

Ink Stings.

I thought I was her Valentine, 'Til yesterday rolled around...

A Harrisburg telegram in a Philadelphia newspaper states that Judge LOVE spent a pleasant half hour with Governor STONE...

The great blanket steel trust that is about forming, with a capital of \$947,000, is another unmistakable finger board on the road to the ultimate control of all nature's products and resources in this country by a very few men.

Absent mindedness is now said to be a sign of superior intelligence and that probably accounts for the fact that so many good men go wrong.

The sparrow shoot the Sportsmen's League is to hold here on Feb. 22nd will be an interesting event because the local gunners have never tried to shoot anything so small.

The Republican gave Mr. W. E. GRAY's senatorial aspirations a sort of a set back yesterday morning.

It must have been a great surprise to McKINLEY, when the electoral vote was officially counted on Wednesday and it was found that he was really elected President.

The kids will all stand on their heads, and race wildly up and down.

It was only natural to start the rumor that JOHN L. POWERS, who is under indictment for participating in the murder of Governor GOEBEL, of Kentucky, is in hiding in one of the Departments at the Pennsylvania capitol.

The present Legislature has already rushed through jobs adding \$500,000 a year to the burden of the taxpayers of Pennsylvania and \$6,000,000 is to be appropriated so that the thieves can have opportunity of filling their pockets under the guise of completing the new capitol.

Mr. HAGE, chairman of the lower house of the Danish Parliament, is of the opinion that the Danish West Indies ought to be sold.

The confidence of the machine in its ability to run things in its own way during the present session of the Legislature is revealed in the bill introduced the other day by Mr. BEACOM, of Westmoreland county, creating the offices of Excise Commissioners.

It has been demonstrated that if the recent sun-flashes, that were believed to be signals from inhabitants of Mars, were really sun-flashes they must have required mirrors covering a surface of one hundred square miles for accomplishment.

The proposed establishment of camps in the state forest reservations, where persons suffering with pulmonary troubles may go and live an out-of-door life, will probably be realized early in the spring.

Mr. BEACOM, the sponsor of this odious bill in the Legislature, is the ex-State Treasurer and a leader of the QUAY forces on the floor of the House.

Democratic Watchman

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The Pittsburgh Charter.

It is confidently expected that the so-called "ripper" bill will be railroaded through the Senate this week, and unless Senators FLINN and MAGEE, of Pittsburgh, bow their necks to the yoke of the machine it will probably pass the House within a fortnight.

But the trouble is that that will only be half of the harvest of the crusade of spite and the carnival of malice which is involved in the pending legislation. The object of the QUAY heeled who have undertaken this work is not to reform the government of Pittsburgh.

Singularly enough the vast majority of the people of Pittsburgh favor the passage of the "ripper," with all its objections and enormity.

The congressional apportionment bill passed the Senate finally on Tuesday.

An Odious Bill.

The confidence of the machine in its ability to run things in its own way during the present session of the Legislature is revealed in the bill introduced the other day by Mr. BEACOM, of Westmoreland county, creating the offices of Excise Commissioners.

The bill provides for three Excise Commissioners in each county in whom is invested the power of granting or refusing to grant licenses to sell liquor.

Mr. BEACOM, the sponsor of this odious bill in the Legislature, is the ex-State Treasurer and a leader of the QUAY forces on the floor of the House.

Carnival of Profligacy.

No session of the Legislature in the history of the State has ever made such raids on the Treasury as the present one is likely to do.

Thus far bills have been introduced creating new offices the salaries of which will aggregate nearly half a million dollars.

How are the people to escape from the burdens of this omnivorous Legislature? It is said that "Whom the gods would destroy, they first make mad," and the wild plunges into the pool of profligacy which have been and will be made by the Legislature indicates that the QUAY machine is in a paroxysm of rabies.

Representative FOX, of Dauphin county, has introduced a measure in the Legislature that is designed for the protection of the raccoon.

Don't Extend the Season.

The Grange, which is usually reasonable and just in its demands for legislation, is not going to meet with much sympathy in its plan to have the game season kept open until Dec. 31st.

In the first place the benefit of recent legislation, shortening the seasons, is just beginning to be apparent in the increased amount of game in the forests, fields and streams of the State.

The present season is fair to all hunters or sportsmen, since they are put on an equal footing.

Legislating a game season to suit the convenience of one class of hunters would be about as reasonable as a request on our part to have no penalties or big demonstrations anywhere on Thursday, because it is our busy day and we can't get away handily.

The first duty of a citizen is to vote for the men who make and enforce the laws under which he must live in abeyance.

Sham Battle in Congress.

There has been a good deal of curious sparring in the House at Washington during the past several days, and the cause and consequence of which are equally subjects of conjecture.

The ostensible cause of complaint on the part of the House is that the Senate transcended its right and violated the constitution by not amending the House bill but substituting a measure of its own creation.

The truth of the matter is that there is grave peril in revenue reduction at this time and the problem is how to get away from the pledge.

This is probably the real reason for the sham battle now in progress between the Senate and the House of Representatives on the revenue reduction bill.

The Label Repeal Bill.

The "order" in the House of Representatives in Harrisburg this week is the GRADY bill for the repeal of the label law of 1897.

Colonel THOMAS V. COOPER, of Delaware county, has broken out of the pasture, however, and the friends of a free and untrammelled press hope much from his influence and example.

If the people of the State had had time to crystallize public sentiment, the GRADY bill wouldn't have had much in either branch of the Legislature.

We sincerely hope his expectations will not be disappointed. The passage of such a measure at this time would be a severe, if not a serious blow, to civil liberty for it would stifle the freedom of the press.

There are 14,379,078 children in the public schools of the United States and it costs, on an average, \$18.92 a year for each one of them, but no government can regret money spent on the education of its people.

Subscribe for the WATCHMAN.

The Wanderer.

Written for the WATCHMAN by WILL TRUCKENHILLER.

Where the Allegheny mountains Rise toward the realms of snow, And the Susquehanna river Murmurs in the vale below.

Foreign Smarts are Attractive.

From the Pittsburgh Dispatch.

The explanation of the countess Francaelli Cebo, that American girls marry rich foreigners on account of the superior culture of the latter, naturally raises a flutter among the American masculinity.

At all events, the information is interesting. Culture is defined as "the systematic improvement and refinement of the mind," or its result in "learning and taste."

Certainly the Duke of Manchester's taste in bull pups and one or two of those Constables whose wives have come home out of objections to personal castigation indicate a strenuousness of culture abroad to which this country has never arisen.

To Cure the Disease Remove the Cause.

From the Pittsburgh Post.

The National bank cashiers of Massachusetts have been eating a big dinner at Boston, and between the sherry and champagne resolved that the federal taxes on bank capital and surplus and the stamp tax on checks should be repealed.

Expecting Bonquets From Cuba. From the Bloomfield, Indiana, Democrat. As a pretext to hold on to Cuba against our solemn promise, to withdraw as soon as a constitutional government was established, the administration people are now complaining that Cuba entirely ignores the United States in her new constitution and is ungrateful.

New Judiciary District.

Centre County Embraced Within the New Limits.

The House of Congress at Washington has passed Representative Counselor's bill for the creation of a new federal judiciary district in Pennsylvania.

The bill creates in addition to a new judgeship a new district attorneyship, marshals and court clerkship.

The Electoral Vote Counted.

WASHINGTON, February 13.—The ceremony of counting the electoral vote for President and Vice President, cast at the election last fall, took place in the hall of the House of Representatives to-day at a joint session of the Senate and House.

Spawls from the Keystone.

It is stated that the tunnels of the new railroad between Clearfield and Karthaus will require six hundred car loads of cement and at least that much powder.

Two brothers, William and George McMullen, each lost a finger within an hour a few days ago. William cut a finger off his right hand with a circular saw; George cut a finger off his left hand with a hatchet.

The State forestry commission recently purchased a tract of land of about 4,000 acres from Dr. P. F. Hyatt. The tract is situated in Hartley township, Union county, Armagh township, Mifflin county; and Haines township, Centre county; The land is denuded timber land.

The improvements on the middle division of the Pennsylvania railroad between Juniata bridge and Aqueduct, Mt. Union and at Lewistown narrows and Spruce Creek will cost the company upwards of a million of dollars.

The Lock Haven street railway has passed into the hands of a new company, composed of Judge C. A. Mayer and Jacob Scott, of Lock Haven; W. B. Given, of Columbia, and Senator J. Henry Cochran, of Williamsport. It is said the road will be extended to Williamsport in the near future.

A Jersey Shore woman saw a neighbor coming in last week for a call and left and told the hired girl to tell the visitor that she was not at home.

According to the DuBois Courier a new Y. M. C. A. building is to be erected in that place at a cost of \$18,000. The building will be 110 feet long and 40 feet wide, three stories above the street level.

Herman P. Transue, the Clinton county young man who had his back broken by a tree falling on him ten weeks ago, is still living and is reported to be gaining some strength, but is still paralyzed from the seat of the injury down.

Dislodgment of a toothfilling in its contact with a hard substance has nettled Mrs. George Netherton, of Wyoming near Wilkesbarre, the sum of \$300.

On a wager of \$1,000 that he can walk from Newton Highlands, Mass., to San Francisco, Cal., in a year, Arthur Stanley Metcalf arrived in Carlisle Sunday evening.

Two towns in Somerset county—Somerset and Berlin—have women on their official ballots for school directors, and they will be voted for at the spring election.

Mrs. John B. Phillips, a well known lady of Clarion, was one of a sleigh party that drove to Slipg Saturday for dinner.

The James Wilson who died in the Allegheny penitentiary last week, turns out to be John Stafford, of Lawrence township, Clearfield county. Stafford was 55 year old.

An odd sleighing accident occurred on North Penn street, Hollidaysburg, Saturday night, William Shade, of Altoona, accompanied by a young lady, was driving up the Presbyterian church hill at the same time a Logan Valley car was approaching at the brow of the hill.

A letter from corporal John C. Davison, Philippine Island, to his father, R. G. Davison, of Tyrone, written in December, speaks of a natural fort about eighteen miles from the camp of Company G, Forty-third U. S. Volunteers.

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