

Ink Blings.

—Reports from Porto Rico seem to indicate that old General Demoralization has usurped Governor ALLEN's job.

—When brother CLEMENT goes to Congress, there'll be pensions for us all, and those populist whiskers will be the finest in the hall.

—Pictures of "the full dinner pail" are no longer being sent into the anthracite coal fields by Mr. MARCUS AURIFEROUS HANNA and his associate campaign managers.

—The Galveston people are determined that there shall be no Johnstowning their relief fund. Every dollar is being carefully recorded and an accounting will be kept of every expenditure, so that the entire world may see it.

—ANDY BOLGER seemed to be rubbing up pretty close to DAN on Tuesday for a man who would have come about as near being the Imperial Ninkumpoo of Swat as he would have come to being post-master of Phillipsburg had DAN been able to fix it otherwise.

—Someone forgot to tell us whether Mr. Secretary of Agriculture JOHN HAMILTON signed the harmony treaty. And, by the way, that just reminds us that DAN forgot to put anything in the resolutions endorsing HAMILTON's effort to give the State all the "oleo" it needs.

—The Republican vote in Centre county this fall will probably be a very light one. Sensible men in that party are disgusted with the way the leaders have tried to make monkeys of them and will not go near the polls to endorse with their ballots a proceeding that their judgment cannot approve.

—Vote for WETZEL and KEPLER, men who have not been tied, hand and foot, to any one. They are not political slaves, nor do they stand pledged to do the bidding of any one man. They will represent the people of Centre county and not a few leaders who got together and over-threw all the principles of their party and arbitrarily told others that they had no right to run.

—There are one hundred and twenty-six thousand idle miners in the anthracite regions of Pennsylvania. What percentage of them will vote to continue paying taxes to support an army that is costing us three times as much as it did four years ago? Imperialism and large standing armies may be grand enough for HANNA and McKINLEY, but they are hardly what the starving miners of Pennsylvania are craving for.

—Mr. BRYAN says that he will willingly meet MARK HANNA in public debate if the Republican national committee will certify that HANNA is to be the real President in the event of McKINLEY's election. Quite a clever thrust at old MARK, but Mr. BRYAN knows, as every body else does, that HANNA has been the real President for the past four years and will continue to be such, for four years more, if the Republican party is successful again this fall.

—If Messrs ALLISON and THOMPSON were as frank and honest with the Republican voters, as they are with the two bosses who made their nomination, those who are expected to elect them would know exactly what they can expect of them, if, by chance, they get to Harrisburg. But they are not. Not an individual who votes for them, except ex-Governor HASTINGS and Col. W. F. REEDER, knows what they will do. To these two men they both stand pledged, and the mass of Republican voters have as little idea of what they are voting for, when they support these candidates, as they have of what Governor HASTINGS' whims or desires may be, when the time for them to act may come.

—Mr. JOHN THOMPSON, of Phillipsburg, Republican nominee for Assembly, will you vote for or do anything to help QUAY, in the event of your election? If you don't, you will go back on all the political friends you ever had in Centre county, up to the time of your passing into HASTINGS' ownership. If you do you will be violating the pledge that made you the nominee of your party, as against men who had paid their money and lost their time working for the place you got without an effort. Now tell us, where do you stand, Mr. THOMPSON? Don't answer by saying you stand for harmony, because that won't do. Harmony was only the trick by which HASTINGS caught you and others, but it won't answer the question that many of your former friends are asking.

—When MARK HANNA's Chicago speech becomes the property of the voters of the United States they will realize what a contemptible character he is. Calling Mr. BRYAN hypocrite is not calculated to help McKINLEY's cause and trying to prove that no trusts exist in the country by saying there are laws against them is a proceeding that might well be held up to ridicule by the most ignorant. Everyone knows that there are laws against trusts, but the Republican framers of them were sharp enough to make them so that they would be inoperative. They are just like the law against company stores in Pennsylvania. Made to hoodwink the laboring people. But the bluff is about to be called and HANNA is becoming desperate, as it is dawning upon him that the fellow who is caught bluffing loses the game.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

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Amidst Prosperity (?) Men Strike to Avoid Starvation.

It is a bitter commentary on the vaunted prosperity of the McKINLEY administration to record the fact that, to-day in Pennsylvania, there are more laborers facing the want and impoverishment of strikes than was ever known at any one period in the history of the Commonwealth. On Monday last 142,000 anthracite coal miners were forced to quit work because the wages paid were insufficient to afford the scantiest living. On Tuesday 600 men employed by the Danville Steel Company refused to accept a reduction of 25 per cent in wages and were compelled to seek other employment or starve. At other labor centres the same condition of affairs exists.

In the face of these facts we are told the country is prosperous. Republicans would have us believe that the people are happy and contented and that plenty awaits all who care to enjoy it.

This may be true of those who are the fortunate beneficiaries of tariff protected trusts. It may be a fact, so far as that class of people who neither labor nor produce are concerned, but with the others—the toiling millions—the weary workers—whose only hope is to earn enough to furnish a meagre living to those dependent upon them, the conditions that force them to strike, write it down as a plain, intentional falsehood.

Men do not risk the privations, the sacrifices and the dangers of strikes without reason. The man who must depend upon his daily work for his daily bread does not abandon his job and face starvation for himself and family without cause. Nor can there be cause for such conditions if the country is prosperous, as Republicans are constantly telling us ours is now.

Surely there is something wrong in public affairs when the throngs in the industrial hives, and the speculators in our commercial marts, are glorying in the profits they are pocketing and the prosperity that crowns their efforts, while those whose labor produces the wealth of the country are compelled to strike to escape starvation.

But so it is. Under the guiding hand of WILLIAM McKINLEY. Trusts have prospered. Syndicates have flourished. Speculation has thrived and the rich and the indolent have been happy.

What of the workers and the common people? What of the great masses who earn their bread by the sweat of their brow? Where is the prosperity for them? Let the strikes that are paralyzing business and starving labor answer this.

A Campaign of Cash. Mr. HANNA expects to spend \$30,000,000 in his attempt to re-elect McKINLEY. In 1896 he had a corruption fund of only half that amount. This time admits he has a much rougher road to travel, but rejoices in the fact that there are more trusts to contribute and greater combinations of capital to assess. He is hopeful that fifteen millions additional will work wonders in the doubtful States and that with its proper distribution the people can be made to appear as endorsing imperialism, sustaining militarism and approving of the reign of trusts.

How, when he comes to think about it, this \$30,000,000 of a corruption fund will make the ordinary Pennsylvania Republican's month water! But there will be none of that fund for him. Pennsylvania can be depended upon for anything wrong that is demanded. It will be for McKINLEY any way—and in Mr. HANNA's calculations, money will be spent only where it can do the most good, and where it is absolutely needed.

This may be a little disappointing to the hopes of many who believe a Republican vote in Pennsylvania is worth as much as one in Indiana, West Virginia, New York or any of the States considered doubtful. But it is not. The Republican vote of this State, like the darkey vote of the country, is considered the undisputed and undoubted property of the Republican party and in any calculation no account is taken of it as needing a stimulus or deserving of reward.

For this reason there will be but little, if any, of Mr. HANNA's \$30,000,000 for the heeled and howlers of Pennsylvania. And this is what comes of being too much of a Republican.

The Boss' Work.

The WATCHMAN told you last week that you would see a tongue-tied, boss-ridden, shame-faced convention, when the Republicans got together to ratify the work of ex-Governor HASTINGS and his chairman, Mr. REEDER.

And such it was. Never in the history of the county did such a body meet and call themselves a convention. Never was such servility seen before. Of the ninety men, professing to represent the Republicans of the various districts of the county not one had a suggestion to offer—a motion to make, or a word to utter, that was not put in his mouth by the man who now owns, and boasts that he is able to own—the Republican party of the county.

He was the boss and the convention both. The delegates were his puppets. He told them what motions to make and they made them. He indicated how they should vote and they voted as he indicated. When they were not told what to do they sat until his suggestions would call forth a feeble "aye." There were no noes in that convention, for none dared vote other than the new boss dictated.

And they called it a Republican convention, representing the Republicans of Centre county!

They made a ticket and will have the brass to ask those who were not consulted as to the names that should be upon it to vote, at least, for a part of it. It is not intended that all of the ticket shall be supported, even by those naming it. DALE, who thinks he has been honored by being named for Congress, is to be used as a trading post. No pretense at an effort to give him even a respectable vote will be made, for those acting for the party care nothing for him and their purposes are in a different direction. They named ALLISON and THOMPSON for the Legislature and this is the part of the ticket that will command the efforts and open the barrel of the boss. He has ambitions to gratify, and resentments to carry out, at Harrisburg. He has purposes of his own to fulfill, and he has the pledges of the two men whom he named as candidates for the Legislature, to do his bidding. It is their election that he will attempt. All else will be sacrificed for their success. They are not the candidates of the Republican party, only as that party is owned and dominated by DANIEL HARTMAN HASTINGS. They are his candidates—and his only to do with as he desires and to guide as his interests dictate.

It is in this condition that the Republican party of the county finds itself today. It has candidates who were named for the deliberate purpose of trading off. It has candidates for the Legislature whom it fears to ask what their action will be on matters of the most vital importance to the public and the party at large, and it has a boss and a candidate who asks no advice and brooks no interference.

Poor, pitiable, collar-choked party! Where is the man who belongs to it who does not blush for his subserviency, and the disgrace and disrepute that has fallen upon the organization to which he belongs?

—Because SAM DIEHL desired, if successful, to represent the Republican voters of the county and refused to give a pledge to HASTINGS and REEDER that he would not go into a Republican caucus or vote for its nominee for United States Senate, he was given but eight votes out of the ninety-one, that these bosses had slated as delegates to their convention. Evidently the Republican party of this county has abdicated in favor of these two bosses.

Reaping the Fruits of Their Own Cravings.

The Democrats of Maine have determined to contest the election of Congressman BOUTELLE, notwithstanding the fact that the majority given him at the recent election was in the neighborhood of 9,000. They do not claim fraud, or wrong at the election, but the intelligibility of the candidate. For over eight months BOUTELLE has been confined in a crazy asylum at Waverly, Mass. He is still there. He is, according to the reports of the physicians under whose charge he has been placed, hopelessly insane. With a sentimentality as loony as their candidate, the Republicans insisted on voting for him, and they now waken up to the serious fact that they have attempted a wrong upon the people of the district, and upon the country, that they cannot expect to succeed.

May Be Mistaken.

Just outside the door of this office, on Tuesday evening, after the HASTINGS-REEDER convention adjournment, we heard one of their satellites remark: "SAM DIEHL has been a pretty good Republican, and may personally be a clever fellow, but he don't amount to a whole lot in politics. He can kick all he wants to. It won't amount to more than two votes, his son's and his own. SAM thinks he is a big man, politically, but we'll show him very quick how small he is and how little he amounts to. Let him kick all he d—d pleases, we can buy more darkeys with a ten dollar bill than SAM has friends or followers in the county."

We may be slightly mistaken but we have an idea that this blower for the boss neither knows the man he was talking about nor understands just what a darkey vote costs under certain circumstances. He will probably waken up to ascertain that Mr. DIEHL has as many friends as the usual run of men, and there are many of them who, like him, don't believe in his party being run simply to glorify one man, and give him the opportunity to gratify his personal resentments against those of his own political faith who have made him what he is.

The Estimate Republicanism Places on Workingmen.

The estimation in which Republicanism holds labor is shown in the avidity with which that party has seized upon chairman HANNA's assertion that the issue of this campaign in the "full dinner pail." From platform and stump, through papers and pamphlets, it seeks to make this the great question.

It is a humiliating condition that in a great country like this, where wealth is in abundance and plenty blesses the land, nothing better can be promised the laborer than that he should produce it all than a "full dinner pail." And this is all that Mr. HANNA's issue does. It takes for granted that if, out of the plenty wealth and luxuries of the country, we fill the bellies of its workmen we give them all they are entitled to and all they deserve.

The "dinner pail argument" is based on the presumption that labor is entitled only to enough to eat in return for his hours of toil and life of drudgery. It is measuring the workman's wants and his necessities by those of the mule, which, when supplied with a full trough of coarse food, is expected to labor on and be content, to continue working and be satisfied.

Others may enjoy the good things of this life, may possess homes, rest in their comforts, beautify their surroundings, educate their families, live in luxury and point to the prosperity that comes to them with less effort than that put forth by workmen, but he should be content if assured that his "dinner pail" contains sufficient to satisfy the pangs of hunger.

This is Mr. HANNA's proposition, stripped of all glamour and presented in its naked ugliness.

To him and to his party of aggrandized wealth and gluttonous greed—the sum total of all the needs of a workman is confined to the limits of his dinner pail. In their estimation it matters not if his home is a hovel, without comforts or conveniences, his cupboard empty, his family hollow-eyed and gaunt, his wife barefooted and half clad, his children unclothed and unschooled, he should be happy and content if his dinner pail contains a cold meal and he is assured of the fact that sufficient food will be furnished to keep soul and body together.

This is the Republican estimate of the needs and demands of the workmen. It is its idea of his hopes and aims and ambitions—its view of what he deserves and its promises of what he shall have and enjoy.

Prosperity can bring wealth and luxuries, comforts and rest to others, but labor must understand that it is to be satisfied with a meagre meal.

Trusts may reap profits by the millions out of the earnings of labor but labor itself must be content when it can secure a two-quat pail of cold victuals.

The families of those whose interests Republican laws protect may spend their days in ease and idleness and luxury, while those dear to the heart of the workman go naked and unfed, but still, in Republican belief, he should shout psalms of praise to the party that promises him, out of all the wealth and fulness of the country, sufficient only to secure a beggarly measure of coarse food for his dinner pail.

Did ever a campaign issue uncover the opinions and beliefs, the professions and purposes of a party, like Mr. HANNA's "dinner pail" issue has that of the party he speaks for and represents?

And when you come to think about it seriously—away down to the depths of its real meaning—how much more does Mr. HANNA and his party of trusts and imperialism promise to the workmen than is daily furnished to the mules of the mines and the work-horses of the country, that those who own them may use and profit by their labor.

Only a Pre-election Threat.

The Hartford Post asserts that many of the contracts now being made for next winter's business are conditional on the reelection of McKINLEY. If Bryan is elected the deals are off. This, our contemporary thinks, "is not politics, but cold-blooded business."

Oh, no, it is not business, but politics of the most familiar kind. There never is a Presidential campaign without the same dodge. In 1884 the late P. T. Barnum announced that he would sell all his property at Bridgeport for fifty cents on the dollar in case of Cleveland's election. When Cleveland was elected Barnum was asked to "make good," but he preferred to hold on to the property. In 1896 there was a general announcement on the part of factory owners that they would shut down in the event of Bryan's election, and that if McKINLEY should be elected they would run on full time at increased wages. McKINLEY was elected, and many of the factories that had made these promises shut down, and of those that kept open a number reduced wages.

Pre-election threats and promises are politics. Post-election performance is business. The Republican party is never without its Barnum.

It Would Be a Waste of Time.

It is reported that Senator QUAY proposes making a campaign trip into every county of the State, for the purpose of arousing his friends and saving what he can from the political wreckage that is now threatening him. There is one county that he may as well pass by in silence. It is this, Centre. While he had offices to give he had lots of pretensions, talkative friends here. While there was patronage to distribute the woods were full of hungry applicants for positions who worshipped no God but him, and whose professions of loyalty were heard on every hand.

It is different now, however. The offices are filled—the patronage is done, and another light has come to the Republican voters of Centre county. They have no further use for Senator QUAY. They recognize that he is what Democrats have long charged him with being: A selfish boss, who cares nothing for the interests of the people or the honor of the Commonwealth, so that his aims can be accomplished and his ambitions satisfied. It is strange that this could not be seen or understood so long as there were places to fill and Senator QUAY's aid was needed.

It is strange, too, that such an awakening should come only when there was no more mud in the political pot, and strangers of all the unseemly haste of some who are falling in positions Mr. QUAY has given them, to get into the front ranks of the procession that is marching under the banner of Mr. QUAY's enemy—ex-Governor HASTINGS. But strange, and inconsistent, and even cowardly, as it may all seem, such is the demoralized condition of the former QUAY forces within the county to-day that if he should determine to pay this county a visit it is questionable if a respectable sized committee could be found to do him the honor of receiving him.

For the present the Republican party of Centre county is the property of DANIEL HARTMAN HASTINGS, and Mr. QUAY would be fooling his time away to make any effort to capture and hold any part of it.

If there was manliness or loyalty, or courage about those he has heretofore favored the situation would be different.

On another page of this issue of the WATCHMAN will be found a short letter to the Chicago Chronicle from Mr. ALFRED BEIRLY, formerly of this county, and now recognized as Chicago's most enterprising and largest music publisher, Mr. BEIRLY, like many of his relatives in this county, has heretofore been a Republican, but the treatment his party has given to the struggling Boers, and its efforts to deny liberty and self government to the Philippines has sickened him of McKINLEY and today, as his letter indicates, he stands with the Democracy for the principles of American liberty against imperialism, militarism and their inevitable results—abridged liberties for the people and onerous taxation for all.

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A Question for Mr. McKINLEY.

Appros of Mr. McKINLEY on the Philippines: "When before in the history of the world has it been found necessary to force the 'blessings of freedom' on a people at the rifle's mouth, and to ravage their country with fire and sword in a benevolent endeavor to get them to accept 'self-government'?"

What better proof of a desire for independence—what higher test of fitness for freedom—did any people ever give, from the Greeks at Thermopylae to our forefathers in the Revolution, from the Cubans to the Filipinos, than a readiness to die for liberty?"

Clement Dale Esq., has selected county superintendent C. L. Granley, of Rebersburg; Capt. C. T. Fryberger, of Phillipsburg; and Thos. H. Harter, of Bellefonte, as his conferees to the Republican congressional conference. We hope they will be successful in landing the nomination for him.

Spawls from the Keystone.

—Reading letter carriers expect to have their salaries increased \$150 a year.

—The population of McKeesport, which in 1890 was 20,741, is now 34,227, an increase of 65.02 per cent.

—At present there are 418 inmates in the Huntingdon Reformatory. Since it has been opened it has taken care of 325 breakers of the law.

—Bert George, of Lilly, Cambria county, while handling a revolver and trying to fix the cylinder of it, was shot through the left hand by the accidental discharge of the weapon.

—The barn of Lawrence Imler, near St. Clairsville, Bedford county, was destroyed by fire on the night of September 1st. The only part of the contents saved was a wagon and a buggy. Loss, \$1,000.

—Worley Haasler, of Spring Grove, tried to wreck a passenger train on the Western Maryland Railroad, near Spring Grove. Haasler piled stones and lumber on the track, but the blockade was discovered in time to avoid the wreck, and Haasler was arrested.

—Johnstown continues to respond generously to the appeal for aid in behalf of the sufferers from Saturday night's storm at Galveston and other points in Texas. Up to the closing hour Thursday the banks had received contributions amounting to \$2,111.65.

—W. A. Gould & Bro., have leased 200 acres of a seam of coal four feet in thickness from the Thomas Henderson estate in Woodward township, says the Houtzdale Citizen. They will proceed at once to put in a mining operation. This will give employment to a number of British citizens.

—Thomas R. Williams, of Cambria township, Cambria county, located a beehive the other day, which, when cut down, yielded 60 pounds of a fine high grade of honey. Edwin Reese and the Hoffman boys, of the same township, recently obtained more than a hundred pounds from one tree.

—Samuel Buckman, proprietor of the Buckman house at Rockwood, Somerset county, broke his right leg near the ankle Saturday morning at the entrance to the Mansion house, Johnstown. He was running to catch the Baltimore and Ohio train to return to his home, having come to that city Friday night, and slipped and fell breaking his leg.

—It is no wonder that the trout creeks of the vicinity need replenishing when it becomes known that water snakes make a meal of a half dozen good-sized fish at a clip. At a trout stream in Monroe county, privately stocked, a water snake measuring two and a half feet was killed. The reptile when cut open was found to contain a dozen trout ranging from one to two inches in size.

—William Severin, of Carrolltown, was set upon by two foreigners near that place, a few afternoons ago and one of them sent a stiletto into his body, the instrument entering between two ribs on his left side, near the heart. The wound is not dangerous but it is a very severe one. Severin will be laid up for some time. No cause for the attack is assigned and the parties have not been arrested.

—George MacCool, of Oneida township, Huntingdon county, is reported to be in a serious condition as the result of an accident sustained last Friday morning. He was just about to descend a stairway at his home when he tripped on a shoe lacer and tumbled headlong to the bottom. His injuries consist of a slight fracture of the skull and endless bruises about the body. Some apprehension is felt concerning the injury to the head.

—The barn on the farm of Clark Agey, in White township, Indiana county, was burned early Wednesday morning, entailing a heavy loss, practically covered by insurance. Mr. Agey went to the barn with a lighted lantern to push a wagon load of fertilizer into the barn to shelter it from a storm which was raging at the time. The wind blew a door shut, smashing a lantern which Mr. Agey had left on the barn floor and the burning oil ignited, setting fire to the building.

—Nicholas Adabo, an Italian interpreter, was fatally bitten by rattlesnakes near Jersey Shore Sunday. He was in charge of a gang of Italian laborers who are making some excavations for the New York Central railroad, and while walking where the earth had been removed he came upon a large reptile. In his endeavor to dispatch it, Adabo stepped backwards, planting his left foot in a den of fifteen of the rattlers. Three of the snakes sunk their fangs into the calf of Adabo's leg.

—Barnesboro promises to be one of the best towns in the bituminous coal fields this winter, remarks the Sentinel of that place. On account of the low water, which necessitates the laying up of a good many engines and the scarcity of cars, the mines here for the past month have not been worked more than half time. But at present we are pleased to state that the coal business is moving along briskly, and we are assured that the mines will run steadily all the coming winter, which is certainly pleasing news.

—In the Huntingdon county court last week the case of Mrs. Alice B. Templeton, wife of J. Howard Templeton, of Tyrone, against Warriorsmark township, to recover damages for personal injuries sustained in January, 1897, in an accident on the road leading from Tyrone to Birmingham, near Union Furnace, when a sledding party from Tyrone was thrown over an embankment at the side of the road, occupied several days in the trial, and was exhaustively argued by able counsel. Mrs. Templeton asked for \$10,000 damages. The jury decided in favor of the defendant township.

—Cornelius McCue, confined in jail at Indiana awaiting trial for the theft of two hams from a neighbor, was found lying dead in a pool of his own blood, with his throat cut, Sunday morning. At his head lay a razor. Four months ago he was acquitted on a charge of assault and battery with intent to kill by reason of insanity. He was then released on an order of court. Before his release he set fire to the bed in his cell and smashed the furniture. He had a bad reputation in the jail. He was re-committed, charged with larceny, last Friday. The coroner's inquest developed that he, in common with the other prisoners, was allowed to use a razor for shaving.