

Philadelphia is wonderfully anxious to secure the trade that about forty years ago she was just as anxious to drive away.

The rottenness of the Post Office Department in Washington seems to have reached out into the service in the rural districts.

The woman who has just started the scare that we eat too many eggs must have been hard up for something to cackle about.

When the 'M. S. QUAY,' the Philadelphia harbor master's new cutter was launched on Saturday 'she wobbled when she struck the water. It isn't any wonder that she did, with such a name.

It took two prayers to get the Senate started off right in the fifty-eighth Congress. The good Lord alone knows how many it will take to get the Senators fixed up right again after the session is over.

GORMAN is starting in to shake up the dry bones in the Senate in a way that will probably arouse that body to a sense of some other duty than merely allowing itself to become a resting place for sleepy old millionaires.

As a grafter the New York surgeon who has just grafted an ear from one man to another and prophesies that soon legs and arms will be grafted in the same manner is a 'shine' when compared with some Philadelphia councilmen.

Why is it that months after the price of commodities were soaring skyward the producers of such were given an increase of wages, yet the very instant there is a sign of depression wages go down?

HERBERT SPENCER, the Englishman, the greatest philosopher of the day, is dead at the age of eighty-four. While he was too profound for most minds his life has left an impress ethically and psychologically that will be cherished by mankind throughout all ages.

If that lecherous old scamp, the Sultan of Sulu, should have to fall a victim to Gen. LEONARD WOOD's strenuous struggle for a military record will Uncle SAM have to pay alimony to each one of the sundry dandy dames who will be deprived of his amorous attentions.

Though the President is very specific in his message as to the kind of immigrants we would like to have; stating that we only want good ones, it is presumed if there are any on the other side anywhere who would make worthy successors to Mr. PERRY HEATH there would be no objection to their coming in.

JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER has given \$10,000 to the Oil City Y. M. C. A., which, by the way, is the first donation of the sort he has ever made to Pennsylvania. It is to be hoped that President HARPER and the Chicago University will not get mad about this, but the public went care much how mad they get if the price of oil isn't pushed up another notch as a result of it.

The President's message to Congress, being about six columns long, will have to be omitted from this issue. Taking it for granted that all our readers will feel very sorry not to have an opportunity of reading it for themselves we do the next best thing by stating that it contains about five thousand good English words coupled together in such a way as to read beautifully but mean little.

If the North American and other Philadelphia papers want to kill all the survivors of the typhoid epidemic in unfortunate Butler with cholera all they need to do is continue a few days longer those silly articles about 'Dr. FRENCH and the twenty-five nurses Philadelphia sent.' There is no doubt of their doing a good work in Butler, but then there is some doubt as to their doing it all.

The Governor PENNY denies that he appointed SAMUEL GUSTINE THOMPSON, a Democrat, to serve out an unexpired term on the Supreme court bench so that he can be nominated and elected to the bench next fall, when his term as Governor is about over. He denies 'the soft impeachment' of his intentions, but adds that if the 'party nominates me for the Supreme court, I shall return to the bench.'

The Cincinnati girl who wedded a Washington, Pa. man a few days ago and after the ceremony disclosed to him that she was really an heiress and not the poor girl he thought her to be, is a jewel in more ways than one. The satisfaction he must have had in knowing his wife's ability to keep a secret was enough pleasure for one day, without the half-million unexpected fortune and other little things that went with her.

Prof. LANGLEY'S second airship took an ignominious tumble into the Potomac on Tuesday. The professor is reported as having been greatly chagrined because his flying machine wouldn't fly, but then the Professor ought to have known better than to call it a flying machine. Had he called it a submarine boat or an aquatic fowl the papers would have been full of his success. All of which goes to show that there is a great deal in a name after all.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

VOL. 48

BELLEfonte, PA., DECEMBER 11, 1903.

NO. 49.

A Strained Construction.

Under the advice of Secretary of War ROOT the President has construed the fraction of a minute which intervened between the adjournment of the extra session of the United States Senate and the opening of the session as a 'recess.' Webster's dictionary defines recess as an intermission in proceedings of a legislative body.

There was no intermission in the proceedings there so far as can be discovered. Yet upon the advice of Secretary of War ROOT President ROOSEVELT has assumed that there was an intermission long enough for him to nominate Dr. WOOD to the office of Major General in the army and 167 other persons to other positions in the civil and military service of the government.

The constitution authorizes the President to issue commissions in order to fill vacancies in public offices which happen during the recesses between sessions of the Senate. In another clause he is authorized to nominate 'and with the advice and consent of the Senate,' appoint other officers of the government.

The death of Congressman BURK, of Philadelphia, brings into public notice again the peculiar methods of selecting Representatives in Congress in that city. In fact it has become the richest plum of the politicians and as vice and crime have been used by what DAVE LANE calls 'the organization' for years as a political asset, it may be said that of late death has become an agent in the collection of funds.

Subscribe for the WATCHMAN.

Roosevelt's Yellow Streak.

President ROOSEVELT has again revealed his willingness to temporize with crime when such a sinister course will promote his political interests. That is to say the question of the dismissal of PERRY S. HEATH from the secretaryship of the Republican National committee having been brought up squarely before him, he has consented to permit him to remain in the office.

Assistant Postmaster General BRISTOW's report inculpated Mr. HEATH in various ways. It not only disclosed the fact that he was directly concerned with the 'rake-off' in the Department, but that he had association with the corrupt stock operations which have so scandalized the postal service.

President ROOSEVELT has simply written himself down an arrant humbug. Professing to abhor every form of fraud in public life he embraces and coddles political and official criminals for personal reason. We say criminals in this connection because in his memorandum the President declared they were guilty.

The President has reapportioned Dr. LEONARD WOOD a Major General, notwithstanding the evidence of his unfitness and in spite of the injustice it involves. He might have saved the country from that humiliation. He is under obligations to Dr. WOOD, no doubt. When he was a subordinate to Dr. WOOD in the Rough Riders, he was given every opportunity to make himself conspicuous.

But President ROOSEVELT has made up his mind to square the accounts in another way. In other words ROOSEVELT has determined to over pay Dr. WOOD by giving him an appointment far ahead of anything he deserves. There are people so peculiarly constituted that they are profligately generous with other people's money.

If there were no others than himself and Dr. WOOD concerned in the affair there wouldn't be much harm in this purpose of the President. Dr. WOOD would have a position that he is unfit to fill, according to the evidence of numerous witnesses heard before the Senate committee, but in times of peace there isn't much for a Major General to do and one man can do it as well as another.

There are some very timely and helpful hints on Christmas buying and Christmas entertainments on other pages of this edition. If you are interested you will appreciate reading them.

The President's Message.

President ROOSEVELT'S annual message to Congress is a unique public document. As the New York Times states, 'the time will come when just-minded men will wish that that part of President ROOSEVELT'S message in which he explains and defends his course upon the Isthmus of Panama might be expunged from the national records.'

The obvious purpose of the President was to puff his administration with the view of promoting his chances for election to succeed himself. To quote again from our New York contemporary, 'the vision of President ROOSEVELT is so clouded and his reasoning so disturbed by the fires of his ambition,' that he actually makes himself ridiculous.

But the follies of the message might be overlooked if it were not for the vices which it expresses. For example he undertakes to justify his Panama policy by reciting a lot of inequities which have occurred on the Isthmus during the past half a century. There have been a number of riotous demonstrations, he asserts and nobody denies his allegation.

When the question of referring the testimony taken by Assistant Postmaster General BRISTOW in relation to frauds in the postal service to Senator PENROSE'S committee came up in the Senate on Tuesday, Senator GORMAN protested.

No more absurd proposition was ever made than that to refer charges of fraud to Senator PENROSE. When he was a candidate for mayor of Philadelphia, a few years ago, the public conscience literally revolted and the clergy protested that his life was so atrociously immoral that his election to the office would be an outrage.

Senator GORMAN knows the purpose of the motion to refer that testimony to the PENROSE committee. He understands that the object is not to secure an investigation but to prevent such a thing. If the evidence were so referred within a week every incupitated rascal would be spirited away as SALTER was concealed until arrangements could be made for their acquittal by a miscarriage of justice.

While the butchering was going on at the home of Jacob Royer, near Colyer, recently a rifle that had been used in knocking the hogs down and then stood aside, was picked up by one of the party. The family cow was passing the house at the time and, throwing the gun to his shoulder and drawing a bead on poor old sookie, the joking marksman exclaimed: 'Were that cow a deer, what a delightful shot.' Then the gun—just like every old gun that isn't supposed to be loaded—went off and the good family cow fell dead in her tracks.

In Lycoming county a judge recently sentenced a boy to six years and six months in the penitentiary for stealing satchels at the railroad station. In this county they don't get that much for killing people.

Subscribe for the WATCHMAN.

Our Congressmen.

Assignments to Places on the Standing Committees. Representative Evans, of Nineteenth District, Gets a Place on Two Additional Committees.

WASHINGTON, December 5.—In the committee assignments announced to-day Pennsylvania fares fully as well as she did in the last Congress. She has secured two more chairmanships, that of Representative Sibley to be chairman of the committee on manufactures, and that of Representative Wright to be chairman of the committee on the agricultural department.

Mahon, of war claims; Olmsted, of elections No. 2; Sibley, of manufactures; Wanger, of expenditures in the postoffice department, and Wright, of expenditures in the agricultural department. Pennsylvania retains her influential position on the more important committees of the House by having Representative Dalzell as member of the committee on rules, and the committee on ways and means; Bingham as a member of the committee on appropriations; Acheson, on rivers and harbors; Butler, on naval affairs; Olmsted, on insular affairs and election numbers; McCreary, on banking and currency; Palmer, on judiciary; Wanger, on interstate and foreign commerce; Sibley, on manufactures, and Morrell, on District of Columbia.

The rearrangement of the committees to accommodate a large number of new members in this House necessitated changes in the assignments of some of the Pennsylvania members. Mr. Adams gave up his place on the military committee, and Mr. Bingham declined a reappointment on the postoffice and post roads committee. Both of these gentlemen have their full share of work and responsibility on other committees to which they have been appointed.

Representative Caswell, who had rather inauspicious committee assignments last Congress, has been appointed to the committee on accounts, census and elections No. 3. Representative Evans retains his place on the two committees he was attached to last Congress, the revision of the laws and private land claims, and in addition has been assigned to the committee on immigration and naturalization. Of the new Republican members Mr. McCreary, of Philadelphia, has received probably the best appointments, having been assigned to the committee on banking and currency. Pennsylvania has had a representative on this committee for many years and the late Representative Brosius, of Lancaster, was its chairman for two or three terms.

The four Democrats from Pennsylvania were at the mercy of the new Democratic leader, Mr. Williams, of Mississippi, who recommended minority appointments, and they cannot boast of any very fine assignments. Mr. Dickerman got a place on the committee of patents, Mr. Howell on mining, Shull on railroads and canals, and Kline, who comes from the rock-ribbed Thirteenth district, drew a booby prize in being assigned to ventilation and accounts.

The following is the list of Pennsylvania members and their assignments. Acheson, rivers and harbors, expenditures in the navy department; Adams, immigration and naturalization, foreign affairs, expenditures in the state department; Bates, coinage, weights and measures, elections No. 1; Bingham, appropriations; Brown, coinage, weights and measures, pensions; Butler, claims, naval affairs; Caswell, accounts, census, elections No. 3; Howell, mines and mining, levees and improvements of the Mississippi river; irrigation of arid lands; Dalzell, ways and means, rule; Deemer, railroads and canals, invalid pensions; Dickerman, patents; Dresser, coinage, weights and measures, patents; Evans, revision of the laws, private land claims, immigration and naturalization; Morrell, District of Columbia, expenditures in the treasury department; Olmsted; election No. 2, insular affairs; Palmer, judiciary, Pacific railroads; Patterson, mines and mining, expenditures in the interior department, pensions; Porter, alcoholic liquor traffic, industrial arts and exhibitions, expenditures in the department of justice; Shiras, public land; Shull, railroads and canals; Sibley, postoffice and post roads, manufactures; Smith, reform in civil service, militia; Wanger, interstate and foreign commerce, expenditures in the postoffice department; Wright, agriculture, expenditures in the department of agriculture.

Rev. Henry Evans, a muscular DuBois person, who got his dander up and knocked two small men out in short order and was arrested for assault and battery, waived a trial and pleaded guilty at the Clearfield county court on Monday. Judge Gordon after giving the person some very pointed advice on what a cultured, educated gentleman and minister should do, sentenced Rev. Evans to pay a fine of \$25 in each case and cost of prosecution.

A. Williamson, a well known lumberman, of Bellwood, has purchased from heirs of John Rohn estate over 1,000 acres of excellent timber land, lying along the West Branch railroad in the vicinity of Karthaus. The tract contains over three million feet of lumber. The consideration was \$7,000. John Rohn is the man who mysteriously disappeared about four years ago, and no trace of him was ever found, it being the general supposition that he was murdered and his body hidden.

Saturday afternoon a stranger was talking to another man at Mill Hall depot when the train pulled out from the Bald Eagle Valley railroad station. Noticing it the stranger made an attempt to get on, but in doing so he lost his hold and was thrown under the moving train about half of his body being on either side of the rail. By supreme presence of mind he threw himself quickly around out of danger. It was a close call and caused the spectators to hold their breath for a moment.

An order has been issued from National Guard headquarters announcing another change in officers' uniforms to conform with those of officers' of the regular army. The orders require the change from light blue to white stripes on trousers for infantry officers after February 1st, 1904. The return to white stripes makes the uniforms the same as they were before the order adopting light blue stripes was issued some time ago. Some of the infantry officers had not yet changed from white to light blue and will not be required to make any change by the new edict.

Humphrey Chilcote, aged 85 years, left his home in Hares Valley, about October 25, to visit friends at Three Springs. After spending a few days there went to Shireysburg, where he tarried about a week at the almshouse, leaving that institution without informing anyone as to where he was going. He has not been seen or heard from since, not having returned to his home. It is feared he might have taken ill and died while crossing the mountain. Any person knowing anything as to where Mr. Chilcote is will confer a favor by notifying Isaac Dell, at Lata Grove, Pa.

Spawls from the Keystone.

Graduates of the Petersburg, Huntingdon county High school have set on foot a movement to organize an Alumni association.

Huntingdon county is the first county in the State to begin the construction of road building under the Sprout road law. A section of 2800 feet is being built in that county as an experiment.

A boy by the name of Noll jumped off the eastbound flyer on the Bald Eagle Valley railroad, as they were passing Vail, about 12:40 Saturday and was seriously injured. The train at the time was running 40 miles an hour.

The First Presbyterian church of Lewis-town has extended a unanimous call to Rev. William L. Mudge, pastor of the Phoenixville Presbyterian church, to succeed Rev. William Harrison Decker, who accepted a call from Homestead.

The excitement over the big strike of gas at Hyner continues. During the past week thousands visited the wells. The Renovo borough council will be asked within a few days for permission to lay the pipes and the gas will be taken there.

Sam Pawich, an Austrian aged 18 years, was stabbed at his boarding house on Branch street, Johnstown, Saturday night and died at the Memorial hospital Monday morning. There was a quarrel among his countrymen and during it he was stabbed.

Three new cases of small pox have developed in Johnstown since Saturday and there has been one death—Michael Egan, aged 22 years. He was a native of Gallitzin and is survived by his wife, who was Miss Stella Passmore, of Clearfield. His parents are also living.

During the christening exercises at a Slav home near Grass Flat, Clearfield county, Sunday afternoon, George Hudok, of Pleasant Hill, shot and instantly killed a young man of the same nationality by the name of Thos. Korenwick. The entire party had been drinking heavily and after the murder Hudok disappeared.

The DuBois Courier says George Slimmer, a young man living at Slimmer's school house, located between Big Run and Troutville, returned home from Anita last Thursday suffering from what was supposed to be typhoid fever. The doctors have now diagnosed the case as small pox. Slimmer was employed in a hotel at Anita.

The thirty-second annual convention of the Pennsylvania state grand convened in Wilkes-Barre on Tuesday. Headquarters were opened at the armory. Besides the 1,000 delegates to the convention 500 more guests were present as well as many prominent strangers from other States including the masters of the New York and New Jersey state Granges.

One day last week while Miss Pearl Eppen, of Nippenose valley, was going about her labors she fainted and fell directly on top of the red hot coal stove. Immediately she returned to consciousness, and upon examination it was found that the hair was burned off one side of her head and her one arm terribly burned from the hand to the shoulder.

Pottsville, Pa., employment agent believes that he has solved the servant problem. He has entered into negotiations with several immigration societies in the south to bring 25,000 negro girls to the north. These girls, it is said, will be used not only as domestics, but also as operatives in factories. New Orleans is to be the central point of shipment.

Fire Sunday night destroyed the clubhouse of the Mohawk club, a three story frame structure, together with its contents, at Jeannette. The place was unoccupied when the fire broke out. The firemen found an overturned stove, which is supposed to have originated the fire. The club lost all its paraphernalia and the uniforms of the football team. The loss is placed at \$1,500.

Rev. Henry Evans, a muscular DuBois person, who got his dander up and knocked two small men out in short order and was arrested for assault and battery, waived a trial and pleaded guilty at the Clearfield county court on Monday. Judge Gordon after giving the person some very pointed advice on what a cultured, educated gentleman and minister should do, sentenced Rev. Evans to pay a fine of \$25 in each case and cost of prosecution.

A. Williamson, a well known lumberman, of Bellwood, has purchased from heirs of John Rohn estate over 1,000 acres of excellent timber land, lying along the West Branch railroad in the vicinity of Karthaus. The tract contains over three million feet of lumber. The consideration was \$7,000. John Rohn is the man who mysteriously disappeared about four years ago, and no trace of him was ever found, it being the general supposition that he was murdered and his body hidden.

Saturday afternoon a stranger was talking to another man at Mill Hall depot when the train pulled out from the Bald Eagle Valley railroad station. Noticing it the stranger made an attempt to get on, but in doing so he lost his hold and was thrown under the moving train about half of his body being on either side of the rail. By supreme presence of mind he threw himself quickly around out of danger. It was a close call and caused the spectators to hold their breath for a moment.

An order has been issued from National Guard headquarters announcing another change in officers' uniforms to conform with those of officers' of the regular army. The orders require the change from light blue to white stripes on trousers for infantry officers after February 1st, 1904. The return to white stripes makes the uniforms the same as they were before the order adopting light blue stripes was issued some time ago. Some of the infantry officers had not yet changed from white to light blue and will not be required to make any change by the new edict.

Humphrey Chilcote, aged 85 years, left his home in Hares Valley, about October 25, to visit friends at Three Springs. After spending a few days there went to Shireysburg, where he tarried about a week at the almshouse, leaving that institution without informing anyone as to where he was going. He has not been seen or heard from since, not having returned to his home. It is feared he might have taken ill and died while crossing the mountain. Any person knowing anything as to where Mr. Chilcote is will confer a favor by notifying Isaac Dell, at Lata Grove, Pa.