

Ink Slings.

JOHNNY ELKIN, once the "plow-boy," now believes he knows a heap. At politics he's workin' while his neighbors are asleep. But the evidence is plenty that he's not up to his biz. When he's up against a somethin' without knowin' what it is.

The honorable TEDDY will find the trust bustin' business very different from the bronchos.

Millions of people will take the "water cure" at Atlantic City this summer, but there won't be any fuss about that.

The War Department might detail Gen. SMITH on a Spanish mission so that he might learn to be humane from contact with WAYLER.

It is well that the beef trust jumped into the arena just when it did or MILES would have had everything around Washington looking like the business end of a Philippine bolo.

Unofficial reports are to the effect that the Boer leaders have unanimously rejected the British peace offers. The war will go on until the world is staggered a little more at its cost in treasure and blood.

It looks as though Gen. Jacob H. SMITH, who issued an order to kill all Filipinos over the age of ten years and make the country look like a howling wilderness, will meet the fate of ALGER, LONG, et al.

Clinton county having instructed her delegates to the senatorial conference to vote for the Hon. ALEX PATTON, of Curwensville, for State Senator, it is reasonably certain that there will be a "bar!" to tap in this district next fall.

The Hon. (?) SAMMY SALTER and his little band of ballot box stuffers, who ran away from justice in Philadelphia when their frauds were discovered in the fall of 1899, have returned to take their medicine. It should be a salty dose.

The President having decided that he will not retire General MILES the public will be expected to regard the MILES incident as closed. It is altogether likely, however, that the public will not be as prompt to shut up as was Gen. FUNSTON.

Denmark has taken official action in the matter of selling the Danish West Indies to this government. All that remains now is for the residents of those islands to agree to be sold, then we'll have them, the CHRISTMAS scandal to be contrary notwithstanding.

The President received a party of fifteen cowboys at the White House on Tuesday. It is reported that he was very jovial with the cow punchers, some of whom he had known on the plains. Perchance he was trying to secure their services to help Gen. KNOX round up the beef trust.

Gen. FUNSTON announced in Denver that he "cannot see why any army officer must wear a gag just because he is an army officer." We are sorry that he is mentally so obtuse, but he'll wear the gag all right enough and won't go scratching around many department doors to discover the reason, either.

Architect JOSEPH H. HUSTON has presented working plans for the new capitol building at Harrisburg and they have been approved. These are simply the plans that the artisans will follow. The real "working" plans were adopted long ago and architect HUSTON wasn't needed to prepare them, either.

There is no improvement in the cholera situation in Manila, so it was reported on Monday. Neither is there any improvement in the collar-situation in Pennsylvania. They all expect to have it just the same, no matter what the outcome. It is merely a question as to whose collar it will be.

The SMITH order to kill all Filipino children over the age of ten wouldn't have resulted in the extermination of many American kids had it been issued to cover those traveling on railroads and going to circuses. Where the half-price racket can be worked many an old man is palmed off for a boy under ten.

The delegates to the forth-coming Democratic state convention will have an important duty to perform. Great care should be taken in selecting them, lest you lose the opportunity to make the first step in the coming battle for reform a decisive one, from which there would be no retreat. Send men of good judgment, who will attend to the duty they go to perform.

The new Westmoreland county court house has been contracted for, but the commissioners are going to have trouble in having their action ratified because the building was originally intended to cost only \$1,000,000 and already expenses amounting to \$2,500,000 are in sight. For the interests of the taxpayers of Westmoreland we hope that this will not be another case of a Philadelphia public building or a state capitol.

The Philadelphia Inquirer talks of girls being "fitted for better things than gracing postage stamps" as though it would be a discredit to the sex to have the pictures of a few of them ornamenting forthcoming issues. We take a different view of the proposal for two reasons. First, we know of nothing that is more generally respected and sought after than the silver dollar and it contains a composite head of woman. Seco nd, if left to the girls themselves they would vote overwhelmingly in favor of such an opportunity to be among so many mails.

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Democracy's Weakness.

While the effective organization of the Democracy of the State may not be a matter of as much political interest, just at present, as is the progress of the QUAY-ELKIN contest it certainly is one of vastly more importance, both to the people of the State and to the prospects of ending the domination of the Republican machine.

For hope what we will; rejoice as we may over factional contests and the quarrels among thiers; let divisions among Republicans become as many and wide as they now promise, and the feuds among their leaders grow in intensity and bitterness, Pennsylvania cannot, and will not, be redeemed, unless by organized effort on the part of the Democracy, and of others opposed to the machine and its methods.

It is the great weakness of the Democracy of the State that its principal dependence for success is upon what the troubles in the Republican ranks may do for us. It is true that much depends upon these; but it is equally true that much more depends upon our being in a condition to take advantage of the situation, and to show our greatest strength when the opposition is the weakest.

A matter of a few hundred votes may determine whether the end of the machine is to come in November, or whether its iniquities are to continue to rob and disgrace the State. And when has there been a time in the history of the Pennsylvania Democracy that it was not short at the polls, tens of thousands of votes that it could have had there, had it had a thorough and efficient organization.

It is a big job to get a political mob of four hundred and fifty thousand votes organized and drilled into an effective army. It is a job that cannot be done in a few weeks or a few months. And it is this job that should be commenced now, and pushed with vigor until the political predilection, qualifications and whereabouts of every voter in the State are known and until every particle of work necessary to his qualifications and insuring his presence at the polls is accomplished.

There is not a year that the Democrats do not lose tens of thousands of votes because of neglect to see that the registration of Democratic voters is fully made.

There is not an election that tens of thousands more are not prohibited from voting because of the neglect or failure to pay their taxes.

There is not a precinct in the State that does not lose numbers of votes because of the absence of young men at College, of workmen employed elsewhere than in the neighborhood in which they vote, and of others whose whereabouts, when needed at the polls, is unknown.

It is only through perfect organization that these losses can be prevented, and unless these, as well as all others that are usual and sometimes overwhelming, can be avoided, what is the use in making a pretense of success, or of building up hopes only to have them crushed.

Above and beyond everything else, every Democratic vote in the State must be at the polls if we are to win. If they are to be gotten there it is time to begin the work of finding out who they are, where they are, what their needs are and all about them. In fact it is time to begin the enrollment of the army and each working Democrat will have enough to do in this line to keep him busy, without bothering about the troubles in the camps of our opponents.

The weakness of the Democracy is its lack of thorough organization. Do its leaders understand this?

They Know They are Safe.

The honorable SAMUEL SALTER, JOE ROGERS and CLARENCE MEESER, three of the Philadelphia ballot box stuffers who jumped their ball two years ago and have since been hiding among the greasers in Mexico, have turned up at their old homes and allege they are going to stand trial for the crimes for which they stand indicted.

And some people think this strange affair, when the enormity of their offense and the certainty of their having committed it is considered. But why should there be any strangeness about it. FRED ROTHERMEL is not the prosecuting officer of Philadelphia now. The official who fills that position and will conduct the case against them, received the majority that gave him the place through just such efforts as these men made. The courts of that city are elected and dominated by the same bosses and the same influences that induced and encouraged SALTER and his pals to commit the crime they did. Why then any fear or strangeness about it.

When the dispensaries of machine justice get through with them, Mr. SAMUEL SALTER and his companions will show no more signs of any disgrace at the hands of such courts, than a Congo oon does of the black that settles on him when he dumps his coal cart into your cellar.

Benevolent assimilation in the Philippines seems to have turned to water annihilation.

Only to Perpetuate His Power.

When Mr. QUAY with so much ostentation declared his purpose to check the work of his machine, presumably to give to the Republicans a candidate for Governor whose sides, and shoulders, and flanks, were not covered with the brands of that machine, he distinctly and unequivocally asserted that "if he had the naming of, or could make the next Governor of Pennsylvania, his first choice would be JOHN P. ELKIN."

From this the veriest mullet-head can understand the kind of a Governor Mr. QUAY would have.

He is not opposed to ELKIN because of what he has done, what he is, or the kind of an official he would prove to be.

He is not pretending to oppose him in order to secure reform in the administration of state affairs and honesty in the different departments over which the chief executive presides.

He is not parading his declared opposition to him because he would stay the extravagance and profligacy that have run riot since the machine took charge of affairs at Harrisburg.

He is not talking about the necessity of nominating another candidate, than ELKIN, in order to save the State from a continuation of the debauchery and general devilishness that has disgraced and humiliated it under the reign of the last man he named for Governor.

O, no! These are not his reasons. It is to insure the election of such a Governor as he wants.

This is the why and the wherefore of his action.

The kind he wants we know. It would be ELKIN if he stood a chance of an election. As he does not, he must be a creature of the same kind, only without a record, and without the brand of the machine.

With Mr. QUAY'S own history in connection with the debauchery and jobbery that have so nauseated the people of the State; with his avowed declaration of the kind of a man he would make the Governor of the Commonwealth if he had it in his power to name him, there is no difficulty in understanding exactly the character of the candidate who will be presented by the Republicans this fall.

He will be either Mr. JOHN P. ELKIN, or one whom Mr. QUAY will choose, and will choose him because he is like ELKIN in all things except that he has made no record and the brand of the machine is not visible. Surely the people will not be "gold-bricked" by any pretense Mr. QUAY is now making of tearing down that which he has built up.

The Quay-Elkin Comedy.

Attorney General ELKIN and Senator QUAY are still playing the comedy or tragedy of politics, which ever it is, without any particularly new developments. Insurance Commissioner DURHAM was credited with a statement the other day that he is too fond of a friend of ELKIN to fight him and that because of this heart attachment he would let DAVID H. LANE conduct the fight in behalf of QUAY in the city. Of course if that is true it means that there is no real fight on and the comedy feature of the affair stands revealed. But QUAY continues to declare, with more or less vehemence, that he is in the fight and he has about half convinced the public or rather the gullible portion of it, of his sincerity.

There is one thing recently developed which, to some extent, justifies an impression that QUAY is sincere and that is that DAVID LANE has begun talking in favor of Judge PENNYPACKER. QUAY is under everlasting obligations to that cousin of his and no doubt would like above all things to reward a most important service by appointing him Governor. The bitterest and for that matter the most damaging attack ever made on QUAY appeared, in the North American Review last summer under the title "What is the Matter with Pennsylvania?" It literally lashed him to death and flayed and skinned him. PENNYPACKER answered that attack in an article so adroit and so convincing that the episode did QUAY good.

When Mr. LANE stated the other day, therefore, that he believed Judge PENNYPACKER would make an ideal candidate for Governor, he struck a responsive chord in the deep recesses of QUAY'S heart. PENNYPACKER is a fairly clean man. He has no political record to black-list him. He is claimed as an able man, moreover, and QUAY has no objections to ability if it is likewise obedient. With PENNYPACKER in the office of Governor QUAY would have just the sort of man he wants. The blunders which have made the present administration a laughing stock would never occur, and the pondering of the people, the pinching of corporations, and the jobbery by legislation would go on, probably a little more under cover than they have done under STONE, but with sufficient protection and vigor to afford the machine all the profit it expects and all the power it desires.

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That British Army Post.

If there ever were any doubts concerning the maintenance of a British army post or supply station at New Orleans they have been removed by lately discovered evidence. In fact one of the officers in charge of the operations, a sergeant CARMODY, himself states that he was at that point for eight months while his superior officer testifies to his efficiency in the service. Not only that but it is in evidence that large shipments of horses and mules have been made from Newport News for use of the British in South Africa, almost under the nose of the authorities in Washington.

These facts reveal how careless we have become of the traditions of the country. At no other time in our history has a struggling Republic found in the government at Washington an active enemy. Hitherto it has been our custom to extend a helping hand to a people fighting for freedom and self government. But under the influence of the "captains of industry" and the "Napoleons of commerce" who so completely dominate our official and social life, we prefer to help the strong and let the weak take care of themselves. It is literally "every fellow for himself and the devil take the hindmost," now.

There will be a day of reckoning, however, and maybe not at a very remote distance. The vast body of the people have not degenerated into worshippers of aristocracy and they will rise up and in their might smite the recreants. There is no misunderstanding the signs of the times. The pendulum will move back and when the change comes it will be in the form of a great torrent which will sweep everything before it. The love of liberty is still strong in the breasts of the sturdy American people and they will hold to account the false servants who carelessly permitted the maintenance of a British army post on American soil in order to crush out two weak and struggling Republics.

The Eastman's Journal in speaking of the recent Republican county convention down at Lock Haven says "DEMER for Congress and PATTON for Senator gave the Republicans of Clinton county lots of inspiration." Which may be so. There is nothing in the world that will inspire a Clinton county Republican like what comes out of a b'r'l, and as both DEMER and PATTON have back of them b'r'l's of considerable magnitude, there is no limitation to the amount of "inspiration" they may find it necessary to scatter in order to get the boys to properly hoorah for them.

Beef Trust Litigation.

We are not able to draw much of either hope or comfort from the litigation begun against the beef trust by the Attorney General of the United States. It may be that the law officer of the government is sincere enough and it is possible that he may even achieve something in the way of reform by the proceeding he has undertaken. But it may be noticed that the beef trust hasn't been scared enough to reduce prices or in any other way interfere with its plans. As a matter of fact it has just gone on with its business as if nothing unusual had happened and we are very much afraid that is the fact.

The beef trust is really less a trust than many other combinations of capital which go by that name. Neither of the constituent companies has yielded up any part of its prerogative to manage its own affairs. They have entered into a combination to regulate prices and incidentally no doubt to restrain trade so as to make the regulation of prices possible and effective. Both these things are forbidden specifically by the SHERMAN anti-trust law. That is to say that law forbids trusts from entering into such combinations. But it seems to us that if the Attorney General is unable to successfully attack the steel trust he will fail in his proceedings against the beef trust.

The truth of the matter is that the Republican party has about determined to boldly and openly advocate trusts and the leaders don't want to make trouble with the meat trust or any other such combination. In a recent speech delivered in Philadelphia Senator HANNA frankly declared himself in favor of the trusts. "They have come to stay," he said, "and they ought to stay because they are a beneficence." Senator BEVERIDGE, of Indiana, made nearly as broad a statement on the subject since and taking these incidents together we shall be surprised if the litigation amounts to anything more than a trick to satisfy the public sentiment now somewhat actively aroused.

Its a very pretty new dress that the Altoona Tribune appeared in on Thursday morning, and shows that although there may be splits and troubles in the party to which it clings, there is none in its financial condition, or its judgment as to what constitutes a pretty and readable paper. The Tribune, barring its politics, has always been one of the best inland dailies in the State, and with all its political perversities the WATCHMAN is glad to see this evidence of its success.

Shoveling Out Public Money.

From the N. Y. Journal. Millions of dollars—just how many millions nobody has been able, or willing, to confess—are to be doled out to a few rich owners by the Republican Congress without return in service to the government.

This ship subsidy bill is denounced by some of its Democratic opponents in the Senate as class legislation.

That is a mild characterization. It is worse than class legislation, worse than group legislation. It is ring legislation—a plain case of public money for the benefit of a handful of men whose only real claim to the loot is that they want it.

This raid on the treasury is made by Senator Hanna and his accomplices under the pretence that its purpose is to "build up the American merchant marine."

Experience in our own and other countries goes to show that the merchant marine cannot be built up by the bounty system. But even if it be true that, with the United States treasury to draw on without limit, ships can be multiplied, why should these ships be owned by private persons?

If the public is to pay for the ships, why shouldn't the public own them?

Mr. Hanna will be horrified at the suggestion. To his enlightened and conservative mind, government-owned merchant ships would mean "socialism."

But it is not socialism, in Mr. Hanna's view, to buy ships with the people's money and then give them to his friends.

And he is right. That is not socialism. It is robbery.

There is every indication that in spite of the thorough exposure made of this ship subsidy outrage by the Democratic Senators, it will be passed by the Republican Congress.

Every wage-earner in the United States will be taxed to supply the millions bestowed under the bill upon such deserving objects of charity as J. Pierpont Morgan, the wage-earners of the United States number about fifteen million men, women, and boys and girls of ten years of age and over. Their average earnings are \$400 a year, and on the average each wage-earner supports two dependents. That is to say, three persons must live on \$33.33 a month. About a quarter of the workingman's wages goes for rent and about half for food and fuel. That leaves him about \$8.30 a month for clothing, medicine, recreation and a savings bank account.

Professor Robert E. Ely, secretary of the League for Political Education, in considering these figures, taken from the federal census, justly says that "the terms of our economic problem cannot be solved by thrift alone"—meaning that the poor in the mass cannot lift themselves out of poverty by saving, since on the average they don't earn enough to enable them to save anything.

And yet this Republican Congress, led by Mr. Hanna, who lately has been aiming to figure as a special friend of the workingman, proposes to take the scarce pennies from the pockets of the working men, women and children and put them, to the amount of many millions of dollars, into the pockets of a few men who are in the transportation business—men for the most part already enormously rich.

It is a scheme of pillage at which the whole country would rise in indignant astonishment had not the whole country become used under the protection system to seeing everything taxed in order to enrich somebody.

That Would Put It to the Right Place.

From the Rockville (Ind.) Tribune. Mark Hanna made the ridiculous statement in the Senate the other day that 95 per cent of the cost of a ship was represented in labor. In the old days when we beat the world building ships without either tariff or subsidy and the entire work was done by hand, no such labor cost could possibly be figured out. However, this is not the point. If 95 per cent is labor and Mr. Hanna wants this subsidy for the laboring man, why not tack an amendment on his bill providing that 95 per cent of the subsidy shall be paid directly to the men who work in the ship yards and elsewhere about the lodge?

Smith Court Martial.

Testimony Given by Pedro Bella, a Boy "Mascoot" of the Ninth Infantry.

MANTLA, April 29.—When the trial by court martial of General Jacob H. Smith was resumed to-day, Pedro Bella, a boy "mascoot" of Co. F, of the Ninth Infantry, commanded by Captain Thomas W. Connel, who was massacred by the Samar natives at Batangas, testified that he saw Captain Connel's death wound given by a boy of 15. The witness saw several other boys of the same age among the natives who took part in the massacre and thought he could himself use a bolo against a soldier.

Captain Waldo F. Ayer, General Smith's adjutant general, said he had been closely in touch with all the movements and knew General Smith's plans, purposes and feelings at every phase. He added that on the general's arrival the coast was deserted and he saw the same towns filled with people when he left. But, so far as the people of Samar were concerned, he met only one man worthy of respect, who was sincere, patriotic and honorable. He must admit, however, that the man with this qualification was born at Marinduque, of Tagalog ancestry.

First Lieutenant Vandeman, of the Twenty-first infantry, who had charge of the military information bureau, described from the records the treachery of the natives of Samar.

Miles Safe for Present.

WASHINGTON, April 29.—It is now believed that no further consideration will be given by the President to the subject of retiring Lieut. General Miles, so long as the commander of the army continues his present attitude of reserve, and that the case will be allowed to remain as it is unless General Miles himself should do something or take some action to revive the recent determination of the President.

Spawls from the Keystone.

Burglars secured \$500 worth of booty in West Middlesex stores.

Swallowing poison, Robert Livermore, of Sharon, ended his life.

Forest fires in the vicinity of Waynesboro have destroyed acres of timber.

Run over by cars in a colliery near Shenandoah, A. H. Arme was killed Tuesday.

Adjutant General Stewart is in favor of Gettysburg for the division encampment of the National Guard.

Governor Stone Tuesday fixed June 24th for the execution of George Clarence Washington, at Lebanon.

A man who fell dead in Pittsburgh on Monday was Tuesday identified as Frank Snyder, of Philadelphia.

Having disappeared a week ago, Wolfgang Bonner was found dead in a swamp near Gouldsboro Tuesday.

Claiming that they have not been paid promptly, 500 miners at Buck Mountain colliery threaten to strike.

A falling core crushed to death Charles Hensley, a moulder employed in the Oil City boiler works, Monday.

Injured in a grade crossing accident, Lola Munsey, of Corry, has sued the Pennsylvania railroad for \$25,000.

At Kulp's saw mill, near Lewisburg, Thursday, John H. Donachy was struck by a log and had four ribs and his right leg broken.

The body of engineer John Marks, who was drowned when a bridge collapsed during the recent flood, was found near Williamsport Monday.

The monastery of the Benedictine Brotherhood, at Carrolltown, burned to the ground with all its contents Saturday, incurring a heavy loss.

By an explosion of gas at a Mahanoy Plane colliery Monday, William Davis, Edward Davis and Stephen Domskie were seriously burned.

Sundstrom & Stratton, the contractors at Oak Grove, have been awarded the contract for double tracking the Fall Brook railroad from Jersey Shore to Lyons.

Major Martin H. Luther, 88 years old who was born in Clearfield county in 1814, cleared the first farm in Brady township, and built the first house in Luthersburg, died early Thursday morning at his home in Luthersburg.

Indications are strong that the division encampment of the National Guard will be held at Gettysburg. The decision by the general officers of the guard will be made this week. The date for holding the encampment has been fixed for July 12th to 19th.

Miss Cora Quay, eldest daughter of Senator and Mrs. M. S. Quay, has been invited by the William H. Cramp & Son's shipbuilding company to christen the battle ship Pennsylvania. It is understood that she will accept. The exact date for the launching has not yet been fixed.

The new M. E. church at Munson will be dedicated on Sunday, May 4th. Rev. E. J. Gray, D. D., of Williamsport, Presiding Elder Bell and other ministers and helpers are expected to be present. Morning, afternoon and evening services will be held and a big day is anticipated.

John Moltz, a former Williamsporter, who for a number of years has resided in Baltimore, where he runs a commission house, was recently married at the age of 57. His bride is 22. This is Mr. Moltz' second matrimonial venture; his first wife having died several years ago.

The corner stone of the new Fifth Avenue Methodist church at Altoona was laid Sunday afternoon, with imposing ceremony, in the presence of upward of 10,000 people, by the pastor, Rev. H. C. Pardoe. The building will be of pressed brick, and will cost \$50,000, being completed by November.

The firm that owns the silk mill in Lock Haven has decided to erect a mill in Jersey Shore. The building will be put up on the lot about 600 feet northeast of the Fall Brook station. The engineers are running the lines and operations will be started in a short time. The mill will employ when in full operation 500 hands.

As a sequel to the many incendiary fires which have occurred in Huntingdon during the last few months three young men connected with some of the best families of the town, have been arrested and are under heavy bail to appear at the next term of court to answer the serious charge of having destroyed property aggregating at least \$100,000.

Pure Food Inspector James Foust Monday forwarded to the state department at Harrisburg the sum of \$800, the amount of fines of sixteen dealers in Tyrone, DuBois, Clearfield, Ocoosa, Curwensville and Philipsburg, who sold bologna that had been adulterated with boracic acid preservative. The sausage had been purchased from a Chicago firm, which settled the case by paying \$50 fine for each of the merchants arrested for selling its goods.

Work has been started on the tearing away of the old iron bridge at Rockville. A gang of Italians is now at work removing the abutments. About half the first arch has been destroyed and the remainder of the bridge will be taken down this week. It is understood that the iron structure will be taken away within the next two months. The old abutments are being taken out in order to give room for the completion of the last arch of the new stone bridge. This cannot be done, although the new bridge is safe and is constantly in use, until the old abutments have been removed.

A correspondent writes as follows to Johnstown Tribune: W. H. Richards, superintendent of one of the W. H. Piper mines at Lilly, on Saturday raised a covey of pheasants a mile under the ground. He was exploring one of the headings, carrying a lamp, when he heard a whirr of wings. Something brushed against him and his lamp fell, extinguishing the light. Richards was afraid to strike a match, fearing gas. After groping about for four hours he reached daylight.

An exploring party revisited the slope and found therein a covey of seven pheasants, lean from hunger. They were all taken out alive. It is supposed they sought shelter in the mine and were driven in by some one entering.