

Ink Slings.

It will be Judge PARKER. The higher the beef trust pushes the prices the more real "beefing" there is.

General MILES' declaration of principles is all right but its diction is too good for the masses to understand.

The Glen Hazel man who wanted to get cooking utensils made of radium ought to run for President. He must have more money than HEART.

Dr. SKINNER says that "if all the flies and mosquitoes were dead human life would not only be prolonged but would be better worth living."

Under the new appropriation bill that has just passed Congress rural mail carriers will be paid \$720 per year and allowed, under certain conditions, to carry packages for hire.

If there are really twelve thousand more deaths than births annually among the people of native stock of Massachusetts it will not be long until baked beans and brown bread civilization is only a tradition.

Last year France raised over four hundred and fifty million bushels of potatoes and is selling them at twenty-cents the bushel. If the price here keeps going up there will be a new field of profit open to smuggling.

The new post-office appropriation bill is \$250,000 less than it was last year. We are not exactly curious, but we would like to know which one of the grafters has become public spirited enough to do without his share of the loot for a year.

The strike of ten thousand diamond cutters in Amsterdam threatens to cut the supply away under the demand for awhile. How embarrassing this will be for the printers who are usually such large purchasers of the brilliant gems.

COLONEL chambers does not endorse his cousin PENNYPACKER's candidacy for the Supreme court. Not because he thinks it wrong to be catapulted into office, but because he fears that if BROWN were Governor he would be catapulted off the Governor's staff and then there would be nothing left of him but chambers again.

With the hope of decreasing drunkenness the Russian government has offered a prize of \$25,000 for a practical way of making alcohol undrinkable. Here's a chance for the Pook-Pooks to get in sight of some of the money. They would have no trouble in making a few barrels of the Russian alcohol undrinkable—for Russians.

When JOHNNY GOWLAND was called on for a speech on Tuesday he was wise enough to sit still and saw wood, for had JOHNNY once started to speechifying he would have said to the other nine aspirants for the Phillipsburg post-office, something about as follows: Now, I'll just "take and tell" youse fellers, you ain't in it, for I've got the office cinched.

WALTER WELLMAN, the political writer, says that President ROOSEVELT has become a very different man from what he was the day a national calamity made him President. The sum and substance of the change, according to Mr. WELLMAN, is that ROOSEVELT has learned to keep his mouth shut. Hurrah for ROOSEVELT! What a great thing he has accomplished.

If JOHN KNEISEL had been able to sit on himself he couldn't have felt flatter than he did when Col. JOHN A. DALEY started tooting his own horn for the Legislature in the convention on Tuesday. Up to that moment everybody imagined that KNEISEL and WOLFSBERG were to have the nomination without opposition, but here an old soldier jumped into the fray and a hustling old soldier like DALEY means trouble for someone.

Mr. BRYAN dictated the policy of the Democratic party in two campaigns and failed both times. Though many of us were not in accord with all of his ideas we gave them the best support possible. Now why can't Mr. BRYAN be just as fair and submit that his theories are not what the public want and permit others to try the work of building a platform. We don't like to believe Mr. BRYAN to be one of the rule or ruin kind, but it looks very much as if that were his class.

CLEMENT WHISKERAND DALE, more popularly known to Republican politics as Ann's Clementina, waxed eloquent in the convention on Tuesday and finally brought forth the startling declaration: "When one Republican falls another rises up to take his place." Just how long it has taken the gentle lady of Republicanism to make this discovery wasn't stated, but everybody else knew it was two years ago when Dr. MELIFULOUS JUVENILE LOCKE rose up after Aunt Clementina fell.

Senator BURTON, one of the Representatives of the sovereign State of Kansas, has been found guilty of selling his influence. His is the first case of conviction under the act since its passage in 1864. Senator BURTON is liable to lose his seat in the Senate and can be fined \$10,000 or sent to the penitentiary for two years on each of the two counts on which he was convicted. He can also be debarred from ever holding an elective office again. Senator BURTON is a Republican. Let us see how much punishment is really meted out to him.

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Petitions are Unnecessary.

Probably the funniest political incident that has occurred in recent years was reported from Philadelphia the other day. It was to the effect that some superservicable friend of Governor PENNYPACKER in that community of corruption and contentment was circulating a petition praying the Governor to accept the Republican nomination for justice of the Supreme court and asking for signatures for it.

It is not that the Governor puts a high estimate on the distinction which service on the Supreme court bench conveys. If the office of justice of Peace carried the salary and was of equal tenure, it would be just the same to him. It isn't honor he is after. It's the "long green." Next to an overweening and immeasurable vanity, cupidity is his consuming passion.

Senator QUAY would probably have been sent to the penitentiary if he hadn't pleaded the statute of limitations in defense against the charge of misusing the funds of the State which is a constitutional misdemeanor.

Every body knows that he needs the money of the State in speculative operations and that it is a crime. No intelligent citizen is unaware of the fact that he speculated in sugar trust shares on information acquired as a Senator and that was morally a crime. But that makes no difference to PENNYPACKER. A moral leopard and an ogre of virtue are the same to his perverted notion if he is even remotely connected by consanguinity to the PENNYPACKER.

No petitions are needed to get him to accept the nomination for justice of the Supreme court. He would steal the office if there were no other way to get it and occupy it after thus acquired if every justice now in commission should refuse to sit with him. It's the money he wants. He violated his oath of office by signing an unconstitutional act of the Legislature increasing the salary of justices of the Supreme court in order to add to his own emoluments after QUAY had catapulted him into the court and he doesn't have to be coaxed to accept the fruits of his own turpitude.

An Unjust Punishment.

Very few of the Senators and Representatives who voted for the press muzzle at the last session will be returned to the Legislature this year. Senator GRADY the putative father of the measure has been laid on the shelf and in Fayette county the other day the two members who voted for the bill while their colleague who refused to swallow the dose was re-nominated. In Lawrence county only one of the muzzlers asked for a renomination and he was overwhelmingly defeated while in nearly every other county in which nominations have been made the same thing has happened.

The press muzzle was neither conceived nor prepared by Senators or Representatives in the Legislature. It was QUAY's bill essentially. Because the newspapers had compelled his indictment and trial for misusing the funds of the State he determined to punish them and he used the Legislature and that absurdly vain old man, Governor PENNYPACKER to fulfill his purpose of vengeance. The two fools in Fayette county who have been punished by the people didn't know what they were doing. They were simply told to vote for the bill and they did so just as they would have obeyed if they would have been ordered to set fire to the State capital. QUAY is the culprit and retributive justice should be concentrated on him.

Besides the Republican people and the Republican press condoned the offence of voting for the press muzzle last fall in the election of Senator WILLIAM P. SNYDER to the office of Auditor General. He had taken an active and influential part in the legislation and when the petronousish Republican press of the State enfolded him it forfeited its right to protest against the election of any one else for the same cause. Nobody can be tried twice for the same offence and in the nomination of SNYDER the Republican party was potential. His election, of course, operated to acquit and that is the end of the matter. No legislator ought to be punished now.

Changed but Not in the Right Way.

President ROOSEVELT is a "new man," according to WALTER WELLMAN the Washington correspondent of the Philadelphia Press. The President has been putting himself through a course of self-discipline, Mr. WELLMAN states, and his manners are better than formerly. "He took himself in hand," writes his journalistic friend. "He disciplined himself. He took stock of his weaknesses, his idiosyncracies, his foibles," with the gratifying result that he has "got onto his job." In other words the President doesn't talk as loud as he used to, he is less effusive and more dignified than formerly. To sum it all up he isn't "de-lighted" near as frequently as when he first became President, through a national calamity, and every man who calls is no longer "just the man I wanted to see."

The change can hardly fail to afford universal satisfaction. Some of ROOSEVELT's antics in the White House during that period of absurd exuberance to which Mr. WELLMAN recalls would make a brass-monkey laugh and an angel weep. One of its idiosyncracies was expressed in his dinner on bear claws in the seclusion of a Mississippi swamp without the convenience of table implements. Another revealed itself in a ride of several hours in Virginia through a March blizzard over roads so bad that his horse sank to his knees in the mud every time his hoof touched the ground. Another found expression in sleeping in a snow drift in the Yellowstone park wilderness and still another made itself manifest in a night's exposure on the bank of a lake near Oyster Bay. All these things will probably be missed from the routine of his life during the coming summer, but nobody is likely to complain.

It's a great pity, however, that when ROOSEVELT was putting himself through a course of mental discipline, he didn't give it a moral turn. That is to say according to the interesting statement of Mr. WELLMAN he has vastly improved in the matter of deportment while the records show that in the matter of morals he has one the other way to an extent that is literally amazing. For example before he could become President he had no patience for vanity in public life. He couldn't endure official malfeasance and corruption was absolutely abhorrent to him. Now he views such things through different lenses altogether and actually seeks the companionship of the most disreputable and distasteful political reprobates. As a matter of fact we are told that QUAY is now his most trusted political adviser while a few months ago he couldn't tolerate that past-master in political intrigue at all.

The papers announce that the old prize fighter, JOHN L. SULLIVAN, has purchased a small plantation in Texas and will raise cotton. JOHN has "raised hell" most of his life and if he makes an equal success of raising cotton SULLIVAN, or no one else, will ever get that market cornered again.

Senator Burton Convicted.

Senator BURTON, of Kansas, has been convicted in a St. Louis court of having accepted compensation for protecting the interests of a swindling concern before the Postoffice Department. The evidence was direct, positive and overwhelming. BURTON's letters would have settled the matter if no other testimony had been offered. "You will be undisturbed for the present," he wrote his client, "and they will let me know before anything else is done." For that and a few other little trifles the concern paid at the rate of \$25,000 a year. "Send me the first month's salary," he said in the letter in which he gave details of his first visit to the department.

Yet it may be presumed that if he had been tried in some other court he would have escaped the penalty. The evidence against Senator BURTON, of Nebraska, was quite as direct and just as positive, and he was acquitted. In Philadelphia he would probably have been given a certificate of character. But in St. Louis things are different. There the rich and the poor, the great and the small are treated alike. It is not because BURTON is a Republican that he was convicted, either. A number of wealthy and conspicuous Democrats have been convicted in the same court on kindred, though not exactly the same kind of charges. All hoodlars are alike to St. Louis justice.

Senator BURTON made a pathetic plea in his own defence. He declared that he became attorney for the concern because "he needed the money." He had observed that other Senators and Representatives in Congress practiced law in the departments and he could see no reason why he could not do it as well as others. He named no names but he might have pointed to JOHN DALZELL, of Pittsburgh. But the cases are not parallel. Mr. DALZELL does his work on the floor of the House where he can serve the interests of his clients instead of those of his constituents. Morally there is no difference but legally there is. In other words DALZELL can't be convicted while BURTON has been.

"Corrupt and Contented," Sure.

That Philadelphia is literally "corrupt and contented" is proved by recent events. The last grand jury in a presentment to the court declared that from evidence acquired in the discharge of its duty it was satisfied that the municipal authorities and the promoters of vice are in collusion. It cited facts in support of the statement which carried conviction. It named proprietors of dens of iniquity under the patronage and protection of police officials and suggested how the statements might be verified. It was a most scathing arraignment of a corrupt municipal administration, but it was made in pursuance of official duty. There was no malice in it or even enmity. It was a fulfillment of a civic obligation.

But the gentlemen of that grand inquest were not protected in their rights after performing their duty. The municipal administration and the District Attorney at once entered into a conspiracy to destroy the reputation and assassinate the character of every member of the body. They arrested some of the persons referred to in the presentment and summoned the jurors to testify against them. That of itself would have been an outrage without precedent in enormity, but it wasn't the worst. In addition to that an assistant of the District Attorney's office assumed the role of defender of the criminals and by threats of imprisonment and badgering in other ways compelled the jurors to reveal the secrets of the grand inquest.

White intelligent public sentiment stood appalled at this exhibition of official mendacity and venality, however, another evidence of Philadelphia iniquity was revealed. The employers of the foreman of the grand jury dismissed him from his employment, last Saturday, and thus deprived him of his means of livelihood. The name of this firm is S. W. EVANS & Son, umbrella makers of Frankford. The reason they give for the outrage is that the police espionage of their employe was injurious to their business. The real reason was that the action of their employe interfered with the plans of the municipal administration to loot the public and continue a profitable traffic in crime and vice. It puts the political life as well as the business machine in the beastly partnership.

A Very Lame Apology.

The President has been apologizing for his unconstitutional service pension law. He declares in effect that the reason he usurped the prerogatives of Congress, in utter contempt of the fundamental law of the land, was that he was afraid that Congress would enact a much more lavish service pension law. That is a mighty poor excuse, to use no harsher phrase. The constitution provides a way by which the President may prevent Congress from enacting evil legislation. The veto power was put in his hands for that purpose. If a bill passed by Congress is not wholesome or is inimical to public interests, the President can veto it. But he can't enact legislation.

The Federal constitution declares in Section 1, Article 1, that "All legislative powers granted herein shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives." Amending a pension law in any way is exercising legislative power and the order of the President fixing the age of infirmity at sixty-two is amending a pension law. The previous form of the law was that whenever it was proved by competent evidence that a person who had served three months or longer in the army or navy of the United States during the war of the rebellion is unable to earn a livelihood on account of infirmities, not the result of vicious habits, he shall be placed on the pension list and receive the usual pension. The order of the President makes it read that whenever any person who served three months or longer in the army or navy during the war of the rebellion reaches the age of sixty-two years, he shall be placed on the pension roll. This is not only an amendment, but a very radical one.

Clearly then the President had no right to issue such an order and in issuing it he violated the constitution and usurped the prerogatives of Congress. For that he ought to be impeached and removed from office. A man who thus transcends the limits of his authority is a grave menace to the Republic. He has just as good a right to order the Supreme court to decide questions in litigation according to his whims or direct the army and navy to begin war against a friendly power. In fact he might as well instruct the treasury department to supply him with unlimited funds to carry out any foolish fancy which may take possession of his curious mind.

It is a hopeful sign that the HEART boom is measured solely by dollars and cents. Remove the millions back of the young New York Journalist and his name would never be heard. The Democratic party may be reduced to great extremes, but far be it from selling a nomination for the highest office in the land.

Labor's Opportunity.

One of the opponents of the eight hour law now under consideration in our national Legislature in his address before the congressional committee interjected a little stump speech by saying that "When Abraham Lincoln was splitting rails, he didn't confine his day's labor to eight hours, neither did Garfield, when he, as a boy, was trucking along the path of the canal, nor did McKinley in his early life. Yet we find men today who are demanding that limit not only for the employees of the government and all who labor on the surface of the earth, but for those who toil beneath it as well. These men whom I have named were doing infinitely harder work than nine-tenths of those who are now clamoring for the enactment of an eight hour law."

The sophistry of such argument as this must be apparent to every man whether he be an advocate of the proposed law or not. Lincoln, as a trader, was compelled to do hard work, but he was working for himself; the forest and the prairie were alike wide open to him; opportunity was practically as easy as the free winds which blew about him as he toiled, and his product determined his wages. But the product of the laborer of today, especially in the monopolized coal fields, does not determine his wages. They are determined by the arbitrary terms of the men who would become rich by the oppression of men who are compelled to earn their bread in the sweat of their faces. In Lincoln's day opportunity was open to all. But there is a vast difference between the economic conditions which confronted Lincoln as a railsplitter and those which confront the laboring man today.

The World is Full of Such Youth.

The other day a wagon hauled by a horse which was driven by an 18-year-old boy passed down one of the principal avenues of the city. Several other lads of the age of the driver passed along the sidewalk and attracted his attention. They were friends and he was evidently in a jocular mood. In a friendly way he suddenly belied forth a volley of oaths that must have been audible for two squares. Then he pulled some cigarette papers from his pocket and began to manufacture a cigarette. His youth and his present dense ignorance are in his favor, but the chances are he will never achieve substantial success. Stupefied by tobacco and brutalized by profanity, he will miss all the splendid opportunities which present themselves along life's pathway, ever waiting to become the property of the vigilant and the competent. When age descends upon him he may daily regret his lost chances and wonder why some of his neighbors were so much more fortunate, but he may have so wait until he leaves this world before he begins to realize the enormity of his crimes against himself.

Where Sand Counts.

Are you brave? You think so, but can you keep on doing what is right when certain other boys laugh at you? If you can and do, you are brave; if you weaken under such circumstances you are a coward. It requires more "sand" to endure ridicule than to fight—a great deal more.

Sixth Attack on Port Arthur.

Russian Searchlights Discover Merchant Steamers Making for Harbor. Torpedo Boats in Support.

ST. PETERSBURG, March 27.—Under cover of darkness this morning, Vice-Admiral Togo made another attempt to bottle up the Russian fleet in Port Arthur but failed again, and when, after daylight, Vice Admiral Makaroff steamed out to give battle the Japanese commander refused the challenge and sailed away. The Japanese practically repeated the tactics of February 24th, by sending in four fireships, preceded by a torpedo boat flotilla, with the exception that the fire ships this time were armed with Hotchkiss guns for the purpose of keeping off the Russian torpedo boat destroyers.

The enemy's attempt was discovered by means of the shore searchlights and a heavy fire was opened from the batteries and from two gunboats which were guarding the entrance to the harbor. The Russian torpedo destroyer Silni was outside on scouting duty and to the dash and nerve of the Japanese commander, Lieutenant Kriziki, is chiefly due the complete defeat of the plans of the Japanese. He at once made straight for the on-coming ships under a hail of fire from the Hotchkiss guns and torpedoed the leading ship, which sheered off, followed by the others, three of them being piled upon the shore under Golden Hill and one under the lighthouse. The Silni then engaged the entire six torpedo boats of the enemy, coming out from a terrific fight with seven killed and her commander and twelve of her complement wounded. But on the Japanese side only one boat's crew was saved. In addition, according to unofficial reports, it is believed the Japanese lost two torpedo boats.

The Japanese cruisers, which supported the attack, exchanged shots with the batteries and then drew off, after which Vice-Admiral Makaroff took a steam launch and examined the fireships. An hour later the Japanese torpedo flotilla, followed by Vice-Admiral Togo's fleet came up from a southerly direction. Just daybreak Vice-Admiral Makaroff, with his fleet, sailed out to engage the enemy, but after the ships and batteries had fired a few long distance shots Vice-Admiral Togo decided to decline the issue, and disappeared to the southward.

The news of the repulse of Vice-Admiral Togo's second attempt to block Port Arthur created much rejoicing in the Russian capital and among all classes the gallantry of the Silni and her commander, is the subject of high praise, but above all the morale of Admiral Makaroff's willingness to engage the enemy, showing that he considered himself strong enough to fight, produced a splendid impression.

Spawls from the Keystone.

In the craw of a chicken that was cleaned at Porter's Central hotel, Williamsport, on Saturday were found eighteen blank cartridges.

Huge cakes of ice, passing down the river Friday morning of last week tore away another portion of the Shamokin dam almost as large as that which was carried away when the first gorge broke.

Morris Rhoads, a young graduate of the Kutztown Normal school, was shockingly killed at Shenandoah on Saturday. From quarantine supplies he was delivering he drank carbolic acid in mistake for whiskey.

Two hundred and fifty employees of the billet mill of the Pennsylvania Steel works at Harrisburg, quit work Saturday because a recent reduction of working force caused additional work. The company immediately closed the mill.

Robert Barr, aged ten years, of Hollidaysburg, on Saturday was pounced upon by a bull terrier dog and the animal's teeth sunk through the lad's left eyebrow. The wound was cauterized by a doctor and no serious results are apprehended.

A one-pound baby, rushed to the hospital in Williamsport after its birth, in the hope of saving the life of the midget, is now thriving at that institution under scientific treatment, weighs nearly two pounds, and probably will survive.

Elias Hartz, known throughout the country as "Reading's goosebone weather prophet," who has been seriously ill for several days, is in a very critical condition. Owing to the fact that Hartz is in his 90th year, small hopes for his recovery are entertained.

Between 2 and 3 o'clock Thursday morning Clark Grazier's big barn at Huntingdon Furnace was burned to the ground together with four large work horses, sixteen head of cattle and twenty sheep. Besides this a large quantity of hay, straw and grain were burnt as was much farming machinery.

The directors of the Northumberland Bridge Co., held a meeting in Sunbury last week and decided to rebuild the bridge swept away by the flood last week. Plans for a fine steel bridge have been ordered. Until such time as the work is done the company will conduct a ferry between the two towns.

The Lewistown council has passed an ordinance submitting to a vote of the people a proposition for negotiating a loan of \$100,000 to cover the cost of a sewerage system. A good bit of money is involved in the proposition, but life and health is of first importance. So Lewistown will probably vote for the loan.

The initial trip to Oak Grove by the way of the Jersey Shore electric street railway company's line was made Friday afternoon, when a special car containing officers of the company and a few invited guests ran over nearly the entire line and to its terminus, near the New York Central shop buildings.

Arrangements for the annual reunion of the Pennsylvania Odd Fellows anniversary association to be held at Montoursville on April 26th, are progressing rapidly and when the time for the reunion arrives the Odd Fellows will find everything in readiness for their reception and comfort. An interesting event in connection with the reunion will be a meeting in the evening of the Grand lodge to take in past grauds of subordinate lodges.

This year only three mills will operate in Williamsport—the Righter, Star and Brown, Clark & Howe. The old Maynard mill, for several years used by the Deemer Lumber company, is now nearly dismantled. There are now between 10,000,000 and 12,000,000 feet of logs in the Williamsport boom. It is likely that the run is about over for this freshet. The next one will bring a large number of logs with it which have been started on their way by this one. Lumbermen are well satisfied with the progress thus far.

Alva Green, of Gallagher township, was in Lock Haven on Saturday having in his possession a five weeks' old cub bear, for which he was seeking a purchaser. Peter Meitzler, of the Riverside hotel, secured the smiling, biting critter for \$8. Mr. Meitzler will probably send the animal as an Easter offering to one of his Philadelphia friends instead of the proverbial rabbit. Mr. Green, with another hunter, shot the mother bear in the wilds of Gallagher township this week and captured the three lively cubs.

The Central Pennsylvania Methodist conference will hold its next annual session at Berwick, and the following were elected ministerial delegates to the General conference at Los Angeles: Dr. W. W. Evans, presiding elder of the Danville district; Amos S. Baldwin, presiding elder of the Juniata district; T. S. Wilcox, presiding elder of the Williamsport district; E. J. Gray, president of Williamsport Dickinson seminary; G. W. Stevens, presiding elder of the Harrisburg district; and Horace Lincoln Jacobs, pastor of Ridge avenue church, Harrisburg.

An Assyrian peddler was murdered about two miles east of Petersburg Friday afternoon. A fellow peddler is supposed to have committed the act. They were together at Petersburg in the afternoon where they were peddling a dozen times on the place and struck about a dozen miles on the place and the farm adjoining. The pig pen on the Miller farm was hit, the bolt striking a hog on the head, the mark being plainly visible on the dead animal. The hen house was also struck and next morning three chickens were found dead, their heads being severed from the neck by the lightning. Another bolt struck the barn and it caught fire under the roof. The animals in the barn below broke loose and they were gotten out of the burning building with difficulty. A cow was stunned by the lightning, and James Flemmon was severely burned while at work getting the animal out. The barn, twenty tons of hay and about 500 bushels of grain were consumed. That was a pretty good night's work for the electric visitor.