

Ink Stings.

Of a fair ground on the meadow, At a temperance meet in town. A youth was wildly talking, When an imbecile called him down.

There's elders, deacons and vestrymen, He said, mixed in this gambling scheme, But his story was soon as butter-milk, While Warren's was rich as cream.

The greatest mystery of the close of the nineteenth century will be: How in the world did Philadelphia police ever get wide enough awake to catch Prof. ROY WHITE'S murderers as quickly as they did?

—ROBERTS has crossed the Vaal river and the English say the war is practically over in South Africa. You remember, they said the same thing when BULLER crossed the Tugela, but BULLER crossed back again.

—Dispatches from Mafeking state that there was one cheer and "plenty of whisky" there the evening the relief column broke up the seven months' siege of that beleaguered city. "Plenty of whisky," but no mention of a prayer of thanksgiving.

—Fair Luna must have taken a little of the fire out of old Sol on Monday when she put him out of business for a few hours. It took him two days to warm up again and he has been as cool ever since as if he had no further ambition to shine with his old time lustre.

—If the League of American Wheelmen really intends to carry the war for good roads into national politics it had better not begin with a ride from Massillon to Washington. COXEY was the last good roads performer, but his "stunt" did not hold the crowd long.

—England's policy is exemplified in the dispatch with which Lord ROBERTS expunged the word "free" from the Orange Free State on the South African map. Henceforth it will be known as the Orange River State. Nothing with free in it suits the English imperial idea.

—CHARLES WOODWARD, the cleverest thief in the world, has been arrested in Leipzig, Germany, for diamond stealing. WOODWARD has been in the habit of swallowing the gems to avoid conviction by having them found on his person, but, we suppose, the X ray got onto his stomachful of glittering generalities.

—Mr. "Skin the Goat" FITZHARRIS and JOSEPH MULLEN, the Irish invincibles who were pardoned after seventeen years service of a life term, for Phoenix park murders, and struck right for America, will be very apt to strike right back again. The board of inquiry of the immigration bureau looked into their case and ordered them deported, as was highly the proper course to pursue.

—As might have been expected the Senate committee on privileges and elections has reported adversely on the House bill providing for the election of United States Senators by a direct vote of the people. The plutocrats of that House of Congress are entirely too fond of the places they can now purchase to place them beyond the corrupting influence of money by taking them out of the Legislatures and making them offices to be filled by popular vote.

—Will this iconoclastic practice of shattering our idols ever cease? Now there are those who are denying that poor old BARBARA FRITCHIE waved the flag in Fredericksburg, on that clear September morn when the rebels came marching down. What does it matter whether BARBARA waved the flag or was actually bending her back over a wash-tub? The story is a pretty one, but rob it of its truthfulness and you discredit it as a school-boy declamation for ever.

—The cost of governing in the island of Cuba is running along now at the rate of about \$11,000,000 a year. Of these ten States, Georgia, Missouri, Massachusetts, Indiana, Arkansas, Minnesota, Mississippi, Kentucky, Tennessee and Michigan, all have much more perfect forms of government, all have larger populations than Cuba, yet the most expensively governed one, Minnesota, spends only \$4,650,000 per year and Arkansas only \$560,000. By comparison it is quite evident that some of the fellows have good jobs in Cuba.

—The Chinese "Boxers" are on the rampage again in the orient and Christian residents of China are in daily danger of being murdered and robbed. The "Boxers" practice the most atrocious outrages and their uprising has thrown the whole country into a panic of fright. The cruiser "Newark" has arrived at Taku to protect American interests. Here would be a splendid opportunity to make use of JIM JEFFRIES, SHARKEY, FITZSIMMONS, CORBETT, TERRY MCGOVERN, et al. Why not send the whole outfit to China against the "Boxers" of that realm and then pray that it be a case of "dog eat dog."

—What the Methodist general conference lately in session in Chicago needs most just now is a little of the Holy Spirit obtained through a good, old-fashioned Methodist revival. The spectacle the members made before the world was anything but creditable to a great Christian agent like the Methodist church. With one day calling each other liars on the floor of the Conference, and the next overwhelming voting down the majority committee's report criticising the President for making liquor sellers out of soldiers who have enlisted to hold up the flag, would it be any wonder if the finger of infidelity points with scorn at such weak-kneed Christian courage?

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To Be Expected.

That an effort to have the people believe the war in the Philippines is about over is being made is not strange. That systematic work in that line will be done from this time until the election is to be expected.

For the success of the Republican party in the coming campaign it is necessary that such a belief should be created; and it goes without saying that whatever is necessary to secure that success will be done, if it is in the power of men or money to accomplish it.

When the first troops were sent to those islands, over two years ago, we were told that a few months, at the longest, would complete the job of conquering their people.

When one half of the first season, in which war-fare could be carried on actively, had gone by, it was announced that with more men hurried to the front the war could be ended before the rainy season set in.

That time is upon us and in place of seeing our soldiers returning home, our war taxes lessened, recruiting abandoned and our flag protecting a peaceful and satisfied people, the facts are that we are in worse conditions, so far as prosecuting a war is concerned and seemingly as far from the end of hostilities as we were one year ago.

Within the past six weeks our losses in open battle have been greater than during all the rest of the time we have been at war and at present our forces, that are able to do duty, are menaced wherever they are, in a manner never before experienced.

The army that is now attempting to do the bidding of those at Washington, increased as it has been during the past twelve months, is less effective and less fit for duty than it was one year ago.

Service in the swamps and trenches, disease and climate, have gotten in their work and, today, with a credited force of 70,000 men in the field there is not sufficient force in condition to do duty to properly garrison and hold the few towns already occupied.

This is the condition now, scarcely five months preceding a presidential election, and at a time when peace was positively promised. Mr. McKINLEY'S managers know and appreciate the failure he has met with in this Philippine question.

They are in hopes that the people do not understand or realize it. They know that the success of imperialism depends upon their success in having the people believe that they are succeeding in their efforts to control those islands; that without that belief instilled into the voter that Mr. McKINLEY must fail of re-election; that his failure is the end of imperialism and with its failure vanishes their hopes of the fat places and political opportunities it is designed to give them.

With these at stake need we wonder at the effort that is being put forth to deceive the people and leave the country under the impression that the war is virtually over. Need we think strange that in the face of daily attacks upon beleaguered garrisons, and isolated forces; in spite of the lengthening death lists and of increased losses, we are told that success is crowning our efforts, and that the end is now in sight.

When people reflect over what is at stake for Mr. McKINLEY they can readily understand why such strenuous efforts are put forth to have them believe that which is not true.

Until they see our soldiers returning and our taxes lowered, our recruiting stations closed and our vessels, now hurrying supplies and arms to the forces in the field, turned into peaceful channels, they will know that war in the Philippines goes on, and that assertions to the contrary are for the purpose of deceiving them in order that McKINLEY may succeed and imperialism continue.

—The Oregon state election will be held next Monday. If it goes Republican, as usual, we will learn in glaring big letters, from the papers of that party, that it is a sure indication of McKINLEY'S success in the fall. If it should happen to go Democratic the headlines will not be so large, but double-headed editorials, in the same journals, will attempt to prove that the result can have no bearing whatever on the presidential election.

—With Johannesburg and Pretoria both fallen the Boers are at last at the end of their string and England's conquest of a puny Republic is complete.

Thankful for Mr. Wanamaker.

We are glad that JOHN WANAMAKER lives; gratified at the independence he exhibits and pleased, beyond the power of expression, that his good name is as near and dear to the shad-bellied populace of the Quaker City as existing conditions indicate it is.

For years and years, even back to a time when the memory of man runneth not to the contrary, that city has failed to see the wickedness that emanated from it, the corruption that its pretensions covered or the villainies its professions protected. It has refused to recognize what others have known for years, that its own government was the rottenness that disgraced any municipality in the country, and has slept on without twinge of conscience or awakened shame, while corruption raked in every department and crime rioted at the very doors of its courts.

It has refused to awaken when false counters tampered with its election returns, and has kept its eyes closed while repeaters and ballot-box stuffers added to the majority its political bosses demanded. It dreamed on while thieves filled their pockets out of its public office, and public highwaymen grieved and flourished as do smart weeds along the drain-ways of a manure pile.

Through all this evil and disgrace, this nauseous stench and measureless contumely, it has slept as if there was no conscience in it to be awakened, or no sense of justice that could be aroused.

It might still be sleeping but for the foot act of an empty-headed official who threatened to scandalize that city by the exposure of the private life of its leading citizen, the Hon. JOHN WANAMAKER. It could stand all the disgrace that has been fastened upon it; all the crime that has characterized its frauds upon the ballot; all the corruption that has gathered to a breaking fullness in its every public department; all the short-comings and malfeasances in office of its city officials, but it couldn't stand this.

To begin the uncovering business was going too far. The great moral element of Philadelphia could not submit to any such work. It was a threat to its privacy. Its acts and life were liable, some day, to exposure, if such a business was once begun. It awakened to the danger and is awake to-day as it has never been before.

For the condition that brought about this stirring among the dry-bones and moss covered morals of the Quaker City we have to thank Mr. WANAMAKER. It was his efforts and work that gave cause for the foul threat, and it was that foul threat that has seemingly aroused and opened the eyes of the sleeping populace of that boss-ridden municipality.

Possibly, while in this condition it will be able to see some of the many other wrongs that it has heretofore failed to observe. Possibly it may get a scent of the political stench that goes out from it, or may now get its high head lowered enough to see a little of the rottenness in which it has been walking these many, many, years.

If it does, this awakening must prove of some benefit. For it we must thank the fact that Hon. JOHN WANAMAKER lived and was threatened.

—The people are beginning to move. The effects of trusts are becoming visible and sensible citizens are throwing their partisan feelings to the dogs and arraying themselves against these giant crushers of individual effort and individual enterprise.

The latest Republican to announce his opposition to trusts, and the Republican party in its effort to sustain them, is JOHN C. LOWEY, of Adams county—a present member of the Republican State Committee and one of the most active and influential citizens of that section. He not only announces his opposition to the policy of his party, that has bred and fostered trusts, but comes out boldly, and conscientiously, for BRYAN as the only hope of relief and safety for the people.

Mr. LOWEY is but one of the great army of business men who are arraying themselves against MARK HANNA'S syndicates, and a political policy, which, if successful, will place the business of the country in the hands of the few, and leave for the many nothing but bankruptcy and beggary.

—It may be so that to ex-Senator QUAY and his methods should be charged the corruption, extravagance, wrongs and crimes of the administration of public affairs in this State, but who is responsible for QUAY? Back of an individual who commands the influence and asserts the authority that he does, must be a power to sustain him. Does anyone know of any power he has outside or independent of the Republican party? It is that organization that made him—that backs him, that approves and endorses him, and in revolting against QUAY, they are simply attempting to overthrow the instrument, the tool, the agent. If they would rid the State of its vicious, profligate, constitution-defying administrations, they must rid it of Republicanism. That is the power responsible for all the people have to complain of.

A Chance for The People.

After all the people of the State are to have the opportunity to amend their Constitution so as to secure registration and election laws that will insure fair elections and honest returns. The decision of the Supreme court, on Tuesday last, setting aside Governor STONE'S veto of the joint resolutions proposing amendments to this effect, settles this. It will require now but the mandate of the court ordering the publication of the proposed amendments when the whole matter will be before the people for their approval or dissent.

In this decision the Supreme court has set down very effectually on Governor STONE'S presumptions interpretation of the constitutional powers belonging to his position. It virtually and plainly tells him that his attempted veto was a usurpation of power, unwarranted and inexorable. It writes his chief law-adviser down as a legal ass; and makes his Secretary of State liable to impeachment for refusing to obey a plain mandate of the Constitution. It places the whole Republican party of the Commonwealth since its endorsement by resolution of Governor STONE'S actions and administration, in the position of having supported unjustifiable and unconstitutional acts in order to maintain partisan advantages, and of encouraging the perpetration of frauds by seeking to defeat efforts designed to prevent them.

This, however, may not worry the ordinary Republican conscience very much. It is how they will get around the issue this decision forces that will bother them the most. The question now will be one of honest registration and fair elections. He who is for these will support the proposed amendments. He who is for continuing the opportunities that protects ballot box stuffers, bribers and false countenances, as existing laws, do, will be against them. To appear to favor the former, while working to protect the latter, is where the trouble and worry of the Republican party will come in.

A Showing That Brings Shame.

It is a brilliant elucidation of what "good government" consists of that McKINLEY'S appointees are giving to the people of Cuba—a regular kinder-garten illustration of the honesty and methods of an administration that interfered to protect them from the robbery and oppression of Spanish rule.

His civil government has been established a little over six months on that island. It has been doing business on its "own hook" for a less time than that, but already every department, and there are scores of them, that has been gotten into working order, shows signs of being honey-combed with rottenness. From each of them, from the cleaning of streets to the distribution of the mails, corruption is oozing as does pus from a broken boil.

It has taken but four months for one of his official family to steal out-right of Cuban postal funds over \$40,000. Later reports show that the same trusted representative has sold and distributed over \$400,000 of fraudulent postage stamps, since his appointment as financial agent of Mr. McKINLEY'S post office department down there. A half dozen others, in the same branch of public service, are charged with stealing about everything that passed through their hands while the "Director of Posts", a new official position created purposely to increase Republican patronage, has proven himself no better than his subordinates, and has added to his private peculation such public extravagance as was never before known. In fact, in the postal service alone, there has been more open and inexcusable robbery of the people of Cuba, by the appointees of the administration at Washington, in the few months they have had control of affairs there, than there was during the same number of years under the hated and despised rule of the Spanish autocrat, WEYLER.

In the custom service and other departments, while the corruption and scandals are not as open and outrageous as in the postal service, there are plenty in all to make the honest American blush, and to cause the Cuban people to wonder if they have not gotten out of the clutches of Spain into the grip of Mr. McKINLEY'S appointees and Mr. HANNA'S syndicate of robbers.

To the people of Cuba, who are looking to us for the establishment of good government, and who are expecting examples of economical administration and honest rule from the officials we have sent there, the showing we have already made must be anything but encouraging. Certainly it is not calculated to create confidence in the good intent and purity of motives actuating our government, nor will it inspire respect for, or faith in, the honor or honesty of American officials.

—The two things now promising to be the most everlastingly everlasting are the Philippine war and war taxes. They are the kind of subjects that would promise to a life policy a continual and eternal income.

How Women are Effected by Trusts.

From Harper's Bazar. In trusts \$719,000,000 throttles are domestic economy of the housewife. For the lump of sugar she drops into her baby's glass of milk she is dependent on the terms of the American Sugar Refining company, that is capitalized at \$125,000,000. During the morning she gives a sick child a cup of tea, and pays tribute to the powerful Dressed Beef and Packing combine whose strength is measured by \$100,000,000. The fruit she buys she gets by supporting the United States Fruit company, that influences the markets with the force of \$20,000,000.

For dinner she feeds her family on celery soup that savors of the celery trust's \$1,000,000; bread that is tainted with the American Flour Manufacturing company's \$150,000,000; butter that smacks of the evil the Farm and Dairy Product company may do with \$15,000,000; ice cream that represents the horrors possible to be wrought with \$60,000,000 the American ice trust's capital, \$15,000,000, the milk trust's and the sugar trusts, \$125,000,000—a total of \$300,000,000. Then a biscuit—two soy cheese and a demi-tasse means giving trusts a further hold on the family, to the extent of another \$130,000,000—the combined wealth of coffee, cheese and biscuit trusts. Of every dollar spent on food for the family it is estimated there is a net profit of 25 cents to trusts. The trust problem is a woman's problem. It figures up in her market bills, and may disorder the digestion of her children. What of a woman's war on trusts? The housewife has a tremendous power in the boycott.

But All the Fifth is Not on Judge Love's Judicial Ermine.

From the Philadelphia Press. The Supreme court of the State, in a case taken up from Centre county, has given Judge Love—the Quay boss who occupies the bench in that district—a scoring which is as wholesome as it is just. The case concerned a banking house in which ex-Governor Hastings is interested, and ex-Governor Quay is the man who has defeated the Quay outfit under Judge Love's leadership in Centre county at all recent primary elections. Judge Love's opinion in the banking house case, if sustained, would have ruined a perfectly solvent business. There are few intelligent people in Centre county who do not believe the action was due to politics. The Supreme court in reversing Judge Love declared that his decree "does not rest on either reason or authority;" that there "is no evidence worthy the name to sustain the finding," and that the law controlling the issue was laid down seventy-five years ago. No Common Pleas judge ever received a more staggering rebuke or one more deserved. But such must be the fate of the political judge. No man who undertakes to boss politics from the bench is fit for judicial service, and no one on the bench or off ever went deeper into the mire of politics than Judge Love.

It's What We Hold Them For.

From the Venango Spectator. The serious proposition of Senator Teller to appropriate \$200,000 to the people of Cuba, to refund amounts stolen from them by McKINLEY'S officials in the postal service, is a cutting satire on our process of "benevolent confiscation" in the new acquisitions. The stealings of one man, Neely, from the sale of fraudulent stamps in Cuba, cut the legitimate receipts \$15,000 weekly. If such villainy as this is practicable in Cuba, it becomes a question as to what is going on in the remote Philippines, where the natives have no say or redress. N. E. Gyor, of Denver, Rev. Peter McQueen, and others who have personal knowledge charge that bribe-taking, speculation and other crookedness are rife among our officials in those islands. If this be so, we deserve the hatred and contempt of the people on whom we force our self-appointed trusteeship, while denying to them the self-government by which they might relieve themselves from corruption and rapacity.

Fixing the Price.

From an Unknown Exchange. The story is told of a boy who took eggs to market. He was instructed to get eighteen cents a dozen for them if he could, and if not to take as low as fifteen cents a dozen. On arriving at market a purchaser asked what he wanted for eggs and the boy said: "Pap told me to get eighteen cents a dozen for them if I could, and if not take fifteen cents for them." The buyer got fifteen cents for them, of course. This story is brought to mind by the action of the U. S. Senate on the purchase of armor plate. The Senate in passing the naval appropriation bill provided that the Secretary should buy armor plate for \$445 per ton, but if he couldn't get it for that then he was authorized to pay \$545 per ton. No armor plate maker in the universe would sell armor plate to the United States for a cent less than \$545 per ton; and if he did he would be foolish for doing.

Makes Hell Rejoice.

From the Blossburg Advertiser. According to modern ethics, starving millions of God's people in one part of the world, while slaughtering thousands in other parts for the crime of trying to secure or maintain political independence is Christianity, humanity, civilization, progress and God's will.

IT MADE OUR EYES SORE.

Tuesday morning a bunch of fishermen gathered along the board walk, opposite our window. The water in Spring creek was still a little bit riled by the rain of the previous evening and the little trout were biting good. All of a sudden the big fellows began to bite and within half an hour, right in full view of all who stood on the High street bridge, Willis Shuey, "Beany" Meise, Lino Miller and Billy Green landed five trout, that aggregated 64 1/2 inches in length. And then just to put the finishing touches to it Jim Dudge hauled in another one that measured 14in.

Spawls from the Keystone.

—Harry Singer, of Walnut Grove, while in the act of boarding a moving freight train at the Pennsylvania railroad station at Johnstown, Saturday morning, fell under the wheels and had his right foot cut off.

—One of the biggest deals that ever took place in Irwin was consummated recently, when the Irwin Light and Power company's plant with its allied interests passed into the hands of Greensburg capitalists, prominent among them being Hon. E. E. Robbins, Morris L. Painter and Messrs. Bair & Lane. The consideration was about \$175,000.

—Several Indiana county farmers have learned recently that they own considerably more land than they were aware of. The new surveys of land purchased by different coal companies reveal the fact that the old measurements were very much at fault. One tract of 600 acres purchased by the Lackawanna Iron and Steel company proved to contain more than 700 acres.

—John Campbell, of Burrell township, Indiana county, lost a valuable team of horses in a peculiar manner the other day. He was farming in a field above the high embankment along the railroad, just below Blacklick, and, driving to near the edge of the embankment, the ground gave away, allowing both horses to go over. They fell about forty feet and both were killed.

—J. H. Armor, of Belmont, aged 65 years, was killed in the Clarion Mills at Johnstown a few days ago. While at work on a lathe, one of the knives broke and flew up to the ceiling and in its descent struck the unfortunate man in the neck, severing the jugular vein. He bled to death. He is survived by an aged wife and has no other relatives in this country.

—On Sunday last Henry W. Fox Sr., of near Carrolltown, underwent an operation in a hospital at Philadelphia in which he had his leg removed. Last winter Mr. Fox went to Philadelphia to visit a son-in-law and while there it is supposed he froze his leg. It constantly grieved worse, and at last gangrene set in and the operation on Sunday was necessary to save his life. Some time ago he underwent an operation in Altoona and had one of his legs taken off, and now in losing the other he is doubly unfortunate.

—The interest of the Frugality Coal and Coke company has been sold to a syndicate, of which J. Henry Cochran, of Williamsport is president. Involved in the sale is the town of Frugality, Cambria county, with a population of 800,150 houses, three schools, and two churches, which are turned over outright to the new syndicate. The new corporation announces it will extend its present holdings in coal land 10,000 acres and build a number of new tipples along its territory.

—Charles Wilson, colored, the alleged slayer of three men, has been lodged in jail at Huntingdon, charged with the murder of Sam Giehrst, also colored, at Spruce Creek, in April. He was arrested in Finleyville, Washington county, last week on the charge of shooting, with intent to kill, and subsequently identified as the man wanted in Huntingdon county for murder. Officer Adleman, who went to Washington county and returned with the prisoner Sunday night, learned that Wilson had killed two men in Fayette county, in one instance throwing his victim down a mine shaft.

—Seth Nelson, probably the oldest hunter and trapper in Pennsylvania, lives at Round Island. He is 91 years of age and in the very best of health, having not been sick for seventy years. He still is exceedingly active and still enjoys a chase after game. This remarkable man for some years has kept a record of the game he killed since 1827, the summary being: Elk, 22; deer, 428; bears, 41; panthers, 12; wolves, 5. His wife is still living, active and happy, at the age of 86. They have six daughters, whose names are Julia Ann, Sallie Ann, Lizzie Ann, Mary Ann, Rose Ann and Lucy Ann.

—A couple of weeks ago a miner from Morrisdale named Alexander Davis was taken to the Cottage hospital in Phillipsburg, suffering from injuries received from a kicking mule. The frontal bone of the skull was crushed in over the eyes and it was found necessary to perform the difficult operation of trephining to relieve pressure on the brain. A small hole was sawed in the bone on the right side of the forehead, a slightly semicircular flap was cut out extending over the eyes, and lifted up some small fragments of broken bone were removed, the opening closed up, and it has been doing finely ever since. The success of the operation, which is a difficult one, reflects great credit upon the hospital.

—Judge Buffington, in the United States district court at Pittsburg, Friday, pronounced sentence upon Samuel Bennett, Joseph McCauley, and Patrick McCormick, the Blaineville counterfeiters. Bennett, found guilty of making moulds for counterfeiting United States coins, was given fifteen months in the western penitentiary; McCauley, who turned state's evidence against Bennett and confessed to having aided him in his operation as well as having passed some of the spurious coin, was sentenced to twelve months and one day in the same institution, and McCormick, convicted of having interfered with a revenue officer while engaged in the performance of his duty, was sentenced to pay a fine of \$500 and costs.

—William Hummel, who is to be hanged in Williamsport on June 5th for the murder of his wife and three children is the remarkable prisoner who has learned boxing, performing on the bars, turning hand springs and calisthenics in order to keep him alive for the gallows. And now, strangest of all, he is practicing hanging in the rope that he found guilty of making moulds for counterfeiting United States coins, was given fifteen months in the western penitentiary; McCauley, who turned state's evidence against Bennett and confessed to having aided him in his operation as well as having passed some of the spurious coin, was sentenced to twelve months and one day in the same institution, and McCormick, convicted of having interfered with a revenue officer while engaged in the performance of his duty, was sentenced to pay a fine of \$500 and costs.

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