

Ink Slings.

—KEPLER and WITZEL both came back from Harrisburg with the respect of their constituents.

—More than twelve thousand immigrants landed in New York in a single day last week and the end of the flow is not yet.

—It remains to be seen how many newspapers will have the courage to oppose the re-election of those who voted for the SALUS libel bill.

—The Pennsylvania Legislature adjourned sine die yesterday with the record of having kept but one of its promises and that one was to adjourn on the 16th.

—The fine clothes that were seen in Bellefonte on Sunday, all put together, wouldn't have kept the Bacchante statue from shaking Boston. It rained.

—The Sproul good roads bill is now a law. It remains to be seen which will have most of good roads for Pennsylvania or good jobs for Pennsylvanians.

—Another VANDERBILT has been married. Thus the good work goes on of keeping that notable family supplied with notables for a sycophant public to worship.

—If Governor PENNYPACKER signs the SALUS bill he is not entitled to the respect the people of Pennsylvania have for him as a broad minded, intelligent gentleman.

—A boy in Appleton City, Missouri, named SALAD has been given the name of "CHICKEN." Quite a propos, but time may make it necessary to change it to Lobster.

—The day for lining up between the friends of REIDER and FLEMING will soon be here and the wise Republican who is on the fence will do well to look well before he leaps on either side.

—It is probable that the SALUS-GRADY libel bill will be the cause of the relegation of more Members to the back seats than any act that ever came before the Pennsylvania Legislature.

—It is a question whether the President is in as much danger surrounded, as he is, by mountain lions, grizzlies and what nots as are his friends on Fifth Avenue, N. Y., where the deadly auto rams.

—While labor is splitting hairs concerning what it wont do now-a-days it should be mindful that, in the natural order of things, there will come a time when it will be pulling hair in order to get anything at all to do.

—The Philadelphia Press seems to be very much exercised lest the Hon. GROVER CLEVELAND might succeed in making the colored population of the country believe that he loves them more than ROOSEVELT.

—We look with alarm upon the appropriation of state money to sectarian institutions. The constitution of the State forbids it and the temper of the people makes it the most dangerous practice that can be indulged in.

—The telephone lines into the President's camp in the Yellow Stone park were reported broken down on Monday. But the country was not alarmed, for even wires might be expected to wear out under too great a strain.

—The Philadelphia Inquirer thinks it would "be a fine thing to have BEN TRILLMAN in the White House, for then we would have pitch-forks for breakfast, dinner and supper." It would be a pleasant change from mountain lions and grizzlies.

—Two wives are claiming Rev. RALPH H. BALDWIN, of New York, and Miss JUSTICE, the blind lady, thinks she has a claim on the poor fellow too. Is it any wonder that the Rev. RALPH thinks that the men of the cloth have a hard time of it?

—Ament the discussion aroused by the taking of the teachers institute to Philadelphia a story is being passed around here to the effect that that was part of the deal by which Mr. GRAMLEY received the support of the Philadelphia delegation for superintendent.

—Philadelphia and the city of Mexico are not so vastly different after all. If a man murders another in the latter he is put on the police force. If he acknowledges himself a criminal in the former he is given a city office at two thousand dollars a year.

—The planting of Dutch green bay trees in the White House grounds at an importation cost of \$200 each is rather expensive, merely to make a Dutch President feel at home. Most any Irishman would be willing to take ROOSEVELT's job and never even sigh for a shamrock.

—It is not to be presumed that Centre county will get any more law than she has been during the past eight years just because Judge LOVE's salary is to be raised one thousand dollars. No doubt His Honor thinks it is cheap at five and that he has been really throwing it away at four, but then you know people have different ideas of the value of things.

—In explanation of the Portland Oregonian's statement that "the big politicians come from small towns" the Philadelphia Record says the reason that big ones are not developed in the cities is because "the machines exterminate men who will not submit to be mere puppets." All of which may be true enough, but if it is it places PENROSE and some of the rest in a very low class.

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Quay's Purpose With the Libel Bill.

The Governor has been courteous enough to give the newspaper men of the State an opportunity to remonstrate against the signing of the iniquitous GRADY libel bill. In that he is more considerate than the Senators and Representatives in the Legislature were or else QUAY has more confidence in him than he had in them and therefore gives him more latitude. The Legislature was asked to give the publishers a hearing but refused. It would have involved a delay over the Saturday adjournment and given its constituents a chance to talk. The machine managers were afraid of that and drove the helpless Legislators to immediate action against the better judgment of most of them.

The Governor is wiser, or as suggested above, QUAY has more faith in his fortitude. To have refused so reasonable a request would have been inviting trouble and QUAY is not doing that during his lucid intervals. Therefore he concluded to allow the Governor to invite the editors to come and protest to their hearts' content. He has fixed Tuesday next for the event and the promise is that it will be a great gathering. All the leading editors of the State assembled together will make a formidable force considered numerically or intellectually. But it will not have strength to swerve Governor PENNYPACKER from fulfilling QUAY's purpose and present indications are that it is to have the bill signed.

It may be said, and it is more than likely true, that QUAY has no intention of enforcing the drastic provisions of the GRADY bill against the newspapers, generally speaking. He may have it in for one or two to the extent that would induce him to "hiss" shyster lawyers, professional blackmailers and cheap perjurers on them. But he has no such enmity against the average newspaper and it may be predicted that his object in getting the atrocious GRADY bill on the statute books is to give a fresh subject on which to promise reform in the future. In other words he will hold the law over their heads as a menace and promise its repeal as a reward for obedience.

It is nothing more or less than a scheme of the boss to maintain his clutch on the political situation in Pennsylvania. If it is vetoed, it will be for the purpose of allowing him to claim the credit for its failure to become a law, and this he will do notwithstanding the fact that it was passed at his dictation and was the work of those who are in politics only to obey his orders. If it is not vetoed it goes upon the statute books of the State that he may have the opportunity to promise its repeal in return for the support that he can get from a muzzled and an outraged press, two years hence.

THE WATCHMAN does not pose as a prophet, but it asks its readers to mark the prediction herein made.

Three Recrunt Legislators.

Upon the final vote on the atrocious SALUS-GRADY libel bill three Democrats proved recreant. JOHN H. F. HOY, of Clarion, FRED T. IKELER, of Columbia, and JOSEPH W. MAYNE, of Lehigh county, who were elected as Democrats, by Democrats, to express Democratic sentiments on questions of legislation, voted with the Republicans for the most conspicuously undemocratic measure which has been considered in the Legislature from the beginning of constitutional government in this State. What perverse influence guided them in their action has not been revealed but a graver betrayal of faith has never been perpetrated on a trusting people.

With respect to Mr. HOY nothing better was expected of him. Two years ago he was reported to be constantly soliciting bribes and was known among the members and others concerned in legislation as an arch corruptionist. But of IKELER and MAYNE better things were looked for. IKELER was honored at the opening of the present session by election to the important office of chairman of the caucus. Upon him was conferred the distinction of standing as the trusted sentinel in the watch tower of the Democratic citadel. His betrayal of the party, therefore, involves a greater measure of turpitude, than if he had not been so honored. It involves not only the desertion of a beleaguered force in jeopardy but the joining with the enemy in the attack. It was dastardly treason.

Mr. MAYNE is little better than his Columbia county colleague. At the beginning of the session he asked for a vote of confidence at the hands of his associates on the floor. He aspired to the honorary distinction of the nomination for Speaker and men who trusted him reluctantly voted for another. But he has since outbraded himself into the position of leadership so that his perfidy had nearly as ill an effect as if his ambition had been gratified. Happily, however, the integrity of the rest of the Democrats was too well fixed to be shattered even by such an exhibition of treason and little harm was done except to the recreants themselves.

A Burning Outrage.

The closing days of the Legislature were marked by some extraordinary incidents. We have referred elsewhere to the passage of the atrocious "press-muzzler," as the GRADY libel bill is commonly called, and we might enumerate a number of other outrageous measures which were forced through during the excitement incident to the closing sessions. But we will only take the time and trouble to call attention to that most extraordinary proposition of power which was expressed in the vote which deprived Representative BLUMLE of the seat to which he had been justly and fairly elected and putting another who hadn't been elected into his place.

Mr. BLUMLE was chosen by the people of Cameron county to represent them in the Legislature. His majority was not overwhelming, but it was ample and the total vote considered, considerable. He had served the people one term with such satisfaction that he was unanimously renominated and for a time the inclination was to give him an unopposed re-election. But what is called political exigencies intervened and a candidate was put up against him who was backed by a large corporation fund. Nevertheless Mr. BLUMLE was elected by a considerably larger majority than he had received at his first contest.

Agreeably to the provisions of the constitution the dispute was first taken to the court where it was decided that the contest hadn't even the shadow of a case. Notwithstanding the judicial disposition of the matter the contest was carried to the House and during the whole session it has been a vexed question of inquiry. No evidence was discovered inculpating Mr. BLUMLE in frauds or even proving that frauds had been committed in his behalf. In fact the reports had been practically authorized by the committee that his right to the seat would be affirmed and during the last three or four days before the final vote on the question the machine managers had been peddling propositions to decide in his favor if half a dozen Democratic votes would be given to certain machine measures. The Democrats were imperious to that form of corruption, however, and the offers were rejected.

Thus repelled on all their propositions for corrupt deals the Republicans on the elections committee prepared and signed a report unseating the rightfully elected Representative for Cameron county and on Tuesday afternoon it was presented to the House and argued by Representative AMMERMAN, of Montour county, on behalf of the respondent. The veteran THOMAS V. COOPER, than whom there is no stronger Republican, announced promptly that he would not contribute to the proposed iniquity and Representative MCCLAIN, of Lancaster, protested that it was too much for him. But the party majority was sufficient to carry the outrage to a consummation and Mr. BLUMLE was thrown out.

Scandal in the Postoffice Department.

The scandal in the Postoffice Department which has recently developed is not altogether surprising. For years we have been in the habit of regarding that Department of government as free from such infirmities because it has been conducted on business principles. But since the national calamity which elevated ROOSEVELT to the high office of President there is no Department free from the influence of the spoils-men and where the spoilsmen are in control scandals are almost certain to prevail. When ROOSEVELT appointed lobbyist PAYNE to the office of Postmaster General he invited scandals and he is getting them. The present scandal is in relation to the salary and allowance division of which GEORGE W. BEAVERS is chief and a young lady who is chief clerk the "power behind the throne." According to the reports current in relation to the matter there has been a rake off in the matter of promotions though whether the money goes to the chief or the clerk has not been revealed. In any event 2,000 recent promotions in the New York postoffice and sub-stations have been revoked by the acting Post Master General and the investigation has only begun in real earnest. It is possible that the entire list of promotions throughout the country will be overhauled.

A former postmaster in this State tells a story of this same BEAVERS which is interesting in this connection. He was urged to make requisitions for cash registers for use in his office but protested that he couldn't see any way to make them useful. Later a prominent Republican politician in the city where he lived suggested that he would better make the requisition and later on he discovered that BEAVERS got a rake-off on the sales of the machines. That is one of the ways that office holders under a machine administration grow rich, notwithstanding expensive habits. There are a good many cash registers in the Postoffice Department.

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Two Esteemed Contemporaries.

The esteemed Harrisburg Star-Independent appears to have put our equally valued contemporary the Philadelphia Press into a deep hole. That is to say some time ago our Harrisburg contemporary stated that during a quiet session of the House of Representatives just prior to the publication in question one Philadelphia Representative had voted frequently on the names of absent colleagues. This greatly outraged the Press, which appears to have become the personal organ of the machine and it protested that such a thing was impossible and demanded the name of the offender.

Thereupon the Harrisburg newspaper promptly gave the name and offered to prove by the affidavits of two reputable citizens of the State that the person had not only committed the offense in one instance but that he had carried through three bills, one after another, in that way. The member who perpetrated the crime and also introduced Philadelphia voting methods into the Legislature was the Hon. SAMUEL RIPP, of the Eleventh district of Philadelphia, according to the Harrisburg Star-Independent and he voted eighteen times on one bill, fifteen times on another and twelve times on still another.

Since the bill of particulars has been presented to our esteemed Philadelphia contemporary, however, it appears to have lost all interest in the subject. In other words having unexpectedly obtained the evidence which it asked but hoped would not be forthcoming, the Philadelphia organ of QUAYism has closed up like a clam and though the Harrisburg paper is poking fun at it leisurely, it hasn't a word to say. What has caused this change in its conduct with respect to the matter? It was very gay at the outset but is as silent, not to say melancholy, as the grave now.

The Family Roads Bill.

Some slight improvements have been made to the SPROUL roads bill, but all the fundamental faults have been retained in it and the people will soon come to regret the election of a Legislature which was ready to sacrifice the interests of the public in order to promote those of the political machine. As amended, the bill provides for the odious and expensive Highway Department with a lot of high salaried officials and takes the control of road making out of the hands of the people of the community interested. If there were no other objections that would be sufficient. But there are others.

There is no more dangerous policy in government than that of making appropriations for long periods in advance. The founders of the government appreciated this fact as is shown by the provision of the constitution which forbids appropriations for the army for a period longer than two years. No doubt the same limit was intended to be put on appropriations for the navy and other departments of the Federal government but of late years that manifestly safe purpose has been violated. In the SPROUL roads bill it is strangled under foot completely and appropriations are made covering the operations of the Highway Department for a period of six years.

Fortunately, however, no Legislature can limit the action of its successor and the next General Assembly will no doubt repeal the provisions of the bill which have not been fulfilled at the time it met. The Representatives for this county in the Legislature wisely voted against the measure, but those of our adjacent counties were not so considerate of the interests of the people and helped to fasten this needless burden on the people of the interior of the State in order that the roads suburban to Philadelphia may be made perfect at the expense of the tax payers in other sections. Such recreants ought to be left at home at the next election.

—The fact that Senator A. E. PATTON refused to be whipped into line in support of the SALUS-GRADY press muzzler is a matter of honor, not only to himself, but to the district he represents in the upper branch of the Legislature. There were two reasons why Senator PATTON might have supported this outrageous abortion of law: First, because it was made purely a party measure and claimed the support of every Republican; second, because he was personally solicited to support it by men second only to Mr. QUAY in the Republican organization. Under such influences and realizing that it would really not effect any of the papers of his district Senator PATTON might have voted for the measure—that is, had he not been the man whose courage and integrity and sense of fairness—almost alone—placed him where he is. Senator PATTON is rich, has played the political game almost all his life, has been a large employer of labor and been constantly in just such breaches as might have afforded shafts for the cartoonist had he not been the fair, square man that he is. He is powerful in his district because he is honest and has nothing to conceal. The machine workers who pushed the SALUS bill through are powerful in theirs because they are dishonest and such legislation protects them.

Where the Weight of Tariff Taxes Falls.

From the New York Times. Mr. Roosevelt at Sioux Falls South Dakota, was a long way from Washington, and he may not have had a copy of the Dingley tariff with him, though it is one of those things that even his traveling library should not be without. Had he had one by him, he would have been clearer as to what the "rational action of the Government has done for the farmer."

What the action of the Government, whether Mr. Roosevelt chooses or not to call it rational, has actually done is to check and limit the market for his products and to tax him needlessly, heavily and cruelly on much that he has to buy. The farmer of Dakota, if he does not sell his grain in Europe, sells it at prices fixed there, in the lowest market of the world. He cannot get a cent a ton more for what is sold in this country than the exported surplus will bring on the other side of the ocean. The tariff limits that market by imposing all purchases in it and taxing nearly every thing bought there, and this is done to enable the American producer to extort higher prices from the consumers at home, including the farmer.

Glance for a moment at the taxes thus imposed on the articles of common and necessary use of the farmer. The wire for fencing is taxed from 45 per cent. upward. Wood screws are taxed 6 cents a pound, equivalent at some stages of the market to 75 per cent. The horse clothing he needs for his team is taxed at least 130 per cent. The window glass in his house is taxed at least 66 per cent. and much of it still higher. The cheapest carpets are taxed from 18 cents to 44 cents a yard, plus 44 per cent. frequently amounting to 100 per cent. His rubber boots and blankets are taxed 44 cents a pound, plus 60 per cent. and rarely less than 100 per cent. On jackets and over garments for himself and family the same tax is levied. On an answer to the tax is 50 per cent. at the lowest, and on his pocket knife it is at the lowest 120 per cent.

The list might be extended indefinitely. These will do as examples of what the Government "does for" the farmer. If we are told that these and like taxes are not really added to the prices of the goods, our answer is that they impose for that purpose; that as a matter of fact they often are added, and that, if they do not so raise the prices in the country, they ought to be repealed as failures. But the mere suggestion that an American manufacturer cannot compete with a rival 3000 miles away, with freight, insurance and commissions to pay, unless he is "protected" by taxes of 60 per cent. to 130 per cent. sets the Republican Protectionists in a panic and a rage. Not a line of the sacred tariff will they allow to be touched, and they have even muzzled Mr. Roosevelt, who a year ago, saw the need of serious reduction. When the farmer wakes up there will be trouble.

May Prove Beneficial After All.

From the Baltimore News. No libel law which will hold water in the United States can protect the exposure of public rascality by a courageous and intelligent press. But the Pennsylvania law will make it much more difficult for all newspapers to do business in the State. Under its provisions, they will be made victims of shysters and blackmailers. One is inclined to add that the great majority of Pennsylvania newspapers—there are honorable exceptions—deserve no better fate. They have endured the misgovernment of the ring and condoned its rottenness on the theory that clean government made little difference from a "business" standpoint. Now they are reaping the harvest of this sort of sowing. There is no legitimate business that is not injured by crooked government. Nothing is healthy in a State permeated by political "graff." Perhaps the crowning audacity of Pennsylvania's free-booters in striking blindly at the entire press will arouse the fourth estate to action and put an end to the intolerable political situation in this State.

Why the Scarcity of Farmers?

From the Johnstown Democrat. It is not scientific schools under federal patronage that United States farming needs. It is not instruction in horticulture that will make farming attractive to young Americans. It is rather a free and a fair field that is necessary. The man who talks about making farming attractive and then imposes a tariff which protects the capitalists of industry and inflicts an oppressive discrimination upon the farmer, talks nonsense. Abolish the barriers of special privilege and the farms will be tilled by those skilled in the arts of husbandry. As long as the hand that sows is not allowed to reap; as long as the farmer must toil not for himself, but for another, just so long will farming be shunned by the American Youth. The fault lies not with the system of education that prevails, but with economic principles that dominate.

What a Prince Misses.

Los Angeles Herald. Why should an American boy sigh because he was not born a prince? The crown prince of Germany is hedged in the house because he has messes. If he has not already had mumps he is liable to have them, possibly on both sides. The delight of running barefoot in summer is unknown to him, nor does he know the joy of a sur-reptitious swim, with the sole drawback of reporting at home with the inner garment wrong side out.

Wait and Hear the Republican Party Take Credit for These!

From the Philadelphia North American. With a 520,000,000 bushel wheat crop in prospect and a newly discovered \$1,000,000,000 coal bed near Wilkesbarre there is no immediate danger of Uncle Sam's family going hungry or cold.

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Spawls from the Keystone.

—The Osceola tannery is being dismantled and shipped to the Penn's Hide and Leather Co's plant at Curwensville.

—The State Senate at Harrisburg Tuesday passed finally a bill providing for the purchase of a permanent encampment ground for the National Guard.

—The corner stone for the new Odd Fellows' Home at Grove City will be laid July 16th. Plans for the home, which will cost \$50,000 were accepted from the architects.

—Daniel Follmer, of Milton, committed suicide at noon Saturday, at the home of his mother, by cutting his throat with a razor. He was about 40 years old, unmarried and was probably demented.

—A rear end freight collision occurred on the Reading railroad at Sunbury Monday. A caboose and one car were destroyed by fire. One of the wrecked cars contained dynamite, but the Sunbury fire department extinguished the flames before they reached the explosive.

—The East Kishacoquillas Presbyterian church of Reedsville, Mifflin county, has received a communication from Andrew Carnegie, in which he agrees to contribute \$1,000 towards the purchase of a pipe organ, provided the congregation will contribute a like amount.

—Allen P. Perley, the well known Williamsport lumberman, has completed a big deal in timberland in Bedford, Blair and Cambria counties, by which he becomes the owner of 40,000,000 feet of standing timber. The aggregate amount Mr. Perley paid for the timber was \$180,000.

—Robert McAfee, of Allegheny, was appointed Tuesday by Governor Pennypacker to be State Banking Commissioner, succeeding Frank Reeder, of Eacton, whose term has expired. It is understood that the appointment is one of the results of Senator Quay's conference Sunday with Gov. Pennypacker.

—Elmer Hakes, 27 years old, sprang from a boat which collided with a log while being ferried across the swollen Loyalsock Creek, near Williamsport. He capsized the boat throwing his cousin, who was rowing, into the stream. The latter swam to shore, but Hakes was swept into the Barbour's Mills rapids and drowned.

—Samuel Flegle, of Stoyestown, Somerset county, was 80 years old several days ago and he celebrated the event by going out into the woods, cutting down two large trees and superintending the hauling to his barn, a distance of a mile. He is none the worse for the job, which might have proved trying to men many years his junior.

—In Elk county there are thousands of acres of huge pine stumps that will be manufactured into shingles. The stumps will be sawed off close to the ground, and then cut into single bolts by a saw especially made for that purpose. The saw was made in Williamsport, weighs one hundred and five pounds, is seven feet four inches long.

—O. F. Wharton, of New Haven, Pa., connected with the Spear White Sand company at Mapleton, going business in Pittsburg, committed suicide at the Leister House in Huntingdon Friday, by sending a bullet through his head. Mr. Wharton showed great signs of distress when he registered and on going to his room immediately committed the deed.

—The swindler, who goes around selling common salt as a wonderful new discovery, a patent powder, for making kerosene oil last four times as long as it otherwise would if a tablespoonful is dissolved in a gallon of the oil, is at work in neighboring counties. It is said he sells a small package for 10 cents and finds a lot of victims who ought to be sharp enough to know better.

—Clarence Moyer, a Jersey Shore carpenter, was at work on a ladder Wednesday when he slipped and fell a distance of sixteen feet, striking his head on a hard wood block that lay near the foot of the ladder. An ugly gash, seven inches long, was cut in his head, penetrating to the skull, and extending from the middle of the forehead to the left ear. Twenty stitches were necessary to close the wound.

—Joseph R. Vandanecker, of Philipsburg, has been granted a patent on an invention which in the opinion of railroad men who have examined it is highly valuable, inasmuch as if it is adopted by the railroads it will prevent accidents and loss of life. The invention is an emergency train stop which will be operated automatically from the semaphore at local stations by electricity from the general offices. Mr. Vandanecker's invention will absolutely prevent wrecks occurring when engineers fail to see or disregard signals.

—The commissioners of Blair county have offered a reward of \$200 for the capture of Sam Hamm, the colored man who killed Herman Henderson at Altoona last week. Diligent search is being made for the man, but up to the present he has evaded the officers and all others who are taking a hand in the hunt. It is thought that he is hiding near Altoona in some of the abandoned mine workings or abandoned farm buildings until the warmth of the hunt cools down, when he will have a better chance to get away.

—Harry Condon, of Summit, conductor on the Cambria and Clearfield division, Tuesday went to Lilly for medicine for a neighbor's child who was ill. On his way home about 4 o'clock in the afternoon he attempted to board a fast eastbound freight at Lilly, but the train was going faster than he judged and he was thrown under the wheels. Both legs were cut off, and, it is said, both arms. The unfortunate man who hurried back to Dr. Kress' office at Lilly, where he was given prompt attention. He was later taken to the hospital at Johnstown, where he died at 5:30.

—The forethought of Miss Ruth Clark, a bookkeeper at Vipond Construction company's office at Altoona, was the means of preventing a negro from stealing a sum of money Monday. Miss Clark was alone in the office when the negro came in and demanded money for work done for her employer. Miss Clark gather up several envelopes containing \$700 and threw them in the waste basket. Hardly had she done so when the negro came back, roused at the woman and knocked her unconscious. He then ransacked the safe, but as he forgot the waste basket he got no money. The young lady was revived but is suffering from the shock.