

Some people court trouble so long that they come to think they are married to it.

Every time Judge LOVE looks at those figures from Clearfield, the question comes to him: "Am I to be the next?"

After all there is some consolation in not being ANDREW CARNEGIE. No one pokes at us a tax-bill of \$141,367.

The queer thing about it is that the President has recognized the government of Panama before it has been able to recognize itself.

Monday was the day fixed for Hon. "Joe" CANNON to go off, but so far we have not heard of any damage being done by the report.

Whatever else we may say or think about ourselves as Pennsylvanians the election returns furnish the evidence that most of us would rather be rotten than right.

Tammany may be tough, as our Republican friends charge, but even with all its toughness it don't propose that New York shall be LOW during the next two years like it has been the past two.

Science has discovered, by radiometer experiments, that the heat from Saturn equals that of a fallow dip ten miles away. Saturn must be about as blistering hot as the ordinary Philadelphia reform movement.

After considering carefully the complete returns from Pennsylvania, we are forced to the conclusion that General APATHY accomplished more than all the others leaders combined. Here are our congrats' to General A!

Somehow or other the Stock market don't seem to waken up to the fact that the party of "progress and prosperity" won such a "glorious victory" on the 3rd inst. And the Stock market is usually as quick to see a point as any one else.

Senator HANNA threatens to throw the next individual who mentions the Presidency to him out of the "sixth-story window," which leads us to conclude that the connection of his name with this office, is influencing the old cock to roost rather high.

The Democrats who insist that there ought to be a better Democratic organization within the State than there is, is right—clearly right. And the way to get it is for each one of these fellows to begin the "bettering" process right in his own district.

While it might not be rapturously consoling it should at least keep Judge BELL, of Blair county, from swelling up with egotism to occasionally remember that the voters of his district, by a majority of 1713, declared their preference for another kind of a Judge.

It is truly wonderful how many impure food dealers that press-bureau, of Dr. WARREN, has been able to discover, and how infinitely few the courts have any knowledge of. Really it is beginning to look as if that press-bureau is the only thing at work in the Department of Agriculture.

SAM PARKS, the walking delegate, who is "doing" time in Sing-Sing for robbing labor organizations and black-mailing employers, may mourn his fate, but he still has the consolation of knowing there are others just as deserving of it as he. SAMUEL is not the only black sheep in that flock.

The Clearfield elections evidently has put a little life into the supposedly extinct judicial boom of Col. EDWARD CHAMBERS. The wriggle in the tail of it, since the GORDON turn-down, shows that it is not as dead as those who thought they had it scotched imagined. It may not be dangerous but still it lives.

One might imagine from the amount of straw hail that has been put up in Philadelphia that that city was as prolific in its agricultural products as in its election day repeaters and its dealers in white slaves. But then for recognized greatness in any crooked business Philadelphia has never yet failed to "take the cake."

JOHN BRISBANE WALKER, of the Coshopolitan, should shake off the shivers that come over him when contemplating how Russia may wipe us off the map when it gets its horde of Chinese trained as fighters. Mr. BRISBANE evidently don't know that we have a Major General CHARLES MILLER, in this country, or he wouldn't be soared.

Since the slump in the value of political Judges, as shown by the Clearfield elections, his Honor, Judge LOVE, has been busy re-margining his stock and praying for some power that will aid him in "bulling" the market for the next twelve months. Really it looks as if stock in a political judgeship is little, if any, better than in Lake Superior or Steel common, and the fellow who is loaded with all of these has a hopeless out-look indeed.

Verily our faith in the efforts and efficacy of the pulp it has received a discouraging back set. The Shamokin goat that breakfasted, last Sunday morning, on Rev. JOHN DOHENY's sermon, is said to be just as "wicked and wayward" as ever. Now if a belly-full of sermons wont faze the devilishness of a billy-goat, how can we expect the little the public gets of them to prove of lasting benefit to the equally stubborn, even if more intelligent, creatures who listen to them.

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Don't Get Gay.

The esteemed Philadelphia Press imagines that it is having all kinds of fun with the editor of the WATCHMAN on account of his analysis of the vote of the several States, and of this State, at the recent election published last week.

As a matter of fact later returns confirmed our estimate, hastily made last week, that there are abundant reasons for Democratic exultation over the result of the election. Not a fissure has been made in the Democratic entrenchments in the South.

In this State we have only to add to our presentation of the situation that an esteemed Harrisburg contemporary reminds us that we overlooked Dauphin county in our estimate. In the second district of that county, with three Representatives in the Legislature, the Republican machine was defeated by nearly five hundred majority and the organization of Democrats and Independent Republicans which achieved that result is to be continued so that next year there is certain to be a loss to the machine of three Assemblymen there.

Altogether we have nothing to retract from our former estimate. Admitting the claim of the Press that the Republicans won back the Bucks, and Wayne-Susquehanna senatorial districts, and adding the Dauphin and Cumberland Democratic gains, which were overlooked, to our list of Representative districts, it still leaves a net gain for the Democracy of One Judicial district.

Two Congressional districts, Two Senatorial districts, And twelve Representative districts. This certainly should be sufficient to at least admonish our Philadelphia contemporary that it is not exactly a condition which would justify it in getting to gay.

Col. NED CHAMBERS, gives every appearance of believing that if he could only get a chance to run for Judge that he could show himself to be in the Lou Dillon class. But then there is often a great difference between what some fellows think and what they can do.

Bane of Organized Labor.

On his way to Sing Sing penitentiary the other day, SAM PARKS, the New York walking delegate who has been levying tribute upon the workmen of that city and blackmail on their employers for several years, halted the melancholy procession long enough to utter a word of admonition to his victims. Don't do as I have done, he said, or you will all come to where I am going. In other words he cautioned them against the vice of avarice because, as he stated it, that will not only bring them into trouble as individuals but it will ultimately work the destruction of labor organizations. No truer word has ever been spoken and though it came from a bad source it is none the less worthy of attention.

The bane of labor organizations at present is the walking delegate, the legislative agent, the lobbyist or to sum them all up in one general characterization, the man who draws a salary. Probably, as PARKS said himself, when those men are first put in position they are honest, earnest, sincere. But before they are long in the place they learn to think that the paramount use of a labor organization is to maintain themselves in luxurious idleness and they forget the interests of their associates in the anxiety to better their own condition. From that time on they simply manipulate labor conditions for their own personal advantage and reap the harvest for themselves out of the sorrows of their fellows.

We have seen it in this State dozens of times. TERENCE V. POWDERLY grew opulent in purse and powerful in politics by farming the Knights of Labor and JOHN JARRETT, as president of the Amalgamated Association of Iron and Tin workers, made himself rich as his fellow workmen grew poor. GARLAND, who succeeded JARRETT, worked himself into the office of Surveyor of the Port at Pittsburgh and SHAEFER, the present incumbent of the station, has been paving the way for a similar soft snap for himself. And so it goes and has gone from the beginning. If the labor organizations want to continue they will cut off the pensioners at once.

An Extraordinary Action.

The extraordinary action of President ROOSEVELT in declaring a protectorate over the mushroom Republic of Panama will promptly and properly be made a subject of congressional investigation. It is suspected that in his zeal to consummate the negotiations for the Panama canal, the President had something to do with projecting the so-called revolution and the haste with which he declared the protectorate justifies the suspicion. It is to be hoped, however, that the investigation will disprove the accusation. Such a thing would be a grave violation of the principles of international law and though it may not involve us in serious war, it would certainly provoke the contempt of the civilized world.

It is a well established rule among the nations, which recognize the principles of civilization, that it is the duty of every country to discourage revolutions and other forms of disturbance of peace and tranquillity. This rule is essential to the preservation of order and authority. In its absence there would be constant conspiracies among nations influenced by covetousness and sordid passions, to provoke revolutions in order that the stronger might acquire the weaker by conquest growing out of services in defence or attack. That the United States should be the first in many years to violate this manifestly just rule of conduct would be a subject of humiliation to all the people of the country.

But that is no reason to doubt the President's culpability in the matter in mind. He has already proved in a hundred ways an utter indifference to the obligations of his office. Even before he became President, and while yet serving as Governor of New York, he refused to obey the constitutional mandate which requires the Governor of one State to surrender to the authorities of another a man accused of crime and a fugitive from justice. Since his accidental and calamitous elevation to the Presidency he has frequently shown an utter disregard of his moral and official duties and if he has, in order to serve a selfish purpose or feed his inordinate vanity, violated his oath of office and his obligations to the world, he ought to be brought to account for the grave offense at the earliest moment possible.

Hon. JOHN SHARP WILLIAMS, has been chosen as the minority leader in Congress, from which it is but natural to infer that there will be some cutting work done by the Democrats.

Snyder's Fall Vote.

Senator WILLIAM P. SNYDER, the Republican candidate for Auditor General, fell 13,357 behind his associates on the ticket—hardly enough to "make it worthy of mention." There are hundreds of reasons in his devious course in the Legislature why he should have been opposed by even the strictest partisans. His constant obedience to the commands of corporate interests, his utter indifference to his obligations of office and citizenship, and his absolute servility to the machine should have produced that result, but it didn't.

Finally it was confidently believed that his active support of the press muzzler would influence a considerable number of votes against him. Immediately after the passage of that measure the Republican editors of the State were unanimous in their denunciation of it as a culminating atrocity. They urged the organization of newspaper men into a body for the purpose of manifesting their reprobation of any man who supported the iniquity, and they fairly frothed with indignation whenever the subject was brought into notice. Later in the campaign they showed the servility of the Republican press by accepting SNYDER as a proper candidate and gave to him the same support they gave the other candidates on that ticket.

The inference is that rancorous party bigotry has taken so complete a hold on the average Republican, whether newspaper publisher or not, that nothing will turn him from his party ticket. Senator SNYDER has shown his unfitness for the office of Auditor General by his zealous service of corporations in the Legislature and every Republican editor in the State was aware of the fact. But they sacrificed their own convictions, the material interests of their neighbors and every consideration which should govern them in order to preserve that party fetish called regularity. The result is they have SNYDER and the press muzzler both and no hope of getting rid of either of them.

Even after the returns from his own town showed a falling off of almost 200 Republican votes, chairman REEDER had the gall to wire the newspapers, on election night, that Centre county would give the Machine ticket 500 majority. On the average vote the majority was 17 the other way. All of which goes to show how little Mr. REEDER knows of the politics of the county, or how little respect he has for the truth.

Wage Reduction Set In.

Following in the wake of the election comes information of decreases of wages in all sections of the country. On Friday and Saturday of last week a number of mills about Philadelphia and at Columbia, Lancaster county, this State, gave notice of reductions in wage rates on an average of ten per cent, and on Monday the Reading Tube and iron company posted notices of a reduction in the wages of puddlers from \$4.50 to \$4 a ton. At Harrisburg similar reductions were made in some mills while others shut down altogether, the reason being, presumably, to make it easier to force the men to consent to the reductions.

Manifestly the notices of these reductions were withheld until after the elections for political reasons. The men were allowed to continue under the false notion that prosperity is unimpaired until they had cast their votes for the party which pretends to act as Providence for the industrial element of the country, and having conveyed an extension of power for another year at least, the truth is presented to them in the cruel and forbidding form of a notice of a decrease in wages. It is poor compensation for their services and servitude. But it is about what might be expected from the pampered tariff pensioners who are fitly represented in the public life of the country by MARK HANNA.

There has been no diminution of the cost of living to save the bruise on the hearts of the deceived workmen which the decrease in wages will involve. The sober, industrious and honest mechanic who hoped to increase the comforts of his family out of the fruits of an uninterrupted prosperity will be obliged to smother that delightful expectation and do the best he can with diminished revenues and unaltered necessities. Meantime the public prodigality will go on unimpeded and HANNA and the hoarde of hungry beef-eaters who cluster about him will enjoy their plenty while idle workmen suffer from want.

The Place to Begin.

The Williamsport Sun is showing great perturbation of soul in consequence of the short vote polled by the Democrats at the recent election, and demands that "there should be some house cleaning by the Democratic party of Pennsylvania." We agree with the Sun that there is something "seriously wrong," but when we come to look at the returns we find that there are just as "serious wrongs" in Lycoming as in any other county of the State, if the total vote polled is to be considered as the result of these wrongs. In no section of the State, even taking the demoralized and dishonored condition of the party in Philadelphia into consideration, do the returns show worse for the party than in the Sun's own county. And then when we take into consideration the fact that within that county there is more wealth among the Democrats, and possibly more influential and prominent men who are members of the party, than in any other county of the State outside of Allegheny and Philadelphia, the wonder comes, "what is wrong in Lycoming?"

Verily if there is to be a Democratic house cleaning it might be well for us all to begin at home.

Col. McClure's Appointment.

If there were no other reasons for a feeling of satisfaction over the appointment of Colonel A. K. McCURE to the office of Prothonotary of the Supreme court for the Eastern district, the fact that it shuts Speaker HENRY F. WALTON, of Philadelphia, out of that important position would be sufficient to make all decent citizens rejoice. During the last session of the Legislature Speaker WALTON tramped on the constitution of the State, which he took an oath to "support, obey and defend," violated the rules which he was sworn to enforce and protect, and sacrificed every principle of decency in order to serve the machine.

His reward for this unjust and criminal service was to be the appointment to the office in question. It is altogether the most valuable political prize which has been accessible for many years. The emoluments amount to nearly \$15,000 a year and the term of office is during life. There is practically little to do and it brings the incumbent into intimate association with the Supreme court judges, the leading lawyers and most delightful people in the State. It would have been a great pity if such a place had gone to one of the depraved moral fibre which must make up a man who has no respect for his oath. But there are other reasons for satisfaction in the appointment of Colonel McCURE to that office. He just fits it and it fits him. A man of splendid intellectual equipment, profound learning in the law, strict integrity and in every conceivable respect well qualified for the place, his appointment is creditable to those responsible for it, honorable to himself and a guarantee to the people of the State of excellent service while he lives and we hope that will be long. We congratulate Col. McCURE on his good fortune. It guarantees him an easy and contented evening of life and he deserves that.

Our Heroic (?) President.

From the Johnstown Democrat. It is certainly an off day when President Roosevelt fails to deliver himself of a homily. He keeps himself constantly at the centre of the stage and in the full glare of the lime light. And if we were to take him on his own valuation we should be constrained to rank him with the apostles and saints in virtue and with the martyrs in moral courage.

To a magazine he has just contributed a letter which describes the writer as a man above the petty weaknesses of his kind. It paints him as a hero and calls the attention of an admiring world to his sturdy indifference to the ordinary considerations of party and friendship when the call is made upon him for the rigid discharge of duty. "Any one who is guilty," he declares, "evidently thinking of the McKinley men who are now under fire and who in due course are to be supplanted by Roosevelt men," "is to be prosecuted with the utmost rigor of the law. I care not a rap for the political or social influence of any human being when the question is one of his guilt or innocence in such a matter as corruption in the government service. If anyone is to be alienated from me by the fact that I directed the prosecution of gross wrongdoing, why, all I can say is let him be alienated."

That is indeed brave. That is indeed worthy of the hero of San Juan hill. That is indeed like the man who has made Dr. Leonard Wood famous and who let Gen. Miles leave the army after 42 years' service without a courageous word. But how about the Hon. Perry S. Heath, secretary of the Republican national committee, protégé of Mark Hanna, late first assistant postmaster general and recent beneficiary of the statute of limitations? What has Mr. Roosevelt done in the matter of bringing this thrifty statesman to book for the corruptions in government which Mr. Bristow lays at his door?

Mr. Roosevelt's words and deeds do not travel well together. They constitute an unruly team. They are always at sixes and sevens. Yet the president is a virtuous man and a moral hero. We know it because he himself hath said it.

Kansas Prosperity.

From the Meadville Democrat. Kansas has had a trial of a change from a Democratic-Populist administration to a Republican administration, which has given the people some costly experience. The Republican legislature increased taxation on real estate 35 per cent without making any improvement in the public service. The eight thousand seven hundred miles of railroad in the state is taxed at a rate of 15-10 mills on the valuation while the property is taxed at a rate of 10 mills on the dollar of valuation.

To compensate the farmers for this gross inequality the Republicans claim to have given to the farmers the splendid crops of corn and wheat that they have just harvested.

This claim of the local state government of Kansas must be considered a political heresy, as the prerogative of sending good crops to the farmers of this country must be ascribed to Roosevelt, Quay, Platt and Mark Hanna, who must be recognized as the sole dispensers of national prosperity.

The disastrous flood that destroyed millions of property in Kansas must be blamed on Bryan and the Democrats. Republican prosperity to farmers comes through an invisible tariff tax of fifty per cent, added to the real value of everything that they need in the economy of their homes. This prosperity tax is needed in the incubation of millionaires, who pay Republican campaign expenses.

Machine Egotism.

From the Meadville Democrat. It would appear that the climax of audacity has been reached by the Republican bosses of Pennsylvania, in their representation of the political condition of the State and the trend of public opinion in regard to the record of machine-rule.

Senator Penrose is given as authority for the statement that "the people of Pennsylvania are satisfied with their national and state governments and they are determined to 'let well enough alone.'" "They do not want a change in either the methods or the policies of the national or state government." That is to say, "He that is filthy, let him be filthy still." Let bribery, political lust and usurpation of power hold high carnival in the State and without restraint.

Whether such conclusions are correct or not it is the determination of the machine bosses, with their characteristic audacity, to force that construction of the public's indifference down the throats of the people.

If the egotistic boasting of the Penrose declarations have any semblance of truth, God save the Commonwealth and the rights and liberties of the people.

For Show and Blow.

From the La Cygne (Kan.) Standard. What's happened to President Roosevelt's trust-busting crusade? The silence regarding his proposed shackling of cunning trusts is almost painful as the time for renomination approaches. His profound quietude upon the subject tends to create a suspicion that his instructions to the attorney general about prosecuting trusts and his strenuous talks in public in condemnation of them are like the lady's two handkerchiefs—"one for show and the other for blow."

How the New Plan Will Work.

From the Grand Island (Neb.) Democrat. Under the new Republican financial scheme, the people will be compelled to bear an even larger burden of taxation that will pile up an enormous surplus in the treasury that may be loaned at a low rate of interest so that the banks may loan it to the people at a high rate of interest. By this means the people will get money to pay more taxes to create another treasury surplus.

Spawls from the Keystone.

Vaccination physicians scratched 1229 arms in four days in Allegheny.

The State Sabbath School Convention will be held at Harrisburg on November 16th and 17th, and the Pennsylvania National Reform Convention at the same place November 18th and 19th.

Forest fires are raging in many parts of Schuylkill county and Pottsville is practically surrounded by conflagration. In the suburbs "brush" gangs are fighting to save their homes.

Seventy five churches in Schuylkill and neighboring counties, on Sunday, lifted a special offering for the benefit of the Pottsville Hospital. It amounted to several thousand dollars.

Mrs. Mary E. Schenley, of Pittsburg, who is dead in London, and whose \$50,000,000 in lands draws enormous ground rents, and who gave Schenley park to the city years ago, willed nothing to charity.

Thomas J. Whittaker, who has just been elected sheriff of Schuylkill county, is but 30 years old, and when he goes into office on January 1st, he will be the youngest sheriff who ever held office in the county.

Burglars failed in an attempt to crack the safe in the post office at Osceola Mills Wednesday night. They fired several shots at a passing citizen who escaped unhurt. A policeman fired a few shots at the fleeing burglars, but without any result.

S. C. Harrison, 55 years old, who lived in Buffalo township, near Forest Hill, Union county, Saturday afternoon was struck by a Reading train while driving across the tracks at Lewisburg and instantly killed, as was also his horse. Mr. Harrison is survived by his wife.

With simple and unostentatious ceremonies William L. Elkins' body was placed in the handsome family mausoleum in Laurel Hill cemetery on Tuesday. In accordance with the request of the late financier, his funeral was a quiet one, and only members of the family followed the remains to their last resting place.

Turkey buyers from all over the country are scouring Lehigh county looking for turkeys for the Thanksgiving trade. They are scouring in vain, though. It is many years since this bird has been so scarce as at present, and where farmers used to have flocks of 50 and 100 turkeys each at this time of the year, they are now lucky to have half a dozen.

Dr. F. E. Weddigen has brought suit against the Lycoming county commissioners for holding two autopsies on the bodies of Pietro Crasbo and James McElwee, which were ordered by Coroner Trainer. The commissioners claim the post mortem examinations were unnecessary, but are willing to compromise on \$150, which the physician declines to accept.

Mrs. John S. Barner, of Susquehanna township, sister-in-law of Absalom Barner, tried and acquitted on the charge of murdering Adam Goodling, in Juniata county, two and a half years ago, was shot and killed by some unidentified person in ambush at her home on Friday. The tragedy was enacted while Mrs. Barner was aiding her husband in some work about the barn. She fell almost at her husband's feet.

Ex-Mayor W. G. Elliott, of Williamsport, sold his home at the corner of West Fourth and Elmira streets to the newly organized Congregational church for \$29,000. It is the intention of the Congregationalists to convert the mansion into a house of worship, as soon as they get possession on March 15th, 1904. The house was built by ex-Congressman W. H. Armstrong from 1863 to 1866 and cost Mr. Armstrong \$40,000.

Railroad officials at Harrisburg are still talking about the collision Friday night of the Chicago Limited with the rear end of a Cumberland Valley freight in the yard of the Pennsylvania Railroad in that city, in which the passenger engine leaped into the air and alighted on a gondola loaded with ore. The engine made the jump as gracefully as if it had been lifted to its lofty position by the aid of a steam derrick. It weighed 134,000 pounds and was found to be damaged but little.

The question has been raised as to what Judge Bell's salary in Blair Co., will be after Jan. 1st, 1904. The act of assembly of April 14th, 1903, fixing the salaries of the judges of the various courts of Pennsylvania, gives \$5,000 a year to the judge of a county having a population of less than 90,000 and \$7,000 where the county has only one judge and a population of between 90,000 and 500,000. Although Blair county has undoubtedly over 90,000, the last official census only gives it \$5,069, and Judge Bell's salary will depend upon whether or not the law recognizes only the census figures.

The Meyersdale Republican tells a fish story that is, to say the least, remarkable in more ways than one. It avers that a man got a box of apples together with a six pound bass from Paw Paw, Va., and that the bass was alive and flopping when the box was opened at Meyersdale. Making no allowance for transportation delays, and assuming that the box came through as quickly as a train could haul it, the fish would have been out of water five or six hours. If it was alive at the end of that time, it was a pretty tough fish; but we incline to the view that it is the story that is tough, not the fish.

The most mysterious cases of starvation among cattle with good appetites, that are well fed, which the State Veterinarians have ever encountered, have been reported by farmer M. O. Reagle, of Bangor, Pa. He has lost 36 cows in that way, and neighboring farmers have suffered similar but not such extensive losses. The first of Reagle's two handkerchiefs—"one for show and the other for blow."