

Cotton took a very sudden tumble on Tuesday and a lot of speculators tumbled with it.

The Russian note will soon go to protest if it isn't taken care of better than it is by the Czar.

Going to war is almost as easily done as said but paying the bills is an entirely different matter.

Col. SKINNER may have seen King MENELIK, of Abyssina, but that isn't going to reduce the price of eggs.

The ground-hog certainly saw his shadow on Tuesday unless he was frozen so far in his hole that he couldn't get out.

And this is the season of the year that our merchants are buying straw hats and summer underwear. Thank the Lord, we don't have to wear them now.

The death of WILLIAM C. WHITNEY removes the man to whom, above all others, the United States is indebted for the reorganization and promoting of the new navy.

It is little wonder that the question as to "what is a Democrat?" has gotten into the courts in Philadelphia. The jury should bring in a verdict of "the higher, the fewer."

It's a wise child that knows its own father, but judging from speeches at the opening of Parliament in London on Tuesday Mr. AUSTEN CHAMBERLAIN seems to be right well acquainted with his.

KATE SOFFEL is up against it about as hard as she was when trying to escape with the notorious BIDDLE boys. The courts have restrained her from showing her brazen face in Washington county.

Williamsport is the home of some one who is bad enough to rob the contribution boxes for the hospital in that city and it is safe to say that Williamsport is heartily ashamed of being the domicile of such a measly wretch.

The retirement of JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER from the directorate of the United States Steel Co. is not likely to have any effect on the amount of oil that is necessary to keep the waters of the Steel trust from getting too greatly troubled.

State Treasurer FRANK HARRIS has appeared in a new role. Now he assumes to be a regular "watch dog of the treasury" and says he won't pay the increased salaries allowed judges by the last Legislature until the constitutionality of the law is tested in court.

The poor man at York, who is dying of blood poisoning caused by getting washing soda into fresh out in his hand while helping his wife wash, will be held up as a fatal example by many a lazy fellow who sits behind the stove smoking while his poor wife makes a slave of herself.

Marriage appears to be somewhat of a failure in Dauphin county, judging from the thirty-eight petitions in divorce that were presented when court convened in Harrisburg on Monday. Can it be that the wise men of the State have had anything to do with the wholesale tearing up of the marital relations of the families about the capital?

It has leaked out about Washington that a bill appropriating three-quarters of a million dollars for the purchase of a certain plot of ground is the beginning of a movement for a new "White House." The present one is said to be "too mean, cramped and dingy" for President ROOSEVELT. As sound business people a great many Americans will look on it as being far cheaper to get another President than to spend so much money.

The President is in a hole. There is a surplus of \$280,000,000 in the United States Treasury, most of which vast sum is lying in National banks of the country drawing no interest. The bills incurred by the Panama canal proposition will soon be payable. The banks say they can't give up the money without causing a panic and the administration is afraid to negotiate bonds to pay it when there is such a surplus in the Treasury. And there you are. What is to be done about it?

If Supreme court justice BROWN, of Lancaster, actually thinks that PENNYPACKER'S deal is a veritable case of a "burglar trying to break into the Supreme court with a jimmy" he could do much to prevent the burglary. BROWN is a leading QUAY man in Lancaster county and if he were to speak up strong against PENNYPACKER'S notorious attempt to push himself into a seat on the Supreme bench he would find so much sentiment crystallizing around his opposition that the sage of WEZZEL'S swamp would have to get back to the tall grass of Chester county after he is through in Harrisburg.

Another imperialistic and expensive precedent has been established at Washington by our apparently thoughtless President. In order to gratify the vanity of his personal friends, retiring Secretary of War ROOT and arriving Governor TAFT, he ordered out troops of cavalry as escorts for them through the streets of Washington. As a result of this unusual order every foreign Ambassador arriving and departing from Washington will henceforth demand a similar honor and it will not be long until the streets of our national capital will present the warlike and imperialistic aspect of the home of an Emperor or a Czar. Such things seize hold upon a country by small steps and we fear this one has been extraordinarily large.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

VOL. 49

BELLEFONTE, PA., FEBRUARY 5, 1904.

NO. 5.

Foraker Sharply Snubbed.

Senator FORAKER has introduced an amendment to the SHERMAN anti-trust law which if adopted would completely destroy the merits of that measure.

As a matter of fact, we are inclined to believe that the statement of Attorney General KNOX with respect to the matter is truthful. No doubt FORAKER believed that the introduction of such a measure would benefit the President, for he is supercilious and not too sane.

It now remains to be seen how FORAKER will take the humiliation which the Attorney General's statement puts upon him. He was probably taken into the President's confidence less on account of his capability than because of his enmity to HANNA.

Take Care of the Fish.

Fish commissioner MEKIAN is of the opinion that salmon may be propagated in the Delaware river as successfully as in the California streams and he has already taken steps to experiment in the matter.

But stocking the streams won't of itself achieve the result. The fry must be taken care of after they are planted and when they have grown to the proportions of food fish they must be taken care of by the enforcement of adequate laws.

In another column of this issue will be found the announcement of WILLIAM GROH RUNKLE Esq., who aspires to the nomination of the Democratic county convention for District Attorney.

Pennypacker's Infamous Deal.

The later developments with respect to Governor PENNYPACKER'S intrigue to force himself on the Supreme court bench presents that atrocious conspiracy in a most sinister light.

According to a well authenticated statement published in a recent issue of the Philadelphia "Press" Governor PENNYPACKER tendered to Hon. LYMAN D. GILBERT, of Harrisburg, the appointment to the vacancy on the Supreme bench of the State created by the death of Chief Justice MCCOLLUM in consideration of a pledge that he would not be a candidate for the nomination to succeed himself, and to make the proposition more alluring the Governor agreed to have Mr. GILBERT appointed Attorney General, by "OLIO" BROWN, which office he added "is worth \$20,000 a year."

Since the elevation of MATTHEW STANLEY QUAY to the leadership of the Republican party we have had many disreputable deals and demoralizing conspiracies in the official life of Pennsylvania.

A Base Slander.

At a dinner in honor of Senator PENROSE, in Philadelphia, one evening last week, Governor PENNYPACKER was the principal speaker after the guest of the evening.

Following this brazen laudation of fraud Governor PENNYPACKER spoke of Pennsylvania and in a series of tiresome and ineane platitudes enlorged QUAY and PENROSE.

In 1880 Mr. CHARLES EMORY SMITH, gentleman and scholar, came from Albany, New York, where he had been the capable editor of an important and influential newspaper, to Philadelphia, where he became editor of the Philadelphia Press.

It will be only a short time now until the University Extension lectures will be begun and if you have not already subscribed to the course you should make it a point to do so.

Up to this time about sixty persons have accepted the invitation to be present at the banquet of the Centre county association of Philadelphia, at Dooner's hotel, in that city, on Tuesday evening, February 9th.

The Investigation Stopped.

The Republicans of the Senate have finally succeeded, it appears, in suppressing the proposed further investigation into the Post Office Department frauds.

Why have the Republicans of the Senate, especially such close friends of the President as Senator LODGE, of Massachusetts, prevented a more searching investigation of the frauds in question?

The fact is, however, that they understand that most of the high Republican officials are concerned in the frauds. It is already known that the trace of corruption was followed into the private office of the Postmaster General and his private Secretary was tainted.

Secretary Root's Retirement.

The retirement of Secretary of War ROOT is a subject for popular congratulation. During five years he has administered the office bestowed on him at the demand of the trusts in violation of the law and in contempt of the constitution.

During that brief period of five years Secretary Root has done more to revolutionize the army than all his predecessors since the beginning of the government.

It was through the influence of ROOT, moreover, that that favoritism which has culminated in the promotion of Dr. LEONARD WOOD to the rank of Major General over the heads of more than 200 deserving veterans, was introduced and developed.

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What are we to do Anyway?

From the Philadelphia Evening Telegraph. Sir Roger de Coverley's declaration that there was something to be said on both sides of a certain question has been commonly cited as a sarcasm directed against those fickle and indecisive persons who are "on the fence."

There are two chief dangers or wearing effects in "systems" which threaten the man of promptitude and dispatch. The effort to reach certain efficiency is heart weakening. The sprinter in the 100-yard race is "set" just before the word is given.

The thing seems to be reasoned out very plausibly, but what are we to do about it? We cannot imagine, unless it be to advise the systematic people to be on time without trying too hard, or to urge them to break the routine often enough to escape the rut.

Perhaps the great problem is to interrupt the system frequently; to break the routine; to stop for a while trying to be on time when there appears to be a strain or undue expenditure of effort involved.

A Chance for an Explanation, at Least.

By cutting out of the urgent deficiency bill the item carrying their double mileage the members of the House have with singular unanimity repudiated the President's constructive recess theory.

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Babe's Body Found Along Railroad.

The dead body of an infant was found along the Buffalo, Rochester and Pittsburgh railroad tracks, near Corwensville, a day or two ago.

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Spawls from the Keystone.

The State Department has granted a charter to the Lock Haven Knitting company, which is capitalized at \$15,000.

The school board of Jersey Shore has decided to erect a new building that will be used for High school purposes.

A shirt factory at DuBois, employing 40 girls, was destroyed by fire last Saturday and it is uncertain whether it will be rebuilt or not.

Geo. W. Friday, Huntingdon's famous drummer, and who is claimed to be one of the best in the county, expects to play at the World's Fair.

Howard Waple, 25-years-old, was ground to death under a New York Central train near Kemmer last Friday night. A wife survives him. He was the third man of one crew to meet death within a few weeks.

Three horses on the stage route between Clearfield and Karthaus died the past week, two of the animals from sickness and a third from having its leg broken. The loss comes pretty heavy on the stage and mail route driver.

Williamsport possesses one of the 12 prettiest babies in the United States and Mr. and Mrs. Clinton B. Coleman, of West Fourth street, are the proud parents. The award has been made by the Ladies' Home Journal. There were 1,800 contestants.

About 100 boxes of glass were broken last week at the Fitzpatrick factory of Falls Creek, by the floors sinking enough to pull loose the stalls or partitions at the top against which the glass rest and stall and glass came down with a crash. It took several days to clean up the broken glass, etc.

Jeremiah G. Farwell, of Detroit, aged 36 years, and a son of one of the most prominent capitalists of Detroit, died in a hospital Saturday from a bullet wound through his stomach, fired, it is supposed, with suicidal intent. He was found dying at the Woodward avenue car barn, with a revolver beside him.

Robert Igo's bull went mad Friday at his farm near Bellwood, and bit seven people. They are Robert Shields, of Bellwood; Mary Hoffman and her playmate, Carl Punkard, and William Davis, near Fostoria, and Edward Shay and Charles Smith, at Fostoria, where the people tried to kill it but failed, allowing it to escape.

As a last effort to get what is due him as caterer for the members of the Legislature during their trip to the unveiling of the Grant monument at New York in 1897, James Russ, of the Commonwealth hotel, Harrisburg, has sent a letter to members of that body who participated in the affair, requesting each to send him \$15 to compensate him.

Mrs. Fannie Allen, of Williamsport, is at the hospital suffering from burns on her shoulders and neck. When filling a lamp in the cellar of her home Saturday her dress caught fire. She ran into the yard and fell upon the snow, which was thrown over her by a neighbor, Mrs. Frank Henning. The flames were thus extinguished before she was fatally burned.

The spectacle of a bare foot man clad only in trousers and undershirt, and suffering from small-pox, plodding through the snow covered streets of Williamsport at an early hour Sunday morning was an awe-inspiring sight in the eyes of some citizens of the Lumber city. It was an inmate of the city contagious disease hospital who had escaped the vigilance of his nurse. He was eventually recaptured.

Rural mail carriers are strictly prohibited from carrying verbal messages. If a farmer should ask them to tell neighbor Jones to come his way, as he wanted to see him, the carrier couldn't lawfully deliver the message. The proper method would be for the farmer to write a letter or postal card to neighbor Jones and the carrier will deliver it. The reason is that the government wants all the revenues possible from the postal service, and desires those who are benefited by it to pay the same.

On Saturday morning about 5 o'clock an overheated stovepipe caused a fire in the dwelling of Oscar Barfoot, of Fontwell, Cambria county, by which the building, a rather frail one, was destroyed. In the confusion of the moment the 6-months' old fan-fan baby, which was sleeping in its cradle on the second floor, was temporarily forgotten, but the father happened to think of it and rushed up the flaming stairway, bringing the child out unharmed, although he sustained some slight burns upon his return.

Robert Ross and a man named "Shine" are employed at the Blair Furnace brick-yard, east of Altoona. For some time they have been rivals for the affection of a woman residing at that place. Ross was the lady's choice and "Shine" took the matter seriously. As Ross was leaving his camp at about one o'clock Saturday morning to visit another, he was told to halt by "Shine" and, if he moved another step, he would blow his head off. He turned to go back and "Shine" fired several shots, one making a slight wound in the right leg and another whizzing past his ear.

Mrs. John Biddle, wife of a Huston township, Clearfield county farmer, entered a chicken coop Wednesday morning to feed the poultry. The wind slammed the door shut hard enough to set the dead latch, making her a prisoner. The thermometer stood at ten degrees below zero, and it was several hours before a neighbor, passing along the road, saw a handkerchief waving from a small window of the hen house and investigated. Mrs. Biddle was found almost unconscious from the intense cold. Her feet and hands were frozen and she is in a serious condition.

While hunting in the woods near Fallin Timber, Cambria county, last week, Martin Rickert and his brother George suddenly came upon a large bear and three cubs. Although considerably startled the hunters still had presence of mind enough to let fly, and after six shots succeeded in killing the bear and capturing the cubs. The dead bear weighed 300 pounds. One of the cubs which was presented by its captors to Clyde McManamy, of Van Ormer, has been adopted by the mother of a litter of pups, and is getting along famously, neither the foster mother nor the little bruin being apparently aware of the deception.

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