

INK SLINGS.

Men wore ruffles between 1520 and 1790. Some of them are still wearing petticoats.

It is little wonder that the Chinese are fighting. There is a Li in nearly every one of their statesmen and generals.

The President is back in the White House. He has gone way back to sit down to wait for his tariff commission to report.

The 14th of November 1910 repeated in 1911, by giving the hunters another tracking snow to start out on on the opening day of deer season.

If winter is to be anything like the advance notice of it that we received Sunday night right now is the time to get that coal bin filled to the top.

If "Misery loves company" the Democrats of the county were certainly as kind to the defeated Republican candidates as it was possible for them to be. They gave them all there was to be had of it.

They are beholding Chinamen who had cut off their pigtails as evidence of the progressive movement in the celestial empire. It is needless to say that with the head and tail both gone so is the Chin.

Last Saturday was the day that happens only once in a century. The eleventh day of the eleventh month of 1911. The Tuesday previous was a day that has happened only once in a quarter of a century in Centre county.

When the reader learns that General Li is in charge of one of the departments of the Chinese army he will more readily understand the source and reliability of much of the war news that comes to us from that country.

The Hon. RUDOLPH BLANKENBURG has the job of a life time on his hands in Philadelphia. The entire country will join in the prayer that his health may be conserved against the Herculean task of purifying that putrid municipality.

Looking over the Centre county teacher's institute now in session here there is very visible evidence of the fact that the milliner and the modiste are getting their full share of recent increases in the salaries of the teachers.

If Mr. CARNIGIE could only devise some means of getting rid of his burdensome wealth as rapidly as brother STORZ did of his Keystone party over in Clearfield there would be no question about him being able to "die a poor man."

The striking drives of the New York street cleaning brigade would like to be singing that old song about jumping into the wagon and all take a ride, but Mayor GAYNOR and commissioner EDWARDS broke the strike and the old drivers are walking the streets hunting for work.

While the loss of the support of the Legislature in New Jersey may prove a serious setback to the plans Governor WOODROW WILSON may have had for further reforms in that State it doesn't seem to have any effect on the plans a great many sections of the country have for booming him for President.

Dr. WU TING FANG, once the facetious Ambassador of the celestials to the court of your Uncle SAMUEL, is "coming back" fast as the rebellion in China progresses toward success. But as they have such a weakness for separating the heads of great men from their bodies over there we wouldn't be any more surprised to read Wu's obituary than his accession to the premiership of a new Republic.

Sheriff SHIELDS, of Westmoreland county, has been sentenced to two years in the penitentiary for malfeasance in office. While under indictment he was elected commissioner of that county, but since his conviction he will probably be impeached. At least he should be. The most dangerous attacks on a free government are made when unscrupulous officials prostitute the dignity of their office and display contempt for the law they are sworn to uphold.

MORGAN SHUSTER, the American financial expert who was recently called to reorganize the treasury department of the reorganized Persian government, has been on the job long enough to get into trouble with both England and Russia. He has been calling things by their American names over there and that doesn't tickle the ceremonial tastes of JOHN BULL or the CZAR. In any event Mr. SHUSTER says he isn't going to back-track and Persia is decidedly proud of him.

The steady growth of the Socialistic vote in all sections of the country is the cause of much concern to the Republican party and well it may be. Socialism in theory is ideal, but Socialism as voted by the vast majority in this country is a protest against the existing order of things; an evidence of chafing and unrest under a system of government that for a quarter of a century seems to have been designed for the benefit of the few at the sacrifice of the many. As the Republican party has been solely responsible for the government it must own its Socialistic offspring and suffer the consequence that grows more portentous each time a test by ballots is made.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

VOL 56. BELLEFONTE, PA., NOVEMBER 17, 1911. NO. 45.

Questions for Democrats to Answer.

The counties in which considerable Democratic gains were made at the recent election were those in which the regular Democratic organization was supported, with one or two exceptions. Lycoming county, in which Hon. WALTER RITTER, chairman of the Democratic State Central committee resides, a splendid triumph was scored. In Westmoreland county, in which county chairman J. HILARY KERNAN and H. S. ACKERMAN, members of the State Executive committee are the local managers, the candidate for Orphans' Court Judge and that for County Treasurer were successful. In Luzerne, Erie, Elk, Cameron, Clarion and Forest, the party more than held its own and in Lehigh and this county we could hardly expect better results. Philadelphia which was loyal to the organization did admirably.

On the other hand Adams, Carbon, Cambria, Montgomery, Chester, Northumberland, Bradford, Berks, York and other counties, where chairmen deserted the regular Democracy and joined the little crowd of disorganizers, all find themselves losers in the general result. And this, not because there are fewer Democrats in any of these counties than there were one or two or three years ago, but because they were led to believe and depend upon the promises made them by men who don't seem to know what an organization is or what is necessary to the success of the party. In place of thorough and efficient organization in these counties, copies of the game laws were distributed, school codes furnished and promises galore of what was being done and what would yet be accomplished, were made without stint. On these promises the local chairmen doubtless depended largely. They know and feel the result.

Possibly the Democrats of the State will waken up some day to see how greatly they have been wronged, in this pretended effort to reorganize and better the condition of the party. Surely no one can point to a single locality or a solitary election precinct in the State in which the Democratic organization, as such, has been benefitted or bettered in anyway by the efforts of the few who are keeping the party disorganized and divided under the pretense of strengthening and building it up.

If such a district can be found, won't some one please tell us where to look for it.

The Catlin Commission.

The adjournment of the sessions of the CATLIN commission, engaged in the investigation of the municipal government of Philadelphia, just as the most important testimony was about to be offered, was the most shameful exhibition of boss control ever revealed in this or any other State. When the offices of the commission were first invoked the WATCHMAN expressed some doubt of the sincerity of the action. We said that properly conducted such an inquiry might disclose startling conditions and work valuable results. But, we added, if the commission is to be perverted into an instrument to promote the interests of one faction of the Republican party at the expense of another it will degenerate into a farce. Instead of a beneficence it will be a source of evil.

That is precisely what has happened. The commission placed itself at the service of Senator PENROSE to destroy one of the candidates of that party for the office of mayor and having accomplished that result ran away from duty at the behest of the Senator. Of course no self-respecting citizen will regret the complete destruction of the VARE brothers. They have proved themselves the cheapest politicians that ever offended public decency. Possibly they were driven to this course by the fear of punishment for the offenses clearly proved against them. But whether that be true or not the fact remains that they promptly turned in to the support of a man who had denounced them as public parasites and cringing criminals. Their present plight is not to be considered.

There was a reason for the stopping of the investigation just as it reached the point where the friends of Senator PENROSE and those whose services were necessary to him were about to be exposed. The inquiry threatened the exposure of mayor REYBURN and the "scandalous personal obligations and financial operations" with which he was associated, and such exposure would have alienated both REYBURN and Director of Public Safety CLAY from the sinister support of PENROSE's candidate for mayor. Without this support there was no hope of the election of Mr. EARLE and the Senatorial committee obeyed him with slavish alacrity in order to promote his evil purposes. It was the shame of our day and generation and stamps the State Senate as a tool of the boss.

Mitchell Palmer's Party Management.

Hon. A. MITCHELL PALMER, of Stroudsburg, gave the public an exhibition of his managerial ability in the Congressional election for the Fourteenth district of this State at the recent election. There was a vacancy in that district owing to the death of Hon. GEORGE W. KIPP, who was chosen at the election of last year by a considerable majority. Mr. PALMER butted into the campaign for the election of his successor with great enthusiasm and characteristic indifference to decency and propriety. He didn't live in the district and was in no respect connected with the party organization. But he usurped the power of appointing a congressional committee and then took upon himself the management of the campaign.

The result can hardly be flattering to Mr. PALMER's colossal urbanity. It is admitted that the candidate is a man of considerable popularity. He had always been a Republican until the organization of the Keystone party a year ago, though sufficiently liberal to command the practically united support of the Democrats. But the people resented the impudent assurance of Mr. PALMER on one hand and the Keystone party dissolved "like the baseless fabric of a vision," on the other, and the Republican candidate was successful by the greatest majority registered in the district for a quarter of a century. Possibly the Republican candidate would have been elected if PALMER had kept his obtrusive fingers out of the affair but it is a safe guess that in that event the majority would have been less.

The plain lesson of this incident is that self appointed party managers and too opinionated political adventurers are not welcomed by the rank and file of the Democratic party. As the result of many years of careful study of the subject the Democrats of Pennsylvania had created an organization which, however imperfect, was nevertheless their own creation. As a fundamental feature of this creation ample provision was made for changes in personnel and method. But elated by an accidental success in his own election last fall, Mr. PALMER imagined he could make changes by revolutionary processes. He projected his plans into the campaign in the Fourteenth Congressional district with the result that his management and the party has sustained a most crushing defeat.

PENROSE and McNICHOI are now reformers which calls to mind the fact that "when the devil was sick, the devil a monk would be." In this connection, however, it is well to remember the other half of that classical couplet which reads "when the devil got well, the devil a monk was he."

Democrats Will Gain Judges.

The final footing up of the official figures show that the Democrats at the recent election gained one Judge in Allegheny county, one in Somerset, one in Westmoreland, one in Clarion, one in Juniata and Perry, and two in Luzerne, while the Republicans gained one in York, one in Northumberland, and one in Cambria, making a net gain for the Democracy of four. In the other judicial districts, where elections occurred, no change in the political complexion of the bench is to be noted.

There is a good deal of encouragement to Democrats in this condition of affairs. It used to be that when Judges stepped upon the bench they left politics behind them and it didn't make much difference whether the candidate of one party or the other was elected. Of late years it is vastly different, however. PENROSE has come to regard the judiciary as the citadel of his power. Judges are as much a part of his machine as Senators and Assemblymen and the standard of the bench has greatly deteriorated on that account. Only a few days ago the Philadelphia Judges took orders from PENROSE, through McNICHOI, just as the tipstaff of the court might.

To the credit of the Democratic Judges of Pennsylvania it may justly be said that they have never yielded their judicial prerogatives to the censorship of the political boss. For that reason it is not to be expected that direct party advantage will be derived from the gain of three Judges in the State. But an indirect advantage is gained in that the Republican machine will no longer be able to use the courts of those districts in their political commerce. The power of evil of the machine is curtailed that much and that is something.

Eating crow isn't such a hardship to the VARES of Philadelphia. According to the statement of Brother BILL, when he was a candidate for the nomination for Mayor, they never got anything as good as crow until after they were grown up.

Another Idol Shattered.

The returns of the recent election afford an interesting subject for the analytical mind to ponder. One of the most interesting news dispatches contained in the press reports of the event was that which came from Carbon county. In that county Mr. JAMES I. BLAKESLIE has for some years posed as the Democratic political manager. Since 1905 he has been chairman of the county committee and member of the State Central committee for the county. During the intervening years he has ruled the party with a rod of iron. He has refused to give information to the State Central committee or permit an election of a successor to himself. In other words he has been "the whole cheese."

Under Mr. BLAKESLIE's administration of the office the Democratic vote in the county has been steadily diminishing. In 1906 he was able to elect himself a Representative in the Legislature which so elated him that he imagined no office was too big for him and that the control of the State organization ought to be turned over to him. In 1910 he betrayed the Democratic nominee for State Senator and was even recreant to his associates on the State ticket that year. But his absurd ambition to control the State organization continued to grow until a packed committee selected a figure head in the person of GEORGE W. GUTHRIE to the chairmanship and made him secretary of a rump committee.

Of course it was to be expected that with the new opportunities which this incident presented to him the Democratic vote of Carbon county would increase with surprising rapidity. But the contrary has proved to be the result. The news dispatch referred to informed the public that the Republican majority in the county this year is the greatest in its history. Probably Mr. BLAKESLIE was too busy trying to defeat the election of that splendid old war horse of reform, RUDOLPH BLANKENBURG, for Mayor of Philadelphia, and probably the Democratic voters are disgusted with his arrogance and inefficiency. In any event the result of the election was an overwhelming defeat of Democracy in Carbon county.

The Germans are said to be planning a rival to the Panama canal. Report has it that they will construct an ocean to ocean waterway over the Nicaragua route. From a strategical standpoint the public will be at a loss to understand what advantage such a project could be to the Germans and as a financial proposition it has already been shown that the Panama canal can't possibly be made to pay.

The SHERMAN law may need some trifling amendments but it ought not to be repealed. The trust magnates and high financiers will come to Congress during the coming session with urgent demands for the repeal of that measure and the substitution of some scheme for government control of license. But their purpose is sinister. "Beware of Greeks bearing gifts."

Wu Ting Fang, formerly a popular Chinese Ambassador in Washington, has advised the Regent to abdicate in order that a Republic may be established on the foundations of the Chinese Empire. The chances are that the Regent will not separate his own head from the crown but that Wu's head will be separated from his shoulders in the near future.

Of course Mayor BLANKENBURG, of Philadelphia, will welcome any suggestions for reform which Senator PENROSE may offer but the chances are that he will have them fumigated before he puts them close to his nose.

President TAFT went to Cincinnati on election day to save Boss Cox from defeat but we have not heard that he has since sent condolence to comfort the boss in disaster.

One of the most valuable consequences of Democratic victories is that they silence ROOSEVELT for a while.

It is worthy of remark that President TAFT is spending a few days in Washington at this time.

Last week the WATCHMAN felt good over the result of the election. This week it has reason to feel the same way over the congratulations and commendations that have come to it. Among the latter, the following from Mrs. J. T. Keithley, of Scottsdale, is particularly appreciated, because of the compliment paid the efforts of those trying to furnish its readers with "ALL the news." In renewing her subscription Mrs. Keithley writes: "Please pardon tardiness in remittance. Am glad you did not stop sending the paper, as it is the only correspondent in my old home town, that supplies me regularly with ALL the news."

A Perturbed Trust.

The American public is trying to force itself to lose something. At least that is what the Steel Trust is trying, through the medium of tainted news articles sent out from Washington, to make the country believe.

What the people are in danger of losing, according to the trust, is "economy of production." That is, the trust wants the attitude that with the entire steel industry practically controlled by one man, a great saving is effected in the cost of manufacture. And, says the trust, if the corporation is forced to dissolve, the public will lose this "economy of production."

This theory sounds good. Let us see now how it works out in practice. The American Steel and Wire company, immediately upon obtaining monopolies, doubled and trebled the prices that prevailed in 1897 or 1898, just previous to the formation of the monopolies. The present prices of tin plate, wire and wire products are still from 10 to 50 per cent higher than the prices that prevailed before the formation of the tin plate and wire trusts in 1898.

In November, 1898, when the American Tin Plate company was formed, American tin plate was selling in New York at \$2.80 a box. The present price is \$3.55. In January, 1898, three months before the American Steel and Wire Company of Illinois was formed, wire nails were selling in New York at \$1.35 a keg. They had previously sold at \$1. The present price is \$1.75. As a result of the "economy in production" which accompanied the birth of the barbed wire trust the price of that article jumped from \$1.20 per hundred pounds, in 1898, to \$4.13 in 1899. The present price is \$2.05.

The steel rail pool, to which the Steel corporation is a party, has maintained the price of steel rails rigidly at \$28 a ton every day since the Steel corporation was formed. Previously, steel rails were selling well below \$20 a ton. The formation of the Steel Trust, as these figures show, did not result in lowered prices to the consumer, now did the formation of scores of other trusts bring about reduced prices to consumers.

The rule has been that prices have advanced rapidly when trusts were formed. If, as the Steel Trust literature alleges, there were great "economies of production," they have gone to swell the trusts' profits and to pay dividends on highly watered stock.

But it is known where some of the "economies of production" went. They went to make up the twenty-nine million dollars of clear profit that J. Pierpont Morgan drew down for the part he played in organizing the Steel Trust.

Gov. Wilson and His Party.

How accurately Gov. Wilson has in his past career expressed and exemplified the demand of thorough-going Democrats, sometimes called progressives, is best shown by the extraordinary acceptance of him in the west. The reports of it, all agreeing, amaze even his strongest supporters nearer home. He stands for the view of his party's duty and interest more clearly and completely than any other public man stands for anything. So far he has also fought for it with unwavering success. It is amusing to watch his critics, after predicting defeats for him—or even proclaiming his over-throw, as they did after the New Jersey primaries—suddenly drop the subject as his battles end. It is not too much to say that he is now compelling Democrats everywhere to tell where they stand, to define their Democracy. They define it by their attitude toward him. There has been nothing else in American politics quite like his rise, nothing at once so sudden and so simple. His party has an unusual choice of candidates, but the one vital decision will be to accept or reject him. Many policies are urged upon it, but its future depends on whether it takes his side or the other side.

No Set-Back for Wilson.

To declare that the loss to the Democrats of the lower branch of the New Jersey Legislature was a heavy blow to Gov. Wilson's presidential candidacy can be believed only by those who refuse to look beneath the surface. The New Jersey house was lost because of Essex county, which is the home James Smith II., the foe of Gov. Wilson's political aspirations; and Essex county became impossible, from the Wilson point of view, the moment that Smith succeeded in nominating anti-Wilson Democrats. The Governor did not contest the county. Outside of it his followers made gains, and the Senate is more nearly Democratic than before. The fairest inference is that the Democratic party ought to be proud of Gov. Wilson because of the enemies he has made.

A Good Machine Man.

A Warren dispatch says that Representative Joseph A. Schofield has announced his candidacy for re-election and for Speaker of the House, and that at the last session of the Legislature he was "credited with being a good parliamentarian." That dispatch must have been inspired. Mr. Schofield was credited with being a good Machine man, and it is not important that a candidate for Speaker be a good parliamentarian.

The Gotham Way.

New York has recently been bothered by large flocks of mosquitoes. The people that live in New York are complaining because the mosquitoes are supposed to have been born in New Jersey. If they were native New York mosquitoes the New Yorkers would doubtless consider it a pleasure to be bitten by them.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

According to recent official figures the city of York now has an investment of \$22,415,000 in manufacturing establishments.

Another case of diphtheria has appeared in Hamburg and in spite of the precautions taken by the board of health the disease seems to be spreading.

The Cambria Steel company has received orders for steel cars totaling 2,000 all gondolas, and as a result the Franklin plant will run double turn for some time beginning Friday.

Bishop W. F. McDowell, of Chicago, will preside over the next session of the Central Pennsylvania conference of the Methodist Episcopal church, which will meet in Williamsport, March 26th, 1912.

York is a fertile county. Charles McConnell, who manages two big farms near the county seat, planted this year sixty-six acres of corn, one field of which, containing twenty-four acres, made about twenty-four hundred bushels.

A large number of Pennsylvania railroad shoppens of Altoona, have formed an organization to do co-operative buying of food-stuffs with a view to bringing down the price. It is said the purchasing fund this month amounted to over \$2,500.

The Pennsylvania Coal and Coke corporation has partly disclosed its new policy, following the reorganization, by starting the two big collieries at Ehrenfield on full time and making various improvements there looking to the welfare of the employees.

The clothing store of J. R. Goldston, Homestead, was entered by burglars who took with them when they departed \$400 in money and jewelry said to be worth \$800. The Goldston family slept above the store but the robbers did not arouse them.

Next November Pennsylvania will elect a State Treasurer and probably an Auditor General, four Congressmen-at-large, thirty-two district Congressmen, thirty-eight Presidential electors, twenty-five Senators and 207 Members of the House of Representatives.

The caravan of western Governors about to tour the east will arrive in Harrisburg on December 12th and visit the capitol, where they will be welcomed by Governor Tenner. The object of the visit east is to show the people in this section the possibilities of the western States.

As one of the results of the recent election in Luzerne county, over 150 Republicans employed in and about the court house in Wilkes-Barre will presently be looking for new jobs. One of them, Robert Robinson, clerk to the commissioners, has been holding a place in the court house for over forty years.

The debris of the Lewisburg chair factory fire is rapidly being cleared away and owners of the property are planning to build larger and better than ever. This new finishing building will be 200 by 200 feet in time and will be three-stories in height. It will be either all steel or of steel and concrete.

The body of a murdered man was found in a Beaver county well the other day. Various persons who have looked at it say it is all that is left of a gambler who had been in the habit of joining foreigners in card games on pay day and winning their money. Some of the losers probably made away with him.

John Henry Blymyer, aged 34 years, of Yeagertown, was fatally injured at the Standard Steel works, Burnham, a few days ago, when a belt flew off a machine, releasing an iron pin which struck him on the jaw bone, breaking it and causing concussion of the brain. He died without regaining consciousness.

Gordon Heberling, aged 15 years, of Clearfield, while out hunting last week, as a result of an accidental discharge of his gun had his right hand so badly lacerated by shot that it had to be amputated three inches above the wrist. Several shot hit him in the neck, and but for a goitre would likely have resulted fatally.

Larry Yapple, of Jonestown, is one of the champion trappers in Columbia county and so far this season has secured 40 muskrats and three minks. The hide of these animals bring a good price and the carcasses of the muskrats can be easily disposed of in the city restaurants where they are served as a fancy dish.

For the second time within a year the post-office at Wilberne was visited by burglars. They used dynamite, shattering the lower part of the safe and blowing out the front of the office. They secured a sum of money and stamps, but hadn't succeeded in getting into the upper part of the safe when they were frightened away.

Joseph Curbanhook, of Snow Shoe, died in the Lock Haven hospital at 2:30 o'clock Saturday morning of injuries received in an accident on Wednesday. He was admitted to that institution in a serious condition and there was little hope that he would recover. Undertaker E. B. Waters prepared the body for burial, after which undertaker William Kessinger, of Mill Hall, took charge of the remains and shipped them to Snow Shoe for burial.

A mortgage for \$2,000,000 has been filed in the office of the recorder of deeds at Williamsport, as well as in several other counties, by the Northumberland County Traction company to secure an issue of five per cent, 40-year, sinking fund, gold bonds of \$1,000 each. This would indicate that the recently merged traction interest propose extending their system up the West Branch valley as well as through North Branch valley to Wilkes-Barre.

John E. Shields, sheriff of Westmoreland county, who was recently convicted of permitting prisoners to escape, and of perjury and malfeasance in office, in connection with the coal strike in the Irwin field, has been sentenced to two years and four months in the western penitentiary. He will also be deprived of his office to which he was re-elected last Tuesday the 7th, receiving the second highest vote in the county.

Colonel John G. Freeze, the oldest member of the Columbia county bar association, on Saturday quietly celebrated his eighty-third birthday anniversary at his home, corner of Third and Centre streets. Mr. Freeze spent the day quietly and made several trips to the court house, where he received congratulations from a host of friends. Despite his advanced age, Colonel Freeze still enjoys good health and attends to business every day. For the past 25 years he has been president of the Columbia county bar association.

An unknown autoist, passing through Mill Hall and Beech Creek, Clinton county, on Tuesday had a chapter of accidents. First he met a farmer driving a spirited team hitched to a wagon load of corn. The horses frightened, throwing their driver, who was picked up with his arm broken. Then he went on and met two men coming from the polls in a buggy. Their horse also frightened and both were thrown out. One was 60 years old and the other was an aged man. Both were painfully bruised. None of the injured attached any blame to the man in the auto.

The miners of the Pennsylvania Coal and Coke company at Armsby, Cambria county, are out on a strike because of trouble over the employment of motormen. They held a meeting Monday morning, were addressed by Board Member Robert Baxter, formerly of Portage but now of Altoona, but on adjourning the announcement was made that no plan of action was decided upon. The miners predict that unless the difficulty is settled all the miners of the company will go out. The company officials state that all but thirteen of the miners at Armsby have been paid off. A few men are working keeping the engines and pumps working.