on Tuesday last week, fell on an icy pavement and cut a deep gash on his head. The wound was dressed but he has since become delirious and wandered away from his home. Parties are searching for him. McKiernan is 38 years old, weighs 145 pounds and his hair is streaked with gray. At the time of his disappearance he wore a black striped shirt.

—H. G. Rush, a Lancaster mathematician, has offered to give \$1,000 to Franklin and Marshall College and the Young Men's Christian Association if he fails to satisfactorily demonstrate that the theory of elliptical orbits of heavenly bodies enumerated by Kepler and Newton is not erroneous. He claims that they move in eccentric orbits and science has been wrong for centuries.

—The strike of employes of the kindling-wood mill at St. Mary's has extended to similar establishments at Portland Mills, Austin and Bradford. The kindling wood Workers' Union is affiliated with the federation of labor and the men say they will not return to work until the increase asked for is given them. The boys and girls employed in the factories do not belong to the union, but are in sympathy with the demand made and have effected a temporary organization.

—Cumberland county was founded on the 27th of January, 1750, and some of the citizens think a public movement should be made to celebrate its sesqui-centennial. In the matter of age Cumberland stands sixth among the counties of Pennsylvania. Philadelphia, Bucks and Chester were formed in 1682, Lancaster in 1729, York in 1749 and Cumberland in 1750. The county is rich in historic associations. A number of the old churches and school houses are still in existence, notably the Lutheran church near Shiremanstown, built in 1765, while the Presbyterian church at Silver Spring was erected in 1783. Dickinson College was erected in 1782.

—The school report contains these statistics of the schools of the States: Number of school directors, 2,433; number of schools, 27,998; number of graded schools, 16,905; number of superintendents, 140; number of male teachers, 9,300; number of female teachers, 19,467; average salaries of male teachers per month, \$44.27; average salaries of female teachers per month, \$37.84; whole number of pupils, 1,152,452; average number of pupils in daily attendance, 558,177; cost of school houses—purchasing, building, renting, etc., \$3,569,820.94; teachers' wages, \$10,749,713.38; cost of school text books, \$782,255.50; cost of school supplies other than text books, \$408,146.30; fuel, contingencies, fees of collectors and other expenses, \$4,798,552.82; total expenditures, \$20,308,769.85; estimated value of school property, \$49,491,558.