

Ink Stings.

The English are certainly between the devil and the deep sea now.

The greatest success the English are having is in pushing the casualty list along.

The English attempt to cut in on the Boer flank looks as though they are a little shy of ham at Ladysmith.

The Boers give Gen. BULLER a check everytime he calls and there are diamond mines back of Boer checks, too, still England isn't satisfied.

Only men in whom you have confidence should be named for township offices. Remember that they are the places with which you are most directly connected and you cannot stand extravagance there.

All signs seem to point to the conclusion that the great and only originator of "the real thing" in Centre county politics and the "handful of political nobodies" of last summer are getting together again. Just watch a little, see the inside movements, and you will come to the same conclusion.

Mormon Congressman-elect ROBERTS says he "will cling so hard to the pillars of liberty" that Congress shall not drag him "from them without bringing down the whole temple." Maybe he will. He doesn't seem to reckon on the thousands of modern DELLAHNS who have shorn him of his strength by circulating petitions against him.

The Philadelphia Republican papers are wasting a good bit of time and space just now deploring the disfranchisement of thirty thousand of their voters in that city because the committee had no money to pay poll taxes. What useless worryment. Disfranchising thirty thousand of them is by no means serious to the Republican vote in Philadelphia. If they all don't get a chance to vote there will be some pug dogs and repeaters who will and they will make up whatever deficiency this tax disfranchisement causes.

An Oakland, California, minister resigned from the ministry on Sunday because he said he believes in taking a drink if you want it, taking a dance if you like it and slapping a stranger on the back and yelling "Hello there Bill!" at him, just for good fellowship sake. Well, this California ex-preacher might mean all right, but we can just see him getting the tail kicked clear off one of those left over Prince Alberts of his some day when he tries that back slapping salutation on some ruster who has his store teeth jarred loose by it.

Archbishop CHAPPELLE, the presidential representative and papal delegate to the Philippines, might be all right in telling the newspapers to shut up about his visits to those islands, because they know nothing of the situation, but he is not a very wise man who risks calling the men behind the ink-pots ignoramuses, even in such mild language. The truth is that the moment the archbishop begins to snarl because his movements are being watched by the great all seeing press-eye he lays himself open to suspicion and the people are just curious enough to become more curious.

When the gold contractionists were trying to frighten the country four years ago by asserting that the recoinization of silver would double the values of all commodities, they evidently had little thought of the present condition of affairs. With silver recoinized there would have been more money in circulation to meet the advanced prices of commodities, but how is it now? Prices are doubled on nearly everything, while the money to pay them with is becoming scarcer every day. The gold standard has cut the poor man both ways. It has increased his cost of living, as well as contracted the source from which he gets the wherewithal to buy it with.

It must have made the goldites very sore to see the crowds that flocked around BRYAN in New York on Tuesday. In fact they unwittingly poured water on his mill themselves, because their crop of rubber was so great that they had to run around to see too. And WILLIAM J. sized up to the situation like the astute statesman that he is. He neither said, nor did anything that could be interpreted to his prejudice. And it might just have happened, as a little coincidence, that some of those jealous gold defamers over there were accusing him of being in league with AGUINALDO at the very moment he was declining to see Dr. LEVISON, the noted anti-imperialist of Brooklyn, who took two Filipinos with him to call on BRYAN.

ANDREW CARNEGIE'S reported offer to contribute largely to the Democratic campaign fund, provided the next national convention of the party declares against expansion, need not be looked upon as an attempt to bribe that body. In the first place Mr. CARNEGIE could have no ulterior motive in the acquisition or abandonment of territory not contiguous to that of the United States and, secondly, he knows that no amount of money, however great, could tempt the Democracy from the course it believes to be right. If such were the case no better an opportunity for such a harter of principles could have been had than was that of the Chicago convention in 1896. At that time all that was great and glorious and good in the party turned from the yellow light and impoverished itself, because it felt that it was doing right. No, Democratic platforms are built on principle, not on the promises of money from wealthy campaign contributors.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

VOL. 45

BELLEFONTE, PA., JAN. 26, 1900.

NO. 4.

Bad Investments.

Its a pretty mess that our greed for greatness, our desire for expansion and our turning towards imperialism have gotten us into. From every foot of territory that we have acquired, whether traded for, bought, stolen or taken, under the present administration, there comes the wail of distress and the cry for aid.

From Cuba, which is by far the richest and most valuable of all our island acquisitions, comes the word that it will be many, many years before its government can be made self supporting, and that it will be well on into the next generation before its resources can be made to maintain its governmental, charitable and educational expenditures. It is to-day as was the South immediately after the war—a desolated, devastated country; without means to begin anew, and with a population that has neither energy nor enterprise to build up the waste places, or to plant where the havoc of war destroyed. It has already as much of a population as it can sustain and for years, and years, it promises to be a drain on the people of this country. Its hospitals and asylums are to be maintained, its schools kept open and its poor kept from actual starvation.

Puerto Rico which, when taken possession of, was proclaimed to be the richest field of the Spanish war, is appealing every day for aid. Only on the 20th inst., the Secretary of State, at Washington, was petitioned to extend the time of payment on all mortgages on property on that island for six months, for the reason that payment was impossible and that fore-closing would put ninety nine one hundredths of the island into the possession of foreign syndicates and make of the native population a class but little better than public beggars. Here, as in Cuba, the American people are expected to establish and maintain both public charities and public schools, to control and conduct governmental affairs, and to make themselves responsible for the expenditures necessary for these purposes. With nothing to tax but people, nine-tenths of whom are paupers, where is the money to meet the out-lay necessary to secure creditable administration and schools and public institutions to come from, if not out of the pockets of the American taxpayer?

And in Hawaii, that new possession that came to us, not as a consequence of war, but, through the political manipulation of Mr. McKINLEY and his backers, we find the same condition of affairs financially as in Cuba and Puerto Rico, and a worse situation so far as the needs of its inhabitants go. It is an island so densely populated that its products are not sufficient to maintain its own people, most of whom are dolous, dirty, beggars. A land stricken with the leprosy, the home of pestilence and the breeding place of plagues. At present it is costing hundreds of dollars a day to quarantine against the spread of disorders that spring from the filthy condition of its native population, and to save other countries from the infection that contact with them scatters. Like the other acquisitions of this administration this one has people and plagues, but it has neither revenues, exports, schools, asylums, charities, roads, public lands or anything that makes it of value to any other country, nor is it possible that its condition can be improved so that it will be a credit to the government that seeks to control it.

As it is with the islands referred to, so is it with the Philippines, only that these latter cost us more than all the others combined. They will cost more to attempt to govern, and from them we can hope to realize less in either value or glory than from either of the others. With every acre of the thousand or more islands comprising the group we are fighting for owned by individuals who have been made permanent enemies of this country; with not a day's labor to give to American workmen, or no market for American products; with scores of little governments, each one of which will be a hatching place for conspiracies to rob and wrong this country; with a population that can eat and use all that the islands grow, and that knows better how to beg alms than to pay taxes it is not probable that much in the way of financial benefit will be derived from them.

None of these islands are calculated to make homes for American people. In not one of them does the government own an acre of soil. On not one of them will it own the mineral deposit, the timber that they produce, or anything tangible that can be placed upon the market and sold to repay the cost of acquiring them.

It is for the sake of governing the rabble that inhabits them; for the glory of being God-mother of the multitudinous beggars, the plague stricken paupers, the lecherous half-breeds, and polygamous natives, that constitute the bulk of their population, that we have paid what we have for those we have bought, and that we are now spending millions of dollars a day to maintain armies to subjugate and hold others.

This may be laudable in the eyes of those who will not see. It may be right in the estimation of those who do not think. It

may suit the purposes of political conspirators for whom places will be made. It may please contractors who will grow rich out of jobs furnished by the government. It will prove an excuse for larger armies and an increased pension roll. But who will be benefited? What of the American people who must be taxed to pay it all, and upon whose fair name will come the blot that must follow a failure to create "silk purses out of the sow's ears" that have been gathered into our governmental lap.

A Scheme That is Not Working Well.

One of the schemes of the subsidy beggars that is not working well is the one intended to gull farmers into passing resolutions deprecating the decaying condition of the American merchant marine, and then using it as an expression in favor of a subsidy to American ship builders and American ship owners. It was nicely concocted to furnish to each Farmers' Institute, and there are from two to a dozen in each county of the State, a set of resolutions setting forth the need of more vessels and the necessity for legislation that would revive our shipping industries, have them passed and sent to Congress, where they could be used by the lobbyists now pestering that body for subsidies to the great syndicate that controls the building of ships and the ocean carrying trade of this country.

In these resolutions not a word was said about subsidies. Farmers do not approve of giving public money for private purposes, and it was thought best to wave the American flag, and appeal to American pride in behalf of American interests. But through all the flags, and the patriotism, and the pride of country with which the resolves were covered, the farmers soon caught on to the trick, and up to this time, less than half a dozen of all the Institutes that have been held, have fallen into the trap.

It is one of the schemes that is not working well. It is one of the schemes that shouldn't work, because it is a case of palpal and premeditated deception. If ship builders and ship owners want the farmer's endorsement, of the thieving subsidies they are begging Congress to give them, let them ask for it in an honest, open way, that these overtaxed and underpaid agriculturists may know exactly what they are after and what the endorsement they ask endorses. Let them say that "we want Congress to pay us for building ships that we will sell to Americans or others at such prices as we may demand; that we are asking Congress to pay us millions of dollars in addition to the enormous freight now charged American farmers for carrying their grain to foreign ports; that we don't propose reducing prices because of any assistance given us out of the public treasury, but that we are after that assistance for our own individual benefit, and when we get it, we will be free to charge what we please, and sell our vessels as our best interests demand."

This would be the manly, honest way of asking for what they are sneakingly trying to get, by parading all manner of American interests as having the dry rot for want of it. It would be fair to the farmer, because he would then know what he was being asked to endorse.

Luckily the farmer is not a fool, nor is he to be caught by such chaff as the lobbyists, and politicians who are interested with them, are presenting in this matter of resolutions about a revival of our "Merchant Marine" and the "rehabilitation" of American shipping interests.

The result of Rev. CHAS. M. SHELDON'S attempt to conduct the Topeka, Kan., Daily Capital for one week as he thinks a great christian daily paper should be conducted will be watched with interest by the public. There are many people in the world who imagine they can direct the business of others better than they can themselves and to no business does the outsider turn with his suggestions and advice more frequently than to that of newspaper publication. In fact it has become a standing joke in every community that there are to be found in it a few who know how to edit the local paper better than the editor does himself. While it is noticeable that scarcely any of such carpers ever amount to anything more than fault finders we do not intend to class Rev. SHELDON among them. He has done something to command public attention besides telling other people what they should do. Rev. SHELDON is author of the famous work "In His Steps," a christian volume that has been published in the hundreds of thousands. His desire to conduct the leading Topeka daily for a week is, therefore, not because of a personal displeasure at something it has published or failed to notice. He knows what it is to write, has written to please the public, but his greatest hope is to demonstrate that the daily press of the land, while publishing all the legitimate news, could be made a great engine of christianity. We are afraid that in this he will fail. All newspapers should try to maintain as high a moral tone as possible, but any attempt to conduct them too close to secular lines will fail, just as certainly as have many attempts to run first class hotels on the strict temperance plan.

Setting Their Trap.

The fact that every opponent of the Democratic party is so intent on forcing the money question to the front, and on attempting to make it the chief issue in the coming campaign, should prove a pointer for Democratic politicians, who have the policy of the party to fix and the marking of the lines, along which, the presidential fight must be conducted. It is not only men whose single hope is to contract the currency and place the money of the country within the power of the few to control, who are industriously and eternally pressing the question of the money standard to the front, but every designing politician and every Republican newspaper that hopes for the success of Republican ideas and candidates are at the same business. Many of these do not care a bob-ee as to what kind of money we have—how much there is of it or by what standard it is measured. In fact they care nothing about it, and possibly know less, but with a motive in view they are persistently and purposefully trying to force the issue most prominent four years ago and to be little or keep in the back-ground other equally important—possibly more vital—questions that have arisen since.

There are reasons for this. In sections of the country where industries are active and people have employment, the money question is not the all-absorbing topic—the pressing, vital issue it was four years ago. Nor can it be made such. An attempt to force it to the front can only result in assisting to obscure and screen other graver and more pressing questions.

And this is precisely what scheming Republicans and their allies desire. They want to hide the wrongs their proteges—the trusts—are daily committing against the people; they are anxious to cover up the enormity of these enormities that they have builded up to eat the substance of the public. They would have the infamy of imperialism forgotten; they would have the costs of expansion and the corruption that it has fostered overlooked; they would keep in the back ground their reasonable alliance with the British government, and the sympathy and support they have given it in the effort to crush the struggling Republics of South Africa.

And in what way could this be done more effectively than by forcing the fight on some other questions. In addition to the cover that the money question, if made the supreme issue, would prove for Republican trusts and imperialism, unconstitutional expansion and other wrongs, it would arouse the moneyed interests to an activity that would secure contributions without stint to Mr. HANNA's campaign fund, and thus overwhelm us again with the power of "cold cash."

We will have this power to contend with under any circumstances, but there is no sense in having any more of it to confront than is actually necessary. The Democratic party cannot afford to go back on any of its doctrines, nor should it be asked or expected to do so. But it can afford to meet conditions as they arise, and those conditions make for us some other and more pressing issues than the money standard. The kind of money we are to have, or the quantity that is to be furnished, are not nearly so important as is the kind of government we are to enjoy, the protection of individual efforts, the safety of legitimate business enterprises, or the welfare of the people. Imperialism threatens the one, trusts are forming to crush the others. These are questions that we should meet and settle.

It is to hide these, that Republicanism is now making its great effort to revive the money question.

Are Democrats foolish enough to fall into the trap?

In answer to the following inquiry directed to it last week by a farmer: "Why is wheat so low in price when everything else is high?" the Gazette, among its other reasons, said: "The price of wheat is no more subject to legislation than is the number of potatoes in a hill." And we merely call your attention to the statement because we know it will only be a matter of a few months until the Gazette is starting up the old cry it harped on in 1896 and which was, in its own words, Vote for McKINLEY and Dollar Wheat! Before the election, four years ago, the Gazette would not have said that legislation has nothing to do with the price of wheat. In fact its greatest effort then was to make the farmer believe that the only salvation for the high price of his product was in voting for McKINLEY. The farmer voted for McKINLEY, and the high prices have come, but so far as he is concerned all the share he has in is the paying of them.

An Hon. JUNE GAYLE is being wafted up from Bourbon scented Kentucky to work his gentle breezes off on Congress. He is to take the seat of Congressman SETTLE, who has gone to his last accounts.

A Republic or an Empire.

From W. J. Bryan's Jackson Day Speech Delivered at Omaha, Nebraska, Monday evening. "Those who studied the money question in 1896 foresaw the danger threatened by the gold standard, and pointed out that its permanent establishment would involve us in every financial disturbance occurring in Europe, but the bankers were for the most part blind to the warning. What do we see now? Notwithstanding the increased production of gold, a few victories won by the Boers in South Africa have alarmed the same bankers, and they are now fearing a panic, unless England is successful. Their financial interest in England's triumph is so great that many of them have silenced their sympathy for a struggling republic and are hoping for the extension of the authority of the Queen.

"If such agitation results from a war between England and a little republic what must we expect if war ever breaks out between two gold standard countries of the first class. Without financial independence this nation cannot be independent either in its foreign or its domestic policy and yet the Republican party is even now to chain America like a captive to Europe's golden chariot.

"Those who studied the money question in 1896 also foresaw that the retirement of the greenbacks was a part of the gold standard plan. Many Republicans scouted at the idea and the President avoided any mention of the matter in his letter of acceptance.

"But now the scheme is being unfolded and the financiers are to be empowered to expand or contract the currency at their own will and for their own pecuniary advantage.

"Those who studied the trust question of 1896 foresaw that an administration placed in power by the aid of great monopolies could not be relied upon to destroy the trusts, but many who could not be convinced by argument are now being convinced by the rapid growth and increased audacity of private monopolies.

"Any one who has read history or understands human nature knows that one race cannot cross an ocean and dominate another race without keeping an army ever present to hold the conquered race in subjugation, and yet the Republican leaders thought, or pretended to think, that an imperial policy would be accepted by the Filipinos with delight.

"The decision of the nation on the Philippine question will be an epoch-making decision. We stand at the parting of the ways and must choose between the doctrines of republics and the doctrines of empires. At this supreme crisis in our nation's history, we may well recall the words of Lowell:

"Once to every man and nation comes the moment to decide, In the strife of truth with falsehood, for the good or evil side, Some great cause, God's new Messiah, offering each the blood or blight, Parts the goats upon the left hand and the sheep upon the right, And the choice goes by forever, 'twixt that darkness and that light."

Gage Should Follow Alger.

From the Northampton Democrat.

It took more than a year for public indignation to force the eyes of President McKinley wide enough open to see the propriety of requesting Secretary of War Alger to step down and out. It will now be interesting to see how long a time it will require for public sentiment to force Secretary Gage to make his exit from McKinley's Cabinet.

No matter what the merits may be contained in Secretary Gage's plausible defence against the charge of violating the law in his administration of the Treasury Department, it is in evidence that in compliance with a letter from vice president Hepburn, of the City National Bank, of New York, asking for Government deposits, because the bank has "great political claims," the Secretary deposited with this political bank upwards of \$50,000,000 and kept it there for two years without the Government receiving any benefit therefrom in the way of interest nor in any other way. Then again the millions received on behalf of the Government on account of the sale of the New York custom house, which were directed by the law authorizing the sale thereof to be deposited in the United States Treasury, were deposited with this favored political bank, a fact which the wily Secretary does not attempt to deny but seeks to palliate his offense by making the ridiculous claim that depositing the money in his favored bank which he has made a Government depository is in a legal sense a deposit in the United States Treasury.

Such methods of handling the public moneys the people of Pennsylvania have been long familiar with under the methods of Quayism, but they must strike the people of the country at large as being somewhat out of the ordinary rules of official honesty.

A Death Rate that is Awful.

From the Lancaster Intelligencer.

General Otis supplements his frequent bulletins of killed and wounded with a long list of deaths by accident and disease, and an exchange thinks best to accompany this gruesome message with a reminder that the death rate among the American troops in the Philippines has been officially stated to be much lower than in our great cities. This is very reassuring, for city death rates have failed to terrify us, in spite of the general admission that they are quite too high, and include a large percentage of deaths from preventable diseases; but when it is considered that these city death rates include both sexes, and from infancy to extreme old age, while the army death rate applies only to the picked young men, who must pass a careful physical examination, and who would be rated as first class risks by any insurance company, the comparison is less reassuring. And now the cable says that the bubonic plague, that dread scourge of the Orient, has been added to the list of Manila perils. Perils that would not be worth a thought, if the conscience of the Republic approved the imperial rule of the Philippines.

Spawls from the Keystone.

—There are forty-seven inmates in Huntingdon county's almshouse.

—The assessors for the several districts of Juniata county made returns of 237 deaths and 586 births during 1899.

—Quarryman Elmer Howard and Patrick Cogswill were mutilated by an explosion of powder at Summersville, Lackawanna county, the former dying from his injuries.

—Operations on the Kulp railroad, which is now constructed to a point six miles from Loganton, has been suspended, owing to the high price demanded for rails. All the men have been discharged.

—John M. Holt, a lumberman, of Morrisdale, Clearfield county, has filed a petition in voluntary bankruptcy in the court at Pittsburg. His total liabilities are \$23,405.30 and his assets are \$3,397.

—For the year just closed the management of the Juniata county agricultural society, after paying all expenses of the late fair and other expenses pertaining to the property of the society, had left in the treasury \$2.47.

—The new Methodist Episcopal church at Sandy Ridge is completed and will be dedicated on next Sunday, January 28th, 1900. The services will be of an interesting character, and will be in charge of Dr. E. J. Gray, of the Williamsport Dickinson Seminary.

—John Caldwell and Abe Morton were cutting wood along Sinnemahoning creek recently when they came across three bears asleep under an old log. One man kept watch while the other went home after his gun, and returning killed all three of the animals.

—Eighteen prisoners from Clinton county were in the western penitentiary during 1899. The total cost for the 4,677 days' maintenance was \$1,621.36. From this amount is deducted \$452.11, credit by labor, which makes the net cost for the commissioners to pay \$1,169.25.

—B. F. Oliver, while working at Nangle & Miller's planing mill at Burnt Cabins, Fulton county, last Friday, attempted to push a belt off the fly wheel with his foot, when he slipped and the belt catching his leg, whirled him around the shaft and broke his leg about four inches above the knee.

—Mrs. George W. Bossler, wife of the proprietor of the Hotel Normal at Duncanville, Blair county, died Tuesday. She had emptied a coal bucket in a stove without looking at its contents. The bucket contained oil instead of coal and in the explosion Mrs. Bossler received injuries that caused her death.

—Lizzie Sheely, of Flemington, is suffering from a very sore head. Saturday, while working in the silk mill in Lock Haven, her hair caught in one of the machines. The young lady's head was drawn towards the machine and had she not been rescued, she would undoubtedly have been seriously injured. As it was a portion of her scalp was torn loose.

—H. H. Frank, of Howe township, is the champion raccoon and opossum hunter in that part of Perry county, if not in the county. There has not been a week during the past few months that Mr. Frank has not captured several animals of the foregoing species. This season he has captured sixty opossums and fourteen raccoons. Some of the animals were very large.

—Sixty-one carloads of steel are to be shipped from this country to India at an early date, and the metal will be used there not only in the construction of bridges, but in the manufacture of bridge material. There is scarcely no part of the world where these facts are not known, and the steadily increasing export of this class of merchandise indicates that these facts are appreciated.

—John Bardine, through his attorney W. C. Fletcher, entered a replevin suit in the prothonotary's office Friday against the Gazette company, of Altoona, to recover \$16,620 damages. He complains that owing to an incorrect statement appearing in the Gazette, charging him with deserting his wife, he was discharged from the Pennsylvania railroad company's employ, lost his insurance in the Railroad relief fund, and his partner compelled a dissolution of the partnership, engaged in the laundry business.

—Lee A. and Mary S. Kambaitz received a verdict for \$8,000 Tuesday from the Dauphin county jury, which tried a damage case at Harrisburg. Mrs. Kambaitz was injured last August while attempting to get off a trolley car in that city, and to save her life her leg had to be amputated. The plea was set up that the car was going when she sustained her injury. Her husband sued for damages on the ground that he lost his wife's services, which he valued at \$12 a week. He was given a verdict for \$200 and Mrs. Kambaitz for \$7,800. The Harrisburg Traction company, the defendant, has moved for a new trial.

—The papers and finding in the court martial proceedings against Chaplain David H. Shields, formerly a member of the Central Pennsylvania conference of the Methodist church, were sent from San Francisco to Washington over a week ago, but Adjutant General Corbin says he has not yet received them. It is altogether likely that the accused man has been found guilty, and dismissal recommended, otherwise the papers would not be sent to Washington, the department commander having power to execute less severe sentences. Shields was accused of drunkenness by Bishop Hurst. He had been in the army since August 17th, 1897.

—A story is going the rounds that a Huntingdon policeman visited Tunnelton near Spruce Creek recently, and entering a speakeasy called for a glass of beer. When the beer was set out he concluded to have a whiskey with the beer and it was produced also. Then the officer asked whether whiskey and beer were sold there. "Yes," was the reply, any d—thing you want, whiskey, beer, gin, brandy or anything else." The officer then threw back the lapel of his coat and displaying a policeman's badge demanded that the dealer in lightning liquids go along with him, whereupon the colored saloon keeper reached under the counter and bringing up a gun produced twenty cents, gulped down the liquid and made haste to get himself out of the door, promising to fill him with lead if he ever returned. It is further said that the officer got and has been careful not to be caught in Tunnelton since.