

Ink Sling.

THE TYRONE COW ORDINANCE. Over the hills and winding down, Hard by the site of Tyrone town, A female bovine wended her way Thinking of sport to be had that day. In Tyrone town. Alack! for the ruminative cow, Burgess Pruner, with furrowed brow, Stood out to nip her plans in the bud To read her that councilmanic "thud" No cow, not now.

—Wednesday was a day that made the spring fever contagion particularly virulent. —It will take very trenchant editorials in the Commoner to keep the attention of the masses from the doings of the new Mayor of Cleveland.

—Since CARRIE NATION is wearing out her notoriety as a saloon smasher she might do a glass eating act with some circus sideshow this season.

—Will "Farmer" CREESEY be able to beat his plough-shares into a sword with which to cut down machine rule and rottenness in Pennsylvania?

—The pouring of all that beer into Spring creek might have had something to do with the poor catches of trout on Monday. Perhaps the speckled beauties were too full to bite.

—All this fuss about our new chairman being an honest man would lead the outsider to believe that old DIAGONOSE would have had a hard time of it finding one in the Democratic camp.

—KITCHENER cables from South Africa that he has an army of two hundred and fifty thousand men and forty thousand good horses. He expects to make the Boers fly with this great force and well might be expected to do so, were it not for so many promises of the same thing during the past year.

—The Cubans have declined to accept the alterations to their constitution proposed by the United States and while their course might be wrong in spots it is right on the whole. The Cubans are and of right ought to be free people, to make and enforce their own laws, and work out their destiny under the kindly encouragement and protection of the United States—but exaction and dictation never.

—A mad dog ran amuck among Clearfield residents and dogs a few days ago and now there is a hydrophobic panic in the home of the "boy orator of the Susquehanna." They are sending all the affected canines to dog heaven and the citizens to the Pasteur Institute in Baltimore, as fast as they can be singled out. But the joke of the incident lies in the suddenness with which some of the scrappers over that way have stopped "barking," lest the vigilance committee make a mistake and assign them to the wrong place.

—JOHN A. KASSON, the Iowan who was appointed special reciprocity commissioner of the United States, at a salary of \$10,000 a year, immediately after the passage of the DINGLEY bill, has put himself on record as a most unique office holder. Think of it! He actually declines to take his salary unless he is given something to do. It is something so altogether out of the ordinary in this government, where the rule seems rather to be to take the salary and decline to do the work, that we salam to the unique Mr. KASSON, of Iowa.

—It appears now that Secretary of War ROOT was a little premature in his defense of the officers implicated in the commissary scandal at Manila. Recent uncoverings have shown ample grounds for the published stories of great frauds in the supply department of the army, but the Secretary's order to "investigate thoroughly" will hardly cause anyone of the culprits alarm, since MACARTHUR is in such complete control at Manila that he will do largely as he pleases and he can hardly be expected to please to find any great frauds in his own work.

—The reverend gentleman who has so boldly struck out into a new field by advising women not to spend all of their time preparing big dinners when they are entertaining ministers on special occasions had better surround himself with every safe-guard when he attends that convention at Milesburg next Tuesday. Ministers, as a rule, have been so accustomed to expecting to be feted that if any of the good house wives of Milesburg act upon the sensible advice of the little missionary he will more than likely get the ax where the rest of the black coated visitors had expected the Milesburg chickens to get it.

—The statement of JOSEPH S. HARRIS, former president of the Reading R. R. Co. before the Industrial Commission, on Tuesday, to the effect that the price of anthracite coal will never be reduced and that the supply will be practically exhausted in thirty years, is interesting for several reasons. Mr. HARRIS is probably as well acquainted with the facts as any man living and his statement naturally gives rise to a conjecture as to what kind of fuel will be adopted as a substitute for anthracite. Of course there are the seemingly inexhaustible bituminous coal beds to draw upon, but there are many uses to which anthracite is put that the softer coal would not make a satisfactory substitute for. Let us look on the optimistic side of it, however, and rest assured that the ingenuity of man, coupled with nature's resources, will carry us across the bridge when we come to it.

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Boodling the Cubans.

The authorities at Washington are obviously using the same methods on the delegates in the Cuban constitutional convention that the Pennsylvania machine employs to influence results in the Legislature. For example, on Saturday April 6th the question of accepting the PLATT amendments to the army appropriation bill as a condition precedent to the evacuation of the Island by the American troops was voted on and the resolution defeated by the overwhelming vote of twenty-four to two. But it was at once announced in Washington that the vote was not final and for that matter didn't mean anything, which appears to have been true. In any event another vote was taken last Saturday, which resulted in the defeat of the resolution by a vote of eighteen to ten.

The loss of six votes on the affirmative side and the gain of eight on the other can be accounted for in only one way. The lobby has been getting its work in with wonderful, if not admirable success. The majority against the resolution is still large but the hoodlers have not lost heart. On the contrary they are still as confident as ever, for almost simultaneously with the announcement of the result came from Washington a renewal of the assurance that the vote is not final, but on the contrary the PLATT amendments are certain to be accepted in the end. The plain inference is that the proselyting is to be continued until the result is achieved, and the anxiety of the Cubans to get rid of the intruders coupled with the necessities of some of the members of the convention are relied on to work the change.

So manifest a betrayal of faith and sacrifice of honor has probably never been known among nations before. In the first place the pledge was unequivocal and emphatic. It declared that there would be no attempt to exercise sovereignty or control, and that as soon as the people of the Island had organized a government that was stable of their own, the American troops would be withdrawn. But in contravention of that sacred obligation the American soldiery was made to exercise surveillance over the voting for the election of delegates to the constitutional convention and the officers at Havana began dictating to the delegates the moment they assembled for the performance of their duty. The outrages were supplemented finally by an assertion of both sovereignty and control as expressed in the PLATT amendments and now the delegates are being debauched in order to procure their acceptance. Was ever a greater shame committed?

Cameron for Governor.

The boom of ex-Senator CAMERON for Governor, which in the beginning was regarded as a pleasantry, is beginning to assume serious proportions. Various reasons have contributed to this result but it may be said that the dominant cause is the abuses which have been permitted to occur in the Legislature. When Representative COOPER, of Delaware county, said during the course of his speech on one of the Philadelphia "ripper" bills that there is a political revolution due in this State every ten years, and that one failed to come last year only because it was a presidential year, he sowed the seeds of an alarm which is developing into a CAMERON boom.

But it is not easy to see how the impending disaster to the Republican party of the State can be averted by the nomination of JAMES DONALD CAMERON for Governor. What is there in his record to re-assure the people against the evils of machine rule? For nearly twenty years he was the Republican boss of Pennsylvania, but the record of his party during that period is nothing to be proud of. It was a succession of political outrages and official malfeasance. Out of it came "addition, division and silence." From it grew QUAYISM and the enormities of the municipal rings in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh. The multiplication of offices and the debauched public service is the spawn of his domination.

The remedy which alone can cure the political maladies is the revolution of which Representative COOPER stands in fear. The restoration of the conditions which drove JOHN STEWART into revolt in 1882, cannot be expected to accomplish a different purpose now. The resumption of the practices against which the late CHARLES S. WOLFE protested will hardly work as a healing salve for the political sores of to-day. But that is the best that Mr. COOPER and his colleagues in the movement to reform the Republican party have to offer. The people ask for bread and they are given a stone. Probably they will be satisfied with the tender, but if they are they are too credulous to be at large.

—The man who looks for the most of the best thing that he can get for his money will certainly appreciate this issue of the WATCHMAN. It contains a full page more of reading matter than any other paper in the county. The WATCHMAN never sacrifices its reading matter for the sake of advertising, it more than makes up for such extra demands on its columns.

The Matter of Forests.

The Philadelphia Inquirer, which enjoys the exclusive distinction or infamy of being the only out-and-out machine organ in Philadelphia, contrasted the policies of New York and Pennsylvania with respect to forest reservation and preservation. "The State of New York," our esteemed contemporary remarks, "now owns fifty-six thousand acres of forest lands in the Catskill Mountains. Her possessions in the Adirondacks attain the enormous total of 946,888 acres." This showing the Inquirer praises as admirable and adds that Pennsylvania has held before the eyes of the General Assembly, but with no result than a grudging consent to purchase here and there small lots of abandoned lands, which having been denuded of timber and worthless for any thing else were allowed to go to sale for taxes. Meantime other States have been husbanding their resources with the result referred to in New York and similar consequences elsewhere. In New Jersey, we were informed by the public prints the other day, arrangements have been completed to acquire a vast tract of timber land for the purpose of systematically cultivating forests. But Pennsylvania does nothing in a respectable way along that line and our water supply is threatened constantly.

But why didn't the Inquirer proceed to tell us what it knows about the reasons for these differences in the policies of the two States. It is not an obscure question but so plain that "he who runs may read." Nearly one-fourth of the Representatives and altogether that proportion of the Senators in the Legislature are machine appointed ignoramuses who reside in Philadelphia and Allegheny county, most of whom, would be unable to tell the difference between a forest and a swamp. These misrepresentatives of the wealth, patriotism and charity of the people of Pennsylvania are more intent on selling their votes for jobs of one kind or another than anything else and they turn a deaf ear to appeals for such patriotic and humanitarian projects as reclaiming forests and restoring timber, because there is nobody sufficiently interested personally in such projects to pay them for their votes for legislation promotive of such splendid enterprises.

All Pledges Broken.

Signs of the final adjournment of the Legislature are beginning to appear, and they put people to thinking. The result is the wonder what has been done by the present body in return for the vast sum which the session will cost. Nearly four months have elapsed since the organization on the first day of January. To be exact three months and nineteen days have gone since the Legislature assembled. And what has been accomplished in that time? Two or three "ripper" bills have been passed and nothing more.

When the session began the people were assured that a ballot reform bill would be enacted. Senator QUAY had declared on the stump before the election that he would support any measure looking to the perfection of the electoral system which the Democratic organization would suggest. After the election he renewed that pledge at a meeting of the Pittsburg chamber of commerce. But the Democratic organization suggested a bill many weeks ago and still Senator QUAY has not given the signal to pass it. Does he imagine the people are fools?

But that is not the only delinquency of the present Legislature. It promised a new capitol building bill laid on honest lines and which all men could support and approve. And how has this obligation been discharged? Soon after the opening of the session a measure which would have made the stealing of four million dollars possible was introduced and pressed for several weeks. Finally it was changed so as to limit the robbery to a couple or three millions and it is the obvious purpose to pass that or leave the building unfinished.

We were promised tax bills which would equalize the burdens of government, and other measures which would mitigate palpable evils of one kind or another. But such promises have not been fulfilled in any particular. Every pledge has been broken and now the preparations for final adjournment are being made, probably in order that popular indignation may not have the opportunity to assert itself. But the people can be thankful if no more harm is done. The presence of the Legislature is a menace, however, and while it is in session no man or no interest can feel safe.

—Subscribe for the WATCHMAN.

The New State Chairman.

The Democratic State Central committee earned popular respect by its action in the meeting held at Harrisburg on Wednesday. It might have chosen for the chairman, an office of vast importance, a man more gifted in oratory or one more familiar with the devious ways of metropolitan politics, but it couldn't have selected a more honest man, or one more faithful to the principles of Democracy. The committee might have found somewhere within the borders of this State a man of larger experience in political intrigue, but there is not one who would engage in the labors of the campaign with a heart more single to the interests of the party and the people.

Before the event the WATCHMAN expressed the conviction that the dominant need of the day was a chairman of the State Committee whose reputation for personal and political integrity is in itself a guarantee of fidelity to duty. That has been done most effectually and beyond the shadow of a doubt. During a continuous service through four sessions of the Legislature the finger of suspicion has never been pointed in his direction. There was a time when such a record would have caused no comment. But during the period of Mr. CREESEY'S service boodling has been as common as acorns on a carrion, and the man who comes through it untainted is like metal that has been put through the furnace.

Now that the committee has so wisely chosen its chairman, however, it will not do to abate an iota either in good work or energy. If the committee is to be efficient it must be active, constant and tireless. There is a promise in the earnestness and enthusiasm of the meeting on Wednesday that these conditions will be met, and if that promise is not betrayed the political revolution which Representative COOPER declared the other day was averted last year only because of the presidential election will not be delayed much longer on any account. Moreover, if the party is as wise in making nominations as the committee was in selecting an chairman the next victory will be enduring.

Take Them at Their Word.

The capitol building bill introduced into the Legislature by Representative PALM, of Crawford county, has been reported by the house committee on public buildings with a negative recommendation. That action can be construed by the public in no other way than as notice that the Representatives who compose that committee do not want a capitol building at all unless it is authorized on conditions which will involve the robbery of the people. The PALM bill appropriated \$3,000,000 for the construction of the building. This is half a million more than is necessary. But it provided for a building commission of such a character as conveyed assurance that every penny would be accounted for.

What the hoodlers in the Legislature want is a bill that will appropriate \$5,000,000 upwards and put the money in the hands of a group of corrupt politicians who will divide half of it among themselves and their dependents. That would be no less a crime than breaking into one of the banks of Bellefonte and rifling the vaults and their contents. It would be simply legalizing an atrocious robbery, the more odious because those guilty of the crime have been entrusted by the people with the custody of their money and have betrayed the trust. It will mean an inferior building at an exorbitant cost and the enrichment of the robbers charged with the disbursement of the fund.

The thing for the Legislature to do is to take the hoodlers at their word and make no appropriation. The people of Pennsylvania are ashamed of the monstrosity which is at present serving the purpose of a capitol building. But they would better bear the humiliation that involves than take upon themselves the shame of voting the people's money to enrich thieves and plunderers. These are the alternatives which are before the Senators and Representatives in the Legislature. If they yield to the plunderers, they become accessories to the crime, and the people should hold each of them individually responsible for their share in it. Will the Representatives of this county take the responsibility which is on them?

—Now that council has begun the work of putting in much needed crossings it is to be hoped that some one has good sense enough to see to it that they are uniform in width and construction. The crazy patch work of new crossings that council has to own at present is enough to bar it from all claims to either economy or desire to improve. The trouble in Bellefonte seems to be that everything in public works should be done on the make-shift plan, but the cost is always fully up to what a permanent and creditable improvement would be.

—Get a few new subscribers to the WATCHMAN, at \$1.00 per year, and go to the great exposition at Buffalo this summer for nothing.

Extent of the Conspiracy.

It turns out that there has been quite as much land grabbing in the anthracite as in the bituminous coal regions, and that if the coterie of plunderers had not been discovered in time, millions of dollars worth of state property would have been stolen. In the anthracite region the work of removing the coal had already begun and the greatest vigilance and energy on the part of the authorities will be required to prevent the consummation of the steal. In the bituminous district it had not gone quite so far.

It is a trifle curious that no attempt has been made to get at the bottom of this well laid conspiracy to rob the State. During the last administration of Governor PATTON an effort was made to obtain title to the lands in question by clandestine processes. But the vigilance and integrity of Assistant Attorney General STRANAHAN prevented the robbery. The record of that proceeding is still in both offices concerned in the affair. The archives of the Department of Internal Affairs and those of the Attorney General alike afford evidence of the attempted fraud.

But that fact didn't prevent the present Secretary of Internal Affairs from issuing the warrant or induce the present Attorney General to prevent the robbery. Both winked at a transaction which involved a vast loss to the treasury and it may be presumed for the reason that the political friends of both were in for the profits of the transaction. But the people will now have a chance to call them to account. The evidences of venality are overwhelming and if they tamely submit to the wrong they are unworthy of the trust which has been reposed in them, namely of taking care of the interest of posterity.

What Trusts May Be Expected to Accomplish Here.

From the Pittsburg Post. In Germany and the United States the trust principle in business and industry prevails to a greater extent than in any other countries of the world. We know how it is in the United States, but it is well to recall what has been done in the trust line in Germany. Two years ago our consul general at Berlin reported that "every chimney is smoking and every wheel is turning," and explaining the causes as he saw them of such industrial prosperity he declared in this official report to the State Department: "The 300 trusts and syndicates which were in existence in Germany at the beginning of 1899 are increasing in number day by day until there is scarcely a single important product of manufacture of which the output, price and conditions of sale are not governed by a combination or understanding between producers."

The belief was general that these trusts and syndicates were establishing permanent relations in German industry, and everybody looked bright for the future. It was promised there would be no periods of overproduction, panic and depression, and that the trusts embodied a panacea for industrial depression. How is it now? The United States is fairly booming on the high tide of prosperity, but Germany is in the slough of despond. The breakdown which commenced at the beginning of 1899 and was an aggravated form. The Berliner Tageblatt of last week describes industrial conditions as so bad that charitable efforts are powerless to cope with the situation. Cases of reduced production and dismissals of working people are so numerous as no longer to attract notice. It is safe to say, says an Associated Press dispatch from Berlin, that 25 per cent of the working people are either idle or insufficiently employed; prices in many industries are so depressed that there is difficulty in meeting the bare costs of operation; "many factories have closed, and in others the hours of labor have been reduced, while workers crowd to the gates of the factories seeking employment." Another dispatch from the same source says that the great Krupp iron and steel works have already dismissed 4,000 employees, and are about to discharge 5,000 more, and it is added: "The industrial depression continues. According to a recent estimate, one-fourth of the workers in Berlin are very insufficiently employed or totally idle. The distress of many is acute. There is no prospect of improvement."

Yet two years ago it was the German boast that the industrial combinations were the salvation of business, and a guard against industrial depression. It appears in reality that they have stimulated matters to the overproduction point, with results that recall what happened in the United States in 1873 and 1893. We do not believe these great combinations in manufactures and business can produce permanent conditions of prosperity and solid industrial growth in any country. They antagonize the fundamental principles, throw conservatism to the winds and seek by combination and extortion to fitch dividends on vast volumes of securities in which there is more wind and water than reality. Germany's two last years prove it.

This Ought to be a Democratic Year.

From the Sills Grove Times. This will be a Democratic year in Pennsylvania. The scandals connected with the present State administration will drive thousands of independent voters to the support of the Democratic ticket in all the counties of the commonwealth. Considering all these facts it behoves the Democrats to nominate the best men in the party for the various offices to be filled. Put none but honest men who can command the respect of the best people on the ticket, men who are above every and all suspicion.

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Spawls from the Keystone.

—Business is booming in Saxton, Bedford county, since the "blowing in" of the furnace at that place. About eighteen houses will be erected this summer.

—The tenth annual reunion of company F, Eighth regiment, Pennsylvania Reserve volunteer corps will be held at Hopewell, Bedford county, Tuesday afternoon, April 23rd.

—The residence of Rev. William Stoner, a Dunkard minister, at Laurel Hill, Westmoreland county, was destroyed by fire Friday afternoon, causing a loss of \$1,200 without any insurance.

—While at Barnesboro last week in attendance at the miners' celebration, James McGuire, of Carrolltown, had his arm broken. He was having a friendly tussle with a companion and fell over a porch.

—Mrs. Homer Southards, of near Osceola, committed suicide Thursday morning by shooting herself with a gun. Her husband was at the barn at the time. The woman was despondent owing to ill health. She was 25 years old and leaves a husband and child.

—We learn that this is the last year the Osceola tannery will be operated by the present owners. They are said to be already moving the surplus stock to Olean, N. Y. The citizens of Osceola do not want to lose the plant, and are talking of purchasing the same and keeping it in operation.

—John McCormick, an inmate of the Westmoreland county home, was trampled to death at Greensburg, Saturday afternoon, in the stables in the rear of the hotel McCormick was intoxicated and fell beneath the feet of a spirited mare. Before he could be rescued the animal had inflicted fatal injuries.

—A big sensation was caused at Jersey Shore Monday when Charles Wasson a prominent and wealthy merchant of that place, was arrested on the oath of David Renninger charging him with attempted assault. Wasson claims that it is an attempt at blackmail and that he visited the Renninger residence to collect a bill.

—After riding a 300 gear wheel, which had been on exhibition in Williamsport, Peter Leonard walked into Kaufman's bicycle store Monday evening and a moment later dropped dead. Death was due to heart failure caused by overexertion. Leonard was a deaf mute, aged 35. The gear of his wheel is said to be the highest in the world.

—Hon. George R. McCrea expired at his home in Renovo, Saturday morning, after a long illness. Mr. McCrea was one of the most prominent men in Clinton county, having held several county offices. He was a member of a large number of fraternal organizations and a thirty-three degree Mason. He was aged 52 years and was born in Hollidaysburg.

—Harry A. Garland, aged 21 years, who lives about two and a half miles above Cone-mang, met with a painful and peculiar accident Sunday while at work at the Hinckton run dam. Garland was engaged in chopping a tree with an ax when the implement slipped and cut a horrible gash in Garland's foot. The sharp ax struck the second toe of the left foot and split it, cleaving his foot as far as the instep.

—Cards have been issued for the marriage of William H. Miller, of Meyersdale, Somerset county, and Helen Harris, of Everett, Bedford county, Tuesday, May 14th. Mr. Miller is known at his home as the hero of San Juan hill. He was in the famous charge up that hill and received a bad wound. He is the soldier whom Lieutenant Ord ordered to shoot a wounded Spanish officer, who a moment later, killed Lieutenant Ord. Miller then drew his revolver and killed the Spaniard.

—The Twenty-eighth volunteer regiment arrived at San Francisco from the Philippines Sunday evening. Capt. Edgar S. Stayer, telegraphed Monday to his father, Major A. S. Stayer, at Altoona saying his regiment will be mustered out at San Francisco, and as soon as this is done and the affairs of the regiment settled up, Captain Stayer and his comrades will be home. They will probably arrive about May 10th. The Twenty-eighth is a Pennsylvania regiment and contains a number of Blair county boys besides Captain Stayer.

—T. H. Coleman, of Clearfield, was bitten by a mad dog on Friday. The dog, which belonged to Mr. Coleman, also bit several children and numerous dogs before it was killed. The carcass was packed in ice and expressed to Professor N. G. Keirles, Pasteur Institute, Baltimore, for examination. Word has been received from there that the dog was mad, and to hurry all patients to Baltimore. Mr. Coleman has left for that place, and will probably be followed by others who were bitten. The town council will hold a meeting to take action in the matter, and it is likely that there will be a wholesale slaughter of dogs.

—Two years ago the Legislature passed an act regarding loose stones on the public highway which does not seem to be altogether familiar to township supervisors and road commissioners. It directs these officials on the first Monday of April each year to make a contract with one or more taxpayers to remove and take away loose stones from the main traveling highways at least once each month during April, May, June, July, August, September and October of each year. It is also provided that the compensation to be made to the persons employed shall be credited to the road tax assessed against them. In many parts of the State this act has so far been given no attention, but it is one of considerable importance to the townships.

—Alderman Donahue, of Wilkesbarre, has invented a new scheme to reduce the number of petty cases instituted. The invention will be associated with his scheme for terrorizing wife beaters—that of personal chastisement. A few evenings ago two young men appeared before him. One said the other slapped him and the latter said the former struck him first. The case was of the most trivial nature. The alderman fined the prosecutor and defendant \$3.25 each. He made the prosecutor pay the defendant's fine and the prosecutor's fine was paid by the defendant. He placed each under \$300 bail to keep the peace for one year, and made each go the other's bail so if the two quarrel again each will have to forfeit \$300 bail. He then made each take an oath to be friends and not to quarrel, and then dismissed them.