

Quill Points.

The most striking things of the year will doubtless be the labor unions.

The eight hour strike has already been running two weeks. There seems to be a mistake in the time somewhere.

Our congressmen are preparing a silvery lining to the financial cloud that hangs over the heads of western producers.

In the death of Samuel J. Randall the democratic party has lost one of its most able, though, unfortunately, of late years, not one of its most influential leaders.

Ballot reform is a necessary thing, and every man who believes in pure politics will work for it; but the scandalous bribery at the recent primary elections in Portland shows that it is the voter himself who stands the most in need of reformation.

The first real battle ground between sectarianism and the American common school system has been chosen, and Wisconsin is called upon by every true American, be he of native or foreign birth, to be true to the fundamental principles of our great republic.

Every true American will hail with joy the new Republic of Central America, formed by Nicaragua, Guatemala, Honduras, San Salvador and Costa Rica, five independent republics that have joined in a union as one nation, similar to the union formed by our own sovereign states.

A page editorial in the San Francisco Argonaut of April 7 is the rankest piece of "weing" and "ouring" that ever fell under Quill's notice. It passes beyond the ridiculous and becomes unconscious burlesque. The head of a man who could write such stuff in dead earnest would squeeze a bushel basket out of shape.

Emboldened by the success of Senator Blair in talking his educational bill to death, Senator Evarts started in on the Montana question after every one else had finished, and so loaded it down with his multi-jointed sentences that it was necessary to dig it out before a vote could be taken. The country pays a good round sum every year for useless talk.

English courts have the reputation of giving queer whitewashing decisions where necessary to protect the

reputation of officials and others identified with the government; but when, as in the case of Chaplain White, the judge blandly announces that he believes both stories of two people who swear directly opposite to each other, and dismisses the entire case, we are compelled to stand in silent admiration.

The Mormon elders advise the saints in Utah to kill two birds with one stone. To prevent their fortunes from wasting away and to advance the kingdom of God are the birds, and to put their property into the hands of the elders is the stone. But the saints are fearful that they would be one of the defunct birds themselves, and that when they needed their fortunes again for bread the elders would give them another kind of stone.

There is a difference of opinion between C. P. Huntington and Creed Haymond as to whether the Southern Pacific dabbled in politics financially when Stanford was elected to the United States senate. Creed says not, but the public will be inclined to believe Mr. Huntington, who, as vice-president and manager of the company, was in an excellent position to know a little about it. Huntington has taken a cue from the Presbyterians and will change his Creed for some other man to stand at the head of his law department.

Those people who think the school book question has any peculiarity here not to be found elsewhere, are invited to consider the following paragraph from the *Burlington Hawkeye*:

There's nothing like having plenty of legislation. If anything goes wrong, introduce a bill. For fear something may go wrong in this imperfect world, introduce a bill anyhow. Senator Finn says that the committee on schools have before them bills of state uniformity, district uniformity, county uniformity and township uniformity, and the only bill unprovided for is family uniformity, and he anticipates such a bill early in the week.

Schweinfurth, the pretended Christ, of Rockford, Illinois, says that his adherents are increasing in numbers rapidly. That is to be expected. No sham is so absurd nor doctrine so inhuman or unreasonable but it will receive the honest and zealous adherence of thousands. The religious instinct in humanity is deeply seated and various in its manifestations. It must not, however, be argued that the rapid spread or tenacious hold of a religion is any evidence of its divine origin, else would we have a score of divinely ordained religions mutually incompatible and neutralizing.