

Ink Slings.

All it requires to disclose the independence of labor is plenty of work.

If WILLIAM we eds that 45,500 immediately Uncle SAM might shave his paper for him.

Spend more money for school teachers and less will have to be spent for sheriffs and policemen.

The ground hog has had his day, now let the onion have a chance to poke its little nose out of a hole in the ground.

There is talk of the land question in Ireland being settled. If such is the case what will the Irish be after frein' them.

It did not take Minister BOWEN long to let Germany understand that thirty days is the time in which most of the business in the United States is done.

On Wednesday the Senate finally passed the State College appropriation bill, carrying \$250,000 and the Bellefonte hospital bill, carrying \$10,000.

Local option was argued for several hours in the Legislature on Wednesday, but that is about the closest some of those Legislators ever want to get to that no drink practice.

If poor old GEORGE had known everything later generations would do in his name on the 22nd of February it is doubtful whether the good old soul would ever have had a birthday.

The Sultan of Turkey, the 'sick man of Europe,' has had to take another dose of medicine that must have been very distasteful to him. After all his bluster he has had to grant the reforms demanded for Macedonia.

The little discussion the KAISER has gotten into with Professor DELITZSCH concerning the orthodoxy of their respective beliefs is not likely to disturb the equanimity of real bible students in any part of the world.

Congress will adjourn on next Wednesday with much of the business it promised to transact untouched. The public won't have any kick coming for what has been left undone. It will be the work that has been done that will cause the trouble.

Whenever the Daughters of the American Revolution get together in one of their annual meetings they get to scuffling in a way that makes those Bunker Hill, Brandywine and Trenton engagements of their illustrious ancestors read like Quaker meetings in comparison.

A cry for women is coming out of Oklahoma now. The industrious, successful young bachelors of that recently boomed territory want something more than the glorious climate and fertile soils that they have and so they call to the East for wives. What a harvest of old maids they are likely to gather in Oklahoma ere long.

Rev. GEORGE O. BARNES announced at Orwingsville, Ky., on Sunday evening, that after he has preached in every county of the Bourbon State the world will come to an end. Judging from the foolishness of this utterance we imagine the people of Kentucky would about as soon hear GABRIEL'S trumpet right away as put up with the halderdash this ranting Dowieite will get off.

About the only difference there would be in license getting, if the bill now before the Legislature proposing to take the granting power away from the judges and place it in the hands of an ex-amicus committee of three in each county becomes a law, will be the necessity for the applicant's 'getting next' to three men instead of one. Of course the difference in cost to the tax payer is not to be reckoned. What the Legislature wants is more offices for the heels.

The advance sheets of the report of Mr. LATTI, Secretary of Internal Affairs, are out and show that there are 2,022,273 taxables in Pennsylvania. What percentage of this number is farmers the report does not show, but there is an interesting matter disclosed in the figures, which show that whatever the percentage of farmers and real estate owners they pay about sixteen mills on the dollar, while corporate and personal property pays only about three mills.

Connecticut, the place whence wooden nutmegs were once worked on a gullible public, is falling back, says Rev. H. L. HUTCHINS, the American bible society agent for that State. He says they drink hard cider, eat opium and pay their public school teachers only \$5.00 a week down there and, to make matters worse, blood relations are intermarrying so that a crop of simpletons may be looked for as their future citizens. Doleful as may be Rev. HUTCHINS' tale we expect those future down easters will be about as able to look out for No. 1 as they were in the wooden nutmeg days.

The House has passed the bill to increase the salaries of the judges of Pennsylvania by the total sum of \$207,000. Of course the tax payers will be expected to look pleasant and pay up, but it is enough to start a great big kick in Pennsylvania when such squandering of the poor man's resources is permitted. If judges were not already paid a handsome salary or if there were a scarcity of candidates for judges it would be different. But under existing conditions, when there is a most undignified scramble for every vacant seat on the bench, there is scarcely anything to indicate that the salaries are not sufficiently attractive.

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State Library

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Machine in a Quandary.

Our friends, the enemy, are greatly perturbed at present over the question of a District Attorney for Philadelphia. In the search for a candidate for Mayor of that city some weeks ago the machine managers discovered that there was only one man within the range of availability who could have a shadow of a show of election. That was JOHN WEAVER, the District Attorney. WEAVER had served them faithfully and well. He had sacrificed his reputation as a lawyer and violated his oath of office in order to give SAM SALTER liberty and turn 400 other ballot box stuffers loose to operate in the future. For those reasons they nominated him, but now they are in a quandary as to his successor.

Under an old act of the Legislature the Board of Judges of Philadelphia fill vacancies in the court offices of that city and when the machine determined to create a vacancy by promoting District Attorney WEAVER they also selected his successor in the person of an easy-going lawyer named BELL. But the moment that WEAVER was elected the Judges began protesting against the machine marking out their work for them. It is improper and undignified, they declared, for politicians to order the Judges around. These murmurs reached the ears of the machine managers finally, and they concluded that it would be safe to trust the Judges so that they have now set up the claim that the Constitution conflicts with the act of assembly in question and places the power of making such appointments in the hands of the Governor.

As a matter of fact in this case the wish is father to the thought. Article XIV, of the state constitution, provides, in section 1, that 'County offices shall consist of sheriffs, coroners, prothonotaries, registers of wills, recorders of deeds, commissioners, treasurers, surveyors, auditors or controllers, clerks of the county district attorneys, and such others as may from time to time be established by law.' Section 2 of the same article, declares that these officers shall be elected at general elections and that 'vacancies not otherwise provided for shall be filled in such a manner as may be provided by law.' But a law of 1853 provided that vacancies in the office of District Attorney of Philadelphia shall be filled by the Board of Judges, and the provisions of the constitution in no manner conflicts with that law.

The effort to shift the authority from the Board of Judges to the Governor is an attempt to guarantee the appointment of the man selected by the machine managers. But they must show better authority than a by thus far cited in support of their claim before the Judges can afford to relinquish the prerogative. It would be quite as much a concession to the machine to yield the prerogative as it would to appoint the candidate of the machine. In fact both actions come to the same general total and if the Philadelphia Judges hope to retain public confidence they must insist on the selection of a District Attorney of such character for integrity and ability as will secure the faithful performance of the duties of the office.

Democrats Betrayed by Quay.

Senator QUAY has abandoned his Democratic allies in the fight for the omnibus Statehood bill and they deserve the contempt into which the incident has plunged them. When he entered into an agreement with them three months ago he pledged his honor to remain with them to the end. But the leaders of his own party offered him a better bargain on Saturday and he accepted their offer. The Democrats abandoned to themselves threaten to keep up the fight but they will hardly do that. They would be certain to lose in the end and the humiliation would be all the stronger.

When Democrats make an alliance with QUAY they stamp themselves as political prostitutes. QUAY has no sense of honor. He betrays every obligation and all sorts of friendships. His inordinate and overwhelming selfishness is the only guide which governs his conduct. Precisely as he betrayed ELKIN he has sacrificed the Democrats who served him in Congress during the present session and because they permitted him to thus prostitute them they are unworthy of the continued confidence of the Democratic people. Thank Heaven the period of the control of such imbeciles is drawing to a close.

With the expiration of the present Congress the political control of the BAILEYS and MORGANS comes to an end. Upon the re-assembling of the next Congress, able and wiser leaders will guide the Democrats in the Senate. QUAY, reeking with the infamy of a life of political crime, will not after the fourth of March lead the Democratic Senators into a pitfall where he may abandon them to serve his own selfish purposes. After that time overtures from QUAY will be met by a kick and a cuff and the Democrats will preserve their honor, even if they are not able to control legislation.

Senator Hoar's Change of Heart.

Senator HOAR, of Massachusetts, delivered a Washington day address in Chicago on Monday evening which in some respects was significant. 'The doctrine of 1776, when we won our independence,' he said, 'planted our country on the eternal principles of equality of individuals and of nations in political rights, and declared that no man and no people had the right to judge of the fitness of any other for self-government. In 1787,' he added, 'the constitution was built on the doctrine that there were domains within which the government had no right to enter, and that there were powers which the people would not commit to any authority, state or national.' Well who is responsible for the change for the worse?

During the Congressional session of 1899 the question of the preservation of the old or the adoption of the new ideas of government in this country were in issue. The treaty of Paris had established a sort of suzerainty over Porto Rico and the Philippines. One party held and Senator HOAR manfully and eloquently adhered to the idea, that the United States under our constitution could not continue that relation to the people. That party, and it was sustained by Senator HOAR, contended that ours is a government of sovereigns rather than subjects. The debate was intense and sometimes acrimonious and the presidential election of 1900 was by common consent made the arbitrator of the question. What did Senator HOAR do under those circumstances?

The imperialists were represented in that contest by McKINLEY and ROOSEVELT. They asserted the doctrine that by conquest we had acquired the territory of Porto Rico and by purchase, the price being \$20,000,000, we had become the owners of the territory and people of the Philippine Islands to do with them whatever we liked. On the other hand the other party represented in the contest by WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN, insisted that we were in the relationship of wards to the stricken people whom we had rescued and thus it was our duty to give them liberty and self government at the earliest possible moment and Senator HOAR gave the weight of his influence and his voice with the imperialists. He may regret it now, in the light of better understanding, but he ought to be modest in discussing it.

Senator Grady's Bill.

Senator GRADY'S absurd bill to reduce the poll tax in Philadelphia to ten cents, instead of fifty as at present, passed the State Senate finally on Tuesday. Senator DEWALT, of Lehigh county, called attention to the unconstitutionality of the measure, but every Republican in the chamber except one voted for it, notwithstanding, and that one took occasion to say that he was not influenced by the admonition of the Senator for Lehigh. They are all sworn to 'support, obey and defend the constitution' but they didn't hesitate to violate it. And still we wonder at the degeneracy of public morals.

Article LX, Section 1, of the state constitution reads: 'All taxes shall be uniform, upon the same class of subjects, within the territorial limits of the authority levying the tax.' The territorial limits of the authority levying a poll tax in Pennsylvania are the boundaries of the State. Philadelphia and Bellefonte, Pitsburg and Clearfield, Dauphin and Huntingdon are all alike and poll taxes levied within the State 'shall be uniform.' Yet the Senate, at the behest of QUAY, enacts a law in so far as it has power to legislate, which fixes the poll tax at ten cents in one part and forty or fifty or sixty cents in another, according to the estimate put upon occupations. And why is this done? Listen to Mr. GRADY'S explanation. Because the fifty cent tax is burdensome on those who are obliged to contribute the money to pay it. What a burning shame.

But we have less concern about the shamelessness of the act than what it leads to. The political machine has grown tired of dividing the loot which it gathers from politics. We were told last fall the Republican city committee of Philadelphia bought 100,000 tax receipts for the election of last fall. That took \$50,000 in good money from whom? Why from the machine managers. It wasn't their money, for it had been drawn from the pockets of dependents, time-servers and grafters about town. It comprised blackmail levied as the price of protecting crime and shielding vice. But it would have belonged to the machine managers if they hadn't been obliged to give it up and this expedient of GRADY'S, in violation of the constitution, is intended to save it to them in the future.

The Republican rather facetiously remarks the expenditure of 50 cts. for soap at the jail during the last year of sheriff BRUNOARD'S term. While it does appear to be something of a joke the mystery deepens the minds of those who recall how clean the former genial sheriff kept the jail at all times.

Roosevelt's Foolish Notions.

Commenting upon the lessons of WASHINGTON'S life in one of the Sunday newspapers President ROOSEVELT attributed to him the sentiment 'to be prepared for war is the surest way to maintain peace.' Thus the blood thirsty nature of our President is revealed. We can call to mind no matter and no occasion on which WASHINGTON used that phrase. But if he did use it it was an exceptional incident of his life, for he was essentially a man of peace. The burden of his admonitions was against war. In his farewell address he cautioned his countrymen against foreign complications, because they lead to war and at the first possible moment after the end of his military services he laid aside the implements of war.

These are the clearest proofs in the world that WASHINGTON wasn't a war lord and ROOSEVELT must find some other excuse for his own predilection in that direction. In fact his quotation is an insult to the memory of WASHINGTON who invoked every expedient in order to discourage the tendency of the time to an extensive military establishment and a large standing army. A well regulated militia, he said, is desirable for that reason and he implored Congress to provide for it in order that a nominal army would serve the purpose of such defence as the conditions of the country required. A large army and an expensive military organization were the things of all others that he deplored and constantly apprehended.

ROOSEVELT would like to be the 'man on horseback.' The butcher of humanity is his idea of a hero. He would have his hands constantly imbued in blood and he cultivates those passions because he imagines they indicate virility. What they indicate is brutality and barbarism and ROOSEVELT'S worship of blood is an insult to the civilization of this country and this age. His career has been one of blood and butchery. He acquired his first distinction by usurping the reputation for bravery earned by others at San Juan Hill and he got his present office at the hands of an assassin. He expects to continue in the shadow of popular favor by preaching the gospel of homicide, but we don't believe that the American people will approve.

The Greatest Criminal.

It is now estimated that 40,000 fraudulent votes were cast for the Republican candidate for Mayor of Philadelphia on Tuesday last week. Referring to this fact an Independent Republican writing to the Public Ledger of that city declares that it would have been just as easy to make the number 80,000 or 100,000 and that at general elections these figures are usually reached. The process which he explains is very simple. The machine agents simply get a list of the voters who have not taken the trouble to go to the election and the corrupt officers enter them on the tally sheets and put that number of votes marked for the machine ticket into the box.

We have always held that the worst citizens of any community are those who don't go to the elections. According to this statement of facts they are more culpable than we ever thought them. That is to say they are not only delinquent with respect to performing their own civic duties but they put into the hands of the corrupt machine managers the opportunities to perpetrate grave crimes against the honest voters who pay taxes and perform the duties of citizenship properly. In other words these drones in the political hive, after failing to exercise the essential functions of manhood, open up the way for ballot stuffers to debauch the ballot and over ride the will of the people by fraud.

We exaggerate nothing when we say that the gravest crime that can be perpetrated in this country is violating the election laws. That is the fountain of government, the source of justice. How we all abhor the miscreant who will throw poison in a well from which a vast number of people drink because we know he is spreading desolation and death throughout the community. But he is a better and purer man than the arch-fiend who will pollute the fountain from which the life and liberty of our common country is drawn. The ballot pollster is that wretch and the man who fails to vote is his accessory, both before and after the fact. We hope the future will show a diminished number of them everywhere.

Edward R. Chambers Esq., of this place, has been chosen as one of the aides on Governor Pennypacker's staff and hereafter he will be decorated with the title of Lieutenant Colonel. The appointment of Mr. Chambers to this honorary position was entirely unsolicited and came as a great surprise to him. While he has never been attached to the military of the State he was a captain of cadets while at The Pennsylvania State College and must have been well versed in tactics to have been competent for such a command.

Any old country that needs a little assets nowadays trumps up a bill against Venezuela.

It is Easier to Preach Duty Than to Do It.

From the Tyrone Herald.

Concerning getting married, being allowed to get married, and raising families, in a lecture at Jersey City on the evening of Washington's birthday, Rev. John L. Scudder among a whole lot of other things said:

We Pay Our Policemen More Than Our Teachers.

From the Altoona Tribune.

The bill now before the legislature providing a minimum wage for the public school teachers of the state ought to be enacted into law without delay. The Tribune would prefer to amend it by striking out \$35 and inserting \$40, but rather than endanger its chances by an amendment of that sort, righteous as it will be, the friends of the measure will do well to be content at present with the lower sum. After the act becomes a law and has been in operation two or three years it will be comparatively easy to pass an amendment increasing the minimum monthly salary. One thing is sure—the great state of Pennsylvania, appropriating as it does over \$8,000,000 annually for common school purposes, has the right to demand that the teachers shall be paid fairly respectable wages. We do not think anybody will seriously argue that \$35 is too much. The average teacher is only employed several months in the year and an income of \$245 a year can scarcely be regarded as extravagant. The truth is we ought to be willing to pay teachers as much as we give policemen.

The Lenten Period.

From the Harrisburg Patriot.

But the Presidency of the United States Carries the Greatest Honor.

From the Pittsburg Post.

There is a Difference in the State.

From the Philadelphia Record.

New Words Will be Needed.

From the Westmoreland Democrat.

Circus Cars Burned.

BRIDGEPORT, Conn., Feb. 24.—Fire party destroyed the new brick car barn at the winter quarters of Barnum & Bailey circus here today and burned a number of cars belonging to the circus. The loss is estimated at \$100,000, on which there is an insurance of \$35,000.

Spawns from the Keystones.

Over in Hazleton the horses are suffering with a disease called 'equine grip.' It is said to resemble the variety which afflict the human family and to be often fatal to the horse.

Jersey Shore is to have two rural free delivery routes, one through Nichols' Run territory and one through the Larry's Creek region. Petition has also been made for two routes from Jersey Shore through Nippenose valley.

Monday John Williams, aged 11 years, found a dynamite cap at his home, near Quarryville. He picked it up with a knife, when an explosion occurred, which blew off the fingers of one hand, tore out his left eye and it is thought permanently destroyed the sight of the other eye.

Daniel Bevan, postmaster at Miners' Mills, a large mining town near Wilkesbarre, was stricken with small-pox Monday morning and the postoffice is now closed. It is feared the disease may have been spread through the town by the mail and all precautions are being taken.

The season of Lent, generally observed throughout Christendom by Roman Catholics and some protestants began on February 25th, which day is known as the church calendar as Ash Wednesday. The feast of Lent is one of the most important festivals of the year in Roman Catholic churches.

Johnstown is to have a street fair and carnival every summer as the result of the organization in that city, of the Johnstown Street Fair and Carnival Association. The new venture is the direct result of the great success scored by the Elks in the street fair given under their auspices there last summer.

Jack McCormick, of Philadelphia, stayed six rounds with Kid McCoy Monday night at the Washington Sporting Club. The bout was something of a farce, as McCormick was entirely out-classed. He took the count ten times and only once succeeded in landing on McCoy. McCormick was on the defensive throughout.

A wreck, involving eighteen cars and a locomotive, was caused by the running away of a train on the eastern slope of the mountain above Altoona on Sunday morning and resulted in the injury of two trainmen, P. W. Rutledge, conductor, of Conemaugh, and Charles A. Smith brakeman. Their injuries are not serious.

John Zelzeth, of Haneyville, has been engaged again to net crows for a sporting club of Philadelphia. He caught 3,000 two years ago for the same parties. Now they double the number, as a law is now pending in the State Legislature, prohibiting the use of live insectivorous birds, hence the clubs are making early preparations.

Members of the firm of Cassatt & Co., bankers and brokers, of Philadelphia, charge that Howard T. Goodwin, confidential man of the house, who recently committed suicide in his office, was a defaulter. John Lloyd, of Altoona, the firm's manager, is authority for the statement that proceedings are to be instituted against broker firms with which Goodwin had dealings.

Burnham, Mifflin county, has a remarkable old couple in the persons of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Stewart. Last Monday was their fifty-sixth wedding anniversary and both are hale and hearty. Mr. Stewart is an employe of the Standard Steel company and is always found at his post, although he has passed his four score years. Their family consists of twelve children, ten of whom are living, most of whom reside there and are employed in the steel works.

Several days ago a dog owned by Henry Wisegarver, station agent at Cessa, Bedford county, was attacked with hydrophobia and bit a son of Thomas Wisegarver in the face, making an ugly gash, requiring the services of a physician to dress the wound. The dog also bit a dog belonging to John Henderson, which bit the owner killed, and a dog belonging to John Yount, and a number of other animals and fowls. Constable Samuel T. Diehl killed the dog in the afternoon.

An extensive bed of fire clay has been discovered about a mile from Heathville, Jefferson county. Heathville is near the Allegheny Valley railroad and it is proposed to construct a branch road from the A. V. to the clay beds and transport it to the railroad where a large brick plant will be built. The clay is pronounced, by experts, to be of a superior quality, of that dark flinty appearance resembling ferro manganese, and used extensively in making armor plate. A stock company has been organized with a capital of \$50,000 and a large portion of the stock has been subscribed.

There is a rousing big fight on just now in Cambria and Somerset counties over the new county project, which Johnstown is working up. Ebensburg people are kicking like mules and there is a general lining up against the new county scheme throughout the county outside of Johnstown and the adjoining districts. Over in Somerset county the members of the Bar association are unanimously opposed to the project of forming a new county which will take a slice from Somerset. Petitions opposing the new county were at every polling place in the county on election day and were numerous signed. Somerset county will not part with any of her territory without a struggle. The legislature at Harrisburg is being deluged with petitions and committees favoring and opposing the new county, of which it is proposed Johnstown shall be the county seat.

A bill designed to correct the act of assembly which governs the distribution of the bodies of the pauper dead and the operation of which has caused considerable anguish to relatives of deceased persons and righteous indignation on the part of others in every part of the State, was introduced in the House at Harrisburg Thursday night by Representative H. G. Troxell. The amendment is in effect as follows: If such deceased person is claimed on the petition of not less than ten taxpayers of the poor district in which said deceased person died or had a residence; said petition to be directed to the overseers or directors of the poor of said district, notice in writing of such claim to be served upon the persons or institution having such dead body in charge; or, if such deceased person was a traveler who died suddenly, in either case the said body shall be buried by the overseers or directors of the poor of said poor district.