

Ink Silings.

Gen. LEW WALLACE is dead, but Ben Hur will live on forever.

The Liberty Belles were charming enough in looks but not so tinsel as they might have been.

It is not the women who pay the greatest attention to their figures who usually turn out the greatest mathematicians.

The American Tobacco company evidently has no pull on the Naval academy at Annapolis. Cadets caught smoking or chewing are to be instantly dismissed.

Next Tuesday will be election day. See that the good men are elected. Of course there is no need of telling you that all the men on the Democratic ticket are good ones.

Madame SARA BERNHARDT is said to be arranging for another farewell American tour. We refer the divine SARA to a similar expedition undertaken by dear PATTI only a year ago.

Philadelphians complain of cold trolley cars in that city. How foolish! Why the opera house in Bellefonte during the past week would make the coldest car in Philadelphia feel like a bottle of tabasco boiling in hell.

Pennsylvania will scarcely stand for a monument to QUAY in the Capitol park. If we are to memorialize public plunderers and men who have to resort to the statute of limitations in order to escape the just penalty of their crimes with costly shafts, what in the world will we be able to hold out as a proper reward of real statesmanship and political rectitude.

The appropriation for the sundry civil bill was reported in Congress on Tuesday and carries \$7,718,689 in excess of last year's allowance for the conduct of the government. With the revenues decreasing and the expenses increasing about the only thing there is left of comfort to the public is the thought that we must have this lovely government of ours even if it does come high.

Without any money for dredging the Delaware or a share in the government armor plate contracts the Philadelphia Congressmen ought to have a hard time making explanations to their constituents. They would, if Philadelphia voters were concerned about such things, but as they are not, the machine will accept the inevitable and look for more graft from the white-slave traffic.

Mayor JOHN WEAVER, of Philadelphia, is finding it no easy matter to carry water on both shoulders. He has declared that he holds himself responsible for the acts of the police of that city, yet when he attempts the removal of any of them he is told by the machine that such a course will bring about his own impeachment. Between the preachers and the protectors of the white slave traffic WEAVER is having troubles of his own.

Public sentiment has accomplished its desired result in having secured a reprieve for KATE EDWARDS and SAMUEL GREASON who were to have been hanged in Reading yesterday for the murder of Mrs. EDWARDS' husband. Public sentiment, however, does not always direct its sympathy to the end of public good. While the thought of hanging makes stout hearts tremble, the thought of the crime that made such punishment necessary should never be lost sight of.

The little pleasantries which Congressmen HEARST, of New York, and SULLIVAN, of Boston, have been exchanging during the past few days cannot be said to be very edifying, though they probably serve the purpose of proclaiming to the public the character of men who sit in Congress. That there should be any grounds whatever on which one Member might, with impunity charge another of murder should be enough to make the honorable man ask himself the question: How is it that such persons find their way into the highest branch of our government?

It seems strange that Senator JIM McNICOL who made his maiden speech at Harrisburg, on Tuesday, in a most sentimental appeal for the modification of the Sunday law so that the oppressed working man may have some legalized form of recreation or amusement on the one day of rest he has, didn't think how much more eloquent he would have been arguing from a different standpoint. Suppose he would have spoken for conditions that would save the laboring man from being robbed by a protective tariff in both his wages and his purchases. Then the oppressed could afford to take time off from his labors to seek and enjoy the recreation he needs without desecrating the Sabbath day.

Mrs. EDITH L. CANNON, of Akron, Ohio, should have a divorce from her husband, PATRICK. She has applied for one on the ground that PATRICK came home at 12 o'clock at night, when the thermometer was at 0°, hoisted all the windows in their room because he said it wasn't healthy to sleep without proper ventilation, then jumped into bed and later pulled all the covers off of her. Imagine yourself in such a predicament any night during the past week and you will agree with us that the lady should have a divorce; especially since it has always been understood that it is the wife's right to have all the covers, as well as throw out her icy toes on the spinal column of hubby whenever she desires to do so.

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The President Rebuked.

On Saturday last the United States Senate administered a rebuke to President ROOSEVELT which should bring him to some realization of his obligations under the constitution. In his extraordinary lust for power ROOSEVELT has been committing all kinds of offences against the laws and traditions of the country. In his anxiety to usurp the rate-making power of the railroads he simply wants to boss the transportation facilities of the land as he controls those of the sea through his unlawful and extravagant use of warships for pleasure yachts. In his offer to direct the fiscal affairs of San Domingo his purpose was to meet Emperor WILLIAM, of Germany and Emperor NICHOLAS, of Russia, on a common level and make treaties under the name of agreements abroad according to his whims. It is intolerable vanity.

On Friday last President ROOSEVELT sent a letter to Senator CULLUM, of Illinois, substantially declaring that if the Senate exercised its constitutional prerogative to amend treaties which practically abdicated the right of that body to "advise and consent" to treaties, he would refuse to send certain treaties to the foreign governments concerned for endorsement. It was simply a threat like that of CROMWELL to the British parliament except that it wasn't backed by troops. The Senate justly and properly resented the usurpation and by a vote of fifty to nine adopted the amendments to which he objected. His most intimate friends on the floor joined in the operation. It was a piece of surgery performed with a butcher's meat axe, but no other kind would have served.

In the San Domingo matter President ROOSEVELT has committed an offense which, if the House of Representatives had even a modicum of manhood, should lead to impeachment. After having first entered into an agreement to collect the European debts against the bankrupt Republic without the consent of the Senate, he practically declared war without taking the trouble to even invite the action of Congress, though the only power to declare war is lodged in Congress by the constitution. In other words he sent an armed ship of war to one of the helpless ports of the Republic, forcibly seized it and began collecting the revenues. No pirate on the Spanish main ever committed a more outrageous or unlawful act. But the originating and real Congress does nothing because the President has bribed the Members with official patronage. It is encouraging to discover that the Senate has more spirit and courage.

False Cry of Economy.

We hope no member of the Legislature and we believe no other citizen will be deceived by the admonitions thrown out now and then by agents of the machine at Harrisburg, that there is immediate or even early probability of exhausting the surplus in the State Treasury. Some weeks ago the State Treasurer sent out such an alarm and the other day the Auditor General declared in an interview that economy in appropriation will be necessary this year in order to avert a treasury default. As a matter of fact economy is a great virtue, as a rule, and we have always favored it in the administration of public affairs. But there are things worse than profligacy, and just now the treasury surplus is worse.

If the Legislature would turn its attention to a decrease of taxation; or if it would enact such laws as would divert a larger proportion of the state taxes to local purposes and thus make a reduction of local taxes possible, we should then be the first and most earnest in the advocacy of economy in appropriations. But it is not for the purpose of diminishing the tax burdens of the people that the machine agents are crying for economy. On the contrary, it is for the purpose of continuing the vast treasury surplus in order that the interest account will go into their pockets while the principal serves to bribe voters through the bankers who are favored with the deposits.

There is in round figures \$15,000,000 in the treasury, general and sinking funds combined, at the present time. That money is deposited in a hundred banks throughout the State and every banker who gets a share of it must get a proportion of extra votes for the machine. On this vast sum the State gets two per cent. interest, amounting to \$300,000. But the money is worth four per cent. in New York and is given for no less in Pennsylvania so that the machine gets \$300,000 a year out of it too. This is demoralizing the voters, turning the fiscal agents of the State into bootlickers and making public office a source of crime. We submit that profligacy is preferable to that.

It must be very strenuous labor at the rate they are going, but so far we haven't heard of any Harrisburg Legislature giving out in his efforts to multiply offices and increase salaries. Really the endurance of some men seems remarkable.

Trouble for the President.

The President is very likely to have all the strenuous he wants during the next few weeks and unless "he behaves himself well," as Governor PENNYPACKER would put it, until the end of his official life. In another article we refer to the rebuke administered to him by the Senate in the matter of the several arbitration treaties which had been negotiated and signed. Since that article was written we notice that the gentlemen of that august body are preparing another bump or two for him that will shake him up effectually. The first of these is in relation to his constructive recess of a year ago last December and the other will have reference to the Santo Domingo affair.

In these transactions President ROOSEVELT has revealed an exceedingly low moral organization. In the matter of the arbitration treaties he simply tried to sneak one word in as a substitute for another which would have completely changed the relations of the Executive to the government of the country. The constitution requires treaties to be ratified by the Senate and it is silent concerning agreements. If his trick had worked he could have made such treaties as he liked with whomever he liked and snapped his finger at the Senate. By his constructive recess, an absurd perversion of language, he was enabled to make his nomination of Dr. WOOD to be Major General in the army and the negro CRUM to be collector of the port of Charleston, successful. In the Dominican affair he tried to make an agreement serve the purpose of a treaty.

The adequacy of the constructive recess is to be made a subject of senatorial discussion in a few days. Soon after the beginning of the present session Senator TILLMAN introduced a resolution asking the Judiciary to issue an opinion upon it. Nothing was done with the resolution, however, until recently, when a report adverse to the President's action was adopted. Senator SPOONER was ready to submit the report yesterday but it was deferred on account of the absence of Senator PLATT, of Connecticut. When it is reported the President will be rebuked and after that the San Domingo case will give opportunity for another jolt.

A Doubtful Benefaction.

Interest has recently been revived in the provision of the will of the late E. J. PRUNER, by which he bequeathed his old homestead in Bellefonte as a home for the friendless, that is the parentless, children of the town of Bellefonte and Tyrone. In the same clause he provided for the endowment of the home by giving to it the income from certain properties in Tyrone and other places.

While there can be no doubt of the benevolent purpose the testator hoped to accomplish and in that he showed a greater heart than many who have made greater pretensions of goodness there is a grave question as to the feasibility of the plan.

Inasmuch as there has been considerable question as to which one of Colonel PRUNER's several wills will be carried into execution any general discussion of the matter would seem a little premature and that is possibly the reason that the councils of Bellefonte and Tyrone have not taken it under advisement.

When the time comes, however, the principal item to be discussed will be the sufficiency of the endowment. If the net income from the properties mentioned should yield three thousand dollars and upwards it would be possible to maintain such a home as Col. PRUNER evidently had in mind; that is to say, one in which the little ones could be properly sheltered as well as given the benefits of good, christian, home training. A less sum would scarcely suffice. And if, when the time for a decision finally comes, it is found to be practicable we can think of no more satisfactory, and, perhaps, judicious solution of the proper management of such an institution than by turning it over to the care of the Children's Aid Societies of the two towns.

The women who have been engaged in this labor of love for years know what is best for children and would certainly be more capable of its economic conduct than any body of men could be.

The Capitol Park Question.

Senator Fox, of Dauphin county, has agreed to an amendment to his bill for the enlargement of Capitol park so as to reduce the appropriation for the purpose from \$2,500,000 to \$1,800,000. The Senator discovered that graft wouldn't go and so he hauled in his horns. As reported from the committee the bill still provides for a commission at considerable expense and large fees for lawyers. Somebody would better advise him to cut those things out also. The State officials can do the work, including the legal examinations, and that being the case there is no necessity for either a commission or lawyers' fees.

The WATCHMAN has favored this enterprise on legitimate lines from the be-

ginning. It has seemed to us a useful and needed improvement, as well as a safe method of cutting down the surplus in the treasury now used by the machine for buying votes for the Republican party. But we have always had a reservation to our endorsement of the undertaking. That is, we have held that it should be free from graft of all sorts and strictly a legitimate operation. Senator FOX appears to have imagined that he could deceive the public and the Legislature and provide for stealing to the extent of in the neighborhood of a million. He has been undecieved in part and would better be undecieved entirely.

It is now estimated that the cost of the property to be acquired will be about \$1,400,000. That is probably \$400,000 above the actual figure. He proposes a margin of \$400,000 above the cost of the property to make the improvements and fixes the total at \$1,800,000. This is entirely too much and unless the amount is reduced the bill ought to be defeated. An appropriation of \$1,400,000 is ample for all purposes and if the wolves want more they ought not to get any. This fact should be conveyed to them early in the game. If they refuse to listen to reason an adverse vote will bring them to their senses.

The Republican Convention.

The Republican State convention has been called by the bosses to meet in Harrisburg on April 26. The authority to call conventions is vested in the State committee. But there has been no meeting of that committee. For several years the custom has been to get the census of committeemen through the mails. But this year even that perfunctory method has not been adopted. Somebody, presumably Senator PENROSE but probably his private secretary, Mr. WESLEY R. ANDREWS, has taken upon himself the responsibility of fixing the date. The bosses want freedom to go and come during the summer according to their fancy and the convention is fixed before the summer begins.

In this case the bosses have not stopped with fixing the date of the convention. They have also selected the ticket for the party. There are four candidates to nominate, three for the Superior court bench and one for State Treasurer. For the judicial nominations the present incumbents, Judges BEAVER, RICE and ORLANDY have been chosen properly enough probably. For the State Treasurer the candidate selected by the machine is Representative J. LEE PLUMMER, of Blair county. What PLUMMER has done to deserve this favor will probably not be known until the Legislature has completed the appropriation bills.

Bogus Anti-Discrimination.

The insincerity of the present movement for anti-discrimination in freight rates is revealed in the fact that in the bill enacted by the House the other day there is not a syllable to prevent such discrimination. There are four ways by which railways may discriminate in rates. One is to differentiate in tariffs to shippers; another to pay rebates; still another to use the cars of car line companies, such as the best freight refrigerator cars, and the last to pay disproportionate rates to private or at least separate terminal companies. There isn't a word in the bill adopted the other day to prohibit either of these things.

The plain inference is that the President didn't want to prevent discrimination in rates and that what he did want is control of the railroads. If the purpose had been to protect shippers an act of Congress penalizing discrimination and fixing a good round period of time in prison would have prevented differentiation and rebating. The other evils would have been equally easy to dispose of. For example, a law making it a misdemeanor punishable by imprisonment for using any cars owned by other than regularly organized railroad companies and prohibiting under like penalty the payment of terminal tolls at a higher rate than is charged per mile for transportation on other lines, would achieve the result with absolute certainty.

The Esch-TOWNSEND bill is no more an anti-discrimination law than the act which forbids counterfeiting and will have no more influence on railroads. It will give the President a lot of patronage which he will dispose of to the highest bidder in political service and if it becomes a law it will give him more power over the equipment and service of the railroads than those who have been chosen by the shareholders to direct them. It will make extended tours in magnificent special trains easy and probably frequent and it will invest in the President a force in politics that none of his predecessors even dreamed of.

Along with the proposed statue to Senator QUAY why not one of SAM SALTER and another one to glorify the citizens of Philadelphia now engaged in the "white slave" traffic? The Republican party is equally indebted to them all.

A Spirit of the Rock

DEDICATED TO SAMUEL DIEHL.

CONTRIBUTED.

A Spirit of the Rock am I,
With head uplifted to the sky,
Though hail and rain beat in my face,
Through weal or woe hold I my place;
With head uplifted to the sky
A Spirit of the Rock am I.
Devoid of every earthly friend
I'll stand undaunted to the end,
And when that earthly tie shall break
You'll find that I'm not but a fake.
I then will on my record stand,
And view once more fair Canaan's land;
And then with love I'll sing with glee
And celebrate our jubilee.
And now the raging storm is o'er,
My hero friends return once more
And find me standing calm and free,
They cry aloud and shout with glee.
My wearied soul now longs for rest;
With naught of malice in my breast,
I will greet each passer by,
A Spirit of the Rock am I.
Poor, I have sheltered many a year,
They fear the storm, desert in fear.
The strenuous Hobos strive to stay,
But ah! at last his heart gave way;
The sun clad hills have hid his form,
He's left me here amid the storm.
Lo! My troubles anew unfold.
A new and threatening storm appears,
It's funnel shape fills me with fears,
Volers won't you spare the ax?
We have a plan to spare the ax,
Cut out wheat and feed on rye,
Will your humble servant's cry:
Hark! In the rear loud footsteps heard,
The bugle blasts of Colonel need.
While Howley's Japs are in my front:
My record now must stand the blunt.
With it I'll triumph o'er my foes,
Unless I'm made turn up my toes.
Then you will hear of victories won,
Of glorious deeds by me unsung.
Although I be one lonely star,
A candidate or Russian Czar,
I will still my record wave,
Though I fill a martyr's grave.
Though hail and storm beat in my face,
Through weal or woe I'll hold my place:
With eyes uplifted to the sky,
A Spirit of the Rock am I.

May Result in Good if Only a Pretense.

From the Chicago Public.
Despite its apertualism, President Roosevelt's Philadelphia speech of the 30th sounds one true note. This is his protest against regarding the poor as better than the rich because they are poor, or the rich as better than the poor because they are rich, and his demand that there shall be equality of opportunity for the one class as well as for the other. It is, indeed, very platitudinous; for President Roosevelt has given no evidence of any lively belief in the principle of equal opportunity. His appointment of a negro co-partisan to a public office in a southern community does not go far in this direction; for the doctrine of equal opportunity goes deeper than office spoils or race prejudices. It implies that every child shall have an equal right in this world, to live here and to work here, with every other child, and that this equal right cannot be alienated so as to create perpetual "vested rights" in the valuable privilege of denying it in order to sell it. We doubt if Mr. Roosevelt would acknowledge any such universal right, except in a platitudinous way. However, there are worse things than good platitudes and if Mr. Roosevelt keeps repeating his "equal opportunity" platitude, he may some day touch the quick by its tremendous truth and be inspired with its splendid possibilities.

The Great Dead Head.

From the News Columns of the N. Y. World.
In the three years and a half he has been President, Mr. Roosevelt has traveled in private cars and on passes, and on special trains much more extensively than any of his predecessors, and possibly more than all of them combined. He always rides on passes in a private car, as do all the members of his family and the guests and employes who go with him, and unless the trip is a very short one he travels in a special train, which is always luxuriously appointed and lavishly supplied with things to eat, drink and smoke.
The private car Olympia, the Pennsylvania railroad's finest piece of equipment, has come to be known as "the President's car," from the frequency with which it is used by Mr. Roosevelt. It is always at his disposal, and every time he has to take a trip it is overhauled and put in perfect order. When the president takes a trip he is furnished with a train of brand new Pullmans, liberally supplied with substantial food, delicacies of which the president is especially fond, wines, liquors and cigars. The train does not cost the president a cent, either for transportation or supplies. The railroads are glad to furnish it, as they consider it a good advertisement to transport the president.

The Age of Jam.

From the New York Sun.
The Republican conference decided that the railway rate bill should be jammed through the House at once. An effort will then be made to jam it through the Senate.
Whip and spur versus deliberation. Legislation while you wait.
An effort is being made to jam Arizona and New Mexico into union, and to jam the result into Statehood.
The San Domingo affair looks like a bad case of jam which got jammed before it got ripe.
Army captains are jammed into generalcies. Appropriation bills are jammed through. The age of jam is upon us, but it remains to be seen whether beef packers and railroads will be jammed into obedience to the law. Meanwhile the Constitution is jammed into the background.

Subscribe for the WATCHMAN.

Spawns from the Keystone.

Clearfield county teachers at a recent institute debated the following: "Resolved, that a man who takes a newspaper without paying for it cannot be a Christian."

The Pennsylvania railroad company paid over \$900,000 to its shophmen in Altoona Saturday, this being the largest month's pay since the retrenchment of last spring.

The plant of the Penn Bridge company, at Beaver Falls, was almost totally destroyed by fire, on Sunday, entailing a loss of \$75,000, on which there was but a partial insurance.

Frank P. Ray, member of the Legislature from Crawford county, had his right leg amputated in the Meadville hospital, Saturday afternoon, owing to a gangrenous affection.

It is rumored that Pittsburgh capitalists are making arrangements to build a trolley line from Lewistown to Shamokin Dam, Snyder county. The road would be 50 miles long.

The Shakers have sold to the State a tract of 10,000 acres in Pike county for \$13,000 for a forestry preserve. The tract has been held by the Shakers since 1875, and was to have been their "promised land."

Editor W. H. Brainard, of the Curwensville Review, who has been in Florida some time for the benefit of his health, was brought home Wednesday. It is said there is very little hope of his recovery.

At a recent term of court in Clarion county a young man who pleaded guilty to the charge of buying liquor for men of intemperate habits was sentenced to pay a fine of \$100 and undergo imprisonment for 60 days.

The Portage health board last week, installed a pest house as a better means of breaking up the small-pox epidemic there. Five new cases were reported making a total of forty-eight since the epidemic began January 19th.

Rev. Dr. M. L. Ganoe, pastor of the First M. E. church at York, and Rev. Dr. W. T. Eveland, of Bloomsburg, are each prominently mentioned as the successor of Rev. Dr. Edward J. Gray, deceased, as president of the Williamsport Dickinson Seminary.

Hazleton has a blacksmith—John H. Melkrantz by name—who has hammered iron in that place continuously for fifty-seven years. He has decided to leave the old shop to his sons and go on a visit to his boyhood home in Europe. Melkrantz will go abroad in May.

Charles Donders and Donald Johnson, two Mt. Carmel boys, found a wallet on Wednesday containing \$261.65. They at once instituted a search for the owner, who proved to be Walter Szymanski, and turned the wallet over to him, refusing any reward for their honest.

George Wolfe was arrested by game warden Hummelbaugh, at Clearfield last week, charged with hunting rabbits with a ferret. He was remanded to jail. Wolfe is from Pittsburg and is the man who was charged with assaulting a mail carrier at Penfield some time ago, the grand jury ignoring the bill the other day.

Jerry Gardner, a well-known engineer of the Bedford division, was found unconscious beside the throttle of his engine, Monday evening, and died a few minutes afterward. The cause of death was heart disease. He was 58 years old and had been an employe of the company for over thirty years.

Zachariah Kauffman, a horticulturist of York county, who owns large fruit farms in East Manchester township, and who is an authority on matters pertaining to fruit culture, inclines to the opinion that the blizzards and low temperature of the present winter have wrought but little, if any, damage to the fruit crop.

Possibly the largest shipment from the anthracite region for any day during the last 25 years was made Monday of last week in accordance with the policy decided upon by the Philadelphia & Reading coal and iron company. Many hundreds of loaded cars were sent down the main line, even passenger crews being pressed into service.

The Young Men's Democratic club, of Williamsport, is about to purchase the Brown residence, now occupied by the Williamsport Wheel club, which will be moved across the street to a vacant lot and become the permanent home of the club. It is estimated that the necessary changes and improvements will be made within a year.

Thomas Miller, formerly postmaster of Hawk Run, arrested at Fort Scott, Kansas, and brought to Pittsburg and tried before the United States District court on the charge of embezzling postoffice funds and misappropriation of money orders, was last week discharged with a fine of \$50 and costs, which was promptly paid and he is now a free man. Mr. Miller was represented by George W. Zeigler, Esq., of Philadelphia.

The Hollidaysburg Civic Improvement society has begun preparations for a lively spring campaign which will involve the cleaning, improving and beautifying of the county capital. There will be a general planting of trees, and special attention will be paid to the culture of vines, plants and flowers. The society is composed of a lot of hustling ladies, and they hope to convert the old town into a veritable garden spot in a few years.

While workmen were digging a cellar for a back building connected with the Fort Augusta residence of Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Gross, near Sandbury, they dug up five cannon balls that had lain embedded there since the period when Fort Augusta was a military outpost and the principal defense of the frontier in the Colonial and Indian wars. The caliber of these balls is about five pounds and they were a part of the ammunition of the old fortress.

The graduate Sixteeners of Mt. Joy Soldiers' Orphan's school will hold their eighteenth annual reunion at Mt. Joy on the 22nd inst. The meeting this year will be a memorial one as a committee will be appointed to place a bronze tablet on the monument to be erected to the memory of ex-Gov. Curtin, at Bellefonte. There will be addresses by prominent men as well as the usual entertainment and dance in the evening. A large number of sixteeners of other schools will be present, and all sixteeners, former teachers and friends are cordially invited. Thos. Knowles, of Pottsville, Pa., is secretary and will give any information desired.