

The cloud of mystery overhanging the fate of the hundreds of thousands of dollars contributed for the benefit of the flood sufferers in the Conemaugh valley should be dispelled immediately by the person who is solely able to do so—Governor Beaver. The public have a right to know what he did with their money and an account of every cent contributed should be given.

This administration is not so much "dead gone" on the old soldiers as some people seem to think. An illustration of this fact was seen last week when Postmaster Quigley of Miners' Mills was removed from office because he was a Democrat, and in his stead was appointed a man who was quietly enjoying life under Queen Victoria when Mr. Quigley was fighting for the country.

Chicago's desire to eclipse Brooklyn, and possibly Philadelphia, in the next census, is becoming ridiculous. It began by annexing the whole northern portion of the state and calling it Chicago, although the St. Louis papers claim some of the people now living within the city limits have never been nearer than twenty miles of the city proper. But that causes no uneasiness to the average Chicagoan, who will sacrifice almost everything to make the Lake City second in population next year.

We knew that Harrison's administration was not very well received by the people of this country, but to think that the Republicans, in convention assembled, would cut it off without a word of approval is more than the followers of Jefferson and Jackson could ever expect. The protection harangue is also conspicuous by its absence from the resolutions. Mark the difference that will exist between their milk-and-water sentiments and the bold and fearless demands Democracy will fling to the breeze next Tuesday. They won't forget Harrison!

From the reports of the proceedings of the state and county conventions held recently the work began by the National Democratic Convention last year is not to be relaxed. The cause of tariff reform and a pure ballot is receiving an emphatic endorsement by Democrats everywhere. The G. O. P. conventions still proclaim that the Republican is the great and only party of reform and good morals, and yet they refuse to assist the greatest reform of the age. Inconsistency and Republicanism always did go hand in hand, brazenly marching along in "blocks of five."

The Easton *Call* hit the nail squarely on the head when it said: Not a week passes that we are not asked why we haven't lampooned some individual who has made himself unpleasantly conspicuous. In nine cases out of ten if the grumbler had been in the same predicament he or some friend of his would have waited upon us with the polite request "Please keep that little trouble of mine out of the paper." It's all very nice to see someone else get rapped in the newspapers, but when it comes home how eager we are to avoid it. There don't seem to be much charity for the unfortunate in this Christian city.

The biggest game of bluff Harrison & Co. has yet tried was the order sent by Postmaster General Wannamaker to President Green of the Western Union, notifying the latter that all government despatches sent hereafter would be paid for at the rate of one mill per word, instead of one cent per word, which is the present rate. The government has the privilege of fixing its own telegraph tolls, and the reduction to one mill per word caused great astonishment throughout the country. However, President Green returned a prompt protest against any such action and Wannamaker quietly rescinded his order. It is presumed that the campaign book at the G. O. P. national headquarters was examined and the Western Union's check for \$— found; hence the cowardly backdown.

The Republican platform of Ohio, Pennsylvania, Iowa and Virginia say not a word about civil service reform. Within the last three or four years Republican conventions in those states have passed unbecoming resolutions in favor of that reform. The platform of the Republican National Convention of 1888 had some very edifying remarks upon the subject, but of course all this was mere bait for votes. As soon as the Republicans got control of the government again their pretended interest in civil reform had a decline of about 99 per cent. As a means of bothering and hampering Democratic officials, civil service reform had its uses. It was worth while to seem to encourage it and to affect a pious horror at the sad and scandalous disregard for it shown by the wicked Democrats, but as soon as the Republican administration came into power the case was changed. Since then the Republicans have had no use for civil service reform.

### Not as Black as We're Painted.

The frequent allusions of newspapers and people situated outside of the portion of Pennsylvania known as the "coal regions" proves that the once prevailing impression as to the character of this section has not yet been entirely eliminated. No sooner is a murder or crime of any kind committed than exaggerated accounts of the same are sent broadcast throughout the country. It matters not whether the deed was done at the northern extremity of Lackawanna County or on the borders of Dauphin it is at once attributed to that "uncivilized and lawless territory" known as the "coal regions." While no objections could possibly be made against the chronicling of such matters, when truthful, yet the manner in which they are published cannot but help lowering the inhabitants of the "coal regions" in the estimation of those not acquainted with the whole facts. When it is remembered that the "coal regions" extend diagonally across one-half the state, embracing several counties with a total population of more than 700,000, it can be seen at a glance the injustice done by crediting every misdemeanor that occurs within such limits in the same sense as if it happened in any certain town. An illustration of this huddling together of one-fourth of the state's crimes was shown last week by a Philadelphia penny-a-liner, who considered it his bounden duty to write up the results of a general pay-day in the "coal regions." Imagination was never given a wider scope and a few drunken quarrels in Carbondale, Plymouth and Shenandoah was sufficient material for the writer to work upon and describe the "terrible monthly scenes" to be witnessed in the "coal regions." It might be considered ludicrous were it not for the effect such reports produce upon the minds of readers, who are apt to judge all by the few persons held up to their view. Had the writer of the article referred to feel inclined to walk around the block from his office he could have seen sights that would make the most hardened resident of the "coal regions" blush with shame. Comparisons, however, are odious, and it is not necessary to produce them. There probably was a time when this part of the state deserved the condemnation it received, but that time is long since past. Statistics taken from the courts of the "coal regions" will prove that the lawlessness reported to exist here can be surpassed by any other portion of the country containing the same number of people.

### The Sealskin Monopoly.

Nearly twenty years ago, through the Republican congress and president who had control of the government then, a corporation obtained the exclusive right of seal fishing in Alaskan waters. The time limit of this monopoly will soon expire and it is intended to request congress to renew the lease for twenty years longer. It is pertinent to ask why this should be done. Why should the government grant a monopoly of seal fishing over thousands of miles of coast to one body of men to the exclusion of all other men? Why should it not, with equal propriety, grant a monopoly of coal fishing, or grouse shooting, or bear hunting? The plea is that the seals must be protected from extermination. Very well. Let the government protect them as governments protect fish and other game, not by confining the right to kill them to a single corporate monopoly, but by forbidding anybody to kill them during each year's close season, and making the close season sufficiently long to afford the necessary security against extermination. The monopoly device is unjust, tyrannical and corrupting. It is unjust to all citizens who desire to engage in the business, but are forbidden to do so. It is oppressive to all purchasers of the product, compelling them to buy of men exempt from competition. It sets up a vested interest to buy the privileges it wants. Congress should make an end of this granting of class privilege by legislative enactment, but it is more than we can expect while Republican rule is dominant.

### Legalized Wrong.

Another reason why I am willing to drop the pen and retire is the utter hopelessness of such a contest. In our government of parties a canvass of education is a farce. The American citizen has no turn for study and no time for thought. In the conquest of a continent we have come to be delvers in dust. A race of shopkeepers, said the great Napoleon, makes a nation of thieves. We turn from an abstract, economic subject in patient disgust to look lovingly on a locomotive, or to send orders through the telegraph or telephone for a consignment of eggs and potatoes. We can not be made to recognize the fact that all the woes that have afflicted humanity for a thousand years of abuse in Europe are being rapidly concentrated here. We mouth at times—mainly on the Fourth of July—about our free institutions, in certain pet phrases, forgetting that all the wretchedness and sin afflicting humanity come from the unequal distribution of property. We can have all our free institutions intact and yet see the foul spawn of millions hatched into sharks, while the masses live only to be fed upon. Time was, within the memory of living men, when we had two millionaires to wonder at, and deaths from starvation and suicides from despair were unknown. Indeed, we can have these free institutions, as the fathers gave them to us, and have them sanction these very evils. A hundred and sixty thousand miles of railroads, distributing the entire products of the country, are under the control and literally the ownership of less than sixty families, and this fearful monopoly comes from and depends upon the franchise given by the government. Our telegraph system belongs to one man. The amount of money paid over to private interests and taken yearly from the masses is large enough yearly to liquidate the national debt. This takes no account

of trusts, that cover all we eat, wear and use as clothing or shelter, for they have grown up outside and in defiance of law. Legalized wrong is our great enemy, for we suffer more from the power of abuse than in the abuse of power. A wrong one recognized by law destroys the foundation of the very power to which we must appeal for a remedy.—*Don Platt's Retiring Essay.*

### Protection at Home.

We needn't inquire into the results of the protective tariff away down East, or in other states, for we have it right here in this and adjoining counties. With free trade for raw silk we have extensive and flourishing silk mills at Mauch Chunk, Weatherly, Catasauqua, Allentown, Bethlehem and Stroudsburg, employing probably 2500 to 3000 hands and paying over half a million dollars a year in wages. With high tariff tax on raw wool we have not even as much as the smallest kind or semblance of a woolen mill within fifty miles of the Lehigh Valley, whilst the demand for woolen goods is twenty times as much as the demand for silk goods! Who else than a natural fool or a pitiful party bigot can stand up before the public to be counted in favor of such protection as the kind we have under the existing monopoly and trust system? But, there are men of respectability, who can read and write, and who wear good clothes, and know that twice two makes four—even business men, church-goers and leaders of society, who insist upon it that the tariff as it exists "protects labor, builds up home markets, stimulates business and industries" and overweighs the people with prosperity and plenty! They believe it all because the G. O. P. bosses, manipulators and office-brokers tell them so!—*Mauch Chunk Democrat.*

### Correspondence From the Capital.

WASHINGTON, August 27, 1889.  
The Speakership contest is beginning to make itself heard in the lobbies of the Capitol and about the hotels, and the McKinley statisticians are beginning to haul out a few figures themselves. The expectation that Pennsylvania would be almost solid to a man has been blighted by the discovery that the prevailing political influence in the State is for Reed. It is nevertheless assumed that three Pennsylvania Republicans will vote for the Stark County Napoleon. The trio embraces Judge Kelley, John Dalzell, and the "Old Iron Grey of Somerset," Edward Scull. Kelley is presumed to believe that his only chance of securing the chairmanship of the Ways and Means Committee is by the election of McKinley. He can hardly hope for this chairmanship if a Western candidate is the Speaker. If Reed is made Speaker, McKinley is almost certain to get the coveted chairmanship, whereas if McKinley is chosen Reed will be restored to his old place as chairman of the Judiciary Committee, leaving the way open for Kelley's appointment as a successor to Roger Q. Mills, as tariff manager.

Now for the figures. Ohio is put down as solid with sixteen votes. Ten out of the nineteen Southern Republicans added, which, with three from Minnesota, three from Pennsylvania, three from New York, two from Nebraska, one from New Jersey, and one from Indiana (T. M. Browne), makes a total of thirty-nine. This total is not appalling in its magnitude, but is said to represent the sure support, with enough reasonable certainty, to give McKinley half a hundred on the first ballot. This is not a bad showing if a half dozen candidates are presented to the caucus, for at the outside it will require only eighty-five to nominate and possibly less.

### CONTESTED SEATS.

Another of the contested election cases is grinding away at the Capitol. It is the Fourth West Virginia. The certificate is held by Hon. J. M. Jackson, and his opponent is Hon. Charles B. Smith, of Parkersburg. But three votes stand between Mr. Jackson's victory and Mr. Smith's defeat—the same number which separates the Republicans from the Democrats in the coming Congress.

"About the contest for my seat?" said Judge Jackson in the lobby of the National last evening. "Mr. Smith and I have got in all our testimony, and I feel entirely confident of the safety of my seat, but I want it to be decided fairly and squarely before Congress. It is a little too early to say much about the House. Undoubtedly the Republicans will try to change the rules and seat all their contestants early in the session. To do this it will be necessary to have an audacious man in the chair. Neither Cannon nor McKinley can be relied upon to do the unconstitutional acts, therefore I believe that Reed will be made Speaker. He is bold enough to declare a quorum, as did Keifer, by saying that he sees one present, whether a quorum votes or not. The Democrats should act entirely on the defensive and insist that matters shall take their accustomed course and that the old rules shall govern. But then the new States are yet to be heard from. Several Republican members are already hors du combat. We had better wait."

### TO BUILD UP THE NAVY.

The Secretary of the Navy has appointed a board who shall formulate and report to him a general plan for building up the Navy. The Secretary of War has also shown an interest in the subject of national defense and ordered that the vast useless possessions of the War Department be disposed of and turned into something available for modern fighting purposes. All this is encouraging and there appears to be a degree of interest in the subject of national defense. It is a good proposition to sell all our useless stuff. Let us see what American ingenuity has done. The problem of coast defenses is especially an important one, and it should be attended to at once. The emergency does not exist to-day, but it may exist to-morrow.

### DON'T STINT YOUR STOMACH.

By Eating Enough You Increase Your Chances of Good Health.

A physician, writing on the food necessary to give strength and sustenance, says that if a person uses up his brain faster than he makes it he soon becomes nervous and irritable. If he does not assimilate enough food to supply his demands his mind is sure to become weak. The healthiest and strongest individuals, even should eat a far greater proportion of meat than of vegetable food. Beef should be taken as the standard meat. It answers every purpose of the system. Veal and pork are not as easily digested. Pork, so far as its composition goes, is an excellent food for nervous persons, but it is not readily digested. Yet, in the army, we used to think nothing better for the wounded men than bacon. As a rule, salt meat is not adapted to the requirements of the nervous individual. Nutritious juices to a great extent go into the brain.

The flesh of wild birds is more tender and more readily digested than that of domestic ones. This is accounted for by the greater amount of exercise they take, thereby renewing their flesh more rapidly and making it more tender. The fat of birds which lead a more quiet life. This is a suggestion that might be of benefit to women of sedentary habits who are desirous of prolonging an appearance of youth. Fish of all kinds is a good food for the nervously inclined.

A notion has been prevalent that many persons injure their digestion by eating too much. The fact is that most people don't eat enough. There are more people killed every year by insufficiency of nourishment than by overloading their stomachs. Many of those who do eat a sufficient quantity are prevented by disease from digesting enough for the economy of their systems. The very first thing for anyone to do who has exhausted himself by mental work or who has been born weak and irritable is to furnish his brain with sufficient nourishment to either repair the damage it has sustained or to build it into strong, healthy condition. People in this condition usually suffer from nervous dyspepsia. Their stomachs are unable to perform the labor of assimilation. Owing to the deficient nerve power of the individual the food lies in the stomach unacted upon by the gastric juice because there is none or the quantity is insufficient to have any power. Food, instead of helping to build the body, and the nervous system with the rest, undergoes fermentation, and the body and brain it should nourish may starve. The person is in worse state than if the food had not been taken, for the fermentation generates acids and gas.

Nervous individuals may derive all the fat they need from sugar and starch. It is better, however, for those with weak digestive organs, or whose nerves are in a highly sensitive state, to get it from the animal kingdom than compel their enfeebled stomachs, intestines and pancreas to create it out of these articles. Good bread, sweet butter and meat are the best foods for the nerves.

People troubled with insomnia, nervous starting from sleep and sensations of falling, can often be cured by limiting themselves to a diet of milk alone for a time. An adult should take a pint for a meal, and take four meals daily. People with weakened nerves require, usually, a larger quantity of water than those whose brains and nerves are strong. It aids in the digestion of food by making it soluble, and seems to have a direct tonic effect.

With proper eating and drinking we should have fewer broken down, nervous wrecks, and far more vigorous intellects. The present human species can not eliminate flesh from its food and amount to a row of pins. The fancy that nothing but vegetables should be eaten is apt to overtake everyone somewhere in life. It is due to some disorganization, and usually passes away with the disturbance that creates it.

### Miseries of High Life!

Mrs. Westend—Oh, such a time as I do have with nurses. I've discharged three this week for not keeping the children quiet, and it hasn't done a bit of good.

Mrs. Tiptop—I notice the noise from the nursery is terrible. Well, have the same trouble, and my maid, who is getting deaf, actually refuses to be treated for it. I can't see what sort of creatures these child's nurses can be. They don't seem to have a bit of sense. I actually caught one buying cheap candy with her own money to keep the little angels quiet. Just think of the impudence of the thing—putting cheap candy into the delicate stomachs of my children. Well, I said I'd discharge her if she repeated that offense, and what do you suppose she did next? Why, when they began to yell and kick at her for not buying them a locomotive and cars big enough to ride in, she actually threatened to have their father whip them, just as if she, a common, ignorant nurse, had a right to keep their father, my husband, at her beck and call. No wonder the children laughed, and then yelled louder than ever. Even they could see the effrontery of the thing.

Mrs. Westend—Well, I'd send her flying. Dear me! What a racket! Hark! Ah! I understand it now. That miserable creature who calls herself a nurse is trying to stand little Billy in the corner for nothing. Isn't it awful? Now, if she hits him I'll just send for the police—I just will. I shan't be contented with a simple discharge. It's high time these creatures were taught a lesson.

Mrs. Tiptop—I think so, too. No wonder the little dears learn to yell and kick and bite when they have such examples set them. They see it's a mere question of physical strength—brute force—of course they do. Why don't these nurses keep the children amused? That's what they are hired to do. Well, I must hurry, for I have an engagement at the intelligence office for this hour. I want if possible to get a nurse to replace the one I have now. Since dear little Bobby kicked her shins black and blue, she has hated him and it almost breaks my heart to hear the poor little fellow cry.—*Philadelphia Record.*

### An Insulted Man.

"Gus De Smith is very angry at you; he says you insulted him at the railroad depot the other day," remarked Hostetter McGinnis to Gilbooth. "Yes, and I'll insult him worse still if I can lay my hands on him. The miserable scoundrel saw me going off with my mother-in-law on one arm and my wife on the other, and he asked me if I wasn't going on a pleasure trip."—*Texas Siftings.*

### CALIFORNIA DIAMONDS.

An Australian Diamond Hunter Beginning Work in Amador.

"Just take a look at this big diamond," remarked Henry Vidal, the mining superintendent of Amador, to a representative of the San Francisco *Examiner*.

Mr. Vidal exhibited in a paper taken from his vest pocket three magnificent clear white stones. Pointing his long index finger to the largest of the three, which seemed half the size of a big hazelnut, he added:

"Now where do you suppose I got that? Nowhere else than on Dry Creek, up in Amador County, and, by the way, do you know that there is a genuine diamond country up there?"

"There are also diamonds found on the Feather River, in the vicinity of Cherokee. There are not many people who know this. Nine people out of ten, perhaps, in California, if you were to ask them whether or not there were any diamonds in this State, would say: 'Of course not; there are no diamonds to speak of this side of Cape Town.' All the same they will be mistaken."

"About this place of Cherokee which I speak of as many as sixty or seventy diamonds have been found in the course of gravel. About as many have been found at Volcano, on Dry Creek. There there is a peculiar conglomerate that has gold in it, and in this conglomerate, if you take a glass, you can see pulverized diamonds in considerable quantities."

"Are these good diamonds?" was asked.

"Well, you see what these are. They have been pronounced by experts equal to the average taken out of Cape Town. These experts, however, who have examined the ground up there are of the opinion that these diamonds have been brought from a distance. Just where is the question. All the country is tossed and turned up. Ancient rivers, mountains, and valleys have been tipped and twisted at all angles and coated over in many places with lava."

"Both the points I speak of lie only a short distance from the western base of the Sierra Nevada Mountains. Whether high in the peaks of the Sierras there are better and more diamonds cannot now be told. Whether practical diamond-hunters will ere long go to Cherokee and Volcano and make a business of digging for diamonds, however, is, I think, another matter. Too many have already been found to let the country go by default."

"I am an old resident of Amador and have watched the progress of things there since the first diamonds were found ten years ago. I have always said that diamond-mining would become a business in California, and now I am backed up by the arrival of Donald MacPherson from Australia. MacPherson has been mining for diamonds at the Antipodes, and he is now on Dry Creek sizing up the situation."

"There are two or three other Australians with him. They have been experimenting with the conglomerate, and while they have kept pretty quiet it is understood that they are well pleased with their investigations. They have brought five acres of ground, and it is said that within a month or two they will begin work there with quite a force of men. I predict that they will find diamonds in sufficient quantities to handsomely pay them, and that within a year diamond-mining will be a business in Amador and Butte Counties."

### The Oyster.

The oyster is not quite the laziest animal known, but he is very nearly so, and he affords a striking illustration of the degeneracy that comes from indolence, since he has gradually lost by disuse nearly all his "faculties" except that of choosing and digesting his food. He looks like an inert and unorganized mass of jelly, but in fact he has a complete animal organization, including heart, liver, lungs, mouth and stomach, and something that answers for eyes and a thousand or more fibrous arms. But all his organs seem calculated to serve the one general purpose of feeding and nourishing the system—and perpetuating his race. The latter aim is accomplished by means of eggs, of which a female oyster lays from 1,000,000 to 3,000,000 in a season. The eggs, called "spat" by the oystermen, are expelled from the shell in a glutinous liquid which holds them together in masses called "white spat." The spat becomes impregnated while in the water, and the eggs soon hatch. In its earliest infancy the little oyster is very lively and swims about near the surface of the water. He is nearly as translucent as the water itself, but he undergoes perils of every description and the millions are much diminished before his career is fairly started. After swimming about a short time he sinks to the bottom of the water where he attaches himself to some hard substance—a stone or an oyster shell—and begins to be an oyster indeed as well in truth. He never migrates after this, but continues to grow, rapidly at first and very slowly afterward, for a period variously estimated. The oyster in the market is usually five or six years old.—*Good Housekeeping.*

### Eugenie.

Empress Eugenie, drawn by a Paris special correspondent on the spot: "A fragile form, veiled and robed in black, a pallid face, and snow-white hair, and the infirm gait of a rheumatic invalid—such is the image now presented by her who was the famous beauty and the world's queen of fashion some twenty years ago."

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