

Ink Slings.

—How KITCHENER hopes to catch DEWER by throwing salt on BOTH's tail remains to be seen.

—Don't be foolish. It costs more money to be a fool than it does to be a wise man and you have gained nothing, after all.

—A "ripper" for Pittsburg and Scranton was all right. Eh, friend COOPER! But why is a "ripper" for Philadelphia all wrong?

—Judge LOVE is getting a great deal of newspaper notoriety these days, but it isn't the kind that he is likely to clip out and stick away in the family album.

—They say there are millions in the Philippines, but so far as the United States getting any of them is concerned it will ever be a case of sending an old dollar after a new one.

—The death of General HARRISON leaves GROVER CLEVELAND as the solitary surviving ex-President, but GROVER has been lonely for several years so that this will scarcely bring melancholia.

—ANDREW CARNEGIE has been informed that he is now the richest man in the world. We will give a year's subscription and an old almanac to any one who will make and prove such a statement concerning us.

—In the death of former President BENJAMIN F. HARRISON the country has lost a great lawyer and statesman. He was a dignified, forceful American and had no patience with the tendency of his party to degenerate in the direction of imperialism.

—Is this third term talk for McKINLEY only a mild way of broaching the subject of making him Emperor? By the time he serves these four years and would have four years more possibly HANNA thinks the people would become reconciled to the life tenure idea.

—HANNA says there is no third term feeling about the White House. But that is probably so only when Mr. HANNA is not at the executive mansion, for he certainly can be depended upon to try to make himself President again in 1904 by the election of another of his marionettes.

—Senator CARTER talked the river and harbor bill to death and saved the government fifty millions of dollars. Then he got a five thousand dollar job for himself, when his term in the Senate had expired. Can it be that McKINLEY was glad that the river and harbor bill was killed. It seems improbable yet it might be true.

—The \$100,000 McKeesport brewery was completely demolished on Tuesday and three men killed by the explosion of the "cooker." This knocks poor old CARRIE NATION into a cocked hat, so far as saloon wrecking goes, but then cookers always are terrific explosives wherever found, whether in breweries or kitchens.

—The field is open for some country editor to start to run his paper as CARRIE NATION would run it. It would be an interesting experiment too, for in most communities if a country newspaper were to stick the ax into every neck that deserves it there would be a dodging and bobbing that would put to shame the best efforts of a flock of killdeer on a mud bank.

—A "ripper" bill for Philadelphia ought to include some sort of legislation that would rip the Democratic organization in that city out of the hands of men who are prostituting it to the Republican machine that rules and plunders there. There can be no hope for Democracy in Pennsylvania so long as the cities of Philadelphia and Pittsburg are in their present control.

—The granting of an armistice of seven days by General KITCHENER doesn't look very much as if the British intend sticking to their first demands of an unconditional surrender by the Boers. General BOTH, it is said, is willing to lay down his arms, but up to this time the only thing that DE WER appears to want to lay down is his life. He says he will die fighting the usurpers.

—Since General HARRISON is dead let us take even more seriously his concluding "musing" in the North American Review of recent date, which runs like this: "Let us not be a world power, in any sense the good old sense—that of a nation capable of protecting in all the seas the just rights of its citizens, and incapable everywhere of a wanton infringement of the autonomy of other nations." Again, since HARRISON is dead let not such wise counsel die with him.

—His Majesty EDWARD 7th's government has sent its response to the Senate's amendments to the HAY-PAUNCEFOTE treaty and states that it will not be able to accept them. After discussing such a disagreement the subject is dismissed, without suggesting an alternative. This probably means that the Nicaragua canal proposition will be dropped until the next session of Congress. And it should be dropped forever, rather than build it with American money and then give up the right to defend it.

—HENRY WATTESSON's idea of revitalizing and revictualizing the Democratic party isn't bad. Particularly the revictualizing part of it. When we come to think the matter over in a more general way, there are probably a few Republicans who would like to be included in the "fall" is empty already in a great many communities and there are lots of them getting hungry for something more than promises. Yes, let us revitalize and revictualize the party, paying special attention to the revictualizing.

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The Balance of Trade.

Mr. CHARLES R. FLINT, president of the rubber trust who some time ago declared in a magazine article that the result of the election of McKINLEY, for which he labored assiduously and not too lawfully, is the endorsement of trusts, has again dropped into print, as the late SILAS WEGG used to drop into poetry. After stating that the exports of the United States during the year 1900 exceeded the imports by a matter of \$600,000,000 and the imports of Great Britain, France and Germany exceeded their exports by something like a billion dollars he draws the inference in a recent article that this country is growing rich at the rate of that balance while the other countries named are going into bankruptcy with lightning rapidity.

We shall not take issue with Mr. FLINT on the proposition that the European countries named are on the toboggan slide heading for the "demition bow wows," but we do question his declaration on the whole. That is to say we confidently assert that a large volume of exports and a small total of imports do not invariably indicate a healthy commercial condition. As a matter of fact the best commercial conditions are revealed when trade is active on both sides, for that indicates profits at both ends. But when a man or a nation is selling everything and buying nothing the signs are those of decay. The affairs of a bank or other commercial institution are only liquidated at the close of business.

But even if Mr. FLINT's facts and conclusions were equally faultless, the conditions presented would not be the most satisfactory. Great Britain, Germany and France are our best customers and if they are going to the dogs, at the velocity of a billion dollars a year, it won't be a great while before they are teetotally bankrupt and then the market for our surplus products will be cut off and we too will take a header on the downward course. This is the plain logic of events. Nobody wants to sell to customers who can't buy. It is infinitely better to keep the goods than sacrifice them in that way. Bad debts are mighty poor assets, when it comes to settling an estate, as every business man knows.

The reason that Great Britain, France and Germany are in financial straits is that the substance of the people has been squandered in the maintenance of large armies and the earnings of labor absorbed in the payment of exorbitant war expenses. For the last year the prosecution of the war has taxed not only the energies but the capital of Great Britain and unless that enormous drain upon the resources of the people is checked soon the vast Empire, paramount as it has been in finance and commerce, will be impoverished and destitute. This is the legitimate fruit of militarism and though this country has only taken the first step in that direction thus far the time is coming when we will reap the same harvest of disaster unless the fatal step is retraced.

Our Government Tricked.

The amended HAY PAUNCEFOTE treaty has been rejected by the government of Great Britain, and according to the interpretation of Lord SALISBURY and the Hon. JOHN HAY, the operation of the CLAYTON-BULLER treaty has been revived. That treaty pledges the government of the United States to never construct a water-way across the Isthmus without the consent of Great Britain. It was a direct contravention of the MONROE doctrine, but the government was poor then, the canal was needed as it is now, and it was believed that by entering into such an agreement the ditch would be dug with British capital.

Several times between the signing of treaty in 1850 and the beginning of the negotiations for the HAY-PAUNCEFOTE convention the compact had been broken by the British government, and as many times the treaty was declared forfeited by both governments. For that reason, Britain having nothing to lose and much to gain, the new treaty was suggested and eagerly entered upon. In fact the British government declared a willingness to accept anything. Write what you like, Lord PAUNCEFOTE said to Mr. HAY, "and I will sign." But Mr. HAY was an obliging gentleman and gave his case away.

But things are different now and Great Britain is not so acquiescent. In the HAY-PAUNCEFOTE treaty the validity of the CLAYTON-BULLER treaty was recognized and revived, and it is quite good enough for Lord SALISBURY. For that reason in notifying the authorities at Washington that the amended treaty is unsatisfactory, notice is also served that the negotiations are closed. In other words our government has been tricked into the revival of an odious treaty, the whole tenor of which is advantage to the British government and for the sacrifice we get nothing. The McKINLEY administration is entitled to the booby prize.

Inconsistent Mr. Cooper.

The Hon. THOMAS V. COOPER is just now fighting the fight of his life. He is doing his best to prevent the Legislature from passing legislation to rip up Philadelphia. The principle involved in such legislation is atrocious, according to Mr. COOPER's notion, and his active conscience would not permit him to be silent while such outrages were being perpetrated. Political exigencies appeal strongly to his mind, and under ordinary circumstances he might overlook such a trifling affair as driving a coach and four through the constitution but the Philadelphians affected by the "ripper" bill, which applies to that city, are Mr. COOPER's friends.

There is an old adage that it makes a vast difference whose ox is gored and the relations of Mr. COOPER to the Philadelphia "ripper" legislation now pending in the House of Representatives is a vindication of the accuracy of the proverb. A couple of weeks ago there was another "ripper" bill pending in the House. It was discussed with great freedom, remarkable comprehensiveness and signal ability. Representatives DIXON, of Elk, IKELER, of Columbia, COTTER, of McKean, and others made strikingly eloquent speeches asserting and proving the unconstitutionality, not to mention the iniquity, of the measure. But Mr. COOPER supported it by voice and vote without even blinking an eye.

Now that Mr. COOPER's friends are threatened with the "ripping" operation, however, the question takes on a different aspect. In the case of the Pittsburg bill there was no chance for anybody but "rank outsiders" to suffer, and the evils of the legislation didn't strike Mr. COOPER. But in Philadelphia the "Anointed" are put on the rack and the outrage becomes palpable at once. The principal is precisely the same in both cases, but COOPER has been given a clearer sight. As a matter of fact the Pittsburg case was infinitely the more atrocious, for the reason that it "ripped" up men who were elected by the people, while the other merely revokes the commissions of men appointed by the judges. But Mr. COOPER thinks he is fooling the people. He reminds us of the ostrich which stuck its head in the sand to escape pursuers and left its body exposed to view.

Clearfield has advanced to the folly of cooking schools, but as the District Attorney of that county has not started to attend the country is safe.

Had No Bottom to It.

The WATCHMAN takes no stock in the newspaper reports that the CLEARWATER congressional contest was dropped because it could not be made effective as a whip to force Congressman HALL into using his influence in favor of certain measures that Mr. QUAY desired to see succeed both at Harrisburg and Washington. Mr. QUAY knew Mr. HALL too well to encourage a contest for a purpose that he fully understood could not be accomplished; and the other facts developed in connection with this matter simply show that the first and principal reason why it was withdrawn was that CLEARWATER had no case; the second, that the \$2,000 allowed by Congress as expenses would be eaten up by witness fees and other expenditures, leaving nothing for the contestant and his attorney; and third that the exposure of the Republican frauds committed in Centre and Clearfield counties, alone, would have more than doubled HALL's majority in the district. These are the real reasons for the back down.

Had the contest gone on it would have been shown that in the townships of Rush and Snow Shoe in this county, more illegal Republican votes were cast last fall than the highest Republican majority in the county amounted to. In Clearfield it would have been demonstrated that systematic frauds were committed in nearly every precinct and that if only the legal vote had been returned not a Republican upon the ticket, with possibly two exceptions, would have been elected in that county.

It was this knowledge of the facts, a fear of the expose that a thorough investigation would make—coupled with the certainty that no "divvy" for either CLEARWATER or AENOLD could be saved out of the expense fund—more than any other one, or any other dozen excuses that brought this contest to such an inglorious ending.

The robins were singing bright and cheerful Wednesday morning, but don't let them fool you into parting company with your overcoat or winter flannels. There is plenty of grip and pneumonia lurking in the air yet.

The eighty-year-old New York woman who is cutting her third set of teeth evidently intends to have something reliable to "chew" with should she get into a controversy with St. PETER.

Legal Jugglery Begun.

Proceedings have been instituted in the Lackawanna county court to test the constitutionality of the so-called Pittsburg "Ripper" bill. With the exception of the legal force enacted in the court of this county some time ago for the ostensible purpose of testing the legality of the Governor's unconstitutional mutilation of the school appropriation two years ago, nothing more ridiculous has ever occurred in any court of this Commonwealth or for that matter in the history of the jurisprudence of the country. A petition has been filed at the suggestion of the Attorney General acting for the state machine, before a willing judge citing an acquiescent official to show cause why he holds office, and this conspiracy is palmed off on the public as a judicial inquiry.

This farcical performance is not only an insult to the intelligence of the people, but it is an outrage on justice. The Judge to whom the petition was presented is a candidate for the federal bench and unless he perverts the law to suit the purposes of the conspirators he will lose an office of life tenure which his heart covets. The petitioner in the case is a candidate for the succession on the common pleas bench to be made vacant by the promotion of the Judge to whom the petition was presented, and unless he does precisely what is wanted his cherished ambition will be disappointed. The official who is cited to show cause having refused the office of mayor must do what the machine wants or retire to private life not for a time but forever, and as SOL SMITH RUSSELL says in the play "there you are."

The scheme is to get only such aspects of the case presented to the Supreme court as will necessarily be decided in favor of the machine. In other words these conspirators would have a judicial determination of a grave constitutional question predicated on a false premise. That is to say there being no question of the removal by the Legislature of an officer elected by the people, the mayor of Scranton having resigned, the only question which would come before the court in all probability would be as to the constitutional authority of the Legislature to abolish the office of mayor and create that of recorder. Both these rights conceded on every hand. But the right to legislate out of office a man elected mayor by the people before the expiration of the term for which the people commissioned him to serve, is denied.

This Scranton proceeding, like the proceeding in the school case in this county, is nothing more or less than a bit of legal jugglery. It is a shame that the Attorney General of the Commonwealth and Judges on the bench will debate themselves by the practice of such hocus pocus in the courts. But they do and in the face of such facts the rights and liberties of no citizen are safe. The license which justifies such actions applied in any other way would work equal disaster. No title to office is secure, and for that matter no deed to property or franchise of any kind will stand against such usurpation on one hand and injustice on the other. May Heaven save us from the consequences of such a disregard of sworn obligations.

Death of C. L. Magee.

Death of State Senator CHRISTOPHER LYMAN MAGEE, of Pittsburg, which occurred in Harrisburg last Friday evening, has caused a widespread and profound sorrow throughout the State. Few men of his time had as wide a popularity as Mr. MAGEE and few who have stood as long in the search-light of public life have so well sustained a reputation early established of being a just man. Mr. MAGEE was a politician and in the heat of conflict was probably influenced by the same impulses that guided other men. But he was broad minded, generous and just, even in battle.

It is probably well for Mr. MAGEE's memory that he lived in a period of, let us say, careless political morals. Within the last twenty-five years he has acquired vast wealth by methods which while in this era are regarded as perfectly legitimate would previous to that time have doubts. He probably directly wronged nobody in the acquisition of his millions, and as a matter of fact, he benefited many. But he acquired franchises at no expense to himself which belonged to his people and having acquired them coined them into currency which he put into his own pocket.

In his political contentions he was probably equally free from a desire to harm his neighbor, and indeed maybe he didn't harm any one seriously. But he did build up a political machine which was used by others, if not by himself, to extort from the public in order to pay unearned bounties to favorites. Possibly no law was violated in these operations. In fact we believe that it was not his intention to violate law. But the people had to pay that his machine might be lubricated. Still he was a generous soul and a congenial spirit and all in all deserved the kindly feeling which is expressed for him everywhere.

FOR HIS GOOD.

"I will bring you the stately matron named Christendom, returning bedraggled, besmirched and dishonored from pirate raids in Kin-Chou, Manchuria, South Africa and the Philippines, with her soul full of meanness, her pocket full of 'boodle' and her mouth full of pious hypocrisies. Give her soap and towel, but hide the looking glass."—Mark Twain's Greeting to the Twentieth Century, written for the Red Cross Society.

If you see an island shore Which has not been grabbed before, Lying in the track of trade as islands should, With the simple native quite Unprepared to make a fight, Oh, you just drop in and take it for his good.

Chorus: Oh, you kindly stop and take it for his good, Not for love of money, be it understood, But you row yourself to land, With a Bible in your hand, And pray for him, and rob him, for his good; If he hollers, then you shoot him—for his good.

Yes, and still more far away, Down in China, let us say, Where the "Christian" robs the "heathen" for his good, You may burn and you may shoot, You may fill your sack with loot, But be sure you do it only for his good.

Chorus: When you're looting Chinese Buddhas for their Picking opals from their eyeballs made of wood As you prize them out with care, Just repeat a little prayer, To the purport that you do it for their good; Make your pocket picking clearly understood.

Or this lesson I can shape To campaigning at the Cape, Where the Boer is being hunted for his good, He would welcome British rule If he weren't a blooming fool, Thus you see that it is only for his good.

Chorus (planissimo): So they're burning brighers' houses for their Good, As they pour the kerosene upon the wood, I can prove them, if I list, Every man an altruist, Making helpless women homeless for their good, Leaving little children roofless—for their good.

There's a moral to my song, But it won't detain you long, For I couldn't make it plainer if I would, If you dare commit a wrong On the weak because you're strong You may do it—if you do it for his good.

To Set Democrats Thinking.

From the Pittsburg Post. In a cheery way Brother Watterson, of the "Courier-Journal," discusses Democratic possibilities. He says the woods are full of Republican possibilities, while with the Democrats "all is mist, fog and sludg."

The two or three names which are left outstanding are almost as empty as so many houses to let. Imagination herself stands open-eyed in the presence of vacancy. Bryan, twice defeated, Gorman, a figure of speech, and a good good yet shop-worn; Olney, a myth; saving Bryan, old men each; nothing in front of them, except conjecture; nothing behind them, except chaos.

Therefore he holds that if the Democratic party is to come again "it must come revictualized and revitalized, and not recognized, and it will come in the person of a presidential nominee with some new man, fresh from the people." Enforcing this idea it is declared— "The hope of the Democrats in any immediate and practical future lies in the development of some hitherto unknown party leader, and this the Republicans developed in Tilden. He may come when least expected. He may come from God knows where. If it be the purpose of the Almighty to rehabilitate Democracy, to call down Republicanism from the high horse of imperialism the Republicans are now riding, he will surely come; and when he comes he will not only carry a banner in one hand and a baton in the other, but he will come astride a barrel; he will be able to meet Brother Marcus Aurelius Hanna on his own ground, to play his own game, to stack up with him pile upon pile, to care nothing about the limit, and having struck him and whip-sawed him, to laugh him into the poorhouse on the showdown!"

Again in the serio-comic vein, the "Courier-Journal" finds such a man in Tom Johnson, now a Democratic candidate for mayor of Cleveland. Was not Cleveland a candidate for mayor of Buffalo? He has a barrel as ample as Mark Hanna's. If elected mayor of Cleveland, why not Governor of Ohio? And if Governor, why not President? The boys in the trenches would rally as never before, "from Bitler creek in Kentucky to the sources of clarity in Texas and Oregon."

Why not this friend of Henry George this millionaire anarchist, so-called, who has fighting blood, race-horse blood, in his veins; who springs from stalwart revolutionary stock; who was born lucky and got rich on his own genius and exertion; at once a typical American and a thoroughbred Kentuckian crossed on a Buckeye; representing the common people, yet not affrighting the c's; a poss'ble Tilden; a poss'ble Cleveland; and planted not merely in Ohio, the Virginia of Modern States and statesmen, but in Cleveland, O., the home, the citadel of the Warwick, who is said to make and to unmake Presidents? What ho, there! trench as a boy! Down on your marrow bones, every mother's son of you, and pray, pray for Tom Johnson!

This is good fun, but back of it a suspicion of common sense and seriousness, and so it is passed on to set Democrats thinking.

Library for State College.

HARRISBURG, March 12.—The bill was passed finally by the Senate last week accepting from Andrew Carnegie the gift of \$100,000 for the erection of a library building for the use of Pennsylvania State College, pledging the faith of the State to fulfill the condition on which the donation is made, which is that the Legislature must provide annually \$10,000 for the maintenance of the library, and making the College as far as the act is concerned a part of the public school system of the State.

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Spawls from the Keystone.

—Twenty-three young men from Jersey Shore, Milton and Williamsport have been placed under arrest for participating in a cock fight that occurred near Bassess, Nipponese valley, on February 27th.

—Nathan W. Shed, B. S., who was assistant professor of mining engineering and metallurgy at State College in 1898, has just returned to the College as assistant professor of mining. Prof. Shed will move his family there soon.

—Two men were struck by a P. R. R. train near Summer Hill Wednesday morning, one being killed instantly and the other seriously injured. The dead man's name is unknown. Mart Minac, who escaped death, is at the Memorial hospital.

—The Lycoming county grand jury, in session at Williamsport this week, has returned a true bill against the Lycoming county fair for setting up gambling devices, permitting and allowing gambling devices, and knowingly leasing premises for gambling purposes.

—John Jems was found dead in bed at his home at Drury's run Sunday morning. He was over 100 years old, having been born in Prussia June 24th, 1800. He has resided in this country thirty-five years. His wife and four children survive. The funeral took place at Renovo.

—The great lumberman and philanthropist of Williamsport, died suddenly in Florida, Tuesday, whether he had gone for the benefit of his health. He had about perfected plans for a cathedral for the Scottish Rite Masons, and a home for the Temple club, of Williamsport, when his useful and honorable career was suddenly terminated. In the death of William Howard the public suffers a great loss.

—Mary E. McAviney asks \$300,000 damages in the Lycoming county court for the death of her husband, Michael McAviney, a fireman employed by the New York Central railroad company, who was killed February 8th, 1900, in the collision near Gordon Heights, on the Beech Creek. Frank H. McAviney, a minor son, also asks \$30,000 damages for the death of his father, Michael McAviney.

—The Pennsylvania railroad Sunday morning threw into service the remodeled old Spruce Creek tunnel, thus giving the company four tracks through the mountain at that point. This is the end of the famous Tunnel town that had acquired so much of a notorious reputation for crimes. During the building of the new tunnel and the remodeling of the old there were no less than five murders committed, and nearly all of the criminals have escaped.

—At Haneyville a few days ago 12 year old Lottie Green was going to the barn when she saw what she supposed was a large cat. She tried to coax the animal to her, but the cat crouched on the ground and made ready for a spring. The child ran to the house and called her sister, Jacob Zinck and T. Rogers were called in, but the animal had left. They examined its tracks and learned that they were those of a catamount. It is supposed that the animal was after chickens.

—A dark skinned "Jack the Snipper," who has been frustrated several times in his efforts to cut the hair off Altoona girls, attacked Miss Mabel Bowman, a pretty Altoona society girl, on Eleventh avenue, the prominent business thoroughfare, Saturday night. Miss Bowman wore her handsome Auburn hair in a plait down her back. Near Thirtieth street the fellow caught her cleverly in a crowd and snipped off the braid before she was aware. A policeman chased the man but he escaped.

—Torrence DeLong, son of E. M. DeLong, of Sugar Valley, had a narrow escape from being killed or badly hurt this week. He was hauling logs from a timber job in the woods and had just finished loading his sled with logs when a chopper near by cut a tree down. Young DeLong saw the tree was falling in such a way that it would fall on him and his team. He spoke sharply to the spirited horses and they sprang forward and he ran. He got entirely out of the way of the limbs of the tree, but the horses had such a close call that a part of their harness was stripped off. The young man says it was the closest call he ever had from being killed or badly hurt in the woods.

—A bill introduced by Representative Carter, of Lycoming county, provides for the pay of election officers. It provides that from and after the passage of the act the pay of the judges and inspectors, and of the clerks to each election board, shall be three dollars and fifty cents each at each election so held, for the first two hundred votes polled, and sixty cents for each additional one hundred votes or fraction thereof polled, provided that the provision of the act shall not repeal any special act now in force in any of the counties of this Commonwealth, and shall not apply to any city co-extensive with a county, and shall not alter or effect in any manner the compensation of return judges as fixed by existing laws.

—A. A. Clearwater, of Ridgway, the Republican candidate for Congress in the Twenty eighth district last fall and who was defeated by J. K. P. Hall, of the same place, and then instituted proceedings to contest the election of the Democratic candidate, has dropped the contest. Leading Democratic politicians claim that the proceedings in the contest were instigated at the solicitation of Senator Quay, who sought to secure a certain influence over the Congressman. After the matter had been held in abeyance a few weeks a proposition was made to Congressman Hall that if he would pledge himself in certain ways the proceedings would be dropped. Congressman Hall refused and now the contest has been dropped without it.

—Great preparations are being made for a gala day in Williamsport on Friday, April 28th. It is the seventeenth annual meeting of the Pennsylvania Odd Fellows Anniversary Association, and it promises to eclipse all meetings of a similar kind of the lodges given heretofore. As Williamsport is about the centre of the district, and furnishes excellent railroad facilities to people from all parts of the State, it will result in thousands of guests going to visit the events of the day. The officers of the Grand Lodge will be present and hold a special meeting. Lodges, cantons and encampments from all parts of the State will be largely represented, and the grand parade will be a leading feature. Already many Bellefonte Odd Fellows are arranging to make the trip and this town will likely be numerously represented at Williamsport.