

Ink Slings.

—Ugh! We're stabbed. —You didn't do it, did you WILBUR? It reads entirely too cheap for you.

—The Democratic convention at Harrisburg proved that, after all, Democrats have good enough sense to keep the washing of dirty party linen out of the public laundry.

—The life of a mosquito is said to be only twelve hours long but that is about seven hundred and twenty minutes longer than there seems to be any need for their living.

—It all depends on whether you know what you are talking about or not. The fellows who did most of the talking before yesterday's convention are the ones who discovered that they knew least about it.

—If there isn't an end of the talking in the navy pretty soon the public will begin to think that the officers are even more proficient at "shooting off"—in their particular line—than the brave boys behind the guns.

—According to official investigation by the government the corn crop this year will show a decrease of almost a billion bushels from that of 1896. Too bad isn't it, but the rye crop will still do business at the old stand.

—It is beginning to look as if the great steel strike will prove a failure for the men after all. They continue to stand in their own light and as long as there is not perfect union among them they cannot hope to accomplish much.

—The Potter county woman who committed suicide last week by drinking washing fluid, with red and black writing ink as chasers, evidently expected to do a little book keeping herself when St. PETER calls her up to balance their accounts.

—If SAMPTON'S retirement could only be into a state of innocuous desuetude how happy we would all be, for then this tiresome discussion as to whether the man who fought the fight or the man who took long distance observations of it is the real hero of Santiago would end.

—While President SHAFER of the Amalgamated association of steel workers has not been able to effect the general tie up he predicted through the strike of workers in that industry, he has succeeded in getting enough men out to cause the trust more trouble than it can take care of at present.

—Sir THOMAS LIPTON'S second challenger for the America's cup has arrived in American waters and is being trimmed for racing. While we have no desire to throw down the Irish it might as well be understood from the first that Shamrock the second, dare not come first in the great international yacht race.

—The boom for PATTISON, if it should result in his nomination, might give to the country a President to whom no stigma of HANNAISM would attach. The distinguished Pennsylvanian is brainy and brave enough to be President himself and that would mean useful service to the people of the United States.

—RALPH BINGHAM, the boy orator and monologist, came very near running off with eight and one half million dollars at Atlantic City on Monday. It was all done up in a pretty California heiress and RALPH had her within ten minutes of being his when the police went into the "coppin" business and carried the maiden back to her guardian uncle. Talk about M. SANTO'S flying machines! Why they would have been as lead sacks to the boy orator had he gotten to the preacher in Longport before the Atlantic City police caught him.

—The way the tariff suits the people of this country is being most effectively exemplified just now and everyone, rich and poor, is being forced to reach down into his pocket to pay an extra price for potatoes when there is no need for it. In order to make the farmers believe that they were getting something out of the tariff a duty of 25 cents a bushel was placed on every bushel imported into this country. When our crops are large they sell here about the same as the duty rate, so that there is no danger of competition, but this year, when potatoes are a failure and we have none to sell and must go to Ireland to get enough to eat we have to pay an additional 25 cents per bushel, just because we have been laboring under the false impression that the tariff is a good thing to relegate to the rear as a part of our governmental system of economics.

—Our esteemed neighbor, the Republican, devotes two columns of its editorial space in this week's issue to the editor of the WATCHMAN. How pleasant to receive so much free advertising from the official organ of the Republican party in Centre county. Why, it is better than having our diamonds stolen. But there are a few little matters that we would like to set our young friend straight on. It isn't nice that young men should begin their careers by telling stories. In the first place he ought to have brushed the copy up a little so that it did not read with the jingle of the same type-writer that wrote the resolutions for the last Democratic county convention. Second, he figured our price too high. We can only possibly get \$145.60 out of the advertisement he mentions, so that he can tell his uncle DAN to try us at that figure, instead of bothering with other things.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

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Mr. Morgan's Great Strike.

The steel strike is on in full force and for an indefinite period a vast army of the wealth producers of the country will be idle. This condition will continue for a long or short time as the financial colossus, Mr. J. PIERPONT MORGAN, determines.

Whether it be long or short there will be suffering among those affected by the conditions it entails. These earners who coin the sweat of their faces into money are not all savers. Many of them live up to the limit of their revenues and the period of idleness finds them with little to depend on.

Soon their credit will be exhausted and then they must yield to the cruel ultimatum of the money king or suffer the keen agonies of hungry stomachs.

But J. PIERPONT MORGAN loses nothing, whether the strike continues or ends. If it ends he pockets the proceeds of their labor. If it continues he enjoys the profits of speculative operations in the shares of the trust. When the strike began the shares were selling at \$54 each. Now they are quoted at about \$40. If the strike continues say a couple of months they will probably go down to \$30.

Then Mr. MORGAN can use other people's money to buy in large quantities and when he has secured all he cares for order the strike off and leisurely dispose of his share on an enhancing market. There are altogether some three or four hundred million dollars worth of the stock. A profit of \$20 a share on half of the whole will be a comfortable reward for the brain power expended in engineering the strike.

Then that is only one of the several advantages which Mr. MORGAN can derive from the strike. When he has manipulated the market to the complete satisfaction of his covetous soul his partner and friend, MARK HANNA, can be called in to settle the terms of peace between himself and his starving employees. They are by this time reduced to the last degree of wretchedness and ready to yield to any terms that are proposed. HANNA wants to be President three years hence, as MCKINLEY wanted a re-election last fall when similar conditions were created in the anthracite coal regions.

The profits of the speculative operations in his pocket have put MORGAN in an amiable frame of mind and he is willing to throw a small sop to the hungry workmen. But they must do something too and HANNA persuades him that it is perfectly safe to recognize the labor union if the labor unionists will vote for HANNA for President.

Thus great enterprises are achieved at no cost to the financial colossus but to his immense profit and the trusts are still more firmly entrenched in the political systems of the country. Mr. HANNA is a safe man for them. He is certain to recognize the sacredness of what they are pleased to characterize "vested rights."

The rights are ownership of corporate shares acquired by the speculative processes above described. But they must not be impaired or even imperiled. It would be injustice to deprive Mr. MORGAN of the fruits of his honest labor expended in the manipulation of the strike, which might clear him a hundred millions and put HANNA in the presidential chair.

The Cambria County Platform.

The platform adopted by the Cambria county Democratic county convention the other day is attracting a good deal of favorable comment and some criticism. It is certainly a comprehensive deliverance and leaves nothing to conjecture. On the whole it is an admirable document, moreover, and though it might have been improved by the omission of some thoughts or ideas, it is so clearly right with respect to other points that it can safely be commended, generally speaking. In any event it reveals courage and character and those are crowning merits.

There is one point expressed in the platform from which we dissent. It is that which declares in favor of the "initiative and referendum," so called. The constitution provides safe and easy methods of legislation, both in national and State affairs, and we can see no reason to expect that an improvement would follow the adoption of the essentially populist idea of the initiative and referendum, even if it were possible without uprooting our whole well established system. We have ample faith in the integrity and intelligence of the people, but the present plan of getting an expression of their views on legislative questions is sufficient.

There are plenty of bad laws enacted, heavens knows, and much room for improvement beyond doubt, and the remedy is in the selection of better men to make the laws. We have no doubt that if the author of the Cambria county Democratic platform were selected a Senator or Representative of the Legislature there would be no necessity for referring his work back to the people. The greatest source of evil now present is that the people are careless in the choice of Legislators and they would probably be just as careless in passing on laws.

An Unpardonable Outrage.

When the acting Secretary of the Navy publicly censured "Fighting Bob" EVANS for characterizing WILLIAM E. CHANDLER, of New Hampshire, as "an insect" he put an insult on every intelligent and patriotic citizen in this broad land. When CHANDLER was Secretary of the Navy Admiral EVANS was a lieutenant of the line in charge of a light house. The Republican campaign committee levied an assessment on the employes under Commander EVANS and when an attempt was made to collect the money EVANS interfered to prevent what he believed to be an outrage. For this just action the Secretary of the Navy removed him from his post and put him on waiting orders at half pay. Then he asked for leave of absence which was granted, but before he was able to put his vacation plans into operation the leave was revoked.

The injuries and insults were put on the lieutenant because he objected to an abuse of power on the part of the Secretary of the Navy. Because that gentleman was his superior officer at that time, however, he refrained from making protest, as the naval regulations forbid an officer from criticizing a superior in rank. But lately the Admiral, who won so enviable a reputation during the Spanish war, concluded to publish his personal experiences in the service and as CHANDLER is no longer his superior officer he felt that he might tell the truth about him. Accordingly, in his book entitled a "Sailor's Log," recently issued, he told the story of the light house incident and characterized CHANDLER as an insect. For that he has been brutally humiliated by a public censure on the ground that CHANDLER, having once been an officer in the navy, his person must be held as forever sacred by naval officers.

The proposition is absurd and it has not been the rule of the navy. Former Secretaries of the Navy have been frequently criticized by naval officers and there never was one more deserving of censure than WM. E. CHANDLER, as there never was an officer of the navy who has a better right to have opinions and express them than Admiral EVANS. He has proved his mettle under the most trying circumstances. He has deserved the most generous treatment at the hands of the government. But for the reason that he is a Democrat in politics he is made the victim of the miserable bureaucrats in Washington and in order to humiliate the viperish CHANDLER, he is publicly censured and if he resents the insult will probably be dismissed from the service that he has honored and still adorns. It is the "outraging atrocity" of the present administration.

Mr. Wanamaker and the Democrats.

Mr. WANAMAKER'S Philadelphia paper is giving itself unnecessary concern about the Democracy of Pennsylvania. It appears to think that it or Mr. WANAMAKER is a Moses appointed by one or both of them to lead the party out of an imaginary wilderness, by a path known only to himself. If either or both of them had ever shown any sympathy for Democratic principles or men there would be some reason in the demand that the party accept their leadership. We can recall no instance in which Mr. Wanamaker has given support to Democratic men or endorsement to Democratic principles.

It looks to us a good deal as if Mr. WANAMAKER and the North American are jointly and severally trying to use the Democratic party as a club to drive Senator QUAY into acquiescence in some of Mr. WANAMAKER'S plans or ambitions. It is well known that Mr. WANAMAKER has both an equal and well established that he is willing to use any instruments that come into his possession to promote his purposes. But it is not clear that he has any claims on the Democratic party. Until he has done something for the party he can hardly expect the party to bow down to him and thus far he has done nothing of that sort.

Mr. WANAMAKER and the North American have been very vehemently demanding that the Democratic party nominate candidates of their selection. But we have not noticed that either the man or the paper has made a direct promise to support the candidates, even if they are nominated. As a matter of fact Mr. WANAMAKER has always and frequently declared that he invariably votes the regular Republican ticket and that his party regularity cannot be questioned. In view of this fact it is just a trifle fresh for him to insist on shaping the policies and nominating the candidates of the Democratic party.

The Philipsburg Journal is authorized.

for the statement that J. C. ROWE, of that place, would like to go to the Assembly. However true it may be it is certain that should he be fortunate enough to have his ambition gratified his actions at Harrisburg would be very different from those of the last Representative who went there from Philipsburg.

The Democratic State Convention.

The Democratic state convention convened in Harrisburg yesterday and while all the Democrats were pleased the Republicans were correspondingly disappointed, because the much talked of fight didn't take place.

Chairman CREESE called the convention to order and in the temporary organization CHARLES J. RILEY, of Williamsport, was made temporary chairman. After the credentials committee reported that there were no contests, except from Luzerne county, where each of the delegations were given one-half vote, JOHN B. KEENAN, of Westmoreland county, was made permanent chairman.

The principal question before the convention being the right of the Philadelphia delegates to seats in the body there was little excitement when that was eliminated by the adoption of a resolution seating the Pattison delegates and appointing a committee composed of HALL, of Elk; HANSON, of Venango; HEINLE, of Centre; HEAD, of Westmoreland; GREER, of Lancaster, and BIGLER, of Clearfield, to proceed to Philadelphia at once and investigate the rottenness in the politics of that city. This committee, in conjunction with city chairman PATTISON, to have the power to summarily dismiss any officer found guilty of treachery of any sort to the party.

Judge HARMAN YERKES, of Bucks county, was the unanimous choice for Justice of the Supreme Court and the Hon. ANDREW J. PALM, of Erie, was made the nominee for State Treasurer. Better selections would have been impossible in Pennsylvania and we trust that the harmonious denouement in Harrisburg yesterday will result in harmonious work in all quarters for their election.

A Bloodless War.

The renewal of the war between Major General MILLER and Brigadier General GOBIN will probably not materially affect the grain market though if there are any blood spots on the moon within the next few days there will be no trouble in tracing the effect to the cause. We had hoped that the differences between these warriors had been settled when the Major General left the camp of the Brigadier General at Mount Greta some days ago. But this amiable expectation has been disappointed for, on Sunday last, Major General MILLER in an interview published in a Philadelphia contemporary, declared that Brigadier General GOBIN is no gentleman.

General GOBIN replying to this unexpected and it may be added unjust aspersion on his military character declared, two days later, that General MILLER is garrulous and expressed surprise that he still shows evidences of the absence of lucidity in his speech. This coming from an inferior to a superior officer in the military establishment of the State is what you might call a corker. For a less offense to a man who was his superior in rank nearly a score of years ago "Fighting Bob" EVANS, an Admiral in the navy of the United States, has been publicly censured by the head of the Department.

But aside from the indignity of such a controversy it shows a shameful lack of discipline in the National Guard of the State. This establishment costs the people several hundred thousand dollars annually and they have a right to expect in return for such an outlay of treasure an establishment which would reveal some pretense of military discipline and decency. But the fact is that Governor STONE has prostituted the Guard into a disreputable political machine and unless his faults are corrected it will still further degenerate. Happily the canker hasn't yet reached all portions of the Guard but it is fast spreading.

September 2nd and 3rd will be the

last days on which you can get registered and assessed. If you want to vote this fall, see that you are not deprived of that right.

Will Kinsloe, a son of R. A. Kinsloe,

formerly owner of the Bituminous Record in Philipsburg, sailed for London last Saturday where he goes in the interest of the Langston typesetting machine. He expects to spend about six months abroad.

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(Concluded on page 4.)

Spawls from the Keystone.

—William Owens, a blacksmith living at McCance near Latrobe, has been missing since Sunday.

—Rev. J. J. Gormley, pastor of the Renovo Catholic church, announces that it is his intention to erect a new building for the parochial schools at no distant date.

—J. Corbin Hollenbaugh, of Centre township, Perry county, was the victim of a runaway accident the other day by which he had a rib broken and received severe bruises.

—The Carrier mill, owned by R. L. Buzard, at Brockwayville, was destroyed by fire Monday morning. The DuBois fire department responded to an appeal for assistance.

—Arthur Jackson, an 8 year old colored resident of Blairsville, is under arrest, charged with attempting to poison his mother, and the authorities are at a loss to know what to do with him.

—Nicholas Bauman, one of the oldest citizens of Woodward township, Clinton county, died Tuesday evening at 7:30 of diseases incident to old age. He was 76 years of age on the 9th of February last.

—While standing on a step ladder picking peaches, at Williamsport, Charles Wright, 10 years old, fell. In his descent his head struck a wire clothes line, nearly severing one ear and inflicting other injuries.

—A great many dead fish are to be seen floating in the Conemaugh river lately, between New Florence and Johnstown. The supposition is that the acids from the large mills at the latter place are the cause of it.

—George W. Robinson, one of the most respected and influential citizens of Carroll township, Perry county, died Friday morning last from heart trouble and attendant dropsy, aged 61 years, 2 months and 18 days.

—While engaged splitting stove wood at his home at Lewistown Junction, Banks McCannery narrowly escaped losing the sight of both eyes, a piece striking him on the temple and bursting the large blood vessel located there.

—The report that David M. Hoenhlyndt, formerly of Perry county, had been lynched by a gang of Italians out west is denied, the Perry County Advocate and Press declaring that his daughter, Mrs. Tessie Burris, now in Blain, received a letter from her father on Saturday.

—During a blue rock shoot at Lioniger Monday, Paul Potts, the 11 year old son of W. J. Potts, the druggist, stumbled and fell while carrying his rifle and received a full charge of shot in his side. Doctors probed for the shot, and it is not known how badly he has been injured.

—Miss Sarah Walton, only daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David Walton, of Greensburg, died Sunday night, aged 29 years, 2 months and 9 days. She was ill a week with inflammation of the stomach, brought on by excessive use of ice water while visiting in Pittsburg a little over a week ago.

—Lightning played a singular prank at the residence of John Bonnell, Jersey Shore Saturday. A bolt struck the chimney of the house, and coming down the kitchen flue, tore Mrs. Bonnell's shoe from her right foot and hurled it across the room. Aside from a slight shock, she was uninjured.

—Monsignor E. A. Garvey, appointed bishop of the diocese of Altoona, will be consecrated in St. Peter's cathedral at Scranton, on Sept. 8, by Cardinal Martinielli. Catholic prelates from every section of the country will attend the ceremony. He will then take charge of his new diocese at once.

—Miss Josephine Brady, aged forty years, of Shamokin, went insane within the past week. She had been engaged to be married ten years ago and her fiancé married another and brooding over this she became demented and tried to commit suicide by hanging. She was taken to the hospital at Danville.

—The next session of the Allegheny conference of the United Brethren church was to have been held at Huntington September the 15th, but within the past week or so the place was changed to the Coalport church, owing to the Huntington church not being at this time prepared for use.

—While the men of the household were at work in the harvest fields and the women were picking berries, burglars looted the home of William J. Robinson, a prominent farmer of near Bell's mills, North Huntingdon township, Westmoreland county, on Monday afternoon. The plunder secured is valued by Mr. Robinson at \$400.

—Rev. Thomas W. Rosensteel, pastor of St. Matthew's Catholic church at Tyrone, has been transferred by Rt. Rev. Richard Phelan bishop of Pittsburgh, to the pastorate of St. Joseph's church, at Sharsburg, Allegheny county. To succeed him as rector at Tyrone, the Bishop has appointed Rev. Philip Bohan, now assistant pastor of St. John's church, Johnstown. The change will take place Friday of this week.

—Thursday while a train was coming down the White Deer valley railroad from the Forest iron works, the engine got beyond control on the heavy grade. The cars struck a tree, which had been blown across the track. The trucks of the cars were wrecked and iron rails and nail kegs flew in all directions. Superintendent E. W. Robinson jumped and had his ankle sprained. Four other men were more or less seriously injured. The engine jumped and escaped with their lives.

—Mrs. Joseph Stocum, of Germania, Potter county, died Friday, as the result of swallowing a half pint of washing fluid, which she topped off with a pint of black and red writing inks. While raving in agony from the poisonous combination, the combined efforts of four men were barely sufficient to keep her in bed. Mrs. Stocum had determined early in the week to end her life, and on Wednesday she mixed bromine from a lot of matches with vinegar and drank it. The only thing that saved her life then, a doctor says, was the vinegar.

—A charge of dynamite was exploded under the general store of Jesse C. Harmon at Penfield, in an attempt to wreck it, at 4 o'clock Sunday morning. This is the second time within three weeks an attempt has been made to demolish Mr. Harmon's property with dynamite. Harmon is serving a sentence of eight months in the Clearfield county jail for having caused the death of Ezekiel Hewitt. Hewitt had many friends in that section, and much bad blood has existed since he was killed.