

Ink Sling.

When Sampson struts the quarter-deck. The waves begin to sputter. For rolling by such a "swelled neck" They get too utterly, utter.

The weather prompts us to inquire: What of the Delaware peach crop?

He is a happy man who imagines himself the whole band, when he really wouldn't make a head for the bass drum.

J. P. MORGAN got only \$1,800,000 for managing that big steel deal. What a cheap manager he is.

The new federal court bill passed the Senate on Tuesday and that same day Judge LOVE left town. Where did he go? You may all have a guess.

Astronomers have found a new star in the firmament and as they say it is three thousand years away from naked sight it must be BILLY GRAY'S judicial star in the ascendancy.

And now it is announced that Mrs. NATION will travel with a circus next summer. WALTER L. MAIN probably thinks he has found another BARNUM woolly horse in the Kansas exponent of temperance.

QUAY left for Florida the day he was sworn in at Washington. Now he has returned from Florida and is at Harrisburg promoting the "ripper" bill. What do you suppose MATTHEW STANLEY draws his salary as a United States Senator for.

The Daughters of the American Revolution never fail to show that they inherited a fair share of the fighting qualities of their grand-daddies. At their annual meeting at Washington last week they scrapped from the time they got together until they disbanded.

If our friend TOM COOPER is really short of gubernatorial timber and is forced to bring out CAMERON we might offer a worthy substitute in SAMMY DIEHL. He has been a candidate for years and just now has caught on to the idea of being elected when he runs.

It is the most natural thing in the world to fasten the blame for the terrible catastrophe in the San Francisco harbor on the captain of the ship. Perhaps he was responsible and perhaps he was not. No one will ever know, for he went down with his ship and dead men tell no tales.

CHARLES M. SCHWAB, the great steel magnate, is said to make eight cents every time he draws his breath. Such might really be the case, but even if it is Mr. SCHWAB can't possibly be any more loathe to be separated from his breath than the rest of us are.

Let us hope that the scores of unfortunates who went down to watery graves while trying to pass through the Golden Gate, outside of San Francisco, will find no rocks upon which to wreck as their souls sail on to the Golden Gate through which all must pass into eternal day.

A CARNEGIE-MORGAN billion dollar steel combine has been incorporated under the law of New Jersey and the public naturally asks: "What is to be done now?" It isn't a case of what is to be done. It is, who is to be done and echo answers that every man woman or child who has any need for the product of the great and greedy combination will be "done."

The "ripper" bill came pretty near ripping the inside out of the legislative hall at Harrisburg, when it passed second reading on Wednesday. Members who demanded their constitutional rights in opposing the passage of the revolutionary measure were pounced upon by the machine's sergeants-at-arms and others got punched in the eye for merely looking on.

The English are of the opinion that the Boer war will be over as soon as they catch DEWEY. They don't go so far, however, as to estimate on when the foxy Dutchman will fall into their hands. The war has cost them \$400,000,000 already, with chances that the figures will run up to \$600,000,000.

King EDWARD is on a visit to Emperor WILLIAM. The new King is quite prompt in the matter of returning calls, isn't he. But why is it that he can run off to see the Dutch and at the same time decline an invitation to visit his dear subjects in Ireland? It looks like a plain case of the old toast: "Here's luck to the Dutch, let the Irish pick pigs." If that is what Edward means a day may come ere long, when the Irish will be picking his bones.

If the iron and steel business has grown to such paying propensities that a man who has been in it for fifteen years now makes eight cents every time he draws his breath is it not about time to discard the tariff and give the home consumer a chance to buy at the same price that the foreigner pays for the American product. Of course, some will think that there ought to be protection for infant industries, but the iron and steel infant is certainly old enough to be weaned now.

SAMPSON is a disgrace to the blue jacket. Congress ought to vote a special uniform of yellow to an Admiral who, a son of a day laborer himself, gives it as his opinion that the "men behind the guns" ought not to be promoted, because they are not fitted to shine in society. This is certainly a new conception of what naval officers should be. The public has doubtless been laboring under the impression that fighters were required, when it isn't fighters at all, but society snobs who are after to man our boats.

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He Has Earned It and Should Have It.

Congress has passed the bill providing an additional federal court in this State, and it will now be in order for his honor, Judge LOVE, to push his candidacy to the front and so receive the recognition due him for services rendered the state ring. His principal competitor for the new Judgeship will, we understand, be Judge ARCHIBALD, of Lackawanna county, the personal friend and protege of Congressman CONNELL, who is credited with securing the enactment of the measure creating the new district.

That Judge ARCHIBALD will prove a formidable competitor for the position goes without saying, but that Judge LOVE has earned the place by his untiring efforts for his faction of his party, and his subservient services to the state ring, none can deny. In fact, he has so far out done his competitor in his efforts to bedraggle his judicial ermine in the dirt of factional politics that, between the two, there should be no question as to which of them is the more deserving of the political plum now about to drop. For political plum it is and nothing else.

That Judge LOVE is fitted for the place, as fitness for such positions is measured by the state ring, cannot be questioned. In the entire State there is no more bitter partisan; in all the Commonwealth there is no more willing tool of the machine; no where upon the bench in Pennsylvania can a Judge be found who would forget his self-respect, sink all judicial dignity, lay aside every consideration for the position he holds or stoop to the efforts that Judge LOVE has resorted to, to serve those to whom he is attached politically and factionally.

It was upon him that the machine relied to humiliate and defeat his neighbor and brother Republican, ex-Governor HASTINGS, in the fight for delegates from this county to the State Convention, two years ago. Those of us who witnessed the open bribery and the debasing debauchery that characterized that contest can certify to the extent to which he is willing to be used, and the depths to which he will wade in the political gutters to serve the wishes of his masters. It was to him that the machine looked, only a few weeks ago, when it wanted a representative from this county to betray his constituency and violate his pledges by voting for QUAY, and it did not look in vain. It was to him that the same machine turned when it needed a fake case, a fake judicial decision, and a fake appeal to the Supreme court, to secure from that tribunal an opinion that can be tortured into an approval of the machine Governor's violation of the constitution in the school appropriation veto matter.

In none of these instances did he fail his friends. He had the disposition and courage, if you so please to term it, to face public indignation, bitter though just criticism and the condemnation of every right thinking citizen of the Commonwealth, to carry out the wishes and aid the conspiracies of those he serves politically. In all sense of justice does this not entitle him now to their earnest support and the position they have to give?

As to his fitness for such a place the WATCHMAN has nothing to say. He is fully as well qualified for a federal Judgeship as he is for the position he now occupies. The new district is largely Republican in sentiment and if the people who reside within it don't get the kind of a Judge they want, by his appointment, they will at least have the kind their party has required the people of Centre county to put up with for the past six years.

That Judge LOVE's appointment would meet the approval of his home people—those who know him best—is an absolute certainty. His few friends who are partisans of his kind would endorse his selection because they believe him entitled to the place; the balance, or great mass of our people, would approve of it because it would enable them to place a less bigoted partisan upon the bench in Centre county.

For this latter reason the WATCHMAN wishes him the most unbounded success in his aspirations for the federal Judgeship.

The Street committee of council would do well to look after the manner in which public property is being plastered over with patent medicine, tobacco and horse signs. They are anything but attractive and the way in which energetic advertisers have filled up the railing along the boardwalk leading to the Big Spring is something that the committee should direct its attention to. The street commissioner should be instructed to remove them all, for given any space at all, these ambitious fellows will soon take it as a guarantee that they can post signs wherever they please.

March comes in like a gentle lamb. And winter seems surely dying. But wait 'til the end of the month and see it go out like a roaring big lion.

The Quay Machine.

The QUAY machine is in a rather bad way at Harrisburg. Almost from the moment of its first success, more or less unexpected, in the election of Speaker MARSHALL it has been tottering. But when the GRADY bill was defeated by the adoption of the COOPER substitute last week, it got its quietus. It must be admitted that even the closest observer didn't appreciate the full force of that blow until the middle of this week. The enemies of the machine hoped and its friends feared, but none knew exactly for awhile. When the leaders failed to ask for a special order for the Pittsburgh "ripper" on Monday night suspicions were aroused. Subsequently a count of noses revealed the facts.

It may safely be said now that the machine is in distress. It is possible that the visit of the boss at Harrisburg this week will put it in order, but that is a question. He was scheduled to be there on Tuesday but failed to materialize until the next day, and it is confidently believed that he will be able in time to collect the particles of the organization, if it should go to pieces. The cohesive power of public plunder is no longer adequate. Nothing but ready money and in large lots will serve the purpose.

The QUAY machine is a unique organization. Unlike other political combinations, it is not held together by a common hope. It is a sympathetic fear that binds its parts into a mass. Similar organizations at other times and under different circumstances have striven to advance this member at one time and that at another. But there is no such influence holding the QUAY machine at Harrisburg together. Different members of it have ambitions, but there is a lack of sympathy among them ANDREWS is not for ELKIN, nor is DURHAM for ANDREWS. Each hate the other cordially and intensely, but they hold together for the reason that they understand that separated they are certain to go to the penitentiary, while as long as they are united one may save the other in trying to protect himself.

Recrunt Democratic Senators.

The Democratic Senators in Congress were recent to duty when they consented to the compromise on the Cuban question which makes compliance with the demands of the administration a pre-requisite to freedom. The faith of the country was pledged to require nothing but the establishment of a stable government, and creating other conditions at this time is a flagrant violation of faith. The Democrats in the Senate had no right to consent to that. They are pledged to the maintenance of the honor of the government and yielding to dishonor is a crime.

Of course it will be said that the Democrats are hopelessly in the minority in the United States Senate, and that being the case resistance would have been futile. The same was said with respect to the ship subsidy bill a month ago, and yet the dominant party has abandoned it, and the treasury is made safe from the looters in so far as that measure is concerned. Who knows but the same result would have followed a courageous and determined resistance of this crusade against the honor of the country? In any event no man has fulfilled his duty until all resources are exhausted and in this odious Cuban business that was not done.

The pretense for this recrancy is that if the Democrats had held out there would have been an extra session of Congress, which might have had an evil influence on the commercial and industrial life of the country. But what have the handful of Democrats in the Senate at Washington to do with that. If the party which has control of both branches of Congress brings harm to the people, it is their lookout and the minority is in no wise responsible. The truth is that the Democrats of the Senate proved cowardly and they should be condemned by their constituents everywhere.

Uncovering the Roosters.

"Ripper" legislation, even with the ring in control, is proving to be expensive, if reports can be credited. It is public talk about Harrisburg, and among those who profess to know, that the parties expecting to be benefited, and who at the same time are getting a little revenge, by the passage of the Pittsburgh "ripper," paid to five Senators for their votes in favor of the measure the sum of \$100,000. In the House, it is alleged an equal amount will be expended, but the people among whom it must be divided are so many more, that the "divy" will seem small when compared to that shared by the Senators. The WATCHMAN doesn't profess to vouch for the truth of these reports, but if they are correct, and there is every reason to believe they are, it can readily understand why some people are so anxious to muzzle the newspapers of the State by the passage of the Grady libel law repealer.

Watch the fellows who would prevent the newspapers telling the truth and you can pick out the "roosters" who are ready to support any measure that there is anything in.

Juggling With the Courts.

An item in one of the Philadelphia papers of Tuesday stated that "In the Supreme court to-day Attorney General ELKIN moved the advancement on the calendar of the argument list the Centre county school fund partition case, urging that a decision would be necessary before the Legislature could properly make an appropriation for school funds."

That Mr. ELKIN, who is the attorney for the defense, and who has the decision of the lower court, should be urging the advancement of the case that the other side has taken to the higher court, may seem strange to some. Usually the side that wins in a large contest is satisfied with its victory before the first tribunal, and seldom cares about taking chances of a reversal by the higher tribunal.

But this is not an usual case; and Mr. ELKIN's anxiety to have a decision from the Supreme court, only goes to prove the suspicion of the people, that this whole matter, from the bottom up, was a set up job, to get a decision, that, to the public, would appear as a justification of the action of Governor STONE in usurping the power to fix the amount of the public school appropriation.

It was an easy matter to secure a decision of the kind wanted from Judge LOVE, for that worthy stands ready at all times to render any kind of an opinion that partisan needs might demand; but his opinion don't stand for much, and something carrying a little more weight is wanted in this instance. The Centre county court has been used simply as a starting point, and now the Supreme court is to be placed in the position of affirming its decision by taking up the case on such points only as are certain to be over-ruled by that body.

This is the trick. This is why Mr. ELKIN is so anxious to have the case advanced. He knows exactly how it is to be presented to the Supreme court, and for what purpose it goes there. He knows that Mr. GRAY, who is the opposing counsel in the case is as deeply interested in Governor STONE as is Judge LOVE or himself. He knows, also, that that gentleman understands how to prepare his case to help those he desires to see benefited, and knowing these things has perfect confidence in getting a decision that will be a seeming vindication of his master, Governor STONE.

And this is why Mr. ELKIN thinks he has a "cinch" on the Supreme court. Wait and watch, and when this matter is finally determined, tell us if it is an impossibility to juggle with the courts, and to secure from them just such opinions as are desired, when there is a common purpose in view by both plaintiff and defendant.

Disgusting Display of Vulgarity.

On Monday night the Senator for Philadelphia and the two Representatives in the Legislature who were chosen a week ago to fill the vacancies caused by death and resignation, appeared to take the obligations of office. The vacancy in the Senate was caused by the death of Senator McFARLAND and was filled by WILLIAM H. KEYSER, who, until two weeks ago, was a member of the House in which he had served for many years. One of the vacancies in the House was the result of the death of Representative WILLIAM STEWART and the other by the resignation of KEYSER. The new Senator has been known for many years as the king of the roosters. The new Members are both brainless nobodies whose voices will probably never be heard and if they are nobody will pay attention to them.

But their introduction into the respective chambers was marked by a profligate display of flowers. Cut roses are expensive at this season of the year, but no consideration was given to the question of cost. There were piles of them banked up on the desks and those adjoining, and there were carnations, calla lilies and other rare and expensive exotics until the whole vast chamber was filled with the perfume. It was really a beautiful sight, and the various forms into which these magnificent gifts of nature were formed and fashioned, paid the highest tribute to the artistic taste and mechanical skill of the florist who prepared them. None other than a master in the art could have produced such "dreams of beauty."

But how inexpressibly vulgar that exhibition of profligacy under the circumstances. If the newcomers in the Legislature had been men distinguished in life for their achievements or noices in the field into which they had just entered of such superabundance of intellect that their coming marked an epoch in the history of the Legislature, the profligacy might have been overlooked. But as a matter of fact they were the most degraded gutter-snipe politicians who took pleasure in displaying their vulgarity, because it revealed a disregard for expenses by men who have come to the Legislature to sell their votes as hucksters to the market to dispose of their cargoes. No more disgusting spectacle has ever been presented in the Legislature.

Sampson Had Better be Retired.

From the Pittsburg Post.

Admiral Sampson, in a letter to the Secretary of the Navy, raises an interesting question in protesting against the promotion of enlisted men to commissions. The Admiral put his objections on the special issue, and not on the capacity of the promoted men for command. They have probably tested that by courage in battle or hard service in the vicissitudes of their profession. In no other way could they be promoted from the ranks, for the regulations require rigid examinations. We must say there is a good deal of downright snobishness in the Admiral's reasons against the promotion of deserving and capable men from the ranks. He says "they are recruited from a class of men who have not had the social advantages that are requisite for a commissioned officer." This is a novel doctrine in a Republic that does not recognize social distinctions in any department of its public service. The Admiral further argues that "in time of peace the navy's function consists to a certain extent in representing the country abroad, and is important that the navy's representatives should be men at least of refinement." That would be desirable, of course, but not a necessity. The chances are the men who have fought their way from the ranks by self education, natural capacity and demonstrated fitness have at least the "refinement" to take part in all the functions devolving on them. As a class, they are picked men, and it is not too much to say the superiors of those who owe their promotion to social influence. While the Admiral says there are "perhaps a certain few among the warrant officers who would fill the requirement," he is of the opinion the majority of them could not. Well, it is only to a few—the picked men of the navy—the advantage is presented of promotion from the ranks. The navy is supposed to be a very aristocratic institution, but Admiral Sampson's edict is about the most foolish lot of snobishness that has ever emanated from him. The Admiral seems to have a faculty for blundering when he puts pen to paper. He illustrated it in the dispatch announcing the destruction of Cervera's fleet in the battle off Santiago.

A Famous Horse Bred in Centre County.

From the Lewisburg Journal.

Mr. F. W. Getz's famous horse "Billy," died last week. This horse was celebrated for his wonderful instinct and exhibition of sense. He was a "Guidless Wonder," having been the only horse ever driven at the Union county fair without rein or lines, was sent around hitched to a buggy, without a driver, and this without any special training. Billy could be sent home with buggy safely from any distance and this showed remarkable instinct from the fact that no special training was given this horse for exhibition purposes. He drew first premium for family and single driving horse several times at the Union Co. fair. He was noted for kind disposition and Billy's friends were numerous, especially among children. Of the many fine, valuable horses of Buffalo valley, none were more valuable than this famous "Guidless Wonder." He never was sick one hour and only those who worked with him knew of his unequalled qualities. On the farm his equal could not be found. He was bought in Centre county by F. W. Getz when he was 6 years old, and at his death was 24 years old, without a blemish on him.

A Much Mooted Question.

From the Pittsburg Post.

In the exposition bills before Congress appropriating \$5,000,000 for the St. Louis exposition and \$250,000 for the Charleston exposition the Senate added a resolution by unanimous vote making the subsidies conditional on closing the fairs on Sunday. The subject of closing on Sunday is foremost in regard to the Buffalo exposition. The Buffalo "Commercial" insists it is to be open Sunday there shall be no nonsense about "educating the public in art," but that the real reason shall be avowed that the Sunday opening is to make money. The "Commercial" however takes the position that "the exposition ought to be open on Sundays because that is the one day of rest from labor, the one day for recreation on which by far the larger part of the population of Buffalo can conveniently and without paying a penalty visit the exposition grounds. The only part of the exposition that will be closed on the first day of the week, we understand, is the midway."

A Reasonable Certainty.

From an Unknown Exchange.

The average girl in the course of time marries, says a thoughtful writer. And she doesn't marry a millionaire; she marries a man who goes out six days in a week digging for his six dollars. It is the wife's part of the partnership to save it for him. But if she doesn't know housekeeping further than bakers' bread and fried beefsteak, the chances are that the family will always be poor, that the man will quit having more than once a week and the girl will slobber around in a wrapper, and the dirty faced kids will go ragged and sick; that the doctor will take all the money the grocer leaves. And that the lovedream will soon be over and the devil will be sitting beside a 99-cent alarm clock hooting his sides and laughing at what a pudding he has got.

Woman's Idiosyncrasy.

From an Unknown Exchange.

"A woman will yank up the guy-ropes of her corset until she almost squeezes her immortal soul out of place, put a dead bird on her hat and go strutting around town, selling tickets for an entertainment to raise money to help send missionaries to foreign climes the purpose of teaching civilization to the poor heathens who have never known what it is to wear a corset and who have been struggling on in the ignorant belief that God created birds for other purposes than adorning woman's headgear."

Spawls from the Keystone.

—Twenty thousand feet of lumber was destroyed by a fire in the Canfield lumber yard, Williamsport, Thursday morning, caused by a spark from a locomotive.

—During last year the Penny paid out about a quarter of a million in pensions alone. This sum in the past would have sufficed to run many roads that have made a great deal of noise in the world.

—Charles Whiteman, a hackman, of Williamsport, yesterday found \$40,000 worth of government bonds in an old trunk in the attic of his home. The bonds belonged to his father, who died years ago. Mrs. Whiteman, his mother, is ill at the Williamsport hospital.

—Jersey Shore is again without electric light. The borough council has decided not to expend any more money in operating the plant. The business had been unprofitable from the start, and having failed in private hands the borough undertook to conduct it, evidently with no better result.

—The Pennsylvania railroad will spend about \$7,000,000 this year for bridges. Five bridges, similar to the stone structure at Rockville, will be constructed on the main line below Huntingdon. Twenty three bridges will be reconstructed on the Buffalo and Allegheny and the Philadelphia and Erie division.

—A shooting affray took place at the Henderson settlement near Houtzdale, on Friday last. It was a case where a girl flatly refused to marry a young man and it seems that he was determined that she shouldn't marry anyone else. The girl was shot in the side; was taken to the Phillipsburg hospital and will recover.

—After spending Saturday night with his friends at Milton, Alexander Grimes, of Danville, was killed while attempting to board a freight train Sunday morning. Both arms and one leg was cut off by the wheels, his tongue was bitten off and a gash was inflicted on the forehead. He was the son of James Grimes and was 18 years old.

—Smallpox has broken out among the negro laborers employed on the line of the new Clearfield and Karthaus railroad. The *Eastman's Journal* says: A resident of Shawsville called at the office of the *Journal* and stated that the contractors admit the presence of smallpox among the laborers, but insist that it is in a mild form with no immediate danger.

—Governor Stone has appointed the following members of the state forestry reservation commission for the terms set opposite their names respectively: John Fulton, Johnstown, for the term of two years; Albert Lewis, Bear Creek, for the term of two years; Isaac B. Brown, Corry, for the term of four years; A. C. Hopkins, Lock Haven, for the term of four years.

—Richard Miller, of Tamaqua, has a curiosity in the shape of an animal that is half cat and half rabbit. The front portion of creature, with the exception of its red eyes, is that of a rabbit. One half of the animal's body is covered with the white hair of a cat, while the remainder of its body is covered with the reddish brown fur of a rabbit, ending in a short bushy tail. It moves about with a half ran and half hop, and is very tame. It lives on vegetables and milk, and has no use for meat. It is about one-half the size of a full grown cat.

—Before Wm. Johnston was taken to the Western penitentiary the other day from the Westernmoreland county jail, he was escorted by detectives to the coke works at Latrobe and indicated the place where a lot of old coins belonging to Mrs. Rimey, whom Johnston had robbed, a gold watch, silk mufflers, etc., were secreted. These were turned over to Burgess Toner, of Latrobe, who restored them to the owner. A pocketbook containing papers valued at from \$700 to \$800, however, was not secured, because it was covered up in a way that it could not then be reached, but its location was fixed and it will be gotten in the near future. Some of the old coins referred to date back to 1778.

—At 3 o'clock Sunday morning three burglars broke into the laundry of Mark Soun, a Chinaman, at Clearfield, lighted the gas and knocked him down, badly battering his face. The burglars then gagged and tied him and threw him upon the bed. They demanded money, and he gave \$38 which he had in a drawer. They left the place and returned in half an hour and made a more thorough search, securing \$21 more. The victim freed himself half an hour later and called a neighbor to his assistance. A doctor was called in and dressed Soun's face and head. The Chinaman had two teeth knocked loose and his head was badly swollen. He gave a partial description that may lead to the arrest of the robbers.

—The story of a political scoop comes from Brishin. For years the borough has been Republican, and it was supposed that there was no question of its continuing to be so this year. But the Democrats played a waiting game, and remained away from the polls until about six o'clock in the afternoon, when they made a descent on the polling place en masse, and in the hour that remained before closing cast forty-three votes, sweeping everything. The Republicans, thrown off their guard by the apparent apathy of their opponents had scattered and only seven votes could be gotten together during the time that the forty-three Democratic votes were being polled. Coal operator W. A. Gould, who has been treasurer for years, has been kept busy ever since answering telephone calls, asking him how the election went.

—Samuel J. Hill, who has just retired from the service of the Pennsylvania railroad company, after fifty consecutive years' work, boasts that he is the luckiest railroad man on record. All the time of his service he was a night watchman at Greensburg. During the fifty years he spent 13,000 nights without sleep, walked 142,500 miles in pursuance of his duty, and never had an accident of any kind. In 1871 he stopped the Philadelphia express on the edge of a wash-out and saved 200 lives. He is especially proud of the fact that, in all this time, notwithstanding many temptations, an oath has never passed his lips. He has never smoked or chewed tobacco, and for more than forty years he has been a teetotaler. His beat has never been more than five miles from his home and he has never been either criticised or promoted.