

Ink Blings.

Next week the Democratic state convention.

The circus season is here, but where is the circus.

More of the capitol grafters are on trial in Harrisburg. More power to the arm of justice.

Three Governors and JEFF DAVIS seem to be really more persecution than Arkansas deserves.

Anyhow the sweet girl graduate won't get a chance to wear a Merry Widow when the commencement exercises are pulled off.

Why make all this fuss over EMERY'S non-intention to vote for KNOX. Pennsylvania's "favorite son" got the distance flag long ago.

In four years a pair of rabbits are said to be able to produce progeny to the extent of one and one-half million, i. e. of course, providing their health keeps up.

Mr. BRYAN'S little visit to the White House will give him an opportunity to see whether he will need to buy any new carpets should he be called upon to move.

Will someone kindly tell us where the incessant winds that blow over this county come from. They are so recent that we feel almost like a suburb of greater Chicago.

The Senate has unanimously voted to restore "In God We Trust" to the coins of our government. May the motto continue to be in our spirit what it signifies in words.

The presidential campaign is approaching and the soup houses increasing. Before long you may expect to hear that their prevalence is due to the fear of electing BRYAN.

Congress is to end on May 25th. After that the presidential campaign will keep business in a turmoil until November before which time it is scarcely reasonable to look for any settled improvement.

The old furniture in the state capitol was sold at auction on Wednesday netting \$1500. It has been replaced by the SANDERSON products that are probably not as good, though costing millions more.

There is still hope for one institution of learning. They made a greater fuss at State College Wednesday over the arrival of the new president than they did over last fall's football victory over Cornell.

The WATCHMAN offers the suggestion to the QUAY statue commission that the only really suitable place to locate the statue of "the old man" is just beside that secret door in the Allegheny National bank.

A new law in the city of Berlin prohibits making any kind of a loud noise in the city after eleven o'clock at night. Snoring and the snout of the Tom cat are not included among the loud noises taboed.

Italy's imports from this country are \$67,000,000 a year, but that is only a part of it. Add to it the vast sums sent back monthly by her sons employed in this country and the small balance of trade in our favor will be made a debit many times over.

Two of Utah's alternate delegates to the Republican national convention are women. The biggest "Merry Widows" they may like themselves out in won't collapse big BILL TAFT however. His rotundity surpasses even the most exaggerated diameter of the modish head gear.

The proposition to place a bar on marriages of persons known to be afflicted with incurable diseases that might be inherited by their progeny has good features; the least of which is not the great saving it would be in the annual amount of money spent on hospitals for incurables and state aid to the same classes.

CARNEGIE wants to build big peace halls and ROOSEVELT wants to build big navies in order to keep peace. It is a question whether either one is right. The Hague didn't preclude the Spanish-American war, the Japan-Russian war, nor has "benevolent assimilation" with the bayonet put down the Filipinos.

Cashier MONTGOMERY, of the Allegheny National bank, who is charged with embezzling \$1,250,000 of its funds, can command money enough to pay back, but all the friends who rally about him, all the resources he can command and all the technicalities that shrewd lawyers may take advantage of will never be able to restore his lost character.

The stand that the Hon. LEWIS EMERY Jr. has taken regarding his probable action as a delegate to the Republican National convention is causing no little concern among the friends of Senator KNOX in this State. Just why they should expect EMERY to vote for anyone else than TAFT is a mystery since the Bradford fighter left no doubt as to what he would do in his letter sent to every voter in the district before he was nominated.

The first real good snake story comes from Altoona near which place lives a young lady school teacher with an imagination so vivid that on seeing a snake lying across the Pennsylvania railroad tracks she thought it the trunk of a fallen tree and ran half a mile to the nearest signal tower to have all trains stopped for fear of derailment. A snake, like a mouse, has a singular effect on the optic nerves of the average woman, but here is a case that is really notable.

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The President's "Letters."

In language so mild as to make it appear a love-tap the esteemed Philadelphia Record censures President ROOSEVELT for writing letters threatening to disobey laws of Congress if passed over his veto.

The prerogatives of the President and the powers of Congress are enumerated in the constitution with equal clearness. The President is commander-in-chief of the army and navy and of the militia when called into the actual service of the United States; he may require the opinion of the principal officers of the executive department upon any subject relating to his duties and he has power to grant reprieves and pardons for offences against the United States except in cases of impeachment.

The President has power, "by and with the advice and consent of the Senate," to make treaties, appoint ambassadors, ministers and consuls, judges of the courts and all other officers of the United States "whose appointments are not herein otherwise provided for." He has power to fill vacancies which may happen during the recess of the Senate. On the other hand, he is required, from time to time, "to give the Congress information as to the state of the Union and recommend to their consideration such measures as he shall judge necessary and expedient."

Congress, under the same authority, has power "to raise and support armies," "to make rules for the government and regulation of the land and naval forces."

The letters to which our Philadelphia contemporary alludes were written to three Senators in Congress and contained the threat that if Congress passes an act, in pursuance of its constitutional authority to "make rules for the government and regulation of the land and naval forces," he will refuse to obey it. That would not only be a flat violation of his oath of office to "preserve, protect and defend the constitution," but it would be a dangerous neglect of duty and a wanton insult to Congress which if not resented will mark every Senator as a poltroon.

There has been no attempt to "impair the constitutional prerogatives of the President." As a matter of fact, there hasn't been a decent effort to support the dignity of Congress against the palpable purposes of President ROOSEVELT to usurp its powers. Possibly this fact is attributable in some measure to the conspiracy of a lot of subsidized newspapers masquerading as exponents of Democracy to perpetuate ROOSEVELTISM which is in every respect the antithesis of Democracy.

Taft's Isthmian Visit.

Secretary TAFT'S visit to Panama at this critical stage of his campaign has been somewhat of a surprise to both his friends and his foes and has been variously interpreted. It is a sign of confidence, his friends freely assert, and it is with the view of establishing an alibi, those who are less inclined to him allege. There is going to be some "funny" business in connection with the convention, a good many both friends and foes imagine, and it would be a great advantage for the candidate to be able to say, after it is over that he was out of the country at the time and had neither participation in nor knowledge of anything that was in any respect irregular.

As a matter of fact, however, neither of the conjectures is accurate. Secretary TAFT'S visit to Panama at this time is for the purpose of averting an ugly scandal, if possible, and if that cannot be achieved, with the intent of postponing it until after the nomination and election. The government of Colombia is threatening to begin proceedings for the recovery of damages for our part in the Panama revolution which would probably lead to the complete exposure of that iniquity besides a judgment against our government for ten or twenty million dollars and such an incident on the eve of a presidential election would be most disastrous to the administration candidate.

It is tolerably well known that the Panama revolution was a conspiracy hatched at the White House in Washington and that it was made successful by the force of gunboats and marines sent there by President ROOSEVELT. That was the highest crime conceivable under international law and sooner or later the government of the United States will be compelled to pay the penalty of the piracy. But ROOSEVELT doesn't want the day of reckoning to come too soon. He would prefer that the claim should be withheld until after the success to his administration has been chosen and TAFT'S sudden call to the Isthmus, at a time when he was badly needed at home is on that account.

Mr. Burke's Prerogative.

We sincerely hope that Representative BURKE, puntative manager of the KNOX boom, will persevere in his announced purpose to contest the seat in the Republican National convention to which LEWIS EMERY Jr., of McKean county, was elected at the recent primaries, on the ground that Mr. EMERY is not a Democrat. As a matter of fact, Mr. EMERY is not a Democrat, though four years ago he was the Democratic nominee for Congress in his district and two years ago he was nominated by the Democratic State convention as the candidate of that party for Governor. But the little matter of being wrong ought to have no deterrent influence on Mr. BURKE, as it has none on his party, and Mr. EMERY is culpable in that he has announced his independence of the machine in the matter of his choice of a candidate for President.

Under the primary election law Mr. EMERY was elected delegate and that would entitle him to a seat, regardless of past political affiliations, "race, color or previous condition of servitude." As the occupant of the seat he has a right to vote as he pleases for candidates and upon other questions. But Mr. BURKE has an equally well grounded right to object and to contest, and if he desires to "add to the gayety of nations," in that way we hope his liberties in that direction shall not be curtailed. He knows as well as another the enormity of the crime of being a Democrat in a community in which the opposite political faith predominates, because he has tried it, and if Mr. EMERY is not willing to take his word on the subject he ought to be compelled to pay the penalty. Nobody ought to get fresh.

Probably if Mr. EMERY had been a Democrat, or even if he had been less boastful of his inflexible Republicanism, two years ago, he would occupy a different position in the life of the Commonwealth to-day and the party for which Mr. BURKE speaks with such confidence and arrogance would not be so well off. As the Democratic candidate for Governor Mr. EMERY availed himself of every opportunity to declare his Republicanism with the result that a hundred thousand Democrats or more refused to vote for him and his opponent, the nominee of the party to which he was so fondly attached, was elected by less than half that majority. But that shouldn't restrain Mr. BURKE in his impulse to make trouble. It is a God given prerogative.

The Only Remedy.

According to information from Washington the Republican majority has determined upon a makeshift currency bill with which to fool the public until after the election. During the five and a-half months which has intervened since the opening of the session nothing has been done to promote the restoration of prosperity. Taking the tariff off raw materials would have started the mills and factories all over the country. The removal of the tariff tax on lumber would have set building operations in motion. These improvements would have stimulated transportation interests and restored commercial activity. But the Republican majority preferred industrial paralysis to altering tariff schedules.

The present panic is the first in the history of the country to follow an uninterrupted season of agricultural and industrial prosperity. Other industrial slumps have been easily traceable to crop failures or commercial disorders. But this one came just as the greatest crop in the history of the country had been safely garnered. Without sign or premonition of any kind the banks announced a scarcity of currency and industrial plants and transportation agencies ceased to move. Probably money was scarce, but Congress could have remedied that within a month from its assembling if it had desired. But it failed until millions had been lost to the country and now offers only a temporary remedy.

If the people are fooled by this lame expedient they deserve to suffer. No man is so stupid as to believe that men who refused to act when an emergency was present will act after it is past. In other words, it is plain that a party which deliberately refused available relief in a moment of distress will give it when there is no necessity upon them. It is contrary to human nature. The Republican machine is under agreement with the trusts to make no change in economic policies and if they can carry the impending election without cancelling that agreement they will not cancel it afterward. In view of this palpable fact the only thing for the people to do is to vote for a change in the control of Congress. A Democratic majority in Congress will guarantee a cure for the present industrial and commercial ills.

We this week again call attention to the advertisement in another column of a Scotch-collie dog lost, strayed or stolen. The dog is one especially prized by the owner because it was a gift from a close personal friend and its return is very much desired. The finder will be suitably rewarded by giving information at this office.

The Quay Monument.

The QUAY monument commission is looking for a place to put the QUAY monument, which, according to the news dispatches and probably official information is completed and ready for setting up. But the commission has some trouble, owing to the act of Assembly and partly to the perversity of the public mind, in finding a suitable place. The Act provides that it shall be set in the capitol grounds and the commission thinks if thus exposed it will be mutilated if not destroyed, and therefore it ought to be put in the corridor of the capitol, where it could be watched. Under these perplexing conditions the monument remains in the factory or to be exact, the studio.

The late Lord BYRON in a poetic ecstasy declared that every moment produced a hero, or words to that effect. Borrowing the thought we may add that every problem produces a solution and while the QUAY monument commission was adjudging its brains over the question of disposing of the QUAY monument, an unexpected event in Pittsburgh presents the answer. The robbery of the Allegheny National bank, of that city, of which QUAY'S friend, "BILLY" MONTGOMERY, was cashier, revealed the existence of a secret and unguarded back door, and we can think of no better use for the QUAY monument than to place it where it may serve as a sentinel for that secret orifice in the back fence of "Monte's" citadel.

In any event, there is no room for the QUAY monument either in the capitol corridor or in the park surrounding the building. The law creating the commission and authorizing the monument was the frenzy of a machine nightmare which was regretted during the subsequent lucid intervals of the Legislature and the commission ought to take the signs of protest as an order to abandon the project altogether. It is not that QUAY was any worse than his party for a stream is never more polluted than its fountain. But QUAY was the embodiment of official corruption and the moral sense of the people of the State should not be outraged by canonizing crime. The QUAY monument should never be put up at all.

Second Trial of Grafters.

The second trial of the capitol graft conspirators at Harrisburg is now in progress in an environment very much the same as that in which the first conviction was obtained. That is to say, the same judge will preside and the same lawyers contend over the same questions. Presumably interest in the present proceedings will center about the new defendants, architect HUSTON and contractor CASSELL, and in all probability the sympathies of their associates will be divided. So far as HUSTON is concerned the others would be glad to see him convicted. But they feel differently toward CASSELL. In his case the cohesive force of plunder draws them together in a common cause.

The evidence of guilt is much stronger in the present trial than in the one which preceded it, but the certainty of conviction is less, in the public mind. This curious fact is attributable to the popular belief that since the last trial the machine has "pulled itself together," so to speak, and will make a stronger fight and more effective defense. "Conscience makes cowards of us all," is proverbial, but consciousness of guilt isn't half as demoralizing to the criminal as the knowledge that he has been found out. It takes time to recover from that depressing condition as well as favorable influences and both have been working overtime in the interest of the conspirators since the last graft trial.

But after all, we are inclined to think that it makes little difference whether the conspirators are convicted or not. It is nearly four months since the conviction of the first bunch and yet so far as perceptible indications go they are no nearer punishment than the moment the verdict was announced. In other words, it looks as if these graft trials are mere comedies to fool the people into an absurd notion that the Republican machine has been reformed and is entitled to a new lease of public confidence. The present trial may change things in this respect materially, for it may be necessary to invoke desperate means to save CASSELL. But at this moment the signs for the gang are auspicious.

The wall and flagstone pavement along Spring creek on south Water street, which was washed away for a distance of thirty feet at the falls, has now been fully repaired, the job having been completed last Saturday afternoon. It is now in better condition than ever and it will take a pretty big flood to wash it out in the same way again.

The weather this week has been very much more like spring and favorable for the farmers than it has been for several weeks; and of course they are all taking advantage of it to get their corn ground ready for planting.

Still Thinking It Over.

From the Altoona Times. Another chapter has been added in the continued story of political trails of the Republican state machine, and, while the defalcation appears to have been only the insignificant sum of \$469,000.00, there is every indication that it is larger and more replete with scandal than the first reports show.

The details of this latest exposure will be unfolded by the story in the news columns, but there is one significant detail which has already been given and to which public notice ought to be called. Cashier "Billy" Montgomery, the old time friend and ally of Quay, was what is popularly known as a "good fellow." His life was one of sunshine and good feeling; the smile of contentment was ever present with "Billy" and his friends who were numbered by the thousands, for "he was a good fellow."

Being a "good fellow" has its compensations and it likewise has its hardships, especially if the "good fellow" happens to be a cashier of a political bank and the confidant of politicians who need the bank's money. The political "good fellow" is talked about and consulted; his asset of friendliness is a good one for the politicians to use in their business and they never fail to use it. It is, perhaps, unfortunate that the penalty of his kind of geniality is that the denouement chooses neither a suitable time nor favorable conditions to exact the payment for the debt which machine politicians demand of those who are so foolish as to sacrifice their manhood for it. Playing the "good fellow" for the rotten Penrose machine has its attractions, but the result has been the same in every case which has been uncovered, and we have every reason to believe that it will ever be the same for those who follow it.

"Billy" Montgomery never had an enemy who wished him such an unenviable end as the lesson of his failure to keep untarnished his best asset, his character, ought to sink deep into the minds of all who aspire to political "good fellowship."

Where Honor is Due.

From the Easton Argus.

The term of State Treasurer Berry ended Monday of last week with the taking of the oath by his successor, John O. Sheatz, Republican. During the two brief years that Mr. Berry filled the office much history has been made in this state. The name of Berry will long be associated with the reforms which will endure for a long time, unless all signs fail. With him as he retires to private life, he takes the esteem of a majority of the citizens of the state and the consciousness of a task well done. The Republicans of the state promised much to secure the election of John O. Sheatz, the present incumbent. His reforms have been made clear. He need not steer to the course laid down by Berry. The voters believed his promises. Will the promises be fulfilled? Berry kept his. In his campaign for election he promised to lift the lid. And he lifted it. What was found underneath is now known to all men. The stench reached the farthest corners of the state and nation. The most gigantic conspiracy of graft and bare faced robbery came to the light of day through the sincerity and honesty of purpose of this man; a man who dared to do what he thought was right in the face of frightful odds. Berry served the people and it is from the people that he will receive his full share of praise. So puny a slight as that given by the Republican organization which left all reference to the state treasurer's office out of its platform at the recent state convention can only redound to the credit of Mr. Berry and heap odium upon those who intended the slap at the corner of the state and nation. In the office of state treasurer. To Mr. Berry belongs the chief credit for unearthing the capitol graft cases and bringing about the conviction of Sanderson, Mathews, Shumaker and Snyder. This is the situation as the people see it. The efforts of the politicians whose interest it is to make little of the lid lifting cannot change.

Explaining Dividends.

From the Pittsburgh Dispatch.

Professor Jenks, of Cornell University, was quite illuminating in his explanation of the ability of the Steel Corporation to pay dividends, but was not equally convincing in his argument for the proposed reorganization of the Sherman anti-trust law. It is true United States Steel and Standard Oil enjoy many advantages in manufacture from their ownership of raw resources, means of production, private lines of transportation from producing fields to factories, and again from factories to consumers. But all of that has no bearing in favor of total or partial revocation of the statutory prohibition of combinations in restraint of trade.

None of these things can enter into the argument for putting into the hands of a bureau or commission the arbitrary power to say where or not any combination is in restraint of trade—to permit one combination to thrive and put another out of business. This proposed power is not parallel to that given the Inter-State Commerce Commission to say whether a given rate is reasonable or to prescribe a reasonable rate in lieu of one that has been condemned as unreasonable. The determination of the character of a combination seems to us to be much more a judicial function and to be of such importance as to demand the most careful consideration of the courts.

Publicity of corporate affairs is proper. There can be no reasonable objection to compelling such publicity to the extent of the authority of Congress. But it is quite another matter to confer upon someone the power to interpret this information without full open hearing.

Rural mail carriers in Centre county will be interested in knowing that there is a bill before Congress providing for the increase of their salaries to a maximum of twelve hundred dollars per year.

Spawls from the Keystone.

The machinery for the silk mill at Patton is being installed and the plant will be running in about ten days.

Canada's chapter, Daughters of the American Revolution, of Titusville, is making an effort to raise \$100,000 for the erection of a monument to commemorate the discovery of petroleum by Colonel Edwin Drake.

About 30,000,000 feet of logs reached the Susquehanna boom at Williamsport this season, and they are all in now except several hundred thousand feet belonging to S. N. Williams. The logs are being rafted out to the mills as fast as needed.

While driving along the track of the Northern Cambria street railway company in Spangler, Cambria county, on Tuesday evening, John Srank, an aged farmer of Susquehanna township, was hit by a street car coming from Barnesboro and was instantly killed.

The Pittsburg Falminite company recently purchased the Collins farm, a tract of eighty acres of land in Addison township, near Salt Springs, Somerset county. A large powder factory will be erected on this property during the summer and a large force of workmen will be employed.

Residents of Plumville, Indiana county, are highly elated over the prospect of an oil boom around their town. A Pittsburgh company, under a Philadelphia management, has started operations by leasing a number of farms in the vicinity and drilling a well, which is now 2,000 feet deep.

Mrs. James M. Weaver, of New Washington, made and marketed over 5000 pounds of choice butter between May 1st, 1907, and May 1st, 1908. She has one customer in Clearfield who has used over two tons of her butter since moving to Clearfield and he says that in all that amount there was not one ounce of poor butter.

The American tobacco company is among the prominent buyers of Clinton county tobacco this year, as their purchases in that section will aggregate between 150,000 to 200,000 pounds. The tobacco is being shipped from Lock Haven, Jersey Shore and Avis and is the largest shipment ever made by one company from that vicinity.

A jury of farmers returned a verdict last week for \$4,666 against T. M. Nelson in favor of Miss Marie Kaufman, of Chambersburg. Nelson, who is president of the Chambersburg Trust company, Nelson Construction company and the local hosiery plant, struck Miss Kaufman last May while running his automobile, permanently injuring her.

The Berwind-White coal mining company last week donated the sum of \$1,000 to the local Young Men's Christian association at Windber, to be used in paying off the indebtedness on the furnishings and equipment of the building and other improvements that have been made. A further donation of \$300 was made by the Alpha Construction company.

The New York & Pennsylvania company has again received the contract for manufacturing and furnishing for the United States government all the revenue paper required for the next year. This contract is an important one and all this paper is made in the Lock Haven mill, which means work for quite a number of extra men and women employees.

Francis Bloom, bookkeeper for the Sunbury Trust and Safe Deposit company, is short and is a fugitive from justice. He skipped on Wednesday last and an examination of the books disclosed a defalcation of about \$6,000. Bloom was a trusted employee and left a wife and family. The peculations extended back over a considerable period. The bank is secured against loss by the bonds of a security company.

At Mackeyville last Tuesday afternoon a herd of small boys were playing "Indian" with wooden bows and arrows. Among the number were Ernest Shearer aged about 13 years and Clair Waizer aged about 8 years. Accidently of course young Shearer sprung his bow and drove the wooden arrow straight into the right eye of little Clair Waizer. The arrow completely penetrated the eyeball destroying the sight, with the result that the child was taken to the Lock Haven hospital where the eye was removed.

David M. Wolf, former general bookkeeper of the First National bank of Tyrone, Pa., who is alleged to have embezzled \$12,000 six years ago, and to have made false entries in the books, appeared before Judge Young in Pittsburgh last week and said he was ready to answer trial under the indictment. His plea was refused by Judge Young, who was United States attorney for the district at the time, and was instrumental in having the indictment returned against Wolf. The case will be tried before Judge R. W. Archbold, of Scranton, who will sit for the offense.

Clark Chace, son of postmaster John M. Chace, of Clearfield, who had been missing since Thursday, April 30th, when he left home to fish in one of the mountain streams, was found dead along Lick creek, about five miles from Clearfield Friday. The young man had evidently been caught along the stream in the heavy storm of Thursday evening and started for home. When he reached the place where he was found he was exhausted and dragged himself into a thicket and there died. His lunch was intact, showing that he had died the first night out. Searchers had been out daily since Sunday. Chace was 28 years and married.

A giant tree of the Pennsylvania forests was harvested recently in Cameron county—Warrant No. 4990—by the Central Pennsylvania Lumber company that was certainly something remarkable. This great tree was white pine and will make as fine lumber as was ever cut in the Keystone state. It produced the following number and length of logs: 12 sixteen foot logs, 2 fourteen foot logs, 8 twelve foot logs, 3 ten foot logs, and 6 eight foot logs, and the whole bunch scaled the magnificent total of 10,800 feet board measure. The first log measured sixty inches, or five feet in diameter at the small end, and plank cut from logs like that are worth in clear white pine immense sums of money. Such pine as this is worth at least \$75 a thousand feet, and this great tree will likely bring the company in round numbers about a thousand dollars.