

Ink Silage.

—Miss ROOSEVELT bids fair to outstrip both baby McKEE and RUTH CLEVELAND as White House wonders.

—The government is paying five million dollars for the Danish West Indies. Let us hope we are not buying another war.

—SAM BROOK'S dinner-horn omnibus came nearer sizing up to the needs in Bellefonte than a trolley line will and you all know how long it lasted.

—The local political situation is becoming so complicated that it keeps a candidate guessing as to who will be in bed with him when he wakes up in the morning.

—About the only way the advocates of the unholy war in the Philippines can make it out to be a holy war is by pointing to the holes in the bodies of its victims.

—President ROOSEVELT is the latest bit of game that QUAY has bagged and now the public wonders what kind of a brick TEDDY will find himself in possession of in a short time.

—Senator MONEY wants to let the Philippines "go to the devil," a wish that will very probably be gratified sooner than is expected if the present rate of liquor shipments to those islands keeps up.

—Liquor cost the American people a billion and a half last year and you do not hear a murmur about the price being too high, yet let the assessors raise your water tax one paltry little mill and listen to the "holler" that will be made.

—Mr. Treasurer-elect FRANK HARRIS wants the WATCHMAN for pay twenty-five thousand dollars for a few imaginary dinges in his character, but we'd advise him to grub-stake that claim with his lawyers. There is such a slight chance of striking pay-dirt in a country prinary.

—Rumor has it that the American missionary, Miss STONE, has been released by the Turkish brigands who carried her and Mrs. TSLKA off some time ago and have been holding them for ransom. While they didn't get their price the job was still profitable enough to demonstrate that it pays to steal women some time.

—New York tunnels seem to be very dangerous elements in the safety of that city. The country had scarcely stopped shuddering at the horror of that railroad catastrophe when the entire city was set quaking again by an explosion of hundreds of pounds of dynamite in the new subway that is being built there.

—Clearfield may imagine herself in luck because of the great wash of political linen that will be hung out over there next week, but Bellefonte isn't going to be left. The Methodist conference and Dr. SWALLOW's case will more than make up for our loss, when it comes down to an exchange of pleasanties between contending factions.

—M. SANTOS, the Brazilian inventor, has at last found a flying machine that will fly. There are lots of girls on the streets of our cities who are fly enough for any purpose and they would likely beat this invention of SANTOS' at going "up into air" if they were told how really fly they are.

—Another suit was entered by Mr. FRANK HARRIS against the editor of the WATCHMAN in the Clearfield court last Monday. This time he brings a civil action, placing the damages he claims, at \$25,000—a fairly large sum to expect to collect off of the publisher of a country newspaper and a pretty high valuation for what Mr. HARRIS imagines he has lost.

—Our distinguished friend, the treasurer elect of the State of Pennsylvania, has suddenly jumped into prominence as a humorist by bringing a suit for \$25,000 damages against us. The idea of associating \$25,000 with the editor of the WATCHMAN is so ridiculous on the face of it that we can't help applauding Mr. HARRIS' facetiousness. If he finds it necessary to do anything more, after his next go at Harrisburg, we'll give him a testimonial as a joke writer.

—Official circles in Washington are very much wrought up just now about the matter of gifts from the German Emperor to President ROOSEVELT. Tradition has it that no presents from foreigners ought to be accepted by a President of the United States. The King of France once gave GEORGE WASHINGTON a jack-ass and some foreign bunch of titles gave General GRANT a dog, but we have been unable to discover whether it was the jack or the dog that "queered" the exchange of gifts. The Jack may have tried to kick the American eagle out of the skies and the dog may have gotten both the mange and the rabies, but why should that deter TEDDY from accepting a hunting case from der Kaiser.

—King EDWARD VII is probably only too well imbued with the old idea that "uneasy lies the head that wears the crown" and it may be just some such a thought that is back of the apparent attempts of Lord ROSEBERRY to bring about peace for England and the South African Republic before the day of the new King's coronation. Whatever it may be that is inspiring this great English diplomat of the "peace and prosperity" class let us hope that his efforts will not be in vain and that the Englishman and the Boer will lay down their arms very soon. The one to realize that Republics cannot be beaten into dependent colonies, the other to turn back to the peaceful pursuits he was so unjustly called to defend in battle.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

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Improvements in Harrisburg.

At the meeting of the Pennsylvania state editorial association in Harrisburg last week it was suggested that the newspapers of the State lend their moral influence to a movement now pending in that city for suitable and much needed municipal improvements. The proposition is to increase the debt of the city, to the extent of \$1,000,000, the funds to be used in reforming and increasing the sewerage system, the creation of a filtering plant to purify the water and the establishment of parks within the city limits. The association took no action on the suggestion for the reason that a citizen of Harrisburg objected that the improvement question was a local affair with which persons and newspapers outside of the city have no concern.

As a matter of fact, however, the people and press of the State are deeply concerned about the sanitary, as well as the moral conditions of the city of Harrisburg. It is the capital of the State and besides the state officials and Senators and members of the Legislature who are there a considerable time each year it is the temporary residence of a large number of citizens who are otherwise not of the city. Besides the Legislature has recently appropriated \$4,000,000 for the construction of a capital building, there is already there a number of other buildings and the beautiful capital park all of which belong, not to the people of Harrisburg, but to those of the State, so that every citizen of Pennsylvania who pays taxes has a property interest in the city of Harrisburg.

We are not influenced by an unlikely feeling toward the people of Harrisburg in saying that that city is far behind other cities of its class and conditions in the elements of civic pride which are expressed in evidences of progress. We have had occasion to spend a good deal of time there at one period or another during the last third of a century and have found delinquency in the streets, an absence of parks, other than the one maintained by the State, a dangerous want of sanitation in the sewerage system and at times a water supply that is atrocious. If the people are wise they will remedy these defects in their municipal management for it will save them vastly in doctor's bills and add to their revenues by holding out greater inducements for people to sojourn with them.

An Interesting Witness.

The inquiry into the organization of the Northern Securities company by the Interstate Commerce Commission now in session in Chicago, is developing some interesting facts. The testimony of Mr. E. H. HARRIMAN, president of the Union Pacific railroad on Saturday last was especially interesting and significant. Mr. HARRIMAN was not a willing witness, according to the press reports of the proceedings, but he was a useful one. That is to say he spoke reluctantly, but when he found there was no escape he spoke with remarkable candor. His story was like a romance, moreover, and he was the villain if not the hero of his narrative.

Mr. HARRIMAN was asked concerning the corner of Northern Pacific shares in May of last year and he told all about it. He was himself the principal agent in the transaction, he admitted. For reasons satisfactory to himself, he declared under oath he wanted control, temporarily of the stock of the Northern Pacific. He was at the time president of the Oregon Short Line, a comparatively small highway with a capitalization of \$27,000,000 and a surplus of \$3,000,000, making a total of \$30,000,000. Upon that basis he caused to be issued certificates to the amount of \$75,000,000 and used the proceeds of the sale of the certificates founded on fraud to purchase stock of the Northern Pacific company. Subsequently he redeemed the bogus certificates by issuing bonds to the amount of \$1,000,000,000.

Ordinarily the over-issue of stock is a crime punishable by a long term of service in the penitentiary. Of course that penalty only follows the exposure of the crime before it had been remedied. But Mr. HARRIMAN has confessed the crime before reparation has even been offered. It is true that the bogus certificates have been redeemed by the issue of bogus bonds. But the speculators who lost fortunes by having sold Northern Pacific stock and were unable to deliver for the reason that HARRIMAN had a corner on the property and held it at his own figures, have not been recompensed. Whether the penalty will be applied or not remains to be seen.

The recent primaries in Potter township were said to have had the largest attendance in years and while there were a number of sharp contests everything passed off pleasantly between the contending candidates. It remains to be seen whether they will support the ticket they have named. The residents of Potter usually do the right thing, however, and we look for the election of the entire ticket over there.

—Subscribe for the WATCHMAN.

Stone, Quay and Elkin.

Some of the Pittsburg politicians profess to believe that there is a break in the friendly relations between Senator QUAY and Governor STONE impending. Politicians in the East, less credulous, however, can discern no such indications. The Pittsburgers base their impressions on an alleged statement by QUAY that the books between himself and the Governor are balanced. "STONE owes me nothing," the Senator is alleged to have remarked to a friend, "and I owe him nothing." That would imply a settlement in full of all transactions between them. It is safe to say, however, that no such settlement has taken place. As a matter of fact there can be no settlement until ELKIN has been taken care of.

Even if Senator QUAY had made use of the language attributed to him it would not necessarily indicate a break between him and the Governor. QUAY has a habit of saying such things when he wants to mislead the public. For example four years ago, when STONE'S friends were striving for his nomination for Governor, QUAY said something of the kind. It was intended then to divert opposition against STONE and it succeeded. It is intended now to divert opposition against ELKIN and so far as the Pittsburg politicians are concerned it has succeeded again. They have swallowed the "con" whole. They really believe that QUAY and STONE are working at cross purposes.

There is nothing in this wide world farther from the fact. Senator QUAY and Governor STONE have one absorbing purpose in common and that is the nomination and election of JOHN P. ELKIN to the office of Governor of Pennsylvania this coming fall. The term which will begin a year from now will have unlimited possibilities for loot, if the right man is elected Governor. The right man is ELKIN. There are others who might serve the purpose, but they might not. ELKIN is sure. QUAY and the gang would be certain of "letters of marque and reprisal" to despoil as they liked, if ELKIN were elected and for that reason whatever QUAY may say to distract public attention he is with STONE for ELKIN.

June eleventh has been fixed as the time Mr. QUAY'S state convention will meet. It will announce Mr. JNO. P. ELKIN as the Republican nominee for Governor, Mr. J. B. BROWN as its candidate for Secretary of Internal Affairs, and will make a pretense of fighting over the nominee for Lieut. Governor in order to leave the impression that the machine did not dictate everything, but left to the convention the selection of at least one of the nominees. Possibly this may impress the political "gang" with the fact that QUAY didn't get everything he wanted, but the fellow who thinks that way will be too big a fool to even know what he is or who owns him.

No Isthmian Canal.

Those who still hope for the passage of an Isthmian canal bill are exceedingly sanguine persons. There ought to be no doubt of the prompt passage of such a measure for the platforms of both the great political parties have declared emphatically and repeatedly in favor of such a waterway. But one Congress after another has come and gone and still there is no canal bill. It used to be the habit to attribute the failure to the late COLLINS P. HUNTINGDON, president of the Southern Pacific railroad, but he has been dead a year or more and still the prospects for a canal bill are no brighter now than they were when he last mustered his formidable lobby in the corridors of the capital.

When the present Congress met the outlook for a bill was exceedingly bright. The President had recommended it in his message in more than commonly earnest phrases, and the leaders of the Republican majority talked favorably of the proposition. But before much progress had been made differences of opinion as to the route began to develop. The Panama company appeared in the nick of time and offered its half dug ditch at bargain counter prices, and while the real friends of the canal adhered to the Nicaragua route those who only pretended friendship flopped to the other scheme on account of its cheapness. But the real reason for their preference was that it afforded delay.

The whole secret of the matter is that the Pacific railroads have pooled their issues in opposition to an Isthmian waterway. It would take too much of their traffic and correspondingly decrease the value of their speculative railroad shares. HUNTINGDON is no longer there to direct the lobby, but HARRIMAN, HILL and J. PIERPONT MORGAN are still in the flesh and at long range are directing the fight in an infinitely more successful way than their predecessor was able to do. That is to say they are able to achieve the same results without showing their hands, while HUNTINGDON stood always revealed and his methods known to everybody on the continent.

An Inhabitant of a Big Glass House.

The Philadelphia Inquirer devoted quite a lot of its very valuable editorial space, on Tuesday, to an article by which it evidently hoped to convince the world that the WATCHMAN is "narrow-minded, devoid of honor, childish, hide-bound" and a few other things not necessary to mention at this time. Just what provoked the Inquirer to such a purple-faced frenzy we are at a loss to understand but its apparent excuse is to be found in a paragraph that appeared in this paper last week in which it was suggested that if Philadelphia would stop the plundering of her own city treasury she would not have to go down on her knees to Uncle SAM for the \$600,000 necessary to complete a thirty foot channel in the Delaware.

The Inquirer brands as "malicious insult and pure fabrication" our assertion that the Philadelphia treasury is plundered, but that doesn't make it so, for our great contemporary would be sorely put to wit to attempt to explain how the enormous revenues of that city are expended for cracked reservoirs, defective paving and a public building that will never be completed as long as there is a dollar in sight to "burn" on that pyre of plunder.

We don't mean to censure Philadelphia for getting the \$600,000 out of the national treasury, if she can, but what a spectacle she presents! Begging for such a sum, when it is only a fraction of what is stolen from her every year.—Mark you we make the charge again. The Inquirer says she is "next to New York, the greatest commercial city." Granted. Then why doesn't she follow the example of Manchester, England, a far smaller city than Philadelphia in other directions, built herself the greatest ship canal in the world so that she could the better compete in the world's markets? Why it wasn't a year ago that JOHN WAX-AMAKER offered the city of Philadelphia more than she is begging the federal government for now for a franchise, for a period of only ten years, that her councils were giving away to favored plunderers for nothing.

So much for the money side of the question. Let us take up the partisan view of it, the "hide-bound, narrow-minded" vision. In the very next column of the same issue of the Inquirer that very impartial, broad minded, liberal organ wants to know why VANCE McCORMICK, a Democrat, should be elected mayor of Harrisburg in face of the fact that this has been a prosperous year under Republican government. Republican government, indeed. Here's brains for you, gray-matter so deeply convoluted that it can trace the selection of the great iron mills of Harrisburg to the conduct of a mayor's office. This, alas, is not partisanship, narrow mindedness, or hide-bound. It is worse, it is damphulishness.

Then again the Inquirer charges the WATCHMAN with being childish. What for we don't know unless it is to pull us down to its own class, for what more glaring exhibition of a childish tantrum could have been made than the Inquirer gave the world about three years ago when, for one day, it weaned itself away from nurse QUAY because he had probably slapped the Hon. JIMMY ELVERSON'S "hooks," because he was trying to get them onto something that the "old man" wouldn't let him have.

Politics in Pittsburg.

The Pittsburg political situation increases in interest as the day of election approaches. The fusion which originally only extended to the city offices, and was intended mainly to defeat the machine candidate for City Controller, has expanded and now takes in the ward and precinct officers. The result of this is a strengthening of the lines and an increase of confidence in the result. Scarcely any one questions the election of JOHN B. LARKIN to the office of Controller, and there is almost equal unanimity in the opinion that the fusionists will carry councils.

This is a most gratifying prospect, for it implies the permanent retirement of Senator WILLIAM FLINN from public life. We do not flatter ourselves that it will greatly effect the political estate of QUAY and STONE, much as such a result is to be desired. But it is no exaggeration to say that of all the pernicious political leaders in the State Senate, FLINN is the most obnoxious to every principle of morality. He is governed by no considerations except those of selfishness, and he shifts his allegiance from one side to another with the facility that a chameleon changes its color.

It is to be hoped, however, that the friends of good government in Pittsburg will take advantage of the opportunity which present conditions present to correct the faults in their political system which enable Senator FLINN to manipulate the local government to suit his selfish interests. In other words, it is to be hoped that at the approaching election the minority party will succeed in electing honest, vigilant minority officers for every polling place in the city. Last fall FLINN was able to fix the Republican majority before the poll closed and with honest election officers he will have no such power.

The Silent Old Bell.

From an Unknown Exchange. They have sent the Bell of Liberty to Charleston on the Coast. Where the people meet and greet it with acclaim. And they touch it with devotion and we very loudly boast a hero band, That it cracked while clearly ringing "Freedom's name. Though its brazen lips are silent and its echo sounds no more, Yet we claim to understand just what it means: Equal rights and equal justice—on America's fair shore— But subjects in the far-off Philippines.

Yea, it cracked while ringing Freedom from a despot's iron hand, And the fathers cried with joy to hear the sound. They fagathered 'neath their banner and they fought a hero band, And their ebging lifeblood hallowed Freedom's ground. But we've gathered added knowledge of the meaning of the word— And forgotten Valley Forge and other scenes. While they fought for rule of justice we are ruling with the sword In the name of Freedom, in the Philippines.

Read the old bell's quaint inscription? Would it be a waste of time? Would it tend to crush our lordly pomp and pride? Is it well the old bell's silent? Is it well its mellow chime Rings no more the cause for which our fathers died?

Dare we send it on a journey 'round the world, From shore to shore, And proclaim to listening nations what it means? Would it bring a peaceful dawning where the sun has never risen? In the jungles of the far-off Philippines? Take it back! 'Tis cracked and silent, and its lesson's forgot. Might, not Justice, is the motto we uphold. Gleaming bayonet and rifle, cannon smoke and battle hot— Anything to garner in the land and gold. Government by all the people! 'Tis for that our fathers bled— Died to give a freeman's right to you and me— But the Brown Man! If he asks it we will fill him full of lead, For we need his islands in our business. See?

The Record We are Making.

From the Pittsburg Post. The struggle with the Filipinos has now continued three years. Every declared expectation of the invading and conquering power has been disappointed. The one thing that promised well from the start has not been tried. That is that we should treat the Filipinos as we have treated the Cubans. If that policy had been pursued there would have been no war. If it had prevailed it is probable that not a hostile shot would have been fired between the natives and the American. We tried the other way—of conquest and subjugation. Fifty thousand human beings have gone to their graves in our effort to crush the spirit of liberty out of that people, \$500,000,000 of American money has been squandered in the bloody work, and great stretches of thickly populated territory have been devastated. And as a result, what do we have? General Bell's edict tells the story, declaring how we have fallen back on the Weyler plan in Cuba and Kitchener's in South Africa. For an indefinite period we will require the services on the island of a large army. We are inextricably involved in a protracted guerrilla war because we have broken faith with a peaceable people who were glad to recognize us as allies when our troops first landed on the islands. It is a terrible record.

And Who, Pray, Would Be Left?

From the N. Y. Sun. Commissioner Jones, of Indian Affairs, must have barber's blood in his veins. His latest order compelling all male Indians in the United States to have and keep their hair cut presents a mild form of scalping which is well calculated to astonish the civilized aborigines. There are those in the United States who believe we have robbed the Indians of their lands, but now when there are no more lands to take from them, Mr. Jones proposes to go for their hair. But where comes in the personal liberty of the subject, or the all-embracing freedom of our country when even the wind is to be shorn of the privilege of capering through the dark tresses of our red-skinned football players? And observe the truly Christian method which he suggests for the enforcement of the use of his mighty scissors. He would "withhold supplies from the recalcitrant Indian" who might object to the hair cut. The well-being and longevity of the Republican party require the removal of donkeys from office. Turn the cranks out!

There May Be Outside Picking.

From the Fonds, (N. Y.) Democrat. Yep! Funny things in politics. Mr. Griggs—the New Jersey Griggs, if you please—gave up the portfolio of Attorney General in McKinley's cabinet because the \$8,000 salary would not justify his leaving his private practice. Lately, Mr. Griggs was scrambling to get sent to the Senate, where his salary would be only \$5,000. Either his practice has fallen off or he doesn't regard a seat in the Senate as a bar to its continuance.

But Two Qualifications.

From the Lincoln, (Neb.) Independent. As soon as a man gets money or gets into a national bank, the Republicans seem to think that he has all the qualifications that are required to make a United States Senator. He may know nothing of a government, have no settled principles, lack of education, but if he is a banker and has money, he is the man that they want.

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Spawls from the Keystone.

—The Prohibition party of Williamsport has nominated Sherman H. Stanton, a prominent citizen, for the office of mayor.

—At least 100 houses have been erected in Mount Union during the past year and the population has increased to almost 2,000. Work is plenty and wages good.

—The applications for license to sell liquor in Cambria county number 335, or forty-four more than the highest record previously scored, and 124 in excess of last year.

—Mrs. John Dempsey, of Tarentum, wept continually over the death of her son so that her eyes became badly diseased and had to be removed to save the woman's life.

—A Williamsport alderman had just fined William Harler, a resident of Lycoming county, \$100 for killing a deer out of season. And William ought to kick himself all over his county, first for proving himself a mean man and second for allowing himself to be caught in so mean an act.

—Three hundred and thirty-five persons desire permission to legally sell liquor in Cambria county during the approaching year and had put their applications to that effect on the record in the prothonotary's office in Ebensburg by midnight Saturday, when the time for filing then expired.

—R. A. Stiver's livery stable, at Bedford, was destroyed by fire at 2 o'clock Sunday afternoon. He succeeded in saving all his horses and all but two of his carriages. The loss on the building was fully covered by insurance. Snow on the roof of the adjoining buildings prevented the spread of the fire.

—After spending thirteen years on a sick bed and being unable to use her limbs, Mrs. G. M. Richerts, of Sayre, is now walking about a little each day. For five years she has had no doctor. Recently she had an impulse to get on to her feet. She did so, and she walks about the house unassisted.

—The Blairsville Courier reports that on December 24th a well developed toad was seen hopping around on the snow a short distance away from his hiding place in Brush-valley, Indiana county. It was a very unusual sight and indicates that the batrachian was trying to go the ground-hog one better.

—During the recent freshet in Loyalsock creek, two hogs of Gotlieb Bower, of Montoursville, Lycoming county were swept away in their pen. One of the hogs was found drowned. The other hog, weighing 300 pounds, floated on the bottom of the pen to Steelton, a distance of ninety-two miles, where it was rescued.

—George F. Hall, a carpenter, was working on a scaffolding on the Stonesifer building on north Market street, Williamsport, Friday. The scaffolding was about eighteen feet above the ground. Hall was reaching out over the end when the props gave away and he fell headforemost to the ground. His skull was crushed in. He expired instantly. He was 29 years old and leaves a wife and one child.

—A special from Shippinstown states that a cold blooded murder was committed at that place Sunday night. James Higgins, an English speaking miner, was shot through the head and instantly killed by Thomas Matadine, an Italian miner. The killing was the result of a dispute. Matadine fled and has not been captured, although an armed posse is in pursuit of him. Lynching is feared when Matadine is caught.

—A sad drowning accident occurred at Watsonstown at noon Friday. On their way home from school Roy Linn, a ten-year-old son of John Linn, of that place and some companions ventured on the ice on the pool. It was very thin and the boys broke through. The others were rescued but the unfortunate lad sank. The water in the pool is very deep at the point where the accident occurred. His body was recovered about 20 minutes later but of course life was extinct.

—General Shope, an aged Perry county farmer, was delivering wood in Duncannon with a four-horse team one day last week, while crossing over the Pennsylvania railroad tracks at Ann street, main line express came rushing down the tracks at a rapid speed and before he had time to get out of the way the engine struck the wagon and smashed it to pieces. One horse was so badly hurt that it had to be killed. Shope, who was on the saddle horse, jumped in time to save his life.

—News was received at Phillipsburg Thursday of an affray that occurred at Windler Saturday night, in which Walter McDowell, of Houtzdale, was probably fatally injured. Thomas Dougherty, also of Houtzdale, engaged in a quarrel with John Simmons, who is a former resident of Phillipsburg. All these men went to Windler to work in the mines some time ago. During Saturday night's quarrel Dougherty threw a stone intended for Simmons, but in mistake he struck McDowell, inflicting a wound from which it is believed he will die.

—Mrs. L. C. Chatham was severely burned in the face during the fire at McElhattan, Wednesday afternoon. Mrs. Chatham, after washing bed clothes, had hung them on a chair around a stove to dry. She went into another room, and during her absence the clothes caught fire from the red-hot stove and pipe. When she re-entered the room the flames were spreading very fast and leaped into her face, blistering the skin and singeing her eyebrows and hair. The entire family was compelled to make a hasty escape. Only a very few of the household goods were saved. All the wearing apparel was burned.

—Near Rixford, McKean county, one morning last week, a Mrs. Baker went to call upon her neighbor, Mrs. Mary Arnett. She knocked for admittance, but there was no response. The lady attempted to open the door, but found it locked. Then her suspicions were aroused that something serious had happened within, and she forced the door open. In the house she found Mrs. Arnett lying in bed. She saw at once that the woman was dead. Leaning against the bed, his face pinched with cold and hunger, barefooted and clothed only in a night garment, stood her shivering little boy, whose mamma had refused to respond to his cries. There had been no fire in the house since the embers had died out in the stove the night before, wood being the fuel used in that humble abode. "Mamma sleep," said the little fellow to Mrs. Baker, and then good woman tearfully clothed the tiny lad and took him to her home.