

Ink Slings.

I've got a monstrous pumpkin. 'T would be a winner at the fair. But since it serves me as a head it's something I can't well spare. —The ice trust gang in New York ought to have been well jollied by Senator HANNA's declaration that there are no trusts in this country. —Governor ROOSEVELT's experience at Cripple Creek on Wednesday, where he was mobbed by a gang of toughs, ought to bring him to his senses. A man who is a candidate for Vice President should have more sense than to run around over the country calling good citizens cowards.

—The Republicans of this, the 28th congressional district, have nominated Col. A. A. CLEARWATER, of Elk county. Everybody knew that Hon. J. K. P. HALL would have plain sailing in the contest, but it was hardly to be expected that our Republican friends would add to the delight of the Democratic victor's race by making it over CLEARWATER.

—Judge LOVE's chances for elevation to the Supreme Court went a glimmering on Monday when Gov. STONE appointed his law partner, WILLIAM P. POTTER, of Pittsburgh, to the vacancy caused by the death of Chief Justice GREEN, of Easton. It is probable that Governor STONE heard of the "gold-brick" business and didn't want such an "easy thing" in the Supreme Court.

—The idea of perpetuating the DEWEY arch in New York has been abandoned. Out of the \$500,000 necessary to complete the work \$181,000 was all that could be raised, so the project has been abandoned. There will be no DEWEY arch. Nothing to perpetuate the memory of the gallant Admiral. Now that he is married, however, he can look after that part of himself.

—OOM PAUL is to leave the Transvaal on a Dutch ship. He says he is going to the Netherlands for his health. How nicely he puts it. This classed the old President of the South African Republic among the humorists of the day. He had demonstrated his ability as a fighter and a statesman and now he takes rank among the wags by stating that he is only leaving for the benefit of his health.

—One of the cleverest little fairy-tales we have heard for some time comes from Tyrone. It is said a man laid down along the river bank up there on Sunday and fell asleep. When he woke up a female figure was seen noiselessly gliding away from him. The first thing he put his hand on was his pocket, from which he discovered \$1.25 had flown. Now the question is: Was he "touched," or

—The people from Boston, Chicago, Cleveland and Cincinnati, who telegraphed Governor STONE, urging him to use his good offices in settling the trouble between the anthracite miners and their employers, evidently don't know our Governor very well. He is not the kind of an arbitrator the striking miners would have much faith in. He is entirely too much of a corporation man to do much for the laboring man.

—MARK HANNA has decided that the coal strike in Pennsylvania must be called off. He says it is making votes for BRYAN every day it continues. It is a case of chickens coming home to roost. The wealthy Pennsylvania corporations are held up by the Republican National Committee for enormous campaign subscriptions and the money must be squeezed from some source, even if it is from the poor miners.

—MARK HANNA's speech at Cooper Union, New York, Tuesday night, was very similar to his recent Chicago attempt. All braggadoocio, bluster and untruths, which goes to prove that MARK is far more uneasy about the outcome of this campaign than he was four years ago. At that time he sat quietly in headquarters pulling the strings. Now he is running about over the country like a wild man, and, like the dying mule, is kicking in all directions.

—Some one has said that when ANDREW CARNEGIE realized that the railroads over which the products were shipped to and from his mills at Pittsburgh were making more than he did himself—and they would not lower their rates—he went out and built a railroad for himself. The trouble is all men are not CARNEGIES and all men can't build railroads, so they have to go on paying just whatever trusts and other great corporations demand.

—In 19 Howard, 393-447, will be found the following decision of the Supreme Court of the United States: there is no power given by the constitution to establish or maintain colonies, bordering on the United States or at a distance, to be ruled and governed at its own pleasure. It would seem that Mr. McKINLEY's action in seizing Hawaii, Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines has no justification in the constitution, unless MARK HANNA has written another one to displace the work of THOMAS JEFFERSON.

—Senator CAFFREY's declaration to become the candidate of the new National party for President is a tribute to his good sense. He says the "Nationalists cannot hope to win" and thinks that all men should be able to reconcile their beliefs to one or the other of the great parties. There may be some things in the Democratic platform that are objectionable to some, but when the many great and glorious planks are considered it ought to be far easier to accept them than to be running off after new and uncertain ideals.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

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Against a Power of Their Own Making.

It is not an easy thing that the miners of the anthracite coal regions are up against at this time. There was a day when the differences between the laborer and his employer was left to be settled by themselves. That was when the welfare of the people, whether rich or poor, was as much an object of protection by the State, as was the property of the few or the success of corporations.

But things are different now. Under the fostering care of the Republican party the cause of corporations has become the cause of the Commonwealth. Their welfare is its chief concern and their protection its principal purpose. If they are content the State is at peace. If they are harassed or in trouble the Commonwealth is called upon to bear the burden of the expense and be saddled with the obloquy of their actions.

And there is reason for this condition of things. The Republican party administers the affairs of the State. It is from corporations that it derives the corruption funds that keep it in power. To these combinations of capital it is under obligations, not only for the money with which it corrupts elections, but for the influence they exert and work they do to maintain its control. When they get into trouble what is more natural than that they should call on those they have helped, or that those who have profited by their contributions and aid, should come to their assistance?

It is this fact that emboldens the anthracite operators, who are but the representation of great corporations, to demand the protection of the militia before an illegal step is taken or a threat made. It is this fact that makes of our state militia a mere police force for the use of corporate monopolies to awe workmen into submission to such terms as they may dictate. It is this fact that accounts for the presence of armed troops in every section of the anthracite coal region, and it is this joint interest between the Republican party and the mammoth monopolies that it depends upon for its financial needs, that is chargeable with the spectacle of a great Commonwealth rushing, with its armed forces, to aid in stifling the demands of labor when that labor only asks that those for whom it toils will concede sufficient to insure it a meagre living.

It is not an enviable position for a State like Pennsylvania to be placed in. But it is there and the blot is upon it. And for the fact that miners of the anthracite regions have not only the bosses and the monopolies back of them, but the state militia and the power of the state administration, to contend with in this battle for bread, is due largely to themselves and the actions of their brother workmen throughout the State.

Were it not for the Republican party the State Guard would not be doing police duty for any corporate or selfish interests, and the people be paying the costs for that kind of work. Were it not for the votes of the workmen of the State the Republican party would not be in power to lend its aid and send its militia to the support of those who refuse to heed their appeals for wages sufficient to buy bread, and who treat their requests for the arbitration of such differences as may arise between employee and employer with scornful silence.

If in their effort to better their condition the miners of the anthracite regions find themselves up against, not only the corporations that they labor for, but the state militia as well—as they are now experiencing—they can blame the Republican state administration for it. For that administration they can blame themselves and their brother workmen in other parts of the State.

A Sample of Governmental Honor Under the McKinley Administration.

It has been the clamorous and constant claim of the present administration that its efforts are all directed towards maintaining the "honor, the credit and the glory" of this government. To listen to HANNA or ROOSEVELL, or make up one's mind from the pretensions of Republican papers, it would look as if no one had any care for the "honor" of the government, other than the few fellows who own and run the McKinley administration.

If this were so God have pity on the little "honor" this great, big, government would have to boast of. An idea of what "governmental honor" is in the estimation of the gang who are carrying on wars and taxing the people to "maintain" it, is illustrated in the forced exchange of the little money the helpless and impoverished Porto Ricans may have for American money.

The only money in circulation on that island at the time it became a possession of the United States was Spanish silver coin. Our government, the "honor" of which seems so dear in the estimation of the Republican administration, ordered that it be taken up and American money substituted for it. It fixed the rate it would allow for the money of that country at 60 cents per peso, or fractional part thereof.

A Spanish or Porto Rican peso contains 398.06 grains of standard, or 358.28 grains of fine silver. The American dollar contains 412.50 grains standard or 371.25 of fine silver. The American half-dollar contains 192.09 grains standard or 173.61 fine silver. Now, watch where the "honor," the "credit and the honesty" of the government comes in.

We require a Porto Rican who may happen to have a little money to hand over what he has. Say, it is 28 pesos. We pay him for it at the rate of 60 cents per peso or \$16.80 in all. We bring that home, send it to the mint and lo, and behold, it turns out in American money, \$27.02. If we recoin it into our half-dollar we have \$28.50 for our investment.

Thus, for what we allowed him \$16.80, we force him to accept as \$27.02, simply because we are able, have the power and are in the position to do it. A clean cut robbery of over THIRTY-THREE per cent, in the single transaction of substituting our money for theirs!

We are a big, strong, prosperous and wealthy people. They are poor, weak, helpless and poverty stricken. And the administration that is doing this kind of business prates about "maintaining the honor of the government."

Mr. Hanna on Trusts.

If Mr. MARK HANNA is not the Republican party he is, at least, its recognized head, its acknowledged leader, its admitted mouth piece. Through him it speaks. At his dictation it moves. He says to its representative men "go and they goeth," to others "come and they cometh." What he desires they do and what he demands becomes the shibboleth of his party.

Last fall Mr. HANNA became greatly interested in the success of his candidate for Governor in Ohio—Mr. NASH. He worked, he hurried and he spoke for him. The question of trusts became one of importance in the campaign and here is how Mr. HANNA met that issue. The extracts are taken from speeches at different times, and show exactly where Mr. HANNA, the leader, dictator and spokesman, of the Republican party stands on this question: "Trusts are good things."

"There is not a trust in the United States." "What harm can these trusts do the people of this country?" "It may be that the trusts will do the people harm. If they do, the Republican party will take care of that." "Easy there are no trusts. If there are, prove it." "The trusts have the best men in the country at their head."

"Believe in their organization." "The formation of trusts is a step forward." "The combination of corporations is simply the evolution of business." "There was no dodging or equivocating by Mr. HANNA when he met this question in Ohio. He looked upon trusts as a "good thing," he "believed in their organization," that their formation is a "step forward," and that "combination of corporations is simply the evolution of business."

Possibly you, Mr. Reader, believe the same thing. If you do, you are right in supporting Mr. HANNA and his candidate, Mr. McKINLEY. That is exactly what every believer in and defender of trusts should do. If they are successful the country will get all of trusts that it can want. It has a fairly successful scourge of them now. It will have more of them when Mr. HANNA gets the endorsement of the people for his open and undisguised advocacy of them.

We think we have high prices now for such articles as the trusts control. We do, but wait until they get firmly fastened upon us, and know that they have friends like Mr. HANNA and Mr. McKINLEY in control of the administration for the next four years. Then present prices, for what the people must have, will be give-away rates compared to what they will be, under a new lease of power to those who advocate and defend them.

If you are for the trusts go ahead and vote as Mr. HANNA desires you to. Its the way you will get all you want of them. The way you will find out what "good things" they are, and what a glorious thing it is to try to do business and live in a country where the "combination of corporations" is looked upon simply as the "evolution of business."

The Ballot Thief or the Law.

The Philadelphia Press (Rep.), Sept. 14th. The assessors' lists of this city are now padded with not less than 75,000 names which have no lawful right to be there. In wards in the centre of the city, which have been decreasing in population for twenty or thirty years, as the census returns show, the assessors have padded the lists so that there appear to be more voters than ever before.

Wards like the Seventh, Eighth, Tenth, Fifteenth and Twentieth, notoriously corrupt, have less population than ten years ago, and some of them have been steadily losing for thirty years, but that fact has not prevented the ballot thief from increasing the election figures, so that apparently more voters are registered and more votes are cast now than when the population was larger. Such a result can be obtained only by fraud. It is due to crimes similar in character to those committed at the recent primaries by means of which a larger vote was returned in some districts than it has been possible to cast at general elections, and the fraudulent character of that vote is not disputed by any one who cares to be honest with himself or any one else.

The conditions, relating to both the assessors' lists and the recent primaries, give renewed emphasis to the demand for legislation that will afford some protection against the crimes of the ballot thief. It needs to extend to primary, as well as general elections. When a criminally directed police force can drive honest men from the polls, protect repeaters and thugs and terrorize business men it is time something were done to protect citizens from the outrages and crimes of the police. When primary election officers and Machine bullies can drive out of the polling places citizens who have a right to be there, who pay the taxes, protect repeaters and thugs and withhold certificates from regular, law-abiding citizens, sometimes more than talk is necessary.

It must be plain enough to every thoughtful citizen that the exposures of ballot-box crimes made immediately after the election last November, and on account of which Salter and others are now fugitives from justice, has not served to alarm those who have for years made ballot-box frauds a part of their political machine. Exposure does not trouble them. As long as they can take advantage of the looseness of existing laws and only the hired tools are in danger of being caught the crimes will be continued. Salter was a member of the Legislature only a few months before he stuffed the ballot-box in his division of the Seventh ward. The Machine, by Salter's methods, has selected a number of candidates for the Legislature who are no better than Salter, and who, if elected, will do their utmost to defeat honest legislation for honest elections.

The election of these men would be a disgrace and humiliation to Philadelphia. It would amount to the encouragement of the ballot thief, for by those who have supported the ballot thief it would be concluded that there is a large commission to continue their crimes. What do the people expect to do?

What a Country Editor Can Do.

From the Sunbury Daily. With nerves completely unstrung, with remorse savagely tearing at the brain, with a picture of his crime searing itself on the wakeful mind of the assassin, Winterstead, who murdered Fisher, at Danville, Wednesday, seems ready to snap the feeble thread that yet holds sanity to its anchor and float upon the simoon-swept sea of irresponsibility. Happier would it have been for him a thousand fold had he put his scheme of suicide into execution, for now he walks in a living hell, wringing his hands helplessly under the inexpressible tortures of conscience, futilely moaning his desire to recall the hour that set him apart from his fellows and painted his soul red with the gushing blood of the inoffensive man whom his murderous hand swept over the boundary between what there is and what there is to be. Out from behind the curtains of conscience, the mystery of our living eyes has reached the hand filled with the potentiality of punishment, and before man can pronounce his physical punishment an awful mental doom has settled upon the unhappy wretch who usurped, in his blind rage, the prerogative of the Creator.

May as Well Retire.

From the York Gazette. The famous North Carolina hen which laid an egg bearing the initials W. J. B. has been completely outdone by a spider out in Washington, Ind. In a grape arbor in that town is a large spider web across the center, woven by the spider, appear the names of "McKINLEY and ROOSEVELT." Of course both of these statements are true, and, such being the case, Chairman Jones might as well close up national headquarters. The spider has plainly outdone the hen. What are initials alongside the full name of the duty and destiny firm? Our watchful and suspicious enemies will now assert that "W. J. B." may stand for any person, whereas everybody knows that "McKINLEY and ROOSEVELT" stand for imperialists and the trusts.

Spawls from the Keystone.

—The Erie Transit Company has opened its new trolley line from Erie to Cambridge Springs, a distance of 28 miles.

—Because of the low condition of Antietam Creek, from which Waynesboro gets its water supply, there is an epidemic of typhoid fever there.

—A coal famine has struck the town of Bangor and the Bangor Southern Slate Company was unable to run its quarry and works, owing to the lack of fuel.

—Peaches are selling in York county at ten cents a bushel on the trees, or twenty-five cents per bushel picked. The apple crop in that county is estimated at 500,000 bushels.

—Owing to the lack of business caused by the anthracite coal strike, the yard crew of Bloomsburg switching engine has been laid off. During the past week over 26 crews have been laid off.

—On account of the numerous sheep losses in Cumberland county this year the county commissioners have exhausted the dog tax fund and will pay no more such losses until the fund is replenished.

—Ex-State Treasurer S. M. Jackson, of Apollo, and Pittsburg capitalists will erect mammoth sheet mills in Sharon, the capacity of which, it is said, will be greater than any of their kind in the world.

—The following charters were issued by the State Department Monday. Lantz-McIvaine Wall Paper Company, Philadelphia; capital, \$200,000. The Northampton Slate Company, Bangor; capital, \$30,000.

—Kane is to have a curfew, by which children will be kept off the streets after 8 o'clock in winter and 9 o'clock in summer. A bell will announce the hour at which all under a given age will be required to be at home.

—The continued and extreme drought at Shippensburg is becoming very serious. On Monday the water superintendent requested the railroads entering the town not to take water for their engines from the city mains.

—After six hours' deliberation the jury in the trial of James Lenhart for the murder of Newton Motz rendered a verdict of manslaughter at Lewisburg. Judge McClure sentenced Lenhart to fifteen years' imprisonment.

—All records in movement of freight over the Middle division of the Pennsylvania railroad were smashed by Saturday's run of 115 trains, hauling 7,029 cars, composed of 647 loaded and 3391 empty west bound; 3,070 loaded and 21 empty east bound.

—The water famine that has existed at Pen-Arghy, Northampton county, for more than a month has become so serious that the borough's electric light plant is run but two hours a night and the thoroughfares are in darkness after nine o'clock.

—The trouble in the coal regions will throw over 1,000 train men in the Schuylkill Valley from Philadelphia to Pottsville temporarily out of employment. The Reading Company has issued orders to change engines burning anthracite so that they can use bituminous.

—Curtainsville Review says black bears seem to be rather plentiful in this end of the county this fall. Several huge fellows have been seen by trainmen, on the mountain side between Hers and Bloom's Run, one on Anderson creek hill and one or two in the neighborhood of Bilger's saw mill.

—Owing to the lack of water the coke plant at Cokeville, near Blairsville, had to shut down last Friday morning. Since then certain arrangements have been made whereby a sufficient supply of water to permit working every other day has been secured.

—The State of Pennsylvania, according to the census of 1900, still retains its record as the State with the second largest population. Pennsylvania's population in 1890 was 5,238,014, a gain of 975,123 over that of 1880. The returns from cities which have thus far come to hand show a large increase, and experts say that the increase will reach a million. This will bring the population to more than 6,250,000.

—To a 10 year old girl's presence of mind Clara Kelly owes her life. Miss Kelly, who is a domestic, was engaged in boiling apple butter at Williamsport when her clothing caught fire. Her screams summoned Mary Sultz, who grasped an old piece of carpet, and rushing to the burning woman, threw it around her. Then picking up a bucket filled with water she emptied the contents over Miss Kelly and put out the flames.

—The employees of the Reading Iron Works, at Danville, refused to go to work on Monday. They claim that they will not accept the three dollar rate until the same cut is made by other eastern mills. The Morning News says the closing of the mills is not what may be called a strike. The operators reduced the wages and the men quit working. The News didn't explain just what it was, but people who don't know any better will think it is a strike, inasmuch as it has so many of the features of one.

—Mrs. Nathan Darcy, of Lock Haven, was severely bruised and sustained a bad nervous shock from being knocked down by a bicyclist, in Market square, Williamsport, Saturday afternoon. When the accident occurred men carried the woman into Kline's hardware store and later she was taken to the rooms of Mr. and Mrs. T. J. Funston, Hotel Crawford. Doctor Miller attended her and says it will be at least ten days before she recovers from the shock and is up out of bed.

—The water famine in Chester Hill, near Phillipsburg, has grown to formidable proportions, and unless there is rain soon good sanitary conditions will be impossible—a state of affairs which would greatly aid in spreading the fever, which seems to have gotten hold of that borough. There is not enough of even tolerably fair water now for cooking and drinking purposes, and many families will have to haul water way day or go with dirty linen until the long hoped for rain comes.

—The river and its tributaries are all at as low stage of water now as ever was known. A careful estimate of the volume of water in the river below the dam at Lock Haven has been made and it is thought that all the water would pass through a three foot pipe. In the valleys the streams tributary to the Bald Eagle creek are very low and some of the smaller streams are entirely dry. Farmers at some places are compelled to drive their stock from two to three miles to water. In some of the up-river districts small creeks that had been stocked with trout are dry and thousands of young trout have died.