

Ink Slings.

The Pope still lingers, but the end of his unprecedented career is near at hand.

Politics make strange bed fellows, which probably accounts for the "little doing" during the hot weather.

The weather man must be asleep at the switch. He turned off the heat on Monday night and seems to have forgotten all about it.

Farm hands are so scarce in Kansas that even the old maids have agreed not to take up any of the time of the men until after the harvests are gathered.

Forty-one deaths from lock-jaw is a rather large price for Pennsylvania to have paid for the privilege of shooting off its pent up patriotism on the Fourth.

It is all right for the Governor to chase bugs in Wetzel's swamp at Harrisburg, but it is all wrong for him to use a buggy to review the state troops from.

The story comes from Chicago that GROVER CLEVELAND is to announce his candidacy for the Presidency in that city in the fall. Chicago always was windy.

The Pennsylvania record is enough to give the manufacturers of the blank cartridge pistol a rank with Herr KRUPP and the other makers of deadly weapons of warfare.

The people who rush off to summer resorts with the first breath of hot weather are not long in finding out that home, after all, is the only place where real comfort is to be had.

The post-office scandals in Washington are being hushed up. It is now up to the public to decide whether it will take the hot air of the department heads or insist on knowing the truth and having the rascals fired out.

TOM PLATT, of New York, was seventy years old on Wednesday and still he thinks he would like to learn a few new political tricks from QUAY. What he needs to learn now is a few new stunts with his beads.

The preacher who proceeds to hide a single germ of thought in a whole bushel of words, just because he happens to have a good congregation, rarely ever has sense enough to realize why his congregations are good, only occasionally.

Now is your time to save a few pennies against the day when work will be scarce and wages low. Don't deceive yourself into thinking that it will never come, because it will, just as sure as old Father Time sweeps down one cycle and ushers in another.

The bottom of the stock market seems to be about as uncertain as the President's promise of a full and complete investigation of the postoffice scandals. Both are founded on Republican fiction, however, consequently neither one can be expected to be very substantial.

The Harrisburg Telegraph is authority for the statement that Pennsylvania is "practically out of debt," but the Telegraph has overlooked the great obligation the State owes MR QUAY for his services and which will never be discharged as long as the "old man" is able to shake the plum tree.

The endorsement of ROOSEVELT's candidacy for the Presidency is reported as having been the most important work of the recent Republican state convention in Kentucky. That body might have found something far more creditable for the party it represented had it inaugurated a movement to bring the fugitive Governor of that State to justice for his part in the murder of GOEBEL.

In Williamsport a mail clerk is in jail for having extracted five dollars from a letter that was intended for some one else. In Washington there are others who have pocketed thousands of dollars of money belonging to the Post-office Department, yet nothing is being done. What is the difference, anyhow? Is it because the poor Williamsport culprit failed to steal a large enough sum?

Ninety miles in nine hours is enough to prove to the world that Gen. MILES is somewhat of a horse-man as well as a very vigorous man at the age of 64. It is altogether probable that if some of the carpet knights in Washington who are clamoring for his retirement were to undertake such a ride they would be eating frappe from the mantle throughout the next social season in the national capital.

Towns along the north branch of the Susquehanna are evidently looking up their chances of becoming summer resorts. A sea lion escaped from a circus up there some time ago and has been making itself very much at home in the river ever since, with the result that the stories of sea-serpents at the sea side are tame reading nowadays in comparison with what this solitary sea lion intends doing along the Susquehanna.

Cousin Colonel ED. is off backing up cousin Governor SAM at the military encampment of the First brigade this week. Between them they have had a great time getting up enough courage to sit astride a charger during the necessary military functions. In fact, cousin Governor SAM backed clear out and crawled into a safe old carry-all, while cousin Colonel ED only became sure of his seat in the saddle after hours of jolting up and down Bellefonte's back streets in practice. And both of them claim to have been raised on a farm.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

VOL. 48

BELLEFONTE, PA., JULY 17, 1903.

NO. 28.

The Clarion School Scandal.

The Clarion Normal school scandal has again come into public notice. Mr. I. M. SHANNON, president of the Second National bank at Clarion and treasurer of the school corporation, has demanded that the trustees bring action against the parties concerned, for the recovery of the \$2,750 rake of on the appropriation of \$27,500 made to the school by the Legislature of 1901. It will be remembered that according to published statements about a year ago, it was said that a rake-off of 10 per cent. of the total appropriation had been paid to ex-State Senator "JIM" MITCHELL, of Jefferson county, who was at the time clerk of the Senate Committee on Appropriations. It was accounted for on the books of the school as an amount paid to R. G. YINGLING for repairs on the school building. The bill for repairs was presented, approved by the finance committee of the school and the money paid to MITCHELL who is said to have distributed it among the "gang."

If the subservient political judge of the court of Clearfield county had been less obedient to the bosses and more regardful of the law all the scandalous facts connected with this affair would have been brought out in the trial of the case of State Treasurer HARRIS against the editor of the WATCHMAN in February, 1902.

At that time subpoenas had been prepared for, and were in the hands of an officer to serve on, Mr. SHANNON, Representatives HOY and BROWN, Senator NEELY, secretary SHIRLEY, register PINKS, Prof. DAVIS and R. C. YINGLING, for the purpose of exposing the scandal, now about to be aired, and the connection of the state ring, of which HARRIS was supposed to be a member, with it. This intention was abandoned on learning of the arrangements entered into between Judge GORDON and representatives of the ring, at Harrisburg, a few days before the trial was called, that all evidence except that directly implicating HARRIS should be ruled out. The information in our possession, and which we had every reason to believe to be reliable was to the effect that a rake-off of \$2,750 had been taken from the appropriation to the school; that this amount was covered up in a bill of R. C. YINGLING, for alleged repairs to the buildings, which, according to the minute of the board of trustees had been approved the preceding August, by the finance committee of the board, that not a dollar of said amount had ever been expended for the purposes stated, but that this bill was a blind to cover the payment of 10 per cent. of the appropriation to members of the Legislative "gang" for their influence in passing it. Our informant went further and stated that after this appropriation was passed Governor STONE required HOY and NEELY to give a specific guarantee that the rake-off would be paid before he signed the bill.

We were prepared to present to the public, through the sworn evidence of witnesses, in Judge GORDON's court, some other interesting facts concerning the operations of Governor STONE, Insurance Commissioner DURHAM, Chairman BLISS of the House Committee on Appropriations, Speaker MARSHALL, of the House of Representatives, and Clerk MITCHELL, of the Senate committee. In addition to this we had information that an illegal appropriation was passed bestowing \$25,000 on a college at Grove City, Meher county, upon which the rake-off was stated to be twenty-five per cent. of the total. Similar conditions were told were imposed in that case in consideration of the Governor's approval of the bill and the transaction was covered up by a resolution of the board of trustees making a present of \$2,500 to Dr. ISAAC KETTER, principal of the college. We expected to show a similar robbery in the case of the Edinboro state Normal school and might have revealed the fact that Professor J. A. COOPER, for many years the efficient head of that institution, was deposed for the reason that he declined to have any part in the transaction.

The QUAY machine was determined, however, that the facts should not be made public on that occasion and the obedient servant of the gang, Judge GORDON, who is now accused of buying his nomination for re-election to the bench, served their purpose by ruling out all such evidence. We are glad to hear that there is now a probability of developing the facts and though the statute of limitations guarantees the personal safety of the participants in the crimes, the exposure, if complete, will make exceedingly interesting reading. Besides it will have a tendency to promote honesty in legislation for a time at least and should contribute to the permanent retirement to an infamous oblivion of a number of legislative corruptionists who profited by these robberies of state institutions.

Mr. SHANNON, although somewhat belated in his efforts, should have the full sympathy and support of ever honest citizens.

Quay's Devious Ways.

We are curious to know what new political enterprise Senator QUAY has in mind. That he has some purpose out of the ordinary may be set down as certain, for he has set the rumor of his retirement in motion and whenever he does that his thoughts are far removed from retirement. It will be remembered that soon after his election to the Senate in 1901 he made a speech in the Academy of Music, Philadelphia, in which he promulgated his retirement with a string to it. Immediately afterward he brought Cousin SAM out as the candidate for Governor and had himself elected chairman of the Republican state committee, thus putting himself deeper in the maelstrom of active politics than he had been for a number of years. In reply to a question with respect to his rumored retirement the other day he referred his questioner to the Philadelphia speech of 1901.

That now famous speech was made under peculiar circumstances. The Senator had just emerged from a contest of extraordinary bitterness and long duration with victory, not altogether expected, perched upon his banners. To secure the result he had been obliged to resort to all sorts of doubtful methods and pursue many dark and devious ways. As representative KIPP, of Philadelphia, said in reference to another matter, a good many of his friends were obliged to "take chances of the penitentiary," in order to compass the result. In glorification of the event his friends gave him a public reception out of the balance remaining of the corruption fund subscribed by the Standard Oil company and one or two other monopolies. He was in a grateful mood because he felt that he had been a heavy load for his friends to carry and in the exuberance of his feelings he promised to retire in order that those who had borne the burden of his iniquities might have a chance. Thus influenced he said his "political race is run." But he didn't mean it, as subsequent events prove.

In other words soon afterward the then Attorney General of the State JOHN P. ELKIN took him at his word and with the assent and under promise of the support of all his associates announced himself as a candidate for the Republican nomination for Governor. If QUAY had been sincere he would have accepted this announcement as the logical result of his own declaration. But instead of doing so he resented Mr. ELKIN's presumption, brought his cousin out as an opposing candidate and forced his nomination by methods which a distinguished Republican characterized as "the mysterious forces of politics." Not only that but he had himself elected to the chairmanship of the State committee and assumed personal charge of the campaign so that in his renewal of the rumor of his retirement we assume there is some new political enterprise concealed.

The President's Strange Course.

When President ROOSEVELT returned from his strangely nomadic trip to the West a few weeks ago he announced with an ostentatious flourish of trumpets that he would take personal charge of the investigation of the postal scandals and would make a complete exposure of all frauds before he left Washington for his summer vacation. Previous to that some progress had been made in the work of exposure. One or two postal officials had been indicted and some of the methods of cheating the government exposed. A contractor or two had also been uncovered to public view and popular execration, but the people were not satisfied until ROOSEVELT had spoken in his usual pompous style.

Now what has happened since. Nearly all the newspapers have been silenced and so far as the public is able to ascertain the investigation has been stopped entirely. At least no further exposures have been made, no new indictments returned, no more dismissals of officials and absolutely no prosecutions have occurred, though ROOSEVELT has been on his summer vacation at Oyster Bay for nearly two weeks. Meantime the professional lobbyist PAYNE, appointed originally because he was a practical politician, continues to discharge the duties of the office of Postmaster General with the full confidence of the President in his methods and the full endorsement of his administration.

It would appear like *les majeste* to intimate that President ROOSEVELT is conniving at the escape from punishment of the criminals who have been looting the treasury for years in the conduct of the Post Office Department. But what other course is there left for an observer of events in relation to the matter? When the exposures were first made Mr. PAYNE tried to throw the mantle of secrecy about the inquiry and his conduct was promptly denounced asavoring of sympathy with the criminals. But now ROOSEVELT has adopted precisely the same course and why should there be any difference in the interpretation? A spade is a spade and crime is the same, whether perpetrated by one man or another.

Senator Lodge's Idea.

Senator LODGE, of Massachusetts takes a hopeful but rather amusing view of the future of politics. According to his notion nothing can hurt the Republican party. For example, referring to the postal scandals the Senator observes that he can't see that they will have any political effect next year and if they do, he adds, "he is unable to see how it can be otherwise than favorable to the Republican party." In other words Senator LODGE imagines that the public approves of looting operations and is of the opinion that because the job revealed in the postoffice scandals is so complete they must necessarily become more attached to the party than ever before.

A story is told of a politician in one of the western counties that is brought to mind by this statement of Senator LODGE. The Republican candidate for State Senator was a peculiarly vulnerable fellow and though the district was overwhelmingly Republican the opposition came to the conclusion that they would organize a vigorous and bitter fight. Evidence was collected showing a long line of political immoralities and social and business delinquencies. These were grouped together, supported by affidavits and circumstantial testimony in corroboration, and published in one of the local newspapers, of which thousands of extra copies were printed for free distribution. Late during the night of the publication the over-worked editor who had superintended the operation went to a restaurant for a luncheon. There he met a rather prominent citizen of the community and they entered into serious conversation on the subject. "Are you absolutely certain of the facts asserted in your paper," asked the prominent citizen. "Absolutely," replied the editor, after which he proceeded to cite some corroborative evidence which had not been printed. "Then," said the prominent citizen, "by the Eternal I will vote for the accused man, because it would be a pity to spoil a good man by sending him to Harrisburg and this fellow is as bad as the worst of them already."

The candidate in question was elected by a small majority, say as many hundreds as he ought to have had thousands but it was afterward discovered that a great many men, probably enough to make up his majority, voted for him believing him guilty, on the ground that he had been unduly vilified in the publication referred to. Probably Senator LODGE believes that such sentiments will govern enough voters in the country to offset the loss of decent Republicans who must be disgusted with the venalities of their public officials. It is a poor estimate for the Senator to put on the morals of his fellow citizens but it is one up to his own standard for he will condone any crime committed in the interest of his party.

Issue of the Campaign.

The Philadelphia Record wisely suggests that the Democrats of Pennsylvania should refrain from any expression of preference as to a presidential candidate for next year for two valid reasons. The first is that inasmuch as the Republican candidate is certain to have the vote of this State in the electoral college it would be modest as well as decent to allow those States which must be depended on for his election to suggest the candidate. The other reason is more to the point and deserving of consideration. It is that the campaign should be conducted on local issues, that is questions of state policy, and national politics ought, therefore, to be excluded from the platform.

The obvious purpose of the Republican leaders is to drag national questions into the campaign with the view of so exciting the prejudices of men of that party faith that they will refuse to listen to the evidences of corruption in the public life of the Commonwealth and ignore protests against the iniquities of recent legislation. With that idea in mind the Republican state platform studiously avoided reference to the atrocious press muzzler, the ripper bill, the franchise steals and the other malevolent legislation enacted during the last three sessions under the direction of QUAY and for the benefit of himself and his followers. It would be inexcusable folly for the Democrats to pursue the same course.

There is nothing to be said in the platform of the coming Democratic state convention on any subject other than those of state interest and state control. The vicious legislation of the last three sessions of the Legislature, the looting operations of the QUAY machine, the ripping up of governments of the people and the atrocious press muzzler supply issues enough for the state campaign and county campaigns in every county in the State. If the crimes committed against the people within the State are properly presented there will be in the platform thus restricted abundance of materials not only to make a campaign but to put a large number of the Republican leaders in prison.

Pennypacker's Dilemma.

At this writing, we regret to say, the grand old Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is in the throes of a great problem. When these lines come under the notice of the thousands of readers of the WATCHMAN it may be happily solved or unhappily as the case may be. In any event we have no hesitancy in saying that a more important crisis has never before threatened the happiness of the people.

The momentous question is the manner in which the Governor shall present himself in the several camps of the State militia for the purpose of reviewing the troops in the capacity of Commander-in-Chief. The traditions of the service are that no Governor has ever performed that duty in other condition than in the saddle, whereas PENNYPACKER protests that he never was on horseback in his life and feels that if he attempts it, it will be at the peril of his life.

We are unable to conceal a deep seated sympathy with Governor PENNYPACKER in his present dilemma. Anyone who has ever examined his peculiar construction will be compelled to agree in his estimate as to the hazard of getting astride a prancing charger and any other kind of a horse would be out of place at such a time and under such circumstances. But it is his duty to review the troops and there is no other way to discharge the obligation, so there you are.

An esteemed contemporary suggests that his excellency might mount a hobby horse and fulfill his obligations to the public and his duties to the Guard and another proposes that he might straddle a broom stick. But we protest that both of these propositions imply a measure of irreverence which is intolerable. During the present week, however, the problem must be solved and we await the returns with impatience.

Colored Girl's Poem on the Death of Her Friend Killed by a Trolley.

Memorial services held in Zion Hill Baptist church Savannah, Ga., on Sunday night in honor of Lena Carlton, who was killed by a trolley car on Peachtree street a few days ago. The poem published below was written by Emma Watkins and was read by her. Poets are rare among the colored people and the following specimen may be regarded as something new in that fearless bicycle ride. Proudly you went forward but to die, Crushed to death on Wednesday night, O, what a fearful, fatal sight; O, the dark disastrous night, Were you wrong or were you right? When the morning light shone upon the bloody flight, Oh, sad cries all along, People flocked to see her in a throng; Crushed to death; there Lena lay, Sleeping to the rising day. Oh, my beloved would that I Could have caught you when you fell to die; Could have been by your side, In that fearless bicycle ride, God in heaven have mercy and forgive, Give her a home with thee to live; O, thou Almighty One, Even so they will be done. It was only a few days ago, Since Lena and I were talking so, About God-bye, dear Lena, I'll see you no more, But I hope to meet you on the other shore. No more will you keep our book, No more will you our names enroll, No more will you the pages unfold, I would that I like prophets old, Could tell, Oh, tell where is the soul. No more will you be on alert, No more speak in my concert, No more hearing the Golden Rule, No more with us in Sunday school, I remember on last June, Lena sang a pretty tune, She sang it in my school concert, She was so gay, bright and pert; But Lena will sing no more for me, She's singing now in eternity. The song she sang was "Grandmama's Rest," She crept to be so true and kind; Among the others you cannot find, A girl that had a greater mind. Crushed to death by a trolley car, Gone to sound at judgment's bar; Gone to hear her final doom, Way beyond the sun and moon. "Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy," were the last words that Lena prayed; "Take this heavy car off me," so her dear beloved said. He it was by her side In her dying bicycle ride; Oh, my dear savior hide, That they too in heaven abide. O, Lord have mercy, thus she prayed, Into death's jaws then she swayed; O, God who is never out of hearing, Answer the words that Lena prayed. Her dear companion's name was John, I know not when or where he was born, But all I can say and say ere long, That Lena has been here, but now she is gone. If she's in heaven I'll meet her there; O, God who always answers prayer, May her home be bright and fair. For you have a mother there Clothed in garments bright and fair; So dear relatives, do not weep, Lena has only fallen sleep.

Spavils from the Keystone.

Edward Bridgens, son of Associate Judge J. W. Bridgens, of Lock Haven, died in Chicago last week after an operation for appendicitis. He was employed by Kistler & Co., to look after their Chicago interests.

The three year old child of Jas. Embick, of Sugar Valley, fell head long into a well that is being dug on Embick's premises. The child fell a distance of 16 feet, and was badly bruised about the head and may not recover.

There are fifty two cases of small pox in the town of Lanesboro, Susquehanna county. This averages one case to every ten citizens, for the town has only 500 inhabitants. There are also several cases in the adjacent townships.

Thus far 171 fire companies from Pennsylvania and adjacent states have signified their intention to participate in the parade which will be held in Allentown during the session of the State Firemen's Association next October. It is believed that the number will be increased to over 200.

Lee Marshall, a rough rider, with the James and Younger Wild West show, was killed at the afternoon performance at DuBois, Tuesday, by the bucking broncho he was riding rearing up straight and falling on its back. Marshall was caught under the horse, his death resulting in an hour.

A daughter of Perry Kephart, of Cambria county, who was visiting her uncle, Wm Kephart, at Fishertown, near Osceola, while on a tree picking cherries the other day was shot above the eye by an 8-year-old boy with a toy pistol. Death resulted after a few hours' suffering. She was aged about twelve years.

Louis Selfridge, of Clearfield, was struck by lightning during Saturday's storm, and probably fatally injured. He took refuge under a large tree during the storm, and was standing there when he was struck. His clothing was torn from his body, his shoulder was shattered and a portion of his heel was torn off. He was taken to the Clearfield hospital, but it is thought he will die.

The supreme court Friday handed down a decree in the Church of the Covenant case, Williamsport, in which the decision of the lower court is affirmed. This will probably settle this long drawn out church trouble. The court's decision leaves the new session and its adherents in charge of the church property and recognizes them as the legal Church of the Covenant.

Plainfield, Cumberland county, does not hesitate to accord to one of its residents the title of "meanest man in the Cumberland Valley." The person in question, angry because his daughter was about to wed a man whom he disliked, picked all the icing off the wedding cake and substituted a covering of lard. The trick was not discovered until the guests sat down to the wedding dinner.

Wallace Long, who was sent from Jefferson county to the Huntingdon reformatory in 1901, but who escaped from that institution about a year ago, was captured near Punxsutawney last week after a desperate struggle, in which he was shot in both legs. His capture led to the unearthing of a large quantity of stolen goods, which were unearthed Wednesday morning in the house where Long was caught.

Trout Run, Lycoming county, had a big conflagration Tuesday morning, which for a time threatened the destruction of the town. Several barns were destroyed and a hotel and store were on fire. A hostler, Samuel Hyde, was severely burned in saving live stock. Two horses perished beside vehicles and other property. The Williamsport fire department was appealed to for assistance, but after an engine and hose cart had been loaded and were ready to start toward the town, the fire was under control.

On Saturday afternoon, Misses Gertrude and Hattie Cook, two sisters, were driving from their home at Marsh Hill to Rajston, north of Williamsport, when their horse took fright at an engine near the road, and started sideways and overturned the vehicle, dislocating the hip and breaking several ribs and otherwise bruising and wounding Miss Gertrude. The horse was injured, but the buggy was a complete wreck.

A swarm of bees completed suicide when they followed their leader from the Harris home to the residence of John Boykin, West Taylor township, Columbia county, who went down the fire as "Mrs. Boyle" was preparing the noonday meal. The suicide was witnessed by Isaac B. Boyser, whose attention was called to the swarm by a little girl who first discovered them coming down the hole near the Culbert home. Mr. Boyser has been a bee fancier for a long time and says this is the first time he ever heard of a swarm shuffling off in this way.

The coroner's jury sitting in the inquest on the man who was found in Dead Man's Hole near Lewistown on the morning of July 4th, with four bullets in his body, returned a verdict to the effect that the man came to his death at the hands of a person or persons unknown. The dead man was a Pole about 20 years old, 5 feet, 6 inches high, with smooth face and dark auburn hair. The following articles were found on his person: A Catholic prayer book in the Polish language, with the letters "Wm. E." or "M. E." on the back; a Catholic scapula, a button of the Mine Workers' Union, No. 2, a light watch chain with a square charm containing a compass, and a fob ribbon, with watch hook and gilt buckle.

Alexander K. Shimer, a well known and much respected resident of Gaysport, was instantly killed by a bolt of lightning on Saturday, just before noon, during the prevalence of a thunder storm. Mr. Shimer and several other men were harvesting on the Jerry O. Mattern farm, adjoining Gaysport, and had just finished a field when the storm came up. The other men went to the barn but Mr. Shimer started to go to his home a near way across the fields, when he was stricken down, the entire back of his head being crushed to a jelly. The body was subsequently discovered lying in the field, by a son of Mr. Mattern who was taking the horses out to pasture. The deceased was about 65 years of age. He was a veteran of the civil war, a member of the Chimney Rock Lodge, Sons of Temperance, a real estate assessor and a school director of Gaysport borough. He was an upright citizen and a member of the Methodist Episcopal church of Hollidaysburg. He is survived by six daughters and one son.