

Ink Stings.

Japan is merely taking Korea as a chaser after her big Russian drink.

Some of the student strikers at State might find congenial spirits among the students in Russia.

Governor PENNYPACKER got sea-sick on his voyage south, but he didn't regret anything.

Mr. GEORGE JOSE ROSE MCGEE seems to be the JOHN MITCHELL of the State College strikers.

Wouldn't it be a good deal if we could trade the Philippines to some Power that would dig the canal for us?

The rule to omit flowers at the opening session of Congress deprived many of the Members of their only means of being conspicuous.

Of course Boy PENROSE cannot be kept away from Harrisburg but, certain it is, every decent Member or Senator can keep away from Boy PENROSE.

Had it not been for the peace of Portsmouth Japan might easily have taken St. Petersburg, if, perchance, that unhappy city would be worth having.

Just seventeen days until Christmas. Remember that it is more blessed to give than receive and that it is not the value, but the sentiment of the gift that counts.

President ROOSEVELT, in his message, told everyone and everywhere just what to do, with the notable exception of St. Louis. He failed to tell the people of that city how to properly entertain and feed visitors.

The action of the Pennsylvania Railroad Co. in declining to issue any free passes over its lines after January first will throw consternation into the camp of the worthy gentlemen who will sit in the special session of the Legislature.

No silver dollars have been coined this year and there being prospect that none will be coined during 1906 unless the present Congress takes some action all the PALMER and BUCKNER bankers are raising a howl about the scarcity of silver coin.

After the little unpleasantness of the past ten days we think it advisable that provision be made for P. G. work in striking at the Pennsylvania State College. There are a number of men there who have already earned the degree of walking delegate.

We notice that the City party managers in Philadelphia have very philanthropically arranged to fill all the offices secured as a result of the recent revolution in that city. Of course it is not to be expected that the Democrats who helped will get anything else than snog-water.

The Cubans who fought in the war against Spain have been voted pensions aggregating nineteen million dollars. The Island Republic must certainly be getting on when she has reached the stage of maintaining a pension department, with all its red tape, coffee coolers and sharks.

A new phase was put on the local political situation on Monday when CLEMENT DALE Esq. appeared in a fine pair of Congress gaiters. While Mr. DALE would not commit himself the donning of such significant foot-wear is supposed to be notice to Uncle SOLLY DRESSER that there will be others after the Centre county conferees next Spring.

A bulletin issued by the United States census bureau states that one hundred in every thousand persons over thirteen years of age in this country are unable to read and write. Can it be possible the percentage of illiteracy is so small? Judging from the number who claim that as a disability on election day we imagined that about fifty per cent of the voters alone couldn't read or write.

The Hon. HAMPTON L. CARSON'S nerve is only surpassed by Cousin PENNYPACKER'S idiosyncy. If they can't find the fraud in the State Treasury they are more than fools to think that it is HOMER L. CASTLE'S duty to tell them how. Had Mr. BERRY not been elected and CASTLE put in the position to stick his probe into the State's strong box these same CARSON and PENNYPACKER would probably be insisting that "Pennsylvania has no ills worthy of mention."

Congressman BROWNLOW has immortalized himself in the eyes of some by introducing a bill in Congress which, if passed, will make it a criminal offense for a sleeping car porter to pull down the upper berths in a car when they are not in use. It is designed to make it more comfortable for the occupant of a lower berth and so it would be, but what good would such a law accomplish? The sleeping car companies would probably retaliate by selling no lower berths at all until all the uppers were taken.

The Municipal News recently published a list of thirty-seven towns and cities in the United States that are receiving from \$5,000 to \$153,000 annually for franchises they have granted public service corporations in their respective communities. The list is interesting to us because of the fact that Bellefonte has granted a number of franchises from which she does not receive a cent; viz. those of the Bell and Commercial telephone companies, the Bellefonte Electric Co. and the Bellefonte Gas and Steam Heating Co. The latter having been an exceedingly expensive one to the borough because of the manner in which the streets are frequently dug up and left in a condition of repair that usually requires the attention of the street commissioners at a later date.

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Elkin a Poor Peace Offering.

That the PENROSE-DURHAM machine intends to use Justice ELKIN as a peace offering to public opinion is now entirely obvious. In their fatuous stupidity the leaders of that corrupt combination imagine that the tremendous political uprising which culminated in the landslide of November 7 had its inception in the defeat of Mr. ELKIN for the gubernatorial nomination three years ago and that by conferring upon him the party favor now popular indignation will be appeased. There is nothing further from the facts. There was justly more or less complaint three years ago because of the manner in which Cousin PENNYPACKER was catapulted into the nomination. As Major MERRITT stated at the time a majority of the convention was changed over night by "mysterious influences," and that fact provoked resentment. But no sane or honest man sincerely regretted the defeat of ELKIN. As a matter of fact he represented all that was most vicious in the politics of the State and if he had been nominated instead of PENNYPACKER the revolt which now promises a political regeneration of the State would have come then instead of this year.

The defeat of ELKIN in the Republican convention of 1902 was not a triumph of the machine over political morality and the assumption by PENROSE and DURHAM that it was simply proves that they haven't the remotest conception of political conditions or influences. QUAY ordered the defeat of ELKIN for that nomination primarily for the reason that ELKIN'S record was so notoriously rotten that the older and wiser political conspirator was afraid to attempt to carry it through the campaign. That PENNYPACKER was chosen as the instrument with whom to achieve the result is ascribable to the fact that QUAY knew that PENNYPACKER could be depended on for any iniquity while the public was laboring under the delusion that he was honest. QUAY understood his man. He knew that beneath an exterior which conveyed the notion of an unsophisticated nature there was a wicked heart and a mind which idolized vice. He felt certain that a man who estimated QUAY as superior to WEBSTER, and DURHAM as "the most influential political leader in Philadelphia," would serve the purposes of the machine quite as well as ELKIN and would be much easier to elect.

Therefore in using ELKIN as a sacrifice to appease public indignation now, the machine managers reveal little political prudence. Three years ago, with the ballot fraud machinery in Philadelphia in active operation and unimpaired condition, ELKIN might have been elected notwithstanding his infamous record in relation to padded pay rolls and criminal indemnifying bonds. But QUAY was afraid to take the chances. Since that ELKIN has been elected to the bench but under conditions which worked no condonation of his crimes of the past.

For that reason his nomination by the coming convention would be an insult to the conscience of the Commonwealth and an outrage on the integrity of the people. Leaders who would make such a proposition must be more than drunk. They must be rank mad for the people would condemn it with such an avalanche of ballots as would make J. LEE PLUMMER imagine that he has been a popular candidate.

QUAY'S method of deception is infinitely wiser than so bold a contempt of decent public sentiment.

The Remedy Worse than the Disease.

We may all agree upon the proposition that the vast corporations of the country treat the public unfairly. By collusion and other expedients of high finance the people of the country are robbed mercilessly and the loot goes into the treasuries of the corporations. For example, the railroads allow the Steel trust to greatly overcharge for rails and cars because they can reimburse themselves for the loss by excessive tariff for their service. Steel rails are sold by the American manufacturers in London for \$8 a ton less than in New York for the reason that after all the shippers and travelers pay the money. The same discrimination is made in other commodities.

But there cannot be the same unanimity of opinion as to the remedy. That is to say, thoughtful men can't agree with the President and those who support his policies upon a scheme which involves the most complete concentration of power in the government at Washington and the most absolute paternalism. For a dozen years or more the trend of public sentiment has been in that direction and out of that fact has unquestionably evolved the President's idea of Federal control of railroad rates. But recently a change has occurred in this matter. Co-incident with the assertion of the public conscience against "grafting" there has been a reversal of public opinion on the subject of paternalism and as Judge GROSSCUP, of Chicago, said the other day "the one thing more important than any other is that the ownership of wealth should be diverted from the corporations towards individuals."

If that be true, and it can hardly be questioned, the proposed legislation to vest in the Federal government control of the railroads would work infinitely greater harm than the unfair dealing of the corporations accomplishes. In other words, we would "better bear the ills we have than fly to others we know not of," if government control of the corporations is the only remedy for the existing evil. But happily that is not the case. Corporations may be amply restrained through State legislation if the authorities who administer the governments are honest and courageous and the unfair discrimination checked by the repeal of the tariff taxation on products.

A Just Decision by Root.

Secretary of State ROOT has greatly disappointed a number of American citizens by his recent decision that the Isle of Pines is a part of the Cuban Republic and that they "are bound to render obedience to the laws of that country," as long as they remain on the Island. The enterprising American citizens to whom this observation was addressed are a group of gentlemen who took possession of the Isle of Pines at the termination of the Spanish war. They bought some of the comparatively worthless territory and organized a club to exploit it. The first step was to "raise the American sovereignty" over the territory and that achieved they proceeded to terrorize the natives and rob them.

This is a habit which American adventurers have in dealing with the people of weak and helpless South American countries. Shameful to say, moreover, it has been greatly encouraged by the present administration of the government at Washington. It gave great opportunity to call out fleets of battleships and flotillas of cruisers and torpedoed destroyers and swish the big stick in the face of the world until weak powers on all parts of the globe trembled. But for some reason, as yet unexplained, it didn't work in this particular case. Mr. ROOT was Secretary of War when the conspiracy was hatched and maybe felt that his honor was involved in doing justice to Cuba.

In any event fair-minded citizens of the United States must have felt a thrill of pride when they read the manly and obviously just decision in question. If it goes no further, and other adventures are allowed to commit similar outrages in other portions of South America, it will serve the purpose of making a lucid interval in Washington which can be referred to with pride and satisfaction for a long time. But if on the other hand, as the esteemed Johnstown Democrat suggests, it means "that our government has ceased to be a bully and a braggart," then it is indeed a benefice and a source of honor at which all may justly and properly rejoice.

The President and Congress.

We are inclined to agree with Representative HAY, of Virginia, in his protest against the support of President ROOSEVELT'S policies by the Democrats in Congress. We have a good deal of faith in the intelligence and wisdom of JOHN SHARP WILLIAMS, the Democratic leader in the House, an abiding confidence in his integrity and patriotism. But as Representative HAY states "ROOSEVELT is as far today from the good, cardinal principles of Democracy as he ever was," and, besides, as Mr. HAY continues, "he has not 'made good' on a single national factor. If he succeeds in getting his rate bill through this Congress," Mr. HAY adds, "it will be the first thing he has accomplished which broadly affects the national welfare."

President ROOSEVELT has acquired an extraordinary popularity by his dramatic methods and spectacular movements. But we question whether it is an enduring or deserved endorsement. For example, he has absolutely disregarded the traditional as well as the constitutional restrictions upon the authority of the President which influenced all his predecessors and the more radical and direct his usurpations the more liberal the applause. Possibly no evil may come from his encroachments upon other departments of the government and the bad consequences of his usurpations may be averted by fortuitous circumstances in the future. But there is immense danger in such things in any event and we doubt the expediency of encouraging them.

We couldn't recommend the Democrats in Congress to vote against a measure for the reason that it has the approval of the President. That would be a childish procedure. But neither would we counsel the support of bills partly right and partly wrong simply to create the impression that Democrats in Congress are free from partisanship. On the contrary we prefer to follow Mr. HAY'S suggestion that the Democrats frame bills of their own "embodying their principles and their only." If that course is pursued the President and his friends on the Republican side of the House can accept the Democratic legislation or enact their own bills by their own strength. Let ROOSEVELT draw his own chestnuts out of the fire.

Governor Pennypacker's Preference.

Our curious Governor has declared his disapproval of BENJAMIN FRANKLIN. The distinguished statesman, diplomat, scientist and philosopher, who shed more lustre on and won more fame for the State of Pennsylvania than all others of his day and generation, happened to be a printer and PENNYPACKER can't tolerate printers. Moreover BENJAMIN FRANKLIN had a hard struggle in early life to "make ends meet," and sometimes his obligations of a penny character were not discharged as promptly as punctiliousness requires. Because of that fact Governor PENNYPACKER says he didn't pay his debts and consequently was not a good citizen. Therefore our curious Governor has concluded to sell all the literature, manuscripts, pamphlets and other forms of "Frankliniana," which he has been able to collect by assiduous effort during a considerable time.

The late GEO. WASHINGTON had a vastly different notion of FRANKLIN. The illustrious "Father of the Republic" put the highest estimate on his services to the country both at home and abroad upon his contribution to the uplifting of humanity and the progress of civilization through his literary and scientific achievements. Washington had the integrity to estimate justly and the manliness to express his opinions fairly. FRANKLIN might have been his rival in popular favor and public affairs but his judgment was not clouded by the cancer of envy or the corrosive influence of prejudice. Of all the tributes of esteem and accolades which he has left to adorn the archives of the government and decorate the history of his life that to FRANKLIN was the most generous and spontaneous. It will remain radiant when the recollections of all the PENNYPACKERS have faded from the earth.

PENNYPACKER was probably moved to the expression of his disapproval of FRANKLIN by the fact that some of the self-respecting newspapers of the State had recently suggested that a monument to FRANKLIN in the new capitol building or park would be better than a similar testimonial to the memory of QUAY. FRANKLIN was a patriot, unselfish, earnest, self-sacrificing, honest. The other was a criminal, selfish, sordid, grasping, whose whole life was spent in devising methods for looting the public, debauching official life and feeding his cupidity. As between these two PENNYPACKER'S affections and admirations naturally go toward QUAY. "Birds of a feather flock together" and though PENNYPACKER has never been compelled to plead the statutes of limitation to preserve his personal liberty he would exult as a model for the youth of the Commonwealth one who did.

Attorney General Carson and Mr. Castle.

A curious correspondence between Attorney General HAMPTON L. CARSON and the Hon. HOMER L. CASTLE, recently a Prohibition candidate for the Superior Court bench, has been made public within the past week. It will be remembered that during the recent campaign Mr. CASTLE charged numerous irregularities in the use of the State funds, all of which were subsequently confirmed by the failure of the Enterprise National bank of Allegheny City, and other incidents. Since the election State Treasurer-elect BERRY has publicly announced that upon his accession to the office he will designate Mr. CASTLE as counsel for the department to investigate and expose irregularities which are alleged to exist but were not referred to in his speeches. Thereupon Attorney General CARSON invited Mr. CASTLE to give him all his information on the subject in order that the investigation may be inaugurated and completed before Mr. BERRY comes to the office.

Obviously CARSON imagined that CASTLE is a simpleton. Philadelphia lawyers are inclined to put that estimate upon the lawyers of other parts of the State. Ever since the election the Republicans in office have been striving with great energy not only to correct the abuses in the treasury management but to destroy all evidence that they had ever existed. State bonds are being purchased as required by law wherever they can be found and worthless securities for the deposit of State funds are being replaced by substantial and valid bonds. This official house cleaning is making rapid and hopeful progress and the manipulators of the State moneys during recent years are beginning to have confidence that by the first of May they will have things in tolerably good shape for even a genuine investigation. But they would like to remove all chances of failure and Attorney General CARSON hoped to use Mr. CASTLE in it making certain.

But the courageous and capable Prohibitionist, politician and lawyer appears to have disappointed him. With ample means of acquiring all the information needed, Mr. CASTLE declared, the Attorney General has no right to call upon a private citizen for facts unless in the char-

acter of a witness in a judicial proceeding. It is a patriotic duty to aid the authorities in exposing fraud, the Attorney General protested. So it is if the authorities are sincere in their purpose to conserve the public good. But it is neither a patriotic duty nor any other kind of a duty to help the authorities to shield criminals and destroy the evidences of their crimes and that is manifestly what Mr. CASTLE was expected to do. If he had complied with Mr. CARSON'S request now there would have been little chance of achieving results after he becomes counsel for the State Treasurer next May.

Taunt that the Republican Party Must Stand Responsible For.

From the Lincoln (Neb.) Commoner. Boasting that the Republican party may be depended upon to provide a business administration of public affairs, these Republican editors expect the people to overlook the gross extravagance, the private snags, the embezzlements and the frauds generally that have been committed under Republican administration. They expect the people to forget the deficit for the last fiscal year and to overlook the prospective deficit for the current year.

Deltrich, Burton and Mitchell, United States senators, and the several representatives in congress who were required to answer to criminal indictments were elected to office by the Republican party.

Former Governor Odell, who has not clearly explained how he happened to be paid \$75,000 in the settlement of a suit pending against the Equitable Life Assurance society, is the present day Republican boss of New York.

The frauds committed by the machines and others in the postoffice department were committed by men who, in 1896, were either avowed Republicans or were so zealous for the "national honor" that they rushed to the support of the Republican ticket in that campaign, and held their offices under Republican administration.

The frauds committed in Cuba by the Neelys were perpetrated by distinguished Republicans, and under Republican administration. Loomis, whose official transactions in Venezuela were so discreditable that, although, plainly, he had the friendship of the administration, he was required to retire from the diplomatic service, was one of the noisiest pretenders in 1896; and his official existence was made possible by the Republican party.

Depew, the United States senator lately unmasked in various ways, pleaded in 1896 for what he called "the salvation country." He was elected and re-elected to the senate by the Republican party, and with all his discreditable conduct still holds his official position without serious protest on the part of Republican leaders.

McCall, McCurdy, Hyde, Harriman and the other frenzied financiers into whose affairs Attorney Hughes has recently inserted the probe, were greatly exercised in 1896 lest the honor of the United States be tarnished. They are the men upon whose testimony the Republican party has often relied to prove that it is, in fact and in deed, the party of "God and morality."

Andrews, the Detroit banker who charged the Democratic candidate in 1896 with being "the dishonest leader of dishonest men," and was subsequently shown to be an embezzler to the extent of \$1,600,000, was a champion of the Republican party.

Bigelow, the Milwaukee banker who recently defaulted to the extent of more than three million dollars, pleaded for the election of the Republican ticket in 1896 in order that the "business interests" of the country might be preserved.

Rockefeller and every one of his cheaper imitations—men who seek to pile up wealth at the expense of their helpless fellows—not only vote the Republican ticket, but from their ill-gotten gains, contribute liberally to Republican campaign funds.

Reform has Come to Stay.

From a Speech by Gov. Folk of Missouri. The next few years will be distinguished as the time in which industrial problems are settled, the reign of special privileges brought to an end, the recognition of the doctrine of equal rights fixed in national policies and in the conscience of mankind. We are in the midst of the most dramatic period of American history, the period in which the people's rights are to be defined and observed as they have never been before. The men who share in these activities in a capacity no matter how humble, are taking part in the tremendous moral upheavals now going on.

There have been great reform movements in the days gone by, but they were spasmodic; the vipers of graft were driven away and remained but a season, and then returned after the waves of public indignation had spent their fury. The present presents a situation of brighter promise to our vision. Reform shows signs of becoming universal instead of local and transitory. The revolt from political oppression is rearing its head in city after city and State after State. A civic regeneration is going on all over the land. Will it last? is the question. Will not the people soon forget and allow things to continue in the same old way? I answer no. Revolutions never go backwards, and this is a revolution that has been wrought in the consciences of men. We are but in the beginning of the movement for higher ideals in our political life which will gather strength as the years go by. The elections of last week were but the taking of the first breathworks of the opposition. The fight will go on with unceasing vigor and the time will come when the people can rest on their arms in idleness.

The moral idea in politics has come to stay. This wave of patriotism of peace will go on with increasing force.

Many friends throughout the State will rejoice to learn of the entire recovery of the Hon. J. K. P. HALL, after a protracted illness of the most serious nature. He was able to resume charge of his various business enterprises during the fore part of the week.

Spavins from the Keystone.

Six neighboring Lehigh county farmers raised nearly 11,000 bushels of potatoes.

Mrs. Elizabeth Lehman, of Mt. Joy, in her 102d year, is the oldest resident of Lancaster county.

The Moravian church at Lancaster Sunday celebrated the 160th anniversary of its organization.

Several burglaries in and around Carlisle the past week have netted the enterprising burglars nearly \$1,000.

The Buffalo & Susquehanna Coal company will erect fifty houses at Tyler, Clearfield county, in the near future.

The Pennsylvania railroad has issued an order that its employees must not be engaged in any other business while working for the company.

The local trolley company of Sunbury expects to extend its line to Shamokin, thus fore-stalling farmer Kulp's project to run his Shamokin line to Sunbury.

A grade crossing accident, due to a heavy snow storm late Monday afternoon east of Erie, may result in the death of three children of Joseph Schwartz, a truck farmer.

The Williamsburg paper mill is to have an additional equipment costing \$100,000. Chas. M. Schwab is ambitious to make the Williamsburg mill the finest in the country.

On account of an outbreak of scarlet fever in Saxton, Bedford county, the schools have been closed, and assemblies in churches and halls prohibited by the board of health.

The Mahler glass plant of DuBois, employing 150 men and paying out \$30,000 a month, was closed down Monday because of financial stringencies. This means a great loss to DuBois.

Beginning Friday the men employed in the Altoona shops will work ten hours a day. Heretofore the men had been working nine hours per day, but the increased orders has made it necessary to work another hour.

The town council of Barnesboro has offered a reward of \$250 and the commissioners of Cambria county have added \$500, for the arrest of Frank Farrell, who shot and killed Samuel Taylor, policeman, of Barnesboro, on November 12th, 1905.

Clarence Brawley, an employe of the Adams Express company at the Pennsylvania railroad station at Cresson, was fatally injured by being struck by a passenger train at Cresson at 9:24 o'clock Friday morning. He died a few hours later in the Altoona hospital.

James H. Allport, of Barnesboro, has just received an ink stand, ash receiver and two thermometers, all made from the hoofs of the large Moose he killed in the Maine woods last winter. They are beautiful ornaments, and show the hand-work of an artist in their manufacture.

The Clearfield and Franklin railroad, now building into Clearfield county, will have its own tracks for the entire distance of the road. A corps of engineers are now at work running the grade between DuBois and Clearfield, and they report that it will be a most excellent grade.

The Pennsylvania Railroad company moved 155,080 freight cars over its main line in November, establishing a new record. The best previous record was made in June, 1902, when 154,983 cars were hauled. Of the 155,000 cars moved in the month just closed, 111,940 were loaded.

The prospects are most encouraging for Huntingdon county's obtaining a state fish hatchery and the favored spot is Spruce Creek. Several months ago Barree was regarded as a very suitable place but as the water rights of Diamond creek were owned by an official of the Pennsylvania railroad and could not be purchased, that site had to be abandoned.

That the Bezer Bros., of Pittsburg, will be awarded the contract for the plans of the Penn Traffic company's magnificent new building at Johnstown, has been pretty definitely decided. The building will be at least 300 feet long, of adequate depth, and will not only be the largest mercantile establishment under one roof in this State, but will rank among the handsomest.

Dr. Gustave Adolph Prieson, a prominent physician of Lock Haven, died at his home in that place Saturday morning last. He had been a resident there for forty-nine years. He was almost 75 years old and was a native of France, but came to the United States in 1858, and leaves a wife and one daughter. He was a member of the Sixth regiment, Pennsylvania cavalry, during the Civil war.

Deputy Secretary of Internal Affairs Theodore B. Kline has just completed a careful estimate of what the population of Pennsylvania will be on January 1st, 1906. Mr. Kline's figures are 7,562,538. The census of 1900 gave the State a population of 6,905,115, showing the present estimate to be an increase of 1,204,423 souls. At this rate of increase Pennsylvania would have about 8,750,000 people in 1910.

A charter was granted to the Farmers & Merchants' Telephone company, capital stock \$6,000, having the home office at Beaver Springs. The new company has a right to operate in Snyder and Mifflin counties, but for the present will confine its business to points between and including Lewistown and Middleburg, Beaver Springs and Troxellville, McClure and Barnesville. Other branch lines will be constructed as occasion demands.

Roy C. McCurdy, of Harrisburg, shot and slightly wounded Mrs. Mary Chard with a revolver, then shot himself, inflicting injuries from which he died three hours later. The shooting occurred in the street while the woman was on the way to a butcher shop near her home. Mrs. Chard is about 42 years old and is the wife of a Pennsylvania railroad freight conductor. McCurdy was only 19 years old, and was employed as a caller by the Pennsylvania railroad.

Perry Brubaker, of Cedar Lane, Lancaster county, although 90 years old, recently walked from his home to that of his son in Lancaster, a distance of more than twenty miles, and a walk of four or five miles is his usual daily exercise. Mr. Brubaker is probably the oldest fox hunter in the country. He was only 14 years old when he and the late Brisben Skiles, the famous Salisbury hunter, chased their first quarry, and for many years the two old sportsmen were the feature of every chase held in the county.