

Ink Stings.

—This is the first day of Summer.
—If scientists keep on finding spots on the sun they will leave us no sun at all, nothing but spots.

—Linn street is getting in fine shape for the next census, which is only three years off. And there is time for more.

—The Minneapolis doctor who has declared that kissing must go should be informed that it does go, most everywhere.

—Isn't it human nature? The fellow who was kicking about it being so cold last week now has his hammer out because it is so warm.

—The curfew whistle has not been blown since last Thursday evening but the policemen continue to chase the kids home at the usual time.

—Governor CUMMINS, of Iowa, has explained that the "Iowa idea" is to have Roosevelt for President a third term, and TEDDY stands pat.

—The new German Ambassador to this country is reported to be Baron MUMM VON SCHWARTZENSTEIN. The MUMM part of it sounds good enough so we will let it go at that.

—A mad dog scare had Bishop street excited a few days ago. Strange! We thought Bishop street beyond the stage of being aroused over such a little thing as a dog with the rabies.

—The latest news from the peace conference at The Hague is to the effect that everyone is afraid to broach the subjects most desirable for discussion for fear of involving the envoys in a scrap.

—Ambassador BRYCE told Chicagoans that their city has no parallel in the modern world and Chicago is all happened up over it. It has never dawned on the Windy city how indefinite his remark was.

—Mayor SCHMIDT, of San Francisco, has proven such a racially failure as to warn organized labor against throwing its support to men who merely talk unions, and have never been proven either honest or capable.

—Mr. HUSTON is away and his family does not know where he is. The gentleman has probably placed himself outside the jurisdiction of the courts of Pennsylvania, which seems to be the wisest act of his recent years.

—It was too bad that HUSTON wasn't permitted to carry out that two million dollar bath room idea he had for the capitol. It would have come high but the State might have been better off for having cleaner Legislators.

—Secretary TAFT's son has won another prize at Yale and a contemporary observes that "all his ancestors were smart boys." If, indeed, it is true that they were all boys then this later TAFT, like Topsy, must have "just grown."

—Nobody accuses former treasurer MATHUES of wanting to steal anything from the State Treasury but his visit there wouldn't have looked so crooked had he made it in business hours, instead of waiting until the dead of night to get a chance to look over the books.

—Lafayette conferred the degree of doctor of laws on Governor EDWIN S. STUART on Wednesday. While the Governor is not made any the wiser by the honorary degree it is certain that he is dignified and prudent enough to bear it with credit to Lafayette and himself.

—Japan is not to be trifled with nor is she to be temporized with. If Japanese living in this country do not find things to their liking let them go back to Japan. America is for Americans and not for temporary residents who come here to eke out a fortune to be carried back and used in the fatherland.

—It was only to be expected that the new "burglar proof" safe in the State Treasury has turned out to be not burglar proof at all. The gang that bought it and had it placed there is not the kind that wants the State's funds too securely locked up. When an emergency arises they always must feel that they have somewhere to go for funds.

—The mayor of Camden might have invited the sailors from the Italian cruiser Etna, who left their boat to help fight a big fire in that city on Monday, to mind their own business as did the defunct Governor SWETENHAM, of Jamaica, to the American marines at the time of the earthquake, but he didn't. Therein lies the difference between the mayor of an American city and the over-pompous Governor of an English Isle.

—The Centre Democrat seems determined to find a "plot" in the movement to have the proposed PRUNER orphanage superseded by a memorial hospital. In all candor we can see nothing but the proposition farther than an honest difference of opinion as to whether an orphanage is needed at all in Bellefonte and as to whether a wing on the new hospital would not prove a more enduring memorial to Col. PRUNER than an institution with doubtful means of support and uncertain lines of conduct. While we do not question the motives of the Democrat in the matter we are of the opinion that its arguments would command more respect were they free from the insinuations that persons who differ with it are inspired by motives not as high and lofty as its own.

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Fraudulent Votes in Pennsylvania.

The testimony taken in the election cases now on trial in Schuylkill county is justly described as startling. It was proved on Monday that in the First ward of Shenandoah forty-four fraudulent votes were cast for the Republican ticket. Congressman BRUMM, who is prosecutor in the case, alleges that a like proportion of fraudulent votes were cast in thirty other election districts in the county. That is to say, in about one-fifth of the election districts in that county there were 1,320 fraudulent votes cast for the Republican ticket and probably not less than 5,000 in the entire county. The total vote for BERRY and PLUMMER outside of Philadelphia two years ago was 799,871. If the ratio of fraudulent votes which Mr. BRUMM, a Republican, alleges were polled in Schuylkill county last fall were cast in the other election districts in the State the Republican ticket was defeated by more than 100,000 instead of being elected by some 40,000 majority.

There is no use in going behind the returns, however, and as STONE and PENNYPACKER accepted elections achieved by fraud of which both had guilty knowledge, it is hardly worth while to complain that STUART's success was obtained in the same way though probably he had nothing to do with the crimes. But we are justified in protesting against the continuance of this system of selecting the public officials of the Commonwealth. It is absolute folly to strive for honest government in the State while the officials who administer the government are chosen by fraud. However free from the taint of personal dishonesty an official chosen by fraud is necessarily the creature of those who bestowed upon him the questionable favor and they work him for their sinister purposes just as the machine used PENNYPACKER during the entire period of his official life. They didn't divide the loot with him because they didn't have to. They owned him, body and soul.

Of course Congressman BRUMM is not influenced by civic virtue to the prosecution of these frauds, in which he is engaged. His object is to punish men in his own party who are personally antagonistic to him and the probable reason that he hasn't included all the districts in the county in his accusation is that in the others his friends were culpable. It is impolite, however, to "look a gift horse in the mouth," and we shall accept Mr. BRUMM's work for what it is worth and it may be worth a great deal. Meantime it is well enough to hold in mind the obvious fact that the Republican candidate for State Treasurer is a machine Republican with only a thin coat of reform veneer to disguise him. If we would make the advantages obtained by the election of BERRY two years ago enduring it is necessary to kill the machine serpent and the election of what Mr. BERRY calls a "polarized" Democrat this year will accomplish that result beyond even the shadow of a doubt.

An Esteemed but Mistaken Contemporary.

The esteemed Philadelphia Record is justly severe in its criticism of the Legislature. It was a wretched admixture of hypocrisy and incompetence. There were a few sincere and capable men occupying seats on the floor, nearly all in the Democratic "faction," for the strength of the Democrats in the body was too meagre to be called a "side." But the vast majority were gangsters striving constantly to prevent substantial reforms while pretending to be in favor of all kinds of reform. The esteemed Record is justified therefore, in declaring that "they voted money prodigally for every purpose, good or bad, which was a complete abandonment of their duties."

But our Philadelphia contemporary fails to lay the responsibility for this misuse of opportunities where it belongs. It adds to the sentence quoted, however, another manifestly appropriate observation. "They voted money," it declares, "because it would be popular and they refused to vote taxes because it would be unpopular." As a matter of fact they voted money because the chairman of the House committee on Appropriations was a candidate for the Republican nomination for State Treasurer and his consent to profligacy in appropriations made him so popular with his associates in the Legislature that PENROSE couldn't have beaten him if he wanted to, though he didn't want to.

The esteemed Philadelphia Record, probably under orders from its Broad street contemporary and master, appears to be enamored of Mr. SHEATZ who, as the records show, was the most servile instrument of the PENROSE machine and recent public official who has filled the important office of chairman of the committee on appropriations in a dozen years. It has forfeited the respect of Democrats both for its intelligence and integrity and earned a place among the mercenary newspapers which are controlled by the corporations in the interest of the Republican ma-

chine. Mr. SHEATZ was responsible for the profligacy of the Legislature and the nomination is his reward.

Mr. Mathues' Strange Action.

Former State Treasurer WILLIAM L. MATHUES was unfortunate in his explanation of his presence in the office of that department of the government on a certain midnight last week. He said first that he wanted to pay his respects to the night watchman, who held the same office during his own administration and subsequently declared that he wanted to examine the work of clerk YOUNG, also a hold-over from his time. Even if the statements were not conflicting they were unconvincing. The night watchman would have gladly gone to Mr. MATHUES' quarters in the hotel to receive the felicitations of his former chief, and it is not exaggerating to express the belief that Mr. YOUNG would have come to him with a sample of his work if the desire to see it had been intimated.

There is a remote possibility that Mr. MATHUES may have had no worse motive in mind when he made his nocturnal invasion of the Treasury than to refresh his memory concerning the business of the office while he controlled it. But he could have enjoyed that privilege in broad daylight and in the ordinary way. No citizen of the State is refused information that is proper for him to acquire in that department, and certainly one who had quite recently been at the head of the department would not have been discriminated against in that respect. Moreover an honest man acting under proper impulses and with a just purpose in mind would have preferred the obviously right method of acquiring the information he wanted, or needed, and that right method is to apply to the proper authorities during business hours and in the regular and only orderly way.

It might be harsh to charge, even inferentially, that Mr. MATHUES had clandestinely entered the office of the State Treasurer at midnight for the purpose of destroying or mutilating the records in order to remove evidence of his own culpability. Mr. MATHUES is charged with misfeasance in office and proof of his guilt might cost him vast sums as well as personal liberty. But security against such consequences of misconduct hardly justifies the adoption of the methods of a burglar, and that is what Mr. MATHUES did. He either bribed or coaxed one employee of the department to let him into the office at an improper time and another to permit an improper action, and either is criminal if not burglarious. It affords an additional reason, moreover, why a Democrat should be elected to succeed Mr. BERRY in the office.

Quay is Incapacitated.

No thoughtful man will be surprised that the evidence taken by the capitol probers has finally incriminated QUAY. Before the contracts were let, it seems, various notes of QUAY were paid by the endorsers and it is believed that they were reimbursed by the favored contractors. This was a favorite method of QUAY for acquiring money. Any aspirant for favor was obliged to endorse one or more notes for the boss, who never took the trouble to pay them at maturity. It is only just to say that the endorsers were given plenty of time to meet the obligations. That is they were never pressed for payment unless they became obstreperous. The banks which held State deposits were always obliging to "the old man."

QUAY was a liberal borrower and had a peculiar way of getting accommodations. His dispatch to the cashier of the People's bank of Philadelphia, was characteristic. "Buy a thousand shares of Met," he telegraphed to the cashier in question, "on my account, and I will shake the plum tree." He had no money in the bank and buying "Met," required cash. But shaking the plum tree produced "grat" and the bank was safe as a rule for QUAY never failed to keep such agreements. In the case in point there was a miscarriage of arrangements and the cashier committed suicide. If he had held out the chances are that the failure might have been averted. As in the case of the Enterprise bank of Allegheny, the cashier's lack of nerve caused the collapse.

In view of this new development it may be hoped that the purpose to erect a monument to the memory of QUAY in the capitol grounds at Harrisburg will be abandoned. It is known that QUAY was the greatest corruptionist of his day and generation. That of itself wouldn't deter those who contemplated the monument from carrying out their plans. But in the light of these new exposures they will hardly insult the conscience of the public by erecting an effigy which will bring the blush of shame to the face of every honest man who sees it. The release from this humiliation will not be complete recompense for the looting of the treasury, either, but it will be partial reparation for a great wrong. It will show that we are not willing to deify crime.

The Bewildered Johnstown Oracle.

We regret, far more than it is possible to express, that our esteemed contemporary, the Johnstown Democrat, has transferred its allegiance from WILLIAM JENNINGS BRYAN to THEODORE ROOSEVELT. For years our Johnstown contemporary has been more faithful to Mr. BRYAN than the proverbial "needle to the pole," and even now it carries his banner at its masthead, whether he consents to be a presidential candidate or not. Much as we have admired Mr. BRYAN the fidelity of our Johnstown contemporary to his person and policies has always seemed to us most sublime. While others hesitated it was always and invariably eager for the fray in his behalf. But a change seems to have come over the spirit of the BAILEY dream, rose-tinted as it always has been.

For example, in a recent issue of our esteemed contemporary, there appeared an editorial allusion to President ROOSEVELT's recent Jamestown speech in which the gospel of paternalism was presented in its most advanced form, with the comment that "no candidate has done better in one speech to express his knowledge of the needs of the public and his desire to meet those needs." Mr. ROOSEVELT is practically certain to be the candidate for President in 1908 against Mr. BRYAN and how will our Johnstown contemporary, in view of the language quoted, support Mr. BRYAN against one who best expresses "the needs of the public and his desire to meet those needs?" To be consistent our esteemed contemporary will be compelled to support ROOSEVELT against BRYAN.

In the history of the Republic there has been no man in public life who represents so completely the antithesis of the fundamental principles of the Democracy of THOMAS JEFFERSON than THEODORE ROOSEVELT. It was the imperial notions of ALEXANDER HAMILTON that forced JEFFERSON to the promulgation of the immortal doctrines which have since been the foundation of Democracy. But HAMILTON never dreamed of the centralization and other forms of imperialism which are the "apple of the eye" of ROOSEVELT. Our Johnstown contemporary may imagine that it can trifle with such heresies, but like the moth at the candle it will get its wings singed ultimately, bewildered with the consequence of its folly, it will land in the camp of the enemy.

The Gang's All Here.

Two years ago when the attempt of the Philadelphia machine to steal the gas plant of the city had aroused public indignation to the highest pitch, there was a scurrying of the banditti "for the tall timber." JIM MILES, HARRY RANSLEY, H. J. TRAINER, D. DURHAM, JIM MCNICHOL, J. H. KLEMMER, DAVE LANE, J. J. SEEDS, W. S. YARE, W. H. BERKEBUCH, F. E. COSTELLO, JOHN B. LUKINS and others withdrew from the line light by resigning from the city committee. The City party leaders were more than exultant over their success in "purifying" the party. The bad men had been driven out, it is claimed, and there was at least the shadow of probability in the claim. The bad men had certainly "side-stepped," or "ducked."

The machine managers boasted at the time that their retirement would be only for a brief period. They were simply taking refuge temporarily in the cyclone cellars waiting an opportunity to "bob up suddenly" after "the clouds rolled by." They understood the Philadelphia reformers. They had correctly measured the conscience which was "rampaging," so to speak, in a fine frenzy. DAVE LANE stopped openly advising the office holders to stuff ballot boxes and DURHAM took himself out of the reach of court processes. But they are all back again. RANSLEY and TRAINER and DURHAM and MCNICHOL and LANE and "all the bunch" have returned to the committee. Literally it is "Hail, Hail, the Gang's All Here."

And why shouldn't these political pirates resume control of the party which they have maintained for years by polluting the ballot and looting the people? The City party, the Committee of Seventy and all the other reform organizations have abandoned the field and there is no resistance to the predatory operations of the plunderers. Mr. SHEATZ has made merchandise of his reform pretensions and the others have deserted the field because they couldn't negotiate themselves into office. It is the fit finding of a palpable farce and it is both natural and logical that the recovery of power should be celebrated by the election of DAVE LANE, the only open advocate of ballot box stuffing, to command as chairman of the City committee.

The members of the Milesburg Hook and Ladder company are now busy rehearsing for the presentation of that stirring western drama, "The Honor of a Cowboy," in Boggs' hall, Friday evening, June 28th. The proceeds will be for the benefit of the company and as the cause is a good one the boys should be well patronized.

Accessories Before the Facts.

From the Harrisburg Patriot.

The "eminently respectable" men and newspapers that are announcing that they will work for the election of John O. Sheatz, for State Treasurer, will not like to be told that they are among the most valuable allies of the Machine against which they sometimes fight and always talk, but such is the fact.

Without the aid and comfort the Machine receives from them in emergencies like the present, it would have been smashed and put out of business finally long ago.

They were aiders and abettors with the Gang in the capitol graft and morally accessories before the fact.

They rallied to the support of Samuel W. Pennypacker, the Machine candidate for Governor in 1902, just as they are coming to the support of Sheatz now.

They would not have supported David Martin for Governor; they threw up their hats for Samuel W. Pennypacker but the Gang could not have got away with any more loot with Martin in the gubernatorial chair than it did under Pennypacker; perhaps not so much, for Martin's administration would have been mistrusted and more closely watched.

They lauded Mr. Pennypacker as a great lawyer, an incorruptible judge, a sincere patriot just as they are now praising Sheatz as a vigilant, honest and capable business man.

We all know what happened under Pennypacker, though the extent of the thefts has not yet been fully revealed. With the nomination of Pennypacker and his election, by the aid of those who have professed horror over the exposure of the capitol graft, the Gang saved the Machine and made the capitol graft possible. In the same way it is trying to save the Machine now by the election of Sheatz and it is getting assistance from the same short-sighted men who helped it to elect Pennypacker. Is there a man in Pennsylvania who believes that if Robert E. Pattison had been elected Governor in 1902, \$9,000,000 could have been expended secretly by the Board of Public Grounds and Buildings and \$6,000,000 of it stolen while he was a member and president of the Board? Certainly not; the question carries its own answer. Not one dollar would have been spent without closest scrutiny and widest publicity.

Every citizen of the Commonwealth knows it. The "eminently respectable" men and newspapers that helped to defeat him and to elect the Machine candidate helped to open the vaults of the Treasury to Sanderson, to Huston, to Cassell and those who shared the graft with them. In supporting Sheatz they are doing all they can to continue and perpetuate the Gang against which it is their duty to loudly protest.

The Man Behind.

From the Pittsburg Post.

A dispatch from Harrisburg stated that the capitol investigation commission had received information tending to show that a considerable portion of the capitol graft was used to take up the notes of prominent Republican politicians. The commission should make every effort to verify this.

The Post months ago called the attention of the commission to the probability of much of the capitol loot having been used in this way. It asserted that it was a matter of common report that there was a large outstanding indebtedness for campaign expenses incurred by prominent machine leaders, and that it was very likely that these had been paid by the big capitol contractors. It further stated that it was likely that banks holding large State deposits also held the notes of prominent politicians which had not been paid by the latter, and that when Mr. Berry was elected there were taken up with a portion of the capitol graft in order that the accounts of the depositors with the State treasury might be properly adjusted.

It is not within reason to believe that the big capitol contractors and the architects were permitted to pocket the \$6,000,000 of profits which are charged to their accounts. Leading politicians of the State were not true to their well-known records if they failed to get a big share of this money. The investigation commission should look into this phase of the matter most carefully. It should show who were the men behind the contractors and the architect, and who shared largely with them in the looting of the treasury.

Secretary Taft's Predicament.

From the New York Press.

Secretary Taft, who complains bitterly that the newspapers have forced him into his predicament as the hereditary legatee candidate, is struggling manfully to extricate himself. He has had a fair measure of success so far in Wisconsin, where his unqualified praise for the discredited Spooner promises to make him impossible as the second choice of the delegation from La Follette's State. Now he has set himself the task of turning Iowa hopelessly against his involuntary aspirations.

In an address at Des Moines the secretary denounced the stock manipulators, rebaters and other betrayers of trusts, but then he asserted that their crimes "were the natural outgrowth of the enormous expansion of business and of capital involved in the spreading business of this country." While they were to be deplored and condemned, caution must be observed in the remedial legislation. There was no suggestion that anybody ought to go to jail. As befits a conservative presidential candidate, Mr. Taft balanced the business in a delicate manner and shunned the specifics like smallpox.

While fishing on Fishing creek, Monday evening, Dr. Dave Dale caught seven trout ranging in length from 11 to 14 1/2 inches in just half an hour. And he doesn't pose as a fisherman. Not knowing the Doctor nor the place some of our contemporaries, when they read this, will declare that he should pose as a liar, but he is not, because the writer was on the ground and saw the remarkable catch made.

Spawls from the Keystone.

—For the year ending June 1 there were 530 marriage licenses issued in Butler county, against 746 during the year ending June 1, 1906.

—There were eleven young women in the class of nurses which graduated from the Johnstown Memorial hospital on Thursday, June 6.

—Out of a total of 5,791 pupils in the public schools of Johnstown, 372 were present every day during the term of school just closed.

—Albert Marquis, a civil war veteran, who was an eye witness of the assassination of President Lincoln, died at his home in New Brighton last Friday, aged 77 years.

—York county farmers are worried over their tobacco crop and fear there will be a great shortage this year, owing to the cold weather, which has greatly retarded the plant growth.

—The new law increasing the pay of jurors from \$2 to \$2.50 per day, does not become effective until July 1, 1907. The jurors for the terms after that time, will enjoy the first fruits of the increased wages.

—The Hyde-Murphy company has just closed a contract to erect sixty houses for the Buffalo, Rochester and Pittsburgh railroad at Homer City, Indiana county. This firm has already built three towns in that county. They are Iselin, Ernest and Josephine.

—The annual reunion of the survivors of the Fifty-fourth Pennsylvania volunteer infantry will be held at Lakemont park, near Altoona, on Wednesday afternoon, July 24. Invitations to this table event, one of those annual reunions that will soon be of the past, are being mailed to all members of the regiment.

—Miss Sedla Jewells, of Shamokin, was homeward bound Wednesday when a big black bug settled on her lip and kissed her. The lip immediately swelled to twice its normal size and the pain was so great that a physician was summoned. He stated that the girl had been attacked by a poisonous kissing bug.

—The Central Pennsylvania Lutheran reunion will be held at Lakemont park on July 25. Speakers of note will be present to deliver orations. One hundred children under the leadership of A. E. Davis, of Altoona, will furnish the music. Lutherans of Central Pennsylvania are planning to be present on this great day.

—Fire of an incendiary origin entirely destroyed the home and stable of Charles W. Shreffler, of Lewisport, early Sunday morning. Stephen, the 15-year-old son, perished in the flames, and the mother was probably fatally injured by the flames and in jumping from the second story window, after making a futile effort to save her son, who was asleep in a second story back room.

—The yellows and the hard winter have made such inroads in Dr. J. M. Duma's peach orchard, west of Mackeyville, that he has employed workmen with a stump-puller and steamer to uproot most of his trees. A resetting of new young trees in another location will be necessary before the doctor will again have another crop of such fine fruit as his orchards have produced in the past.

—W. Cal. Meeker, the aeronaut will make daily balloon ascensions from Mill Hall park during the week of July 4th and will use the largest balloon in the United States. The first ascension will take place on Monday, July 1st, and no doubt will attract large crowds throughout the week. Prof. Meeker will make a parachute drop daily and introduce some interesting specialties while in mid air at each performance.

—Game Warden Hummelshough, of Clearfield, accompanied by Mr. Barner, went to Morrisdale and arrested Steve Moscov, Charles Jones and Nick Nusbaum for killing ducks. The accused men were taken before Justice of the Peace M. S. Adams, of Chester Hill, and were given a hearing. They were fined respectively \$80, \$10 and \$10, together with the costs. The parties settled, the amount paid being a total of \$90.

—More than \$6000 worth of plunder stolen from the Pennsylvania railroad near Greensburg, Pa., was located Thursday by railroad detectives, aided by the local police, in the residences of Mrs. John Boros and Mrs. S. Stikes, of Wilkesbarre. It was learned that Andrew and John Ciesko, of Greensburg, were shipping goods to Wilkesbarre, and after they had been connected with the thefts, an attempt was made to arrest them. They escaped, and the stolen goods were traced to Wilkesbarre.

—A crew of eighteen railroad surveyors and engineers are now at Renovo working west toward Keating. A gentleman, who had staked out foundations for a new house at Shintown, near Renovo, was advised not to proceed with the work as the tracks for the proposed new railroad would run directly through the plot staked out. It is believed work will begin very soon and it is generally thought the road is a spur of the New York Central railroad connecting the river line with the Beech Creek road either at Avis or Youngdale.

—Three hundred men are at work upon the new town to be built upon the site of the old South Fork dam, the breaking of which wiped out Johnstown. At present all the summer cottages erected by the now defunct South Fork Hunting and Fishing club have been remodeled and are occupied by men employed by the Maryland Coal company. This corporation is at work upon two shafts which will be rushed to completion. When the proposed mines are in operation 5,000 tons of coal will be taken out daily. Plans are being made for a town of 5,000 inhabitants.

—Miss Martha Morgan, daughter of T. S. Morgan, the Third street clothier, of Williamsport, has suffered for some time with pain in the lower part of her forehead. Tuesday evening Dr. Glosser removed a little button from the painful spot, and then it was remembered that twelve years ago, when a child, Miss Morgan had in some manner gotten the button in her nose. A surgeon was called at that time, but he failed to locate the button and expressed the opinion that it was not there. Now, after twelve years in its queer resting place, it has been discovered and removed.