

Ink Stings.

The spirit of reform is not created by law. It is the product of righteousness.

The Carroll Comedy company played the Devil at Garmans Wednesday night. Really they did.

The man who hedges himself about with a spirit of antagonism will never be able to see the truth in any argument.

Mr. FORAKER's days in the Senate are numbered, and all right enough, which probably accounts for the fact that he is no longer weighing his words.

The TILLMAN pitchfork and the TEDDY big stick there has come a clash that is likely to produce a riot of language and a surfeit of liars.

The Tennessee night riders are to be given a little rope-riding to do and when they get to the end of the line they won't be back to terrorize any community again.

The Tennessee Legislature has just passed a State-wide prohibition bill. It is designed to stop old JOHN BARLEYCORN from doing any more night riding in that State.

It was real mean that TOM LAWSON didn't have even a little Trinity or Bay State Gas laid out for those burglars who visited him a few nights ago and had to go away empty handed.

The time for the spring primaries approaches and with it the time for honest men to look out for honest men to run for office. Nominate none but those whose life reveals their fitness for the place.

Whether the new battleship Delaware be christened with champagne or with water she will take to water anyway so why all the fuss that the "wets" and "dryers" of the honored Commonwealth are making about it?

There may be a difference between sending a type writing machine belonging to the government through the mails and using a government boat for one's personal pleasure, but if there is it seems to be merely a matter of who does it.

The discovery that it cost the government twenty million dollars to maintain the secret service last year makes it look as though the discovery that BEN TILLMAN had sent a typewriter through the mails was a pretty high priced revelation.

Mr. HAMMERSTEIN made good his promise to give Philadelphia the post super grand opera that city had ever seen. He is now going one better. He is giving Philadelphia a season of rare opera bouffe, with himself as star, caste, chorus and orchestra.

Last Friday thirty-five hundred persons were served in the free soup houses in Philadelphia. Of course they were only eating there because business was revived with such a rush by TAYLOR's election that the hotels and boarding houses could not accommodate them.

About all that one really learns from the crimination and recrimination that is going on in Washington is that there are a lot of men entirely too narrow to fill wide positions. Men who cannot submerge personal malice in public matters should have no place in public affairs.

The offer of Mr. E. T. STOTESBURY to finance a four hundred thousand dollar loan on Mr. OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN's new Philadelphia opera house insures a continuation of real grand opera for the people of that city; that is for those who have the price. It is not such a wonderful thing for the masses after all.

We fail to see why so many papers use the word "colored" when they refer to a negro. Easter eggs are colored. (A bet is hereby recorded that within a week some reporter even on this paper uses that word.)—Johnstown Democrat. Just so, but wasn't it the curse of the Lord that made HAM black? Q. E. D. The negro is colored.

Mr. J. C. DUNCAN, of Lewistown, N. Y., is on the program to make an address on "Mutton Making" before the Pennsylvania Dairy Union, at Harrisburg, on January 29th. As every one knows that mutton making is a mere matter of allowing the lambs to grow up, Mr. DUNCAN will probably be talking on lamb growing and not mutton making.

City papers are just now handing around the information that the only surviving daughter of the Revolution, in the person of Mrs. HARRIET ESTES, has just passed away at Ithaca, N. Y. They probably don't know that Mrs. MARY ANN ALLISON RISHEL, a daughter of a Revolutionary soldier, a sister of a soldier of 1812 and the mother of a soldier of the rebellion, is still living and revered at Clintondale, Pa.

It does seem funny that ROOSEVELT wasn't struck more forcibly by the fact that TILLMAN "franked" that government typewriter BACK to Washington. Sending anything back to Washington that belongs to the government is a crime that should have made the whirl of the "big stick" look like a sun burn. It is altogether so unusual to send anything back to Washington, after it is once gotten away, that the Senator of South Carolina might well be drawn and quartered for the pleasure of the pesky-foot President whose administration spends twenty million a year for detective service and has found out that a Senator wanted to buy some land at the government's own price.

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The Route of The State Highway.

The WATCHMAN does not understand that the proposed route of the State highway, recommended by Governor STUART, to be built by the State between the cities of Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, has either been located or agreed upon, or even mapped out. His suggestions named but three points—Philadelphia, Harrisburg and Pittsburgh—which if adopted would still leave to those who will be charged with locating the road the power to fix the route where to them would seem best. That it should be located where it will be of the greatest good to the greatest number—where counties not directly along its line can most easily and at the least expense build it—where it will touch the most central points and most thickly populated localities, goes without saying.

It is probable that from Philadelphia to Harrisburg the old Lancaster pike would be chosen as a basis. From that on there would be great difference of opinion as to the best and most feasible route. If Altoona, which is the largest town in this, the central part of the State, was to be reached by it, then the most direct, shortest and by far the cheapest route to build, would be along the line of the old Philadelphia and Erie pike, through Perry, Juniata, Mifflin and Centre counties, where it would diverge up the Bald Eagle valley to Tyrone and thence to Altoona. This route in addition to being in the neighborhood of twenty-five miles shorter, than it would be if built along the Juniata away down to Mount Union and then back up to Huntingdon, would have the advantage of having a well graded and solid road-bed all ready to build upon, the entire distance to Altoona with the exception of about twenty-five miles from Milesburg.

Or if it was thought to be important that this State highway should reach, and help make more accessible, the State's largest and most important educational institution—and one in which every county and every section is deeply interested, the State College—then it could diverge from the old pike at Pottery Mills, a distance of about twenty miles west of Lewistown and out directly across the upper end of this county to Tyrone and Altoona. Of all the routes yet suggested this would be the most direct and shortest from Harrisburg to Altoona.

Another very feasible route would be over the old Erie pike spoken of, via Lewistown and Bellefonte across the Alleghenies to Clearfield, thence via whatever route would best accommodate the people of western Pennsylvania. This route would enable the counties of Huntingdon, Bedford and Blair to make easy connection with the State road at Unionville, and would give Lycoming, Clinton, Potter, Tioga and the counties lying along the Susquehanna river, western connection with it at Milesburg, a distance of about fifty miles west of Williamsport and exactly in the centre of the State, going from the New York to the Maryland line.

When the matter of the route is to be determined—if ever it is—it is to be hoped that only the wisest counsel will prevail and that the best interests of the entire State will be the controlling influence that will fix it. Our people want no more jobs, no more steals. No more favoritism and no more disgrace because of the jobbery and thieving of our public officials. Better by far have no State highway.

Too Small, Mr. President—Too Small. A quarter section of land, as surveyed and chained off by the government contains 160 acres. For this the government price is \$2.50 per acre. Senator TILLMAN is charged by President ROOSEVELT with an attempt to get nine quarter sections, or 1440 acres, which all told would amount to \$3,600.

And its behind this little \$3,600—(call it steal if you will, although the South Carolina Senator would have been required to pay for it just as any other citizen would) that the President of the United States imagines he can hide all his violations of the constitution; all his outrageous usurpations of power; all his interference with the rights of other departments; all his arrogance, his insolence and his insults to the Senate and Congress and through these to the people of the country, as well as the flagrant extravagances that have characterized both his public administration and his private life.

For after all it is only to draw public attention from his own acts, that he has seized on this TILLMAN affair, and hopes in this way to put the Senate and Congress on another trail.

But think of it. Why, that \$3,600 wouldn't hide the one twentieth part of the graft he has had out of a single pleasure trip he and his family have taken down the Potomac bay, on the government vessel he had fitted up and maintains at public expense, through all his administration for his own private use and personal pleasure.

Oh! no, Mr. ROOSEVELT, no such a mole-hill as \$3,600 will hide your sins and short comings. It only shows how anxious

you are to have public attention drawn to some other subject, and away from the wrongs you have committed against the position you have been honored with and the people who have honored you.

Let The Fight Go On!

While others are deprecating the unseemly wrangle that now promises to develop into a fight to the finish between the President, Congress, and the various departments at Washington, the WATCHMAN can see no reason for feeling badly over it, or no cause for wishing that it may be either stopped or settled without running its full course. Out of all the fuss and fury, the bitterness and blabbering, the suspicions and spying that are being resorted to, by and between those who make our laws and those who are supposed to execute and enforce them, some good is sure to come and whatever little does, will be that much for us to congratulate ourselves over.

It has been years since there has been a general shaking up between the different departments of the government at Washington, and now that something of the kind is not only probable but almost certain, everyone of us should join in and do our best to help it along in every way possible until we have such a war, such a digging up of matters, such a laying bare of official sores, official wrongs and official short comings, as the country has not witnessed in a century.

It will tend to the purification of every department.

It will be a warning and a danger signal to every public official.

It will be a notice to every individual who assumes to represent, act for or serve, the people in public capacities in the future that the day may come when rottenness and wrong, incapacity and dishonesty will be exposed, just as it promises to be at this time; and in this way prove a check to those inclined to do wrong and an incentive for greater effort and watchfulness on the part of those who are disposed to do right.

And then, if Presidential arrogance and extravagance are curtailed, it will be that much for the better. If congressional carelessness and jobbery is lessened it will be that much for the public good. If departmental insolence is checked and incapacity exposed it will be that much more to the credit of the country and the benefit of the public.

It may not stop all, but it will surely end some of the wrongs that have been, and still are, inflicted upon the country. Let us all hope for its continuance. Let us pray for its intensity as well as its effectiveness.

Roosevelt's Reel in Lawlessness.

Senator CULBERTSON's resolution to inquire into the relations of the President to the absorption of the Tennessee Iron and Coal company by the Steel trust is significant because it will reveal the utter insincerity of THEODORE ROOSEVELT. By his own confession President ROOSEVELT guaranteed the Steel trust managers immunity from prosecution or punishment in the event of the violation of the law by that transaction. Judge GARY and Mr. HENRY C. FRICK pointed out the fact that the SHERMAN act would be violated in case the deal was consummated. But ROOSEVELT advised them to proceed notwithstanding the prohibition of the act and subsequently wrote the Attorney General instructing him to refrain from prosecuting.

The President of the United States is sworn to see that "the laws are faithfully executed." He has no authority to abrogate or suspend the operations of a law. After conviction he may order the suspension of sentence or pardon or commute. But he has no more right to make an agreement in advance of the event to promise immunity than he has to assist in the preparations for a murder or a burglary. That being true his agreement with GARY and FRICK was equivalent to compounding a felony and justifies impeachment and removal from office and prosecution in the criminal courts. It involved not only that but marks him a perjurer. It was a violation of his oath of office, and a prostitution of his official authority.

President ROOSEVELT boasts of his fidelity to the principle of equality before the law. He shrieks to the galleries his impartiality to wealthy malefactors. But when multimillionaires come to him with their schemes for plundering the people, he readily acquiesces in their plans. This proves that he is not sincere. It shows that his attempt to seize control of the business of the country was not for the purpose of regulating it in the interest of the people but to gratify his lust for power and his vanity to control. He is neither honest, courageous nor manly. His administration has been a reel of lawlessness which is a disgrace to the civilization of the country.

The board of auditors are now at work auditing the accounts of the various county officers for the year 1908.

Congress Must Act.

The differences between Congress and the President have reached an acute stage. Neither can recede now without acknowledging a fault. The President doesn't want to avert the impending encounter, probably. In his absurd vanity he imagines that his course is something like that of ANDREW JACKSON. But there is a vast difference between his quarrel with Congress and that of Old Hickory. JACKSON was candid, courageous and truthful. ROOSEVELT, on the other hand, is a moral and physical coward. He is afraid to walk across the street without half a dozen secret service men about him. Besides that he is a villain and a falsifier. No man of his temperament can hold the admiration of the American people.

But the public is largely to blame for the mental and moral infirmities of President ROOSEVELT. In the beginning they applauded his inequities. When he made a corrupt bargain with Quay or an advantageous deal in patronage with some other scummy politician, the achievement was commended as freely as if some meritorious service had been performed. Congress was servile because Congressmen found it convenient to engage in corrupt commerce with him in dispensing the patronage of the government. Now we are reaping the harvest. Drunk with usurped power ROOSEVELT has come to believe that his caprices are the law of the land and some drastic corrective measure will be necessary to disabuse his mind of that dangerous illusion.

Of course Congress will be obliged to apply the remedy or sacrifice every vestige of popular respect. It makes no difference to Speaker CANNON, naturally. Representatives like JOHN M. REYNOLDS, of Pennsylvania, are not outraged either. A few official plums will reconcile him to any indignity or outrage. But the self-respecting American citizen will resent the ruffianism which puts a stain upon the honor of our law-making body. Because of this fact there can be no compromise so far as Congress is concerned. The President can back down, for like all bullies he is without self-respect or a sense of decency. But Congress must vindicate its honor and Congressmen resent insults. The people have no time for politicians.

The Spring Primaries.

One week from tomorrow evening both the Democratic and Republican primaries will be held for the nomination of candidates to be voted for at the February election for the various borough and ward offices. The WATCHMAN has no axe to grind and in keeping with its policy refrains from advocating the rights or claims of any candidate for any office prior to the nomination, as it is only fair that all should have a free field and no favors. The only thing we urge is for the voters of Bellefonte to make their fight at the primaries for the nomination of good men. Do not wait until afterwards and then reflect on your party because the candidates nominated do not size up to your estimation of what they should.

There are plenty of good men in Bellefonte who are willing to serve the borough, and by the time of the primaries there will be enough of them that the voters will have ample opportunity to make a very good choice. The borough election this year is an important one. Every office from burgess down to the smallest ward office is to be filled and only competent men for each and every place should be selected. Therefore, let the voters turn out on January 23rd and nominate good, strong men for the various offices.

Senator Dimeling Honored.

Senator DIMELING has great reason for feeling proud of the compliment paid him by his fellow Senators and the Democratic members of the House at Harrisburg, last week, in naming him as their choice for United States Senator. As he neither sought nor expected such a distinction the fact that it came to him unsolicited and unanimously only emphasized the goodly feeling and enviable opinion that those who have learned to know him, entertained for him. In naming Senator DIMELING for this important position, the Democratic Senators and Members not only honor him but the district as well, and the WATCHMAN takes pleasure in extending the thanks of the more than ten thousand Democratic voters, who are proud to be among his constituents, for the distinguished honor that has been shown him and, through him, conferred upon the district.

It is less than three years since Senator TILLMAN produced the evidence proving President ROOSEVELT's close relationship to the House of ANANIAS. We all know who these people were. Everybody understands how natural it would be for them to magnify an effort to locate a section of land into an attempt to steal a state, and knowing these things the general public will be inclined to wait for the full returns from Oregon rather than accept Mr. ROOSEVELT's report of results out there.

A Fair Hit.

From the Lancaster Intelligencer. What Senator Tillman did was to direct certain land agents to secure for him and his at the government price certain desirable lands that were supposed to be forfeited to the government; as he had a perfect right to do unless it is considered that senators should be withheld by consideration of caution from buying government lands.

Senator Tillman has made his explanation to the Senate of the president's accusation and charged that it was made in malice; which charge is fully shown to be true, since that against the senator is shown to involve no criminality and to afford basis at worst for no more than a charge of indiscretion, and the ground for even that is slim.

Senator Tillman fairly criticizes the president for thus taking note of his desire to get some 1,400 acres of government land at the government's price, while he, as president, has so far failed to obey the direction of the law to deprive a railroad interest, controlled by Harriman, who seems to be the president's alternate friend and foe, of some two million acres of a land grant which has been declared to be forfeited.

This is a fair hit and it is one to which the president is justly open. This Tillman incident is one very illustrative of his character, which leads him into any depth of meanness and to do any degree of wrong to his enemies, when it is safe to do it; but which moves him to make them his fellows when his own interests demand it. He is thoroughly selfish with an eye single to himself, and a disposition to self-service which no imagination can estimate too highly.

Demonstrates His Malvolence.

From the Lancaster Intelligencer.

The attack made by the president on Senator Tillman is manifestly malicious. It is evident that it had been elaborately prepared and pigeon-holed to be brought out on demand. The demand came when the president was assailed in Congress for his use of the secret service, and was brought out and sent to Senator Hale, whose tardiness in publishing it made it necessary for the president's purpose that he should himself publish it, that it might come in to meet the resolutions of the House condemning him for his imputation upon congressmen and the utility of the secret service in keeping tabs on the conduct of members.

The Tillman papers have carefully sought to impute wrongdoing to the senator in connection with an application made by him for land thrown open to public entry out of a lapsed railroad grant.

Of course, it was proper for Senator Tillman to make an entry of land thrown open to the public for entry in payment of the price.

This is all that he seems to have done; and certainly his being a senator did not forbid his doing what any citizen could do.

We are of opinion that the president will make nothing by this assault upon Senator Tillman save the demonstration to the people of his small-minded malvolence.

The House and the President.

From the Springfield Republican.

Nothing truer or more cleaving was uttered in the House debate on the resolutions laying on the table the Secret Service paragraphs of the President's annual message than Chairman PERKIN's remark that "no legislative body will be respected by the people unless it respects itself." By an overwhelming vote of 212 to 35 the House demonstrates that it will not receive from the Executive unjustifiable and untruthful aspersions upon its honor as a legislative body, and thus leaves no possible doubt that it will maintain its self-respect at whatever cost.

Nor can the President's counter assault upon Senator Tillman affect in the slightest degree the merits of the question which the lower branch of Congress has met. The South Carolina Senator may be a knave, but at least he had no fear of the Secret Service or of official inquiry into his own acts inasmuch as it was Senator Tillman himself who initiated by his own request the Government investigation by postal inspectors which has furnished to the President the ammunition which he now uses against him. If Senator Tillman, however, or any other Senator, has disgraced the Senate, that body will know how to deal with him. For the Senate has yet to act on the issues raised by the President in connection with the Secret Service. The House has vindicated itself.

The House is Justified.

From the Philadelphia Press.

The house of representatives has parliamentary justification for adopting the resolutions on the president's message reported by its special committee yesterday. There are doubtless a few congressmen who need watching and who object to any zeal and efficient federal secret service. There are jobs outside of congress. There are men inside of congress ready to aid them. But this did not justify the president in his sweeping assertion, which he has since modified, and both houses of congress have a tangible grievance in his utterances, with which each is dealing.

How Much Better 'Twould Be.

From the Florida Times-Union.

We build floating forts now. How long before we shall build floating hospitals instead to take the weak and sick into summer seas on the approach of winter? Is it not nobler to spend millions to save life than to spend millions in the expectation of taking it?

The Senior class of the Boggs township High school will hold an ice cream and cake festival in the hall over Wetzler's store tomorrow (Saturday) evening. Proceeds for the benefit of the High school library and other equipment. The public in general is invited to attend and all are assured of a royal good time.

Spawns from the Keystone.

Big preparations are being made for the celebration in York, on Tuesday, January 19, of the one hundredth birthday anniversary of the poet, Edgar Allan Poe.

An epidemic of scarlet fever has appeared in the twin boroughs of Pennsylvania and East Greenville, Montgomery county, twenty cases having been reported.

No. 2 furnace of the Pennsylvania Steel works at Harrisburg has been started after a year's idleness, and No. 1 Paxton furnace will be put in operation in a short time.

For the first time since September 15th, there is now sufficient water to supply all the collieries in the Mahanoy region, Schuylkill county, the recent heavy rains having started the dried up springs.

Thieves broke into the Masonic temple in Reading, on Tuesday night and stole officers' jewels to the value of several hundred dollars. The Orpheum theatre was also forcibly entered and a lot of articles belonging to actors and actresses stolen.

John Krouse, a confectioner of Lock Haven, has an apple, in good condition, although it was grown two years ago last summer. The apple was received by Mr. Krouse over two years ago in a consignment of fruit from the state of Washington.

The first all-steel dining car ever built by the Pennsylvania Railroad company was put into service at Altoona Thursday. It was built at the Altoona shops. The new car is elaborately equipped and will accommodate 30 persons at the tables at one time.

A record breaking shipment from the Adams express office at Latrobe was made on Friday morning, when fresh beef and pork, totaling 13,900 pounds, were shipped by the East Liberty House Dressed Meat company, of Latrobe, to various dealers in and about Pittsburgh.

The voters of York will be called on at the election in February to decide for or against a loan of \$450,000 for the completion of its sanitary sewage system and the erection of a disposal plant. The proposition of making such a loan last year was defeated by the voters.

Meetings has been selected as the next meeting place for the convention of the State Association of Postmasters, which will be held June 16th and 17th. The meeting will be the second annual convention of the organization, which was formed at a meeting held last year at Harrisburg.

The quadrennial weighing of the mails handled by the Pennsylvania Railroad company will begin on February 1st and continue for a period of thirty to ninety days. A man will be stationed on every train to do the weighing and on the result the contract for the next four years will be made.

Michael Niedemeir, eighty years old, of Altoona, a Pennsylvania Railroad company pensioner and a veteran of the German army, while on his way to his lodging house Wednesday night, fell into a ditch along the sidewalk and lay there all night unnoticed by passersby. His body was found Thursday morning frozen stiff.

Joe Koltifky, a Polisher, aged about fifty-three years, employed as a miner at Onata, Clearfield county, while opening a keg of powder on Thursday was smoking a cigarette, when a spark fell in the keg, exploding the powder and very badly burning him about the face, body and left leg. He was taken to Cottage hospital Philadelphia, for treatment.

Alleging that the jurors drank intoxicating liquor during the trial, counsel for Harry Fisher, convicted for the murder of Miss Sarah Klinger, at Shamokin, are endeavoring to get another chance to make a fight for the life of their client. They hold that the jurors were unable to appreciate the value of the testimony introduced. The jurors deny the accusation.

The Goodyear Lumber company, of Galeton, will during the coming summer, remove all the timber on the Nine Mile tract, which is located in the vicinity of the Farnum Lyon place, and is estimated at twenty million feet, and is estimated that a great amount of work will be done in that section during the coming year, and that the stock of the mill at Galeton, will be greatly increased.

The next annual encampment of the Sons of Veterans of Pennsylvania will meet in Milton in June next, and it gives every promise of being the largest and most important meeting of the division ever held. At a preliminary meeting in Milton a few days ago it was announced that Governor Stuart had consented to be there to review the parade on Thursday, July 1st. The department officers of the Grand Army of the Republic will also be there on that day.

Viewers that were appointed recently to assess the damages on the farm belonging to the Latta estate near Derry, Westmoreland county, by reason of taking eight acres for constructing a sewage disposal plant thereon by the town of Derry, met on the premises last Thursday for that purpose. Heirs of the estate claimed damages to the amount of \$25,000, as part of the ground is laid out into building lots, and different witnesses estimated the damages at from \$300 to \$20,000. The jury's award was \$1,250. The owners say they will appeal.

The funerals of father and daughter, Charles Crouse and Mrs. John Cashen, occurring at one time, was the sad service conducted at the St. Boniface Catholic church at Williamsport, on Tuesday. The father and daughter died on the same day, Saturday, and their bodies were laid in the grave following one funeral service. Mrs. Cashen died in the Williamsport hospital at noon from an attack of Bright's disease. Her father died that night from the effects of a stroke of paralysis. He was proprietor of the Junction hotel, South Williamsport.

It will cost the State of Pennsylvania about \$150,000 to pay for advertising the fact that constitutional amendments are on their way through the legislature. Up till today all the newspapers have sent in their bills but twelve, and the amount totals thus far about \$147,000. The advertisements were sent out from the office of the Secretary of the Commonwealth and bills were rendered to that department. These bills, however, will have to pass inspection in the Auditor General's department. Every newspaper has its own advertising rates, and in the case of the amendments the prices range from 5 cents to 25 cents a line.