

INK SLINGS.

—After all isn't Philadelphia enjoying just about what it's been voting for?
—A Pittsburg contemporary boasts of the progress of art and literature in that city. Imagine what a Missourian would say to that.
—The robin may be a harbinger of spring, but the wise guy will refuse to shed his winter toggery until the circus posters begin to bloom.
—Belated returns, just coming in, makes the automobile speeder a poor second to the coasting sled guider as a general bruiser and race exterminator.
—A new novel about to be issued is entitled "A House of Wind." It's description ought to give a good idea of what the capitol at Washington looks like.
—It is estimated that there are over eleven thousand thieves in New York city. Just think how it would reduce the Republican vote if they were all jailed at once.
—"What," asks our amiable friend, Dr. SWALLOW, "makes the South so happy since its endorsement of Prohibition?" Really, brother, we can't guess unless it is Moonshine.
—"Republican prosperity," boasts a Republican exchange, "is making all kinds of business boom." Yes, it is even making the white-washers of Republican officials work over time.
—Mr. SCHWAB, with corporation millions behind him, thinks he can stand industrial inactivity longer than the striking workmen can stand indolence. Hence he solves the strike problem by closing his mills.
—The Louisville Courier Journal suggests the possibility of an effigy of Speaker CANNON in Statuary hall. Mr. WATSON must have been afflicted with a night-mare when that idea found lodgment in his brain.
—Senator McNICHOE is contemplating the labor conditions in Philadelphia from his comfortable bungalow in Florida. There is nothing so conducive to personal safety and peace of mind, as a long distance from the scene of trouble.
—A correspondent complaining about the times, says, "money does not go as far now-a-days as it used to." Of course it don't, but he'll just stop and think how thunderin' much faster it has to go, he won't wonder that it don't go so far.
—The present Secretary of the Navy asks Congress for a battleship of 32,000 tons displacement, at an estimated expense of \$18,000,000. This will be the largest "war dog" in the world and will be about as useful as a flying machine in a coal mine.
—Should NICK LONGWORTH run for Governor of Ohio this fall, it is a safe bet that his wife and his money will have to be relied upon as the vote getters. NICK OLAS himself has never been a drawer to any appreciable extent, except as a drawer of corks.
—Dr. WILBY asserts "that in fifty years the world will be run by water, wind and alcohol." We don't know where the doctor lives, but it must be in some "way back" county. Hereabouts these three agencies have been running things for lo these many years.
—Quite a number of our exchanges are boasting of the fact that they have added type setting machines to their office equipment. A type setting machine may be all right, but it is not what many of them need. It's a "Thought Incubator" they seem to be short of.
—Congressman GARDNER, of Massachusetts, announces that he has investigated the question and concluded that the tariff has nothing to do with the high prices. GARDNER has earned the gratitude of his father-in-law, Senator LODGE, by his early discovery.
—Secretary MEYER has just reported that it cost thirteen and a half million dollars to send that fleet of battleships around the world. It would require the benefits resulting to the country to be magnified several times to make them worth thirteen and a-half cents.
—We have been listening very intently for a long time, but up to this writing, have failed to hear any victorious hurrahs from the Mr. KNOX's rebels down in Nicaragua. Evidently the interest that fomented the trouble haven't found the job of bossing a neighboring Republic as easy as they imagined it would be.
—"Fingy" CONNERS has contracted the Florida habit, and after his rebuke by the New York Democrats the other day repaired to that winter retreat to search for the solace of the Southern seas. Probably Senator McNICHOE will take sufficient time from his tarpon fishing diversions to give the recreant "Fingy" such consolation as he needs.
—From the constant and close companionship of General Prosperity, whose presence is so loudly boasted of by our Republican friends, and General Want, whom so many of our people have met and become acquainted with so lately, it is a fair surmise that they are more closely related than most folks imagine. We have about come to the belief that they are children of the same dad.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

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One Point to Keep in Mind.

It is worth while to keep in mind the fact that the indictments against the beef trust officials in New Jersey have been presented in the state courts and by the state authorities. It has become the custom of the paternalists and centralizationists to iterate and reiterate that the state authorities are either incapable of or unwilling to deal with such corporations.
Upon that plea Mr. ROOSEVELT, during his administration as President, constantly importuned Congress to enact such legislation as would give the national government all authority to regulate corporations. Upon the same false pretense President TAFT is now asking Congress for similar legislation.
The insincerity of ROOSEVELT was revealed three years ago when he compelled one of the servile creatures whom he had catapulted on to the Federal court bench to join the State of North Carolina in executing a law regulating the rates for passenger traffic on railroads.
The insincerity of TAFT is shown in the fact that notwithstanding he has been toying with the beef trust from the moment he entered upon the duties of the office, it was left for the authorities of the State of New Jersey to take the first step toward such practical restraint of that monopoly as holds out the promise of correcting its evil practices.
These are the plain facts as shown by the records.
We are completely in accord with the view that all corporations should be regulated by law and that trusts operating in restraint of trade or manipulating prices ought to be forced out of existence. But we protest that these results should be achieved by the operation of state laws and through the processes of the state courts. There is greater danger to the country in the usurpation by the federal government of powers reserved to the States than in any act of injustice which the trusts may perpetrate. Those who endeavor, by devious means, to centralize authority in Washington at the expense of the reserved rights of the States, more over, are enemies of the Republic.
It has been officially declared by the New York Stock Exchange that failure is a crime against the laws of high finance. That is to say the board of managers of the Exchange have expulated the manipulators of a successful pool in Hocking Valley shares and expelled from membership those who conducted an unsuccessful pool in the same shares.
Economics on a Small Scale.
Every thoughtful citizen will cordially endorse the efforts of the administration at Washington to curtail the expenses of the government. Ever since the ROOSEVELT administration began, seven years ago, profligacy has been the rule and the aggregate cost of administering the government has increased from a trifle over \$500,000,000 a year to more than twice that amount. The other day, on the floor of the Senate, Senator ALDRICH declared that he could manage matters so as to save \$300,000,000 a year. Acting upon that suggestion there has since been a sort of revision of the civil service with the result that a vast number of the employees have been dismissed.
In the Philadelphia mint, for example, seventy-four employees have been dropped and it is said that similar reductions are to be made in the postoffice and custom house forces in that city. Of course this action will result in a good deal of saving to the government. Probably no employee in the mint received less than \$1000 a year, so that the decrease of seventy-four will save \$74,000 a year. At least fifty may be cut out of the postoffice force and nearly that many from the army of beef eaters in the Custom house of that city. The contemplated economies, therefore, will mean a matter of \$174,000 a year in Philadelphia alone, and as a matter of fact Philadelphia is only a way station in National life.
But cutting off a few of the low-salaried employees is not the sort of retrenchment which will bring about the reforms that are needed. Possibly the extension of the rule adopted in the Philadelphia mint might reduce the force in the civil service a matter of 10,000 which, estimating their compensation at \$1000 each, would work a saving of \$10,000,000 a year. But that is only "a drop in the bucket," if we may be permitted to employ that homely phrase. The profligacies which are working injury are the excessive payments for carrying mails, the silly extravagance in the maintenance of the army and navy and the absurd recklessness in expenses of the President's establishment.
The boycott against meat prices has achieved little, thus far, but the same energy directed against the tariff at the polls next fall will bring surprising results in the desired direction.

Some Corporate Iniquities.

The president of a New York telephone company declares that "the public sentiment against high dividends is one reason for the watering of stocks." In other words this representative of corporate interests imagines that he is fooling the public by issuing stock instead of cash dividends. The corporations which derive their authority from the people, charge excessive rates for service and in the expectation of deceiving those who have been robbed by the operation, water the stock instead of dividing their profits in cash. This is adding insult to injury. It is a direct aspersion upon the intelligence of the people who have been robbed, to earn the profits thus fraudulently distributed.
Telephone companies like railroad and telegraph companies are quasi-public corporations. Without the consent of the people they would not be able to do business at all. The consent of the people is given on the implied condition that the service will be made as perfect and cheap as possible. There is a moral right on the part of the corporation to take from the earnings of the concern just expenses and a legitimate profit. When more than that is taken, whether distributed in cash or by some subterfuge, robbery is perpetrated, and those responsible are criminals. This may seem harsh language but it expresses an exact truth and punishment should follow. It is the only way to treat corporate brigands.
If the telephone service at present rates realizes such a profit as excites public envy the right remedy is in a reduction of the rates which are excessive. This course would make the public think well instead of ill of the corporation management and remove one of the most potential causes of discontent among the people. The average man is just. He asks no sacrifices from others for his benefit and if high rates are necessary to maintain good service they are paid without complaint. But no man wants to be robbed. No intelligent citizen consents to an arrangement which deprives his children of advantages to which they are entitled. For this reason there is and always will be objection to corporate extortion to feed corporate greed.
—Mr. J. PIERPONT MORGAN wants a Federal Incorporation law and sent his confidential man, GEORGE W. PERKINS, to Washington, the other day, to tell President TAFT about it. "A wink is as good as a nod to a blind mule."
Chairman Tawney's Grave Charge.
Representative TAWNEY, chairman of the House committee on Appropriations, declares that the program for the increase of the navy "is promoted by a lobby having strong interests in the profits arising from the construction of ships of war and armor plate." This is a grave accusation coming from such a source. Chairman TAWNEY is no irresponsible nuck-raker. He is not an insurgent or political mischief-maker. On the contrary he is one of the most capable and experienced members of the House, high in the confidence of the President and strong in the favor of the congressional machine. When he makes a charge of that kind it is time for the country to "sit up and take notice."
There is nothing new in the statement of Chairman TAWNEY to those who are familiar with affairs in Washington. For years there has been a suspicion that much of the enthusiasm for building up the navy is attributable to the covetousness of the lobby. Three years ago Representative LILLY, of Connecticut, charged that large sums of money had been used to procure an order for submarine boats and he was hounded out of the House and into his grave for his temerity. He moved for an investigation but under the direction of MARLIN E. OLMSTED, of Pennsylvania, the evidence was diverted into a crusade against him rather than an inquiry against the persons accused of offering and accepting bribes.
The chances are that the TAWNEY charges will receive no further attention in Congress. If Mr. TAWNEY would himself put his complaint into the form of a resolution of inquiry, he would be treated just as LILLY was. But TAWNEY will not go that far. His statement was intended merely as an admonition to his party leaders in the House to take a reef in the proposed profligacy. He imagines that in this admonition he has fulfilled his public obligations. If his advice is disregarded and the public rents the outrage he will be able to say "I told you so," and thus "save his own face." But somebody else may take the question up. At least let us hope that such a thing will happen.
The administration bills have been reduced in number to four and it is said that the President will be satisfied with half that number and lucky if he gets one-fourth.

Mr. Gompers' Admonition.

Mr. SAMUEL GOMPERS, president of the American Federation of Labor, means well, no doubt, in warning the administration at Washington, that "if the present American workers' movement, which is constructive and conservative in character, is outlawed and crushed out of existence by unfavorable legislation and court decisions, it will be followed by another movement which will scarcely be constructive," but nobody takes him seriously. What he means is that the next movement will take the form of reversion and work destruction both to property and life. But people who have studied the subject are not alarmed by such predictions. They understand the people in question better.
Two years ago Mr. GOMPERS revealed an intelligent understanding of conditions and implored the labor element of the electorate to vote against the candidates of the party, the policies of which are intended to crush out the present American workers' movement. During the campaign, however, the leaders of the party in power bribed a few of the labor leaders with offices and the vast majority of the labor voters disregarded the admonitions of Mr. GOMPERS and voted to continue the policies which are working their destruction. Next year and every other year, so long as the dominant party has patronage and is willing to bestow it upon recreant and treacherous labor leaders, the same thing will happen.
It is a great crime, of course, against justice and manhood, to crush out "by unfavorable legislation and court decisions," the constructive and conservative movement of the conscientious labor leaders like GOMPERS. He has been a faithful and intelligent servant of the labor element of the country for years. But he is not able to control or even influence the votes or actions of those associated with him in organized labor. The recreants like POWDERLY who make merchandise of their labor affiliations are listened to in preference to GOMPERS, and a \$5,000 office given to some modern Judas in the labor force will achieve more in one campaign than the eloquence of GOMPERS in a million years.
—This (Friday) evening is the time the orchard train in charge of Prof. H. A. Surface will arrive in Bellefonte and illustrated lectures will be given in the cars from seven until nine o'clock. If you are an orchardist, or at all interested in growing fruit, don't fail to attend and hear what the experts under the state zoologist have to say as to the best way of growing it.
The talk of federal control of the trusts through publicity is shown by experience to be absurd. The bureau of corporations has had authority to examine the books and acquire the secrets of corporations for half a dozen years and the only result has been the blackmailing of the concerns by the collectors of Republican campaign funds.
—Senator DEPEW, of New York, has practically announced his candidacy for reelection. The last time DEPEW ran ROOSEVELT used the big stick on all his antagonists. But the insurance investigation since has so crippled the Senator morally that it is doubtful if the White House will have the courage to interpose in his behalf this time.
The express companies pay vast dividends from carrying packages at one-third the rates paid for second-class mail matter to the Postoffice Department and yet the Postmaster General declares that the Department loses money on its second-class matter. It would be worth while to investigate this subject along with others.
The first of a series of sermons to young people will be preached by Dr. Platts next Sunday evening. This series is based on replies received to a letter sent to 150 representative men and women of Bellefonte. Several of the letters will be read. The sermon this week will be to young men.
That New York bigamist who pretended that he didn't know the woman when confronted with one of his wives, made a grave mistake. Women are proverbially emotional and time has not dulled the edge of the adage that "hell hath no fury like a woman scorned."
—President TAFT doesn't propose to entrust the management of his political estate to a ROOSEVELT hold-over like Postmaster General HIRCWOOD. It is semi-officially announced that WADE ELLIS, of Ohio, is to be made chairman of the National committee.
The county auditors have finally completed their work of going over the county accounts and the result of their work will be advertised in the papers next week. It doubtless will make very interesting reading.

INTERESTING REMINISCENCES.

Gen. Frederick Dent Grant and Why Recognition of His Military Services Should be Made. Recollections of a Confederate Veteran, and the Singular Situation that Results of the War Produced.
DEAR WATCHMAN:
I see it stated that General Frederick Dent Grant is seeking such official recognition of his army service as shall render him eligible for membership in the Grand Army of the Republic.
It is well known that during the Civil war he was under age for enlistment as a soldier. It is equally well known that he accompanied his illustrious father in several campaigns, often followed him into battle, and while under fire served him in the capacity of an aid. Thus and then he became a Union soldier in will and deed. When proofs of intent and service are abundant why is lack of formal enlistment considered a bar to membership in an organization largely honorary in character and chiefly intended to preserve the record of honorable service?
Had young Grant served with a band of men acting without authority from the War Department, his case would be different. But he was with a duly constituted army organization, and served with the permission of the General in command, the head of all the army, whose authority was regarded as supreme.
Besides, General Grant's fine army record since and his dignified bearing in other walks of life might well be considered, especially as, in his case, the expression "the son of his father" has been robbed of its sinister meaning.
However, this is a matter for Congress and the Grand Army of the Republic to settle. It is referred to here only as a text, perhaps chiefly as a pretext, for giving publicity to reminiscent facts more or less germane with the recital of which the writer has often entertained private circles.
The relevancy of the facts turn on a point which might well be defined as the irony of fate and compels the writer to speak of himself in the first person though he has no desire to disclose his identity (to the public) and thus seem to be seeking notoriety.
In 1865, when the Civil war closed, I was a tutor in a boarding school of the military type at Burlington, N. J. The school was quite generously patronized by army and navy officers, and to it, in the autumn of the year named, Gen. U. S. Grant sent his two sons, Frederick and Ulysses. Fred, as he was called for short, though only three years my junior, was a member of one of the classes which suited me. Also I often helped him with his lessons during evening study hours, had charge of the dormitory in which he slept, and took my turn as moderator at the dining-room table at which he sat.
It comes as a fact which shows how fate or chance gets in its work. I thought of Appomattox. I had been a classmate in college, and subsequently a comrade in arms, with nephews of the Confederate President, Jefferson Davis, and with sons of prominent Confederate generals, and here, within six months after Appomattox, the sons of General U. S. Grant, Frank P. Blair and Phil Kearney; of commanders Rowe, Budd and others of the Union Army and Navy, were under a staff of teachers which included an ex-Confederate soldier.
The only other person aware of the fact at the time was the headmaster or principal of the school. He was my father's friend, and learning that our family had been rendered destitute by the misfortunes of war, he was willing to give me a position as tutor in his school and the Clearfield court and until action is taken on this he is allowed his liberty. He has gone back to Harrisburg.
Another freak of fortune which suggests a coincidence is that my own status as a member of a confederate camp was secured in a way similar to that which I hoped will prove effective in General Grant's case. At the beginning of the Civil war I also was under age for regular enlistment as a soldier, and letters from former companions in arms were the only proofs of service I could produce. On the strength of these I was received some years ago as a member of a Confederate camp and am permitted to wear the Southern Cross of Honor.
I have not seen General Fred Grant to speak with him since we were together in the New Jersey boarding school, and I am wondering whether he will remember it and pardon me for telling it, that, about this time of the year forty-four years ago, he got off a joke at the supper table which deserves a place among the anecdotes that will be told of him after he has passed from the stage of action here on earth.
It was at the time of year when fresh butter was scarce. The boarding school matron was forced to provide tub-butter. It was more or less strong. The boys named it Samson, and if it happened to be beyond the reach of one who wanted "please pass Samson up the country."
On one occasion Fred Grant asked for the butter in this way. He did not know that the matron had secured fresh butter.
It was the same color as the old. Having helped himself and tasted it, he some-what abruptly and noisily dropped his knife on his plate.
On being asked what was the matter, he answered with a characteristic, deep-toned drawl, "Umph! Samson's had his hair cut."
—An advertisement in the WATCHMAN always pays.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

—DuBois school authorities will make a big fight against the selling of cigarettes to minors.
—The high cost of living is another grievance that refuses to disappear at the threat of investigation.
—Wallace Wilson, of Alexandria, is spoken of as a candidate for congress from the seventeenth congressional district.
—The waiting room at the Pennsylvania railroad station at Lewistown Junction is being remodeled considerably, the work being almost finished.
—Thomas H. Marshall, a late resident of Davton, Indiana county, left \$2,500 to the United Presbyterian church of that place, to be used for the erection of a parsonage.
—The famous Park Hotel, at Williamsport, is to be renovated, refurbished and given a complete up-to-date equipment at an outlay approaching \$100,000, says The Williamsport Sun.
—The Northumberland hat and cap factory which was recently destroyed by fire will be rebuilt. Work on the construction will be started early this spring and it is expected that the plant will be in operation by the middle of July.
—The United Charities association, of DuBois, was back of the prosecution brought against Peter Devine, of Isleburg Heights, who was held under \$500 bail for his appearance at court to answer the allegation that he did not support his family.
—Police men all over Perry county are looking for a team of black horses that are supposed to have been stolen from E. Shurie, a brickmaker, of Newport. A man by the name of Harry Jacobs hired the animals and is said not to have returned them.
—J. L. McKeag, of East Pittsburgh, could not decide upon a name for his thirteenth child, so he sold several hundred tickets at 25 cents each, with privilege to the holder of the winning ticket to name the child. It will be known as Lottie Ree McKeag.
—Summer visitors to the Pocono Mountains will be able to get some idea of the enormous ice product of the ponds at Mount Pocono and Toboggan and surrounding sections by noting the fact that the present season's harvest aggregated over 1,000,000 tons, 600,000 of which have been housed there.
—Patrick Cummings, of Rosedale, near Johnstown, disappeared over a week ago and it is thought that he has been spirited away. Inquiries have been made in all directions for the fellow without avail. He accompanied a man to Johnstown and he, too, is lost. Cummings' parents are poor.
—The Patriotic Order Sons of America and kindred fraternal organizations everywhere in the State are protesting against the State law that provides for the payment of a tax on investments of those societies. The next session of the Legislature will be petitioned to amend the act so as to eliminate the tax.
—James S. Hall, who was recently elected a Justice of the Peace in Beech Creek borough, Clinton county, has made the novel announcement that he will perform marriage ceremonies free during the first year of his five year term. This affords an opportunity for young couples to save a few shillings.
—The Lancaster county farmers mix business with diversion at their spring auction sales held on Tuesday at the White Horse Hotel, in Salisbury township, on Tuesday, \$20,000 worth of livestock was disposed of. The Churchtown Band furnished music, there was a big crowd and the sales were followed by a fox chase.
—Patrick McCann, of near Lilly, staid to warn other miners when he heard the roof creaking in Benecreek shaft and was crushed to death by a fall of rock. A widow and eight children are left behind. He recently was elected justice of the peace and judge of election in Washington township, and was a member of St. Bridget's Catholic church.
—Elliott Lemon, of Forks, Columbia county, sold a Durham declared to be one of the largest in the country for his age. The new owner bought him to fatten for exhibition. Three years old, the bull stands six feet, two inches high, and weighs 2,600 pounds. He will be fattened on a Huntingdon county farm, and is expected to reach 4,000 pounds.
—State Health Commissioner Samuel G. Dixon expects to ask for bids soon on the first group of buildings to be erected at Cresson for the new state tuberculosis sanitarium. Work will be started as soon as the weather permits. The plans and architects have made their state engineers and architects have made their plans and everything will be ready to start operations. There is abundant stone and lumber on the site.
Rev. S. E. Nicholson, who has been superintendent of the Anti-Saloon League of Pennsylvania for several years has resigned the position, and Rev. Charles W. Carroll, who has been assistant superintendent, been elected in his place. Dr. Nicholson is to become national legislative superintendent, with headquarters at Washington. He will continue in charge of the legislative and political work of the league in Pennsylvania.
—D. A. Wilson, of Harrisburg hotel keeper and politician, who is alleged to have used a forged ticket on the Pennsylvania railroad, and who was placed in the Clearfield county jail after being convicted of the crime, has been let out under bail of \$3,000. Through his attorney, Will it was taken out an appeal from the findings of the Clearfield court and until action is taken on this he is allowed his liberty. He has gone back to Harrisburg.
—Lorenzo Smith, who lives on the Chauncey Benson farm, in Eaton township, Wyoming county, reports the catching of a crow that was starved so that it could not fly out of reach. He has fed the crow and it is all right now. Gray squirrels have been coming to his wood shed for walnuts and butternuts, several of them at a time. He lets them eat what they want. He also has a flock of ten quail on his premises that he is feeding this winter.
—Norman Starner, who left Wilkesbarre four months ago, returned and gave himself up to the police Thursday night. Presenting himself at the City Hall, he said: "Sergeant, I want to give myself up for stealing an overcoat in this city some time ago." Starner, being in need of money, stole an overcoat worth \$20 from a friend, named Charles, who lives in Philadelphia. Recently his conscience had troubled him so much that he finally decided to return home and give himself up to the police.
—Venango county, with nearly 60,000 residents, has but one prisoner in its jail and he is a non-resident. Forest county, with nearly 10,000 inhabitants, has no prisoners incarcerated. The Forest county trustee has been empty since Christmas, when the lone prisoner escaped. His offense was so trifling that no effort was made to capture him. This is the first time in twenty years that the Venango county jail has been so nearly empty. The one prisoner is serving a year for robbery.
—Miss Mary Crawford, of Franklin, Venango county, was fatally injured on Sunday in the Sunday school rooms of the First Baptist church, while attending a Bible class led by General Charles Miller. Her head was crushed by a large drop door, weighing more than a ton, which divides the adult class room and the children's quarters. Miss Crawford was leaning over the dividing line when the heavy door dropped and being slightly deaf, she heard neither the door nor the warnings of others.