

Ink Slings.

I'd rather be a cake of ice,
Away up at the pole,
Or be a poor Hawaiian
And be boss'd around by Dole;

—It is not strange that there was so much blow about Buffalo on Monday. ROOSEVELT was there in all his glory and gush.

—The population of Ireland has decreased 5.3 per cent. during the last decade, but the falling off is easily accounted for when the increase in the New York police force during the same period is noted.

—GROVER CLEVELAND's household is quarantined on account of the diphtheria and the Hon. GROVER is penned up inside. Wouldn't this be a fine time for DAVE HILL to reorganize the Democratic party, though?

—Our Presbyterian friends who have so lately discovered such a supply of sin in Philadelphia on Sunday, might find an excess of the same article on week days, if they would scratch out the cracks and corners carefully.

—Now that Philadelphia is rid of its extravagant public building commission possibly that city will be able to help herself a little in the vital matter of making the Delaware deep enough to accommodate the larger vessels that cannot enter that port.

—Even in the face of the fact that the State Treasurer reports a surplus in the treasury, people wonder why the Legislature does not adjourn. And the same people boast of their intelligence and imagine they understand the motives that move men.

—Failing in other reforms the failure of the Legislature to provide a way for the payment of old Legislative expenses, gives hope that we will have at least a little junk reform, out of the long session at Harrisburg. For this much we should be truly thankful.

—England now has 249,000 soldiers in South Africa. Already 14,978 have died and 17,309 have been wounded and the trouble is not over yet. Verily, OOM PAUL spoke the truth when he said: "We may be conquered, but if so it will be at a cost that will stagger humanity."

—It's a pull between the regular and the JEFFERSONIAN Democrats of Philadelphia, as to which shall be allowed to furnish chairman CREESE with headquarters for his organization. Mr. CREESE would doubtless vastly prefer that each of these, so-called, Democratic bodies would get to pulling to see which can furnish the party nominees the greatest number of votes.

—ANDREW CARNEGIE's latest gift is an amazing example of that remarkable man's generosity. He has given \$11,000,000 to pay the expenses of deserving Scottish students at the leading Universities of Scotland. It is wonderful, and at last people should begin to regard, seriously, Mr. CARNEGIE's oft-expressed intention of dying poor.

—Minister CONGER is evidently going to have trouble making himself the candidate of the Republicans of Iowa for Governor. He didn't "fight, bleed and die" realistically enough in the siege of Pekin to stampede the Republicans of his native State to him, and it is beginning to look as if the President will find himself the embarrassed owner of a white elephant.

—After ALGIE CROOK's announcement that he had never been kissed it was too much for Dr. Clark, of the Chicago University, to advise young men not to marry College bred girls. The Doctor and ALGIE are evidently friends of the closest kind, for it is quite apparent that he is trying to get even with the ladies for having permitted ALGIE to grow into all these years without having known the bliss of a kiss.

—GEORGE WASHINGTON declined to accept a third term of the Presidency because he believed it was not for the best interests of the country for one man to serve so long a time. Would WILLIAM MCKINLEY decline a third term? We apologize for asking such an unfair question. Unfair because MCKINLEY is so much (?) greater a man than WASHINGTON that he knows his country (?) needs him as long as he can stay.

—General BATES is home from the Philippines and is being kept as busy as a man with the itch trying to explain the treaty he made with the Sultan of the Sulu Islands. The General declares that the Sultan promised not to cut any of our throats when we go over there and he was tickled so much with our flag that he run it up over his harem at once. Of course there is very little wind on the island of Jolo, where the Sultan lives, and the General had to agree to raise \$12,000 worth through the United States treasury and send it over every year to keep the flag flying.

—The race question is becoming more serious with each succeeding day. The North is just beginning to have a real taste of what the South has had to endure for years, and from the reports constantly coming in from all parts of the State the dose is not being relished at all in Pennsylvania. There is no real reason why whites and blacks should not live happily together. The trouble seems to be that the latter do not appreciate the fact that they are a dependent people and as long as such conditions exist they must be content in the privileges given them by the whites.

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No Excuse For This Appropriation.

Philadelphia is to the front again, at Harrisburg, asking that out of the treasury of the State \$200,000 be taken and expended in shoveling the mud out of the Delaware river. This for the sole benefit of the people of that city and its shipping and business interests.

If the farmers of the country were to ask that Philadelphia people should be taxed to make the country roads so that the products of the farm could be cheaply marketed, or if the country merchant should demand that the State should be at the expense of providing him high-ways and by-ways that would enable him to compete with those more favorably located, they would only be asking for themselves what Philadelphia business men, have the effrontery, to request when they are begging the State to make the Delaware navigable for them.

If it is either the duty, or the right of the State, to help Philadelphia by assisting it to provide facilities for increasing its business it would have the same right, and be under the same obligations, to aid every other business locality in the Commonwealth in the same way. Begin this business once and where in the name of common sense would the end be?

When, however, we come to remember that within the past dozen years, Philadelphia business men have contributed over two millions of dollars to debase voters in the interest of Republican candidates, it is difficult to understand why that city should come begging for a few hundred thousand dollars, to open it a navigable outlet to the sea. It is equally difficult for the average citizen to convince himself that a city that can raise the amount of money Philadelphia annually does for the benefit of ward-healers, repeaters, bribers, and ballot box-stuffers, deserves or should receive either support or assistance from outsiders.

It is true that the Delaware river needs shoveling out. It is also true that the business interests of that city would receive much more benefit from having it put in condition, than ordinary vessels could navigate it, than from the success of the Republican party. But its business men can't see it in that light. They go on dumping their money into the Republican campaign treasury, and then have the gall to ask that the people of the State be taxed and robbed to do what they are amply able and should do for themselves.

A city that can raise \$600,000 in five hours to satisfy MARK HANNA's political demands, as Philadelphia boasts of having done only one year ago, surely has little reason to ask financial assistance from the public when its high-ways become clogged with filth, and its commerce goes into a decline, because of a lack of enterprise or liberality on the part of its own people.

Unjust to the People.

On Monday evening, by a strictly partisan vote, the House of Representatives at Harrisburg committed to the Committee on Rules a resolution to fix a date for final adjournment of the Legislature. The resolution named June 1st as the day for dissolution, and in view of the present backward state of the business it was clear that adjournment on that day is out of the question. But Mr. CREESE offered to move an amendment fixing June 14th, or to permit any Republican to name any day that the leaders of that party would agree on. The majority preferred to leave the matter to the determination of the future, however, and referred the resolution for burial in the committee.

For more than three weeks the Legislature has been dragging along without doing anything of public interest or advantage. The time is being spent in the discussion of trifling measures of limited interest. In the Senate absolutely nothing has been done within that time. The body has been in session one or two days a week for from thirty minutes to an hour each sitting and the House might as well not have been in session at all. It is not that there isn't something to do. In the Senate committee, on elections, the VAN DYKE primary election bill is quietly reposing and there are important bills in the other committees. But they are not brought out for consideration and there is therefore nothing to do.

Every day's session of the Legislature costs the people from \$2,000 to \$2,500. If any good was being accomplished the expense would be no just subject of complaint. But holding the Legislature in session at such an expense to the State in order to achieve some hidden political purpose is an injustice and outrage which ought to be resented. The people are not so prosperous that they can take on new and needless burdens to subserve the selfish ends of machine politicians. Money thus taken from the earnings of the people deprive the children of the commonwealth of necessities, educational or otherwise. Men who tamely submit to such robbery of their families are unjust to themselves.

—Subscribe for the WATCHMAN.

Bumptious Mr. Beveridge.

Senator BEVERIDGE, of Indiana, announces that he is going to Europe to study commercial conditions there. We are not getting enough of the trade of Europe, this bumptious Hoosier thinks, and he is going over for a few days just to put the commercial interests over there right.

That reminds us of an incident in the life of the late General JOHN A. LOGAN. "Black Jack," as he was called was a man of considerable ability and unquestionable force. But nobody else put quite as high an estimate on his capabilities as he did himself. In fact he earnestly believed that no question was too complicated for him to master in a moment, and however involved a problem might be he would undertake to solve it at sight.

It will be remembered that along about 1870 the greenback theory ran over the country "like fire in an August clearing," as Colonel MCLURE would put it. It was a rather abstruse question and puzzled the ablest minds in the country. In Congress and out, it was debated incessantly and on the hustings it was the theme of which spell-binders never wearied. Such intellectual giants as BECK, of Kentucky; THURMAN and PENDELTON, of Ohio; CONKLING, of New York, and BLAINE, of Maine, confessed that it staggered them. SUMNER, of Massachusetts, and ESSENDEN, of Connecticut, "shied" off from it and in fact the ablest minds of the country were puzzled. Imagine the surprise of all, one day, when General LOGAN arose in his place and announced that he was ready to settle the question "finally and forever." He had studied the subject overnight, he declared, and mastered it. Thereupon he began a speech which lasted two or three days and nobody ever could find out what it meant.

Since that experience there has been nobody in the Senate quite as bumptious until young Mr. BEVERIDGE, of Indiana, reached that august body a couple of years ago. In fact before he got there at all, the country had acquired some knowledge of him. As soon as his election was secured he announced that he was going to the Philippines to see what was the matter there and settle everything. He did go and nearly got lost in the mountains. But unfortunately somebody found him and in due course of time he returned and with a flourish of oratorical trumpets gave his experience in a speech in the Senate which was not unlike that of LOGAN's on the greenback question. His self appointed mission to Europe will probably be fulfilled in the same way.

Speaker Marshall's Characteristics.

When WILLIAM T. MARSHALL was canvassing the Members-elect of the Legislature for the office of Speaker, a contemporary observed that, better than any other of the eligibles for the place, he would serve the purposes of QUAY. Stolid, courageous, without conscience and with no guide to his actions other than the exigencies of politics, he was pre-eminently the man that QUAY needed in the chair and he has served him to the full limit of his ability. No rules serve to restrain him when political necessities point the way. No law holds him in check when party requirements urge him on. He is essentially of the machine and obedient to the mandates of the bosses.

In the history of the Pennsylvania legislature no man has occupied the Speaker's chair who was constituted like WILLIAM T. MARSHALL. Slow in mental operations, absolutely indifferent to public opinion and entirely reckless of consequences to himself or anybody else, he has ridden rough-shod over the rights of the members as he has trodden under foot the traditions of the body, and held in contempt his obligations to the constitution and the law. Destitute of personal pride he pays no attention to consistency and will reverse himself as readily as he encourages the falsification of the records of a roll call. There is nothing sacred to such a man except party success.

It is a misfortune that such men, can through subservience to party bosses, impose themselves on the public in important places. It indicates degenerate public morals. If there were less disregard of the proprieties such individuals would be condemned to universal popular execration instead of being elevated to important offices. If character, ability or fitness should be made the guide in the selection of men for positions of honor and importance, such men as MARSHALL would never be regarded as a possibility in that connection. The reputation he made two years ago as Chairman of the Committee on Appropriations should have condemned him to obscurity rather than commended him for Speaker.

—The Philadelphia ring is seriously contemplating the proposition to offer Speaker MARSHALL and his clerks permanent salaries to reside in Philadelphia. Their ability as counters on election day would be a great thing for the gang, and would largely make up for the loss occasioned by the forced absence of the Hon. SAMUEL SALTEB.

Apology or Prosecution, Which?

The Philadelphia Press is unjust to itself and unfair to its contemporaries throughout the State and country in resting upon the charge of licentiousness put upon it by Governor STONE and Supreme Court Judge POTTER. The Press charged that Justice POTTER who was Governor STONE's law partner, until less than a year ago, when he was appointed to the bench by Governor STONE, gave his late partner and benefactor advance information as to the action of the court on a pending question. The Governor promptly and emphatically denied the accusation and was supported in that course by the Justice who also denied it in unqualified terms.

If a public newspaper makes an accusation which affects the reputation of a citizen for honor or integrity and the accusation is denied it is the obvious duty of the paper to prove the charge or apologize to the person or persons injured, promptly and amply. The Press has done neither of these things. On the contrary it reasserted the charge and endorsed the character of its informant, but didn't reveal the name of the informant. That was an insult to the people of the State and an injury to the Governor and his former law-partner, the Justice of the Supreme court. Men in their position have a right to be believed unless they are proved to be falsifiers.

The Governor and Justice are careless of their reputations it is true, in failing to bring the newspaper to account for libeling them. It will be remembered that while Governor PATTISON occupied the Executive chamber at Harrisburg a Philadelphia paper libeled him. His reputation was much better able to withstand such an attack than Governor STONE's. But he wasn't willing to take the risk of impairing it by remaining silent under an unjust accusation. He brought suit and compelled the licentious journal to make reparation for its criminal libel. Unless Governor STONE is guilty of the charge he should pursue the same course.

—We don't know why people and papers should worry themselves so about the failure of the Legislature to adjourn. If a QUAY law-making machine is a good thing to have, the longer it lasts the longer we have the opportunity of enjoying its benefits and blessings. And the people seem to think it is a "good thing." At least they elected it and we sincerely hope they will get full to the bursting point, of just what they are getting, before it quits and goes home.

The Machinists' Strike.

Seldom in the history of the world has there been as complete and at the same time as peaceful a revolution as that which is represented in the strike of the machinists which began on Monday. On the day set for the beginning of the movement 50,000 workmen went out and nearly half that many were retained at their work by the assent of their employers to their demands. It was estimated in the outset that there are in the neighborhood of 100,000 machinists in the organization, so that with half the whole number out and with half of the remainder satisfied, it may be said that the movement was a success.

The mechanics of the country have not had a just share of the fruits of the improved business conditions. They are told by the newspapers, and other agencies for disseminating information, that the country is in the enjoyment of a phenomenal season of prosperity. They are able to see an increased industrial activity and understand the values of corporate property, at least, to have greatly multiplied. Their expenses of living have also increased perceptibly but there has been no enhancement to their wage accounts. This has planted the seeds of discontent, but the result of the strike shows that it has not inflamed their passions.

It is safe to predict that the machinists will achieve their purpose and it may be added that they deserve success. It is not alone that they are intelligent, industrious and well meaning citizens, but they are the wealth producers of the country, and have a right to a more generous share of the fruits of their labor than they have been receiving. Moreover they have set an example to other workmen which promises well for the country. They have shown that a labor movement which keeps within the law has an infinitely better chance of winning than one which is attended by violence and lawlessness.

—The strike of the National Association of Machinists for a nine hour day at the same pay they have been receiving for ten hours is on in earnest and the strikers will probably win because so many firms acceded to their demands before the men went out. While the grind on labor, skilled and common, cannot fairly be considered more exhausting than it is, perhaps, on their employers, it does seem that there ought to be more in life for all classes than work all day, every day but Sunday, sleep all night and eat a little between times. Of course labor can produce far more in nine hours, and to-day than it could in ten a decade ago, but prices for the finished product have fallen at a corresponding rate.

The Canteen Question.

From an unknown Exchange. When Congress abolished the regimental canteen it was supposed to have acted in the interest of the soldier. But there are protests, sporadic, yet constant, from all sides and every quarter to the effect that temperance in the army has received its death-blow. Dr. Parkhurst, of New York, in company with certain other gentlemen, recently visited the government post at Chicago in order to learn for themselves as to the results of the new law. If the published reports are true, they were not only disappointed in their mission, but also received in a manner not calculated to increase one's respect for army officials. Instead of investigating the post, they seem to have been investigated themselves and given to understand that the matter was not within the radius of their personal concern.

The regular army officer usually attaches an undue importance to his position. To question his judgement he regards as an impeachment of what he calls his honor. Honor is something that does not belong to position or profession. If the country has any doubt as to this, the recent investigation at West Point must have settled it for all time to come. Shoulder straps do not indicate character. The wearer may be a gentleman, then, again, he may be just the opposite. Army officers are divided into two opinions of the canteen—conscientious so, perhaps, but they are divided. Some argue it is better than the old sutler system of the Civil War, which is doubtless true. But the question is not between the canteen and the sutler; it lies between the canteen and nothing.

Theoretically the army canteen would seem to be the lesser of two evils, but practically the result is questionable. The theory is that the sale of beer is to be regulated by the officers, and every officer is anxious for the good order and discipline of his men. Chaplain Nave, one of the most widely experienced chaplains in the service, says that he favored the experiment thirteen years ago, but after the most thorough trial, he regards it as a pest and a sin. During the entire thirteen years he never saw a canteen regulated by the post commander. He declares that the drunkenness, disorder and debauchery of the ordinary canteen would not be allowed in an Eastern city for a single hour. He further says that "army officers, according to my observation—and I served with ten remaining at canteens to regulate the conduct of, and the quantity of beer given to soldiers. A man intolerant of the rows of drinking men, who with a strong hand should restrict sales, would defeat the objects in view: first and foremost, to make money; second, to keep men from going into drinking places. My observation is that the least regulated saloons are army canteens."

This is reasonable. Does any one believe that a glass of beer a day is going to prevent a soldier from going outside and getting drunk? At Fort Niobrara he states that four hundred men consumed from three to four carloads of beer every month. The noise of the saloon could be heard during worship in the chapel nearby, the drunken, howling crowds taking up the hymns and repeating them in their blasphemous derision. The officers might have stopped it, but they didn't, and they won't. The canteen is gone; it may return, but if it does let the world know that it is in the interest of drunkenness and not temperance.

He Was Eligible.

From the Johnstown Democrat. The ladies who are in attendance at the missionary meetings in connection with the Presbyterian General Assembly, in Philadelphia this week, visited Girard College and they could not take their husbands along owing to a peculiar provision in the will of the founder of that institution, who stipulated that no minister of the Gospel of any denomination should ever be permitted to marry in the gates. Which recalls the case of Morrow B. Lowry, State Senator from Erie from 1862 to 1870. He desired to visit the college and approached the entrance in white necktie, long tailed coat, spectacles and other clerical attachments. The attendant supposing him to be a minister, told him he could not be admitted. The Senator, somewhat incensed, responded, "What the hell's the reason I can't?" whereupon the gate was swung wide open and the attendant said, "Walk right in, sir; I see you are eligible."

Wearied in the Long Struggle.

From the Boston Herald. Despite the Philadelphia ovation to Quay, this man is apparently in a despondent mood. He is having to labor too hard to maintain his ascendancy for a man on the eve of 70 years. He fought himself into the Senate again, and the shouts of those who had come out to greet him were still in his ears, but the elasticity of temperament necessary for the enjoyment of fighting was apparently in a considerable degree of the past with him. He remembered that one of the most subservient tools he had ever had, in the present Governor of Pennsylvania, had ventured to rebel against him in an important recent instance, and that he had not held the State Legislature together in the hollow of his hand in another. There is a certain weariness in his acknowledgment of the latest tribute paid him, for which those who have kept a close run of the politics of his State do not find it difficult to account.

Just So.

From the Ebensburg Mountaineer Herald. An exchange says that if a newspaper man knew how many knooks he received behind his back he would adopt another calling. The exchange is mistaken. The newspaper man who succeeds expects to be maligned by every law breaker, swindler and hypocrite, every carping critic and every lover of notoriety who is ignored, and in fact by all persons who do not agree with him on public and private matters.

Spawls from the Keystone.

—It took twenty-six bullets to kill a mad dog which raided Plymouth on Tuesday.

—Bodies of the three miners drowned in the Silver Brook mine, Hazleton, were recovered Wednesday.

—The new Lutheran church at Curwensville was dedicated last Sunday. The building is of white stone, and one of the most beautiful churches in that place.

—The Clinton county jail at Lock Haven contains no prisoners now, the last one being discharged last Thursday, so the outlook for criminal business at the next term of court in that county is very slim.

—Arthur Keefer and Charles Smith, each aged about 13 years, have disappeared from the Boys' Industrial Home, and an appeal has been issued to police, conductors and trainmen to apprehend them.

—Rev. Gideon H. Day, known as the father of the Central Pennsylvania Methodist Conference, died at his home in Riverside Thursday morning. He was born in Elliott Mills, Md., 1816, dying on the anniversary of his birth—May 16th.

—Nelson Holcomb, a 14-year-old boy, of Central, Columbia county, shot and killed a 300-pound black bear near his home on Tuesday. The boy fired but one shot from a navy revolver, and is very proud of his success as a nimrod.

—It is said now that the new trolley line connecting Johnstown with Windber will be in operation on June 1st, in which event it will be possible for Somerset people to visit the big coal town without having to drive three miles over a rough road from Paint Creek.

—George Kepple, a carpenter, was crushed to death by a wagon loaded with flour running over him in the Cambria Steel company's yards at Johnstown Friday. A singletree struck him and knocked him down and the wheel passed over his breast. Kepple was born at Blairsville. He leaves a wife and family.

—Charles L. Collison was committed to the county jail at Honesdale, on Tuesday night, for six days, to be fed on bread and water, because he refused to pay a fine of \$4 for working in his garden on Sunday last. Collison is a member of the Seventh Day Adventists church at Charler.

—At the Wallace show in Williamsport Tuesday evening, the copper globe, which is propelled up the spiral incline by Miss French, suddenly swerved and fell off, when about fifteen feet from the ground. Miss French was at first dazed when taken out, and limped to the dressing room. She did not attempt the act again.

—Mrs. Martin Fory, of Carroll township, Perry county, while feeding her chickens Monday evening stooped down to pick up something and in doing so struck her left eye against an upright stick. The injury was so painful that she was taken to town and Dr. Moore extracted a splinter one-half inch long from her eye ball.

—Arthur Cross a farmer, living at Jacksonville, Mercer county, predicted that he would die on Friday on last week. Despite the ridicule of his friends, he clung to his assertion, although he said he could not tell the manner of his death. His prediction came true to the letter, for on the day he said he would die he was instantly killed by a bolt of lightning.

—Walter Walker, book-keeper for J. H. Pihaler, a grocer of Meyersdale, while in the act of filling an electric cigar lighter in the store Thursday evening was seriously burned about the face, head and arms. He had just finished the task and put aside a jar containing gasoline, a few feet away, when the explosion occurred through his trying the sparker. The gasoline in the jar went off.

—The Babcock Lumber company has bought the entire town of Arrow, Somerset county. The purchase includes a new saw mill with a capacity of 70,000 feet of lumber a day, a planing mill, five miles of railroad, two locomotives, ten cars, a large pond for the storage of lumber, 3,000,000 feet of hemlock, cherry and poplar lumber in the yard, 5,000,000 feet in long and 60,000,000 feet of standing lumber, sixty houses, a general store, postoffice, a school house, a church, and a blacksmith shop.

—Ex-sheriff Smith, of Clearfield, had a narrow escape from death Monday night. He was driving from Curwensville and while crossing the track his buggy was struck by a freight train and knocked into smithereens. Frank was dragged along for a hundred feet and received several cuts about the head and face. The horse was also badly hurt. The sheriff says an insurance agent saved his life, as he sold him a \$5,000 accident policy in the Traveller's some time ago, and if he hadn't had that policy, his name would have been "Dennis' sure. It was a very close call.

—Vice President Roosevelt and party passed through Lock Haven Tuesday afternoon on the east bound Buffalo flyer. The Vice President was on his way east from Buffalo. The train stopped only about a minute, which did not give any one the coveted opportunity of shaking the distinguished gentleman by the hand, and as he did not take the trouble to rise from his chair, the small crowd assembled at the station were subjected to a disappointment. The Vice President travelled in a special Pullman car, which was on the rear end of the train. He was the chief guest of honor at the opening of the exposition Monday.

—The portion of Franklin county around the village of Concord, in the Kittittiny mountains, is stirred up over bears. Quite a number of the black variety have lately been seen there. Sam Clouser, the United States mail carrier from New Germantown to Concord, saw two big adult bears cross the road ahead of his team, scaring his horses so that by the time he quieted them the bears were gone. He now has two big dogs with him as body guards. Saturday last Budd and Roscoe Hockenberry, in driving through "The Narrows," had their horses driven frantic by an immense bear jumping across the road just a few paces in front of them. The bear stopped long enough for them to dash past and then ambled off. Henry Hopple saw two, evidently mates, in a field of James Robertson, a mile from Concord, and notified a party of men who are on their trail, but have not yet reported with the bear meat.