

Ink Slings.

The little green apple hangs up on the tree The bad little boy chuckles with glee He eats one or two, then jumps his trollee And away he is hauled to the cement-ter-ee.

The country is safe. Mr. MORGAN has returned from Europe.

The weather hasn't even gotten warm enough to give the mad dog his day.

It is quite possible that with the leaks in the Postoffice Department stopped up one cent postage rates might be secured to the public.

A little rain-fall now and then, is relished by all sorts of men, but when it starts and can not stop, we wish we'd never seen a drop.

It is a question now as to which is the most enjoyable in Delaware. ADDICKISM or mob rule. It might be that the former engendered the latter.

Sir Thomas and his Shamrocks have arrived. May their stay be as full of joy for them as it can be under such circumstances as defeat always brings.

By making a splendid ticket the Democrats of Clearfield county have taken a long lead in the race for offices that will have its finals in November.

The higher they lift the lid from the post-office scandals in Washington the more apparent it becomes that Republican spellbinders next fall will have to devote all their time to mixing white-wash.

The moon changed early yesterday morning and the weather-wise looked for a change of weather, but from the appearance of the sky the ground will be soaked worse than ever by the time the moon gets full.

Stories waded up from the seashore on the first breeze caused by the rush of summer guests show that the foolish bathers were not all drowned last summer. There was a few of them left to make trouble for the guards.

The Pennsylvania building at the World's fair at St. Louis may be without character, as the Philadelphia papers allege, but certain it is that if the average Philadelphia public character had much prominence in the building there would be no building at all.

The way Judge LOVE and Col. EDWARD CHAMBERS speak to one another as they pass by would turn a pair of boiling water into a solid block of ice. You know the Colonel thinks he could lift the judicial ermine of Centre county out of the mire it has been trailed in these past ten years.

After changing the tariff forty-eight times in forty-two years the Republicans can hardly claim to have practice back of their already begun campaign preaching against "tariff tinkering." Forty-eight times in forty-two years is pretty high, so it is little wonder they arrogate to themselves superior knowledge as tinkers.

Out at Livingston, Montana, the farmers are organizing to stampede the grasshoppers. The pestiferous little insects are eating up all the grass. In this part of the country grasshoppers or anything else that would venture into a grass field without a life preserver and a bathing suit would be taking their life in their own hands.

The promotion of the traitors who betrayed King ALEXANDER, of Serbia, and his Queen, to positions of rank in the administration of the new King is a fitting end to a chapter of the most dastardly crimes that has ever blighted the history of civilization. Words illly express the horrors that were perpetrated at Belgrade and had they been committed in the semi-civilized Philippines or wilds of Africa all the powers of the earth would have rushed in to benevolently assimilate the barbarians.

The work of a Delaware mob in battering down the work house doors at Wilmington and burning at the stake, the negro, GEORGE WHITE, who was accused of assaulting Miss HELEN BISHOP, sounded so much like the South that the partisan Republican papers of the North should be excused if they get a little twisted in their geography just now and locate it down in Georgia. Such spectacles would not startle the public as frequently as they do if courts of justice served the people more and the sharp practice of lawyers less.

The Democrats of Iowa have brought forth an "idea." Not to be out-done by their Republican brethren they have decided that the 1904 platform should not be reaffirmed and acted accordingly at their state convention on Wednesday. While the WATCHMAN is of the opinion that the silver question should be eliminated from the campaign of 1904 it does not repudiate it as having been a tenable one in 1900 or 1896. Exigencies of the times make the issues and no one can tell now what the country will need a year and a-half hence.

The thrilling round up of a band of robbers in the Seven mountains, in this county, came just in time to keep us in the foreground of public curiosity. Our crop of statesmen is getting low, big weddings are scarce, and old grandma BARGE, whose one hundred and seven years were always good for a column or so in the city papers, has gone to her grave; leaving us high and dry as a news centre. But if last Saturday's performance can only be duplicated occasionally Col. Judge CHAMBERS will ultimately come to the rescue of the space writers as a thing of joy and interest for all.

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No Occasion for Worry.

The esteemed Philadelphia Press betrays an unwonted measure of anxiety on the subject of an issue upon which the Democratic party may conduct its campaign in the coming presidential contest. The party is absolutely without an issue, our esteemed contemporary confidently asserts. The silver question is dead, it adds, and the people are so well satisfied with the DINGLEY tariff law that it would be rank madness to predict a battle on the issue of revenue reform. There is nothing left, it continues tearfully, and the party which has lived for more than a century is threatened with dissolution because it has nothing to contend for.

It is with infinite pleasure, therefore, and no small measure of satisfaction, that we assure our esteemed contemporary that there are plenty of issues and not the least available of them is the record of Mr. CHARLES EMORY SMITH, editor of the Press, in his capacity as Postmaster General during the administration of President McKinley. In an interview given to the press in Pittsburg, the other day, for example, Mr. SEYMOUR W. TULLOCH, formerly cashier of the Washington postoffice said: "If my warning had been heeded by Mr. SMITH," he remarked, referring to the editor of our contemporary, "the Cuban postoffice scandals which so distressed the country and the present condition of things would never have happened."

Does Mr. SMITH imagine that a more relevant or interesting issue could be discovered than these same scandals of the Postoffice Department under his own administration? We can think of nothing which more directly concerns the public than the expensive abuses in the postal service in Cuba and those which have been revealed contemporary and since. Mr. SMITH was prompt to come to the defense of the present Postmaster General and it would be interesting to show that his action was simply in the nature of a precautionary movement to protect his own reputation and those of others who were close to him in the administration of his office. We assure Mr. SMITH that there is no occasion to worry on account of the absence of issues. They are plenty and loud smelling.

Venality in Public Life.

The investigation of charges of corruption in Soranton counsels now in progress has already revealed some startling facts. It has been shown that almost the entire membership of the municipal Legislature of that city is venal, for two witnesses have sworn positively that one member of the body solicited a sum amounting to \$400 each for eleven members, including himself, and that two others had attempted to make separate bargains, one "for all that is going," and the other "at market rates," whatever that means.

That is most lamentable state of affairs but who will dare say that it is singular to Soranton? As a matter of fact there are reasons to believe that all or nearly all the cities in the Commonwealth are similarly cursed. It is generally known that the counsils of Philadelphia and Pittsburg are notoriously corrupt and it is commonly believed that those of Harrisburg, Wilkesbarre, Altoona and Erie are no better. In the large towns of Schuylkill county there have been all sorts of scandals including charges of bribing and blackmailing school teachers and in a number of other boroughs there are signs of lax official morality in all directions.

These things are attributable to the immoralities of men higher up in the public life of the Commonwealth. When the Governor pays no respect to the constitution and the laws, what can be expected of councilmen. When Senators and Representatives in the Legislature of the State give and take bribes as freely as they draw their salaries, why shouldn't members of municipal Legislatures do the same thing. As a matter of fact the trend of public life is bad and decadence is perceptible in every direction. Unless there is improvement in the near future there will be anarchy in the end.

Can't be Suppressed.

It has been officially announced that neither Senator SNYDER nor his colleague on the Republican ticket, Mr. MATTHEWS, will utter a word during the impending campaign or attend any public meetings of any kind at which the opportunity to interrogate them would be presented. It is necessary to make an active campaign, it is added, foreign speakers will be brought into the service and national issues will be discussed. The purpose of this plan is to keep down the discussion of the press muzzler and prevent the exploitation of Senator SNYDER's connection with that iniquitous piece of machine legislation.

This announcement is characteristic of the QUAY machine. The stupids who are directing its operations during the absence of QUAY and DURHAM imagine that the people of Pennsylvania are so ill equipped intellectually that they may be fooled into

any absurd notion. But they are mistaken in that. The selection of speaker WALTON to preside over the convention, the nomination of Senator SNYDER for Auditor General and the appointment of Senator PENROSE as chairman of the state convention makes the press muzzler the issue as plainly as if it were emblazoned on illuminated banners and posted at the doorway of every Republican committee room or club house in the State.

The inception of the press muzzler may have been in the mind of QUAY and the exposure of his unlawful use of the state funds the cause of it, but the party adopted it and it no longer belongs to an individual or to a faction. Therefore whatever odium attaches to it must rest on the party and whatever injury it inflicts on the State must be repaired by the party or recompensed for. That being the case the intelligent public will discuss it and Senator SNYDER's share in the perpetration of the crime against the liberties of the people and the freedom of the press will be fully and freely disclosed.

What Changed His Mind.

The postoffice scandals continue to distract the official life of Washington and shook the country. When the President returned from his absurd hippodrome tour of the West, a few weeks ago, he ostentatiously announced that he would give his personal attention to the trouble and clear it up before he left the capital for his summer vacation at Oyster Bay. Now it is announced that he is very much distressed because he can't finish up the investigation before he leaves for his summer home which he intends to do in a week or ten days but the inquiry will be continued in a quiet but thorough way, however, he assures us until the Department is cleaned up. There has been too much publicity, it is alleged.

This is what might be called a reactionary movement. That is to say it is a recession from the bold and courageous stand taken on his return from the West. What could have changed his policy and purpose in the premises? He has certainly not been influenced by the notion that public morals will be conserved by Star chamber proceedings in conducting the investigation. He must know that such methods are abhorrent to the American mind which favors the open in everything. The constitution guarantees to every citizen accused an open trial and the right to face his accusers. The President indicated at the outset a purpose to fulfil that guarantee. What could have changed his mind?

Probably the scent was getting too close to some of the President's intimate friends. He has tried to create the impression that he is of the Spartan type which is swerved from the path of duty by no consideration. But his present course doesn't sustain such a pretense. It indicates that something has interposed not only to alter his plan with respect to publicity but to check the velocity of his movement toward a complete revelation of the iniquities charged. In this course the President is hardly just to himself. He is not maintaining that standard of political morality and moral courage which he pretends to exemplify in his life. Won't he give the public a reason for the change.

A Word to the Farmers.

Heretofore the announcements have always been made to make them of much use to you, so this year we are taking time by the forelock to call your attention to the great Centre county fair. Now while the corn and oats and wheat and barley and everything else you grow is in the ground and still shooting Heavenward it is time for you to pick out the big stalks to bring to the fair in October. Then when the grain is harvested remember the fair also and if you have some specially nice seed save it for the fair. Do the same with everything you grow.

There are many reasons why the farmers of Centre county should take an active interest in the fair. It was revived largely for their pleasure. The gentlemen at the head of it have spent nearly fifty thousand dollars in the enterprise and have no hope of getting their money back, or even interest on it. What they do want, however, is to bring the farmers of the county into kindly and pleasant intercourse with the townsman. The fair should prove the best agency for such a purpose, for it comes October 13-14-15-16 at a time when all the farm work is about completed. It is a clean, moral, wholesome entertainment. The managers could make it pay immensely if they would license gambling devices and games of graft, as they do at county fairs elsewhere, but they have preferred to keep its moral tone up to the highest standard and in doing this they should be supported.

Were the farmers of Centre county to take a real, active interest in the fair this fall; making the exhibits of grain, fruit and stock what they can be the result would be a revelation to all. Centre county would have a monster fair, so full of interest, so keen with friendly rivalry, that it would quicken the entire county into a greater activity at home and abroad.

Hoy of Clarion Denounced.

It may be assumed that Representative JOHN A. F. HOY, of Clarion county, will be retired from politics at the expiration of his present term and that in some measure compensates for other disappointments and disagreeable incidents in recent political history. At least the censure of Mr. HOY, by the Democrats of the county which four times elected him to the Legislature, in convention the other day, justifies the hope that he will not be elected again. In referring to the press muzzler as legislation "aiming to protect public plunderers and professional blackmailers," the resolutions unanimously adopted by the convention vehemently denounced every member of the Legislature who voted for it.

JOHN A. F. HOY was commonly believed to be in the service of the QUAY machine during the session of 1899, yet he was re-elected for the succeeding session. He voted for the McCARRELL jury bill which had for its purpose the acquittal of QUAY on the charge of misusing the funds of the State, notwithstanding the overwhelming evidence against him. In the saturnalia of crime which ran through the session of 1901 he was popularly believed to be conspicuous among the ring leaders, yet he was returned to the session of the present year, to again betray his constituents by again serving the QUAY machine in every species of legislative jobbery which was presented. The public had begun to think that the people of Clarion county were no better than he.

Now we may be permitted to believe that such an estimate was unjust to the people and that HOY will be retired permanently. After condemning him as they did in the recent convention they can't elect him to any office without justifying themselves and it may be interpreted as indicating that his character was not understood and his practices not known. We would be glad to take that charitable view of the subject. It is a harsh judgment of a community to assume that it deliberately chooses men of doubtful character to represent it. Yet that of the people of Clarion county was forced by the repeated re-elections of HOY until now that he has become a public enemy. We hope more will be heard of him in the public life of the State.

William Foster.

Mr. William Foster, whose death, as already announced, occurred at his home June 17th, was born in Buffalo Valley, March 22nd, 1819, where he lived until 1848, when he came to Centre county, locating near Centre Furnace. In 1856 he purchased the farm near State College which he has occupied ever since and has been prominently identified with the life of that community for almost half a century. These forty-seven years of Mr. Foster's residence spanned the history of Pennsylvania State College. He saw the old stone building erected and the institution, in its checkered career, grow from a poor struggling Farmer's High School to its present prosperity, marked by many handsome buildings and a beautiful campus at the foot of which a village has sprung up and spread until it now reaches almost to the Foster home. The success of the College was a source of much pleasure to Mr. Foster, almost as much as his life was to it and its students, for until within the last few years, when declining years impaired his vigor he was a personal acquaintance and factor with almost every student there and his cheery presence and hospitable home will be indelibly associated with many an old student's happy memory of the college. The present student loses much who has missed those pleasant gatherings in the old post office where Mr. Foster and Mr. Joseph Mitchell used to be the chief attraction and when their interest in a "fellow" made life a lot happier for him.

Mr. Foster was a Presbyterian in faith, and a Democrat in politics, both of which he inherited along with his genial, generous, upright character from his Scotch-Irish ancestors who emigrated to America about 1733 and figured conspicuously in the early history of this nation and State. In 1847, he married Miss Maria Corl, of Union Co., whose death occurred several years ago. Their children were Elizabeth, who married William Erberhart and died on her wedding tour; Charles, United States mail agent between New York and Pittsburg; James, a graduate of State College in '89, and who died three years ago in Alabama; Mary, and John, a State College graduate of '92 and now a chemist at Cumberland Furnace, Tenn.

It is with regret that we record this passing of another of the pioneers of this county, as their going means the gradual disappearance of that simple, good, peaceful life which has been of incalculable good to us as a people and the best counter-irritant to the selfish, hurried present day existence when one has little time or inclination to think of his neighbor's good.

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Russia vs. Pennsylvania.

From the Wall Street Journal. The expulsion of the London Times' correspondent from St. Petersburg is a most suggestive incident. This was an act of despotism, and an act which places Russia in a class by itself among the great nations of the world.

But let us not go too fast in condemning Russia while praising ourselves. Are we altogether blameless? Did not the last Pennsylvania Legislature pass a bill that was almost as odious as the recent act of the Russian government? Has not the Governor of Pennsylvania signed that bill and justified his signature by a statement that, if anything, aggravated the offensive action of the Legislature? The act was intended to restrict the liberty of the press by preventing, among other things, the publication of cartoons, one of the most effective and powerful instruments for influencing public opinion within the domain of journalism.

Nothing that has taken place in this country in years has been so flagrant in its defiance of enlightened public opinion, on the part of political bosses, as this.

But there is at least this difference. The Russian government was able to enforce its decree. But the law of the Pennsylvania government is probably unenforceable. A law that is not supported by public sentiment is in this country a dead letter.

The words of Daniel Webster, that great defender of human liberty and the constitution, are, of course, without influence in Russia but they still ought to ring true and powerfully in Pennsylvania. It was Daniel Webster who said: "All is not lost while we have a single newspaper that is free. Given a free press, and we may defy opinion or insidious enemies of liberty. It instructs the public mind and animates the spirit of patriotism. Its loud voice suppresses everything which would raise itself against the public liberty, and its blasting rebuke causes incipient despotism to perish in the bud."

Followed the Example of Their Republican Bosses.

From the Johnstown Democrat. When that \$50,000,000 emergency war fund was being spent without check by the President in 1898; when ships which were sent to the junk heap were being bought at inflated prices; when contracts for clothing were being made under private persons acting as go-betweens were able to profit enormously; when Uncle Sam was buying explosive beef for feeding his soldiers and when a great Secretary of the Treasury with executive sanction was trafficking with J. Pierpont Morgan in odds, and so glaring figures, when contracts were not natural that the little fellows should follow the example of those above? Can we be surprised that bureau chiefs and clerks and underlings of all degrees should also seek a graft and work it to the limit? The country was drunk with the spirit of war. Duty and destiny were spurring it into patriotic paroxysms of benevolent assimilation. The old flag was big enough to cover any devility from the purchase of rotten beef to the betrayal of an ally. It was treason for any one to question either men or methods. And so grafting in high stations and in low began to flourish. It was a time of glory and of greed and greed kept a lap ahead of glory in the mad race. And now Postmaster General Payne weeps when he faces the appalling mess of corruption by which he is surrounded. The country is amazed by the revelations already made. It is in dread of those which are yet to come. And while the President professes a determination to let no guilty man escape. Yet he permits Mr. Payne to sneer and to scoff at and discredit every effort to uncover the frauds and expose the thieves and scoundrels who infest the postal service.

Only See The Small Wrongs.

From the Oshkosh Northwestern. It seems a little singular that when a colored female postmaster in the south is disturbed in her work the whole power of the Postoffice Department is instantly enlisted in her behalf, and yet a gang of thieves can loot the building where the Postmaster General sits and he does not hear of it. A single mail carrier on a rural delivery route in Alabama has stones thrown at him, and forthwith the Postmaster General reads the riot act to every southern constituency; yet when a reputable citizen of Washington makes affidavit that the department officials are in "conspire" with a business house to swindle the government, Mr. Payne refuses to believe and takes no steps to put a stop to it. The Northwestern believes that Republican frauds are not a whit better than those of Democratic origin, and that a Republican thief deserves punishment just as much as a Democratic thief. There is ample reason to believe that there is rottenness in the Postoffice Department and that it is the duty of the Postmaster General and the President to stop the frauds and punish the delinquents.

Prices Ahead of the Dollar.

From the Rochester Herald. The purchasing power of the dollar is about three laps behind in the race with prices.

Peter Rewarding the Conspirators.

BELGRADE, June 21.—The promotions are announced of various members of the military deputation to King Peter, at Geneva. Colonel Popovics, of the late King Alexander's palace guard, is created a general and first aide de camp to King Peter. Captain Kostic, who opened the palace gates for the assassins of the late King and Queen, is promoted to be a major and Lieut. Cronica, who was on guard outside the palace on the night of the assassinations, and who was a confidant of the conspirators, is made a captain.

Last Friday was the sixth anniversary of the terrible hail storm that caused such devastation to Tyrone and vicinity.

Spawls from the Keystone.

Captain William H. Straub, Company C, Milton, the senior captain of the Twelfth regiment, has been at his own request placed upon the retired list.

The post office at Vintondale, Cambria county, was robbed early Monday morning; over \$500 worth of stamps were taken and the unknown robbers made their escape and so far as known have eluded capture.

The widow of Robert B. Wilson, of Curwensville, who was killed in the railroad accident at Slate Cut recently, will receive \$1,000 insurance from the P. R. R. association and \$750 from the Brotherhood of Locomotive Engineers.

The saw mill of G. E. Whitmore, located about two and one half miles from Troutville, Clearfield county, was totally destroyed by fire one day recently, together with about 100,000 feet of hard wood timber. Loss \$3,000 with no insurance.

R. A. Brainard, postmaster of Curwensville and editor of the Semi-Weekly Review, suffered a very serious injury to one of his arms Thursday evening by the explosion of a gasoline engine in an ice cream factory in that place. He may lose the arm.

The quarantine has been removed from the town of Cross Forks. This is certainly good news to people of that much affected town. This week finishes the fumigation of lumber camps and infected houses in the village where the disease existed and there are none now ill with it.

Riston Bennett, the negro who accidentally shot himself at Gallitzin Sunday and was admitted to the hospital, at Altoona, died at that institution Monday evening from the effects of the wound. The bullet had pierced the liver and punctured the intestines. Bennett was aged about 35 years.

According to the home newspapers, committee on invitations, etc. Lock Haven will this year knock the spots off the biggest Fourth of July celebration that has ever occurred in Central Pennsylvania. But Huntingdon and Philipsburg are both in the ring yet, and Johnstown is feeding on gun powder and bunting for the fray.

Charles West, fireman, whose home is at Washington, Pa., fell off his engine, hauling Chicago and St. Louis express, early Sunday morning at Latrobe, and was instantly killed. The engineer of the train did not notice West's disappearance until the steam began to get low. The train was stopped near Latrobe station and in a short time the body was found. He was 26 years old and a member of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen.

Charles M. Schwab is arranging to treat the people of Loretto to a display of fire works on the glorious Fourth. During the evening the pyrotechnics will be of the usual fiery kind, but in the afternoon there will be a display of paper, which, when thrown into the air, expands into shapes of pigs, horses, policemen, etc. The evening exhibition will last over two hours and will be in charge of two experts sent from the factory. Loretto is strictly fortunate in having such a thoughtful adopted son.

Tuesday the constitutionality of the bridge law under which the bridge across the river at Lewisburg is to be constructed, was argued before the Dauphin county court. The law was declared unconstitutional by Attorney General Carson, and to test it a mandamus was served on the state officials to show cause why the bridge should not be built. Under the provisions of the act the State will pay half the cost of construction, and the balance to be divided between Union and Northumberland counties.

D. B. Kyper, of Huntingdon, in fifteen hours had fifty four sheep deprived of their coats by his shearing alone. He was timed in clipping one large sheep and accomplished the work in just nine minutes. Mr. Kyper had gone to Williamsburg to be present at the paper mill dedication. While there he met his former employer, Hon. J. D. Hicks, of Altoona, who informed him he had fifty-four sheep to shear on one of his farms, and he would give him \$10 for the job. Mr. Kyper asked for some old clothes and went to work, with the result stated above. Can this record be beaten?

One day last week while Lewis McCarty, eldest son of Al. McCarty, of Catawissa township, Northumberland county, was out in the field watching the cows, he had a hair raising experience. He was sitting on a big stone reading a book, and feeling something moving about his feet he looked down and was horrified to see an immense black snake. As he jumped to his feet the snake wrapped itself about his legs; he reached into his pocket and got his knife and cut through the coils of the snake, which dropped twisting and squirming to the ground. After recovering from the fright the boy gathered up the pieces of the snake and took them to the house, where they have been on exhibition for several days. Plucky boy.

Mrs. Mary Ettinger, aged about 40 years, of Burnham, Mifflin county, made her third attempt at self destruction Saturday night, when she tried to leap from the county bridge into the Juniata river. H. C. Welsh noted her peculiar actions while passing his store near the bridge and followed her out on the structure. He was just in time to catch her as she prepared to leap. Mrs. Ettinger made an attempt to take poison on the street Wednesday last week, and was locked in the county jail until her husband could be notified and take her in charge. While there she told the sheriff's wife that she had eaten a half a saucer of carpet tacks on Monday. Her story was corroborated by her 7-year-old daughter, who says she saw her mother swallow the tacks.

The most remarkable run in the history of railroading by a freight train of seventy-eight loaded cars was made on Wednesday last week over the Middle division from Altoona to Harrisburg, the 132 miles being covered in six hours and thirty minutes. This is unprecedented time for a train of the size and weight, though better time than this has been made over the same division by trains of not more than thirty cars. The engine hauling the train was in charge of engineer George K. Funk and fireman Tilden Stresley, both of Harrisburg. The train left Altoona at 2:30 p. m. and rolled into the Harrisburg yards at 9 o'clock. Once between the starting point and Harrisburg the train was brought to a stop to refill the engine's tanks with water and renew the coal supply—then off again on its dash towards its destination.