

-Talking about taking ways; CASSIE CHADWICK seems to have had them.

-The fall of Port Arthur came near holding out until the spring of 1905.

-If your Uncle SAMMY PENNYPACKER had his way we would all be in the dog pound.

-The rain on Monday was sufficient to water the stock for a few days—that is, the farm stock.

-It is now the Hon. JOHN NOLL in reality and no one could wear the title more modestly.

-Mrs. CHADWICK told her husband to believe her and, being a good husband, we presume he does.

-Doubtless many of the new leaves that were turned over on Sunday are dog-eared or thumb-marked already.

-There are a few men in Bellefonte just now who would sooner be O. S. P. than President of the United States.

-The ambitious candidate is beginning to be solicitous about saving the dear people from everything but himself.

-And to think that the public had begun to think that PENNYPACKER was outgrowing his asinine habits of two years ago!

-PENNY will probably use his bug net instead of a pistol when he makes up his mind to kill the editors of Pennsylvania.

-Inasmuch as the Baltic fleet didn't get there in time to relieve Port Arthur it will be in order for the Russians to send something to the relief of the Baltic fleet.

-No, dear reader, while it is true that Recorder ROWE swore Judge ORVIS into office on Monday there was nothing in the proceeding to indicate that he cursed Judge LOVE out.

-President ROOSEVELT is early arrogating to himself dictatorship. His latest proposition is to make himself boss of the Panama canal job. We wonder if he will submit to a civil service examination.

-Chestnuts are so plentiful in New Hampshire that they are selling at four cents the quart in many places. Which does President ROOSEVELT take the credit for: The chestnuts or the low price?

-We congratulate Judge ORVIS on his first appointment; that of WILLIAM DAWSON as one of his stipstaves. Mr. DAWSON will not only make a very efficient officer, but his appointment is a decidedly merited honor.

-The Russia-Japan war has already cost \$364,000,000 and the expenses are climbing up at the rate of \$22,500,000 per month. Let us see. How much did it cost to build that beautiful hall of peace at the Hague?

-Mr. WM. RANDOLPH HRAEST'S ambition to become Mayor of New York is a tacit admission that he is following the code of prize fighters who have to "go and get a record" before they can expect to "take on" any big game.

-PENNYPACKER thinks that Philadelphia "needs a newspaper which has the capacity and inclination to make her accomplishments known to the world." Surely he can't take exception to what they have done for him. He is a native of that city by adoption.

-New Yorkers consume 160 gallons of water per capita, Philadelphians 220 gallons, while Bellefontians use 350 gallons. It remains for the Temperance people to figure out whether cleanliness or "chasers" is responsible for our abnormal daily consumption.

-If the Hon. JOHN NOLL and Hon. PHIL WOMESDORF succeed in getting proper appropriations for the Pennsylvania State College and the Philadelphia and Bellefonte hospitals they will have accomplished about all that can reasonably be expected of them during this session of the Legislature.

-The announcement that the present session of the Legislature is to be brief is probably inspired by the certainty that the fifteen Democrats who are in that body will not be able to put any check on the Republican plunderers, whatever, and they will promptly dissipate the ten million dollars in the treasury, then disappear.

-It was scarcely because of superior legal ability or better acquaintance with the case that the Commissioners of Centre county sent E. R. CHAMBERS to Philadelphia to argue the GREEN and DILLEN murder case before the Supreme court instead of permitting former District Attorney N. B. SPANGLER to follow up the prosecution of the case. The Board of Commissioners is Republican, Mr. CHAMBERS is a Republican and Mr. SPANGLER is a Democrat.

-The Democrats of the townships and boroughs of Centre county will be wise if they exercise the greatest care in naming candidates for the local offices to be filled next spring. Everything should be done in harmony and without friction for next fall we will have a full county ticket to elect and now is the time to begin to build up an effective and harmonious organization that will finally fully redeem Centre county to the Democracy. There should be no occasion for fights anywhere and Democrats should see to it that nothing is done that will detract from the onward movement that was so effectively begun last fall.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

VOL. 50

BELLEFONTE, PA., JAN. 6, 1905.

NO. 1.

The President's Plan

It is practically settled that the President's plan of solving the freight rate problem will be adopted by Congress. The plan is to create a court of railroad lawyers with absolute jurisdiction and legalize pooling. The court will have power to increase or diminish rates and its decisions will be exempt from appeal.

As the judges will all be railroad solicitors they will probably increase more than diminish and as pooling will be sanctioned by law competition will be entirely destroyed. Under such circumstances what the railroads will do to shippers will be plenty. The effect on consumers is equally certain. The railroads will have a pudding.

It is this to be the outcome of ROOSEVELT'S "trust busting" it would have been better for the people if it had never been begun. So long as pooling is illegal there is some measure of restraint on the corporations. Companies not admitted to the deal sometimes complained and State Executives like VAN SANT, of Minnesota, and LAFOLETTE, of Wisconsin, could find an opportunity to "butt in" now and then. But after the ROOSEVELT scheme is consummated there will be no such source of safety. The railroads in the deal can snap their fingers at disappointed rivals and hand out opprobrious epithets to Governors who imagine that their allegiance is to the people.

Democrats in the Legislature

The Democrats in the Legislature which assembled, organized and took a recess of two weeks on Tuesday, are few in number but strong in ability, integrity and courage. They held a caucus on Monday night and considered plans of action. Less determined men so meagre in numerical force might have concluded to yield quietly to the overwhelming majority. But they are men of different mettle. They declared a purpose to champion the interests of the people and contest every step in the conspiracy to destroy the rights and loot the property of the public. They may be defeated but they never will be dismayed.

Wisely those Democrats in the Legislature nominated State Senator ARTHUR G. DEWALT, of Lehigh county, for President Pro Tem. of the Senate and Representative R. SCOTT AMMERMAN, of Montour, for Speaker of the House. With equally good judgment they named Hon. JOHN FLYNN, of Elk county, for chairman of the caucus. No better evidence could have been given of an earnest and just purpose to pursue the right. With such men in the forefront there can be no policies pursued other than such as conserve the interests of the people. Those men could participate in no legislation inimical to the public welfare.

The nomination of Hon. JAMES K. P. HALL for Senator in Congress is equally wise and appropriate. Senator HALL is a man of splendid ability and irreproachable character. His Democracy is of the sterling type which subordinates personal considerations to public interests. No man in Pennsylvania has labored more assiduously or intelligently for the party, and in public life he has been so scrupulously just to the people that he has earned and retains the confidence of all, irrespective of party. The compliment was richly deserved and has been properly bestowed.

While there seems to be in the late election about all the glory our Republican brethren can utilize and enjoy, the truth compels us to fear that in the number of post offices necessary to satisfy the demand there is apparently a most lamentable shortage.

Mr. CHADWICK, who has the distinction of being CASSIE CHADWICK'S husband, may have traveled home in a second-class berth, but that doesn't seem to have prevented him being in a first-class muss since his arrival in Cleveland.

General Adua S. Chaffee, commander-in-chief of the United States army, has been invited to be present at the commencement exercises of the Pennsylvania State College next June, and it is just possible he will accept.

One evening last week the citizens of Philadelphia presented representative Phil E. Womelsdorf with a handsome traveling case as a memento of their regard.

Justice Thompson's Decision

The decision handed down by Justice of the Supreme court, SAMUEL GUSTINE THOMPSON, affirming the constitutionality of the Judges' salary law of 1903, surpasses understanding. It is the climax of inequity. It indicates that a Judge can no more resist the temptation to appropriate money belonging to others, if the opportunity presents itself, than an infant in arms can forego the desire to take any toy that happens in its way. It is the severest blow that has ever been dealt against the judiciary. It sacrifices not only public confidence in that tribunal, but the respect of decent public opinion. SAMUEL GUSTINE THOMPSON has written himself down a judicial wanton and every Judge in commission at the time of the passage of the act, who accepts the increased compensation it provides, will deserve popular condemnation as an official robber.

The arguments of Judge BELL, of Blair county, and Judge VON MOSCHZISKE, of Philadelphia, in the lower court asserting the constitutionality of the law was puerile. The reason, given by Justice THOMPSON in affirming that decision are simply absurd. He reverses the meaning of words, perverts the purpose of language. He subverts every principle of legal interpretation and closes his ears to the debates of the framers of the constitution. As a matter of fact he tramples upon the constitution which he was sworn to "support, obey and defend," and violates every obligation which integrity and manhood imposes on a public official or private citizen. The bribed legislator is a monster of iniquity. The corrupt Judge is the crowning evil of civilization. He pollutes the fountain of justice.

It is hardly worth while to follow the devious line of Justice THOMPSON'S sinister sophistry. He doesn't even consult an intelligent mind by making a plausible case. Summed up he asserts that the Judges or Justices of our courts are not public officials. He doesn't venture an opinion as to what relationship they hold toward the people. He claims that the judicial department of the government is independent of the legislative department and therefore the legislative department has the right to increase salaries but not to reduce them but that a constitutional convention, which in the nature of things expresses the voice of the public, can't restrain legislative action with respect to the judiciary. Such rubbish is too absurd to be considered patiently. The author of it is too ignorant, or worse, to be respected at all.

Lawlessness in Colorado

The atrocious lawlessness which Governor PEABODY, of Colorado, practiced during the strike at Cripple Creek last summer was scarcely as reprehensible as that which his party, assisted by a partisan Supreme court is practicing in Denver now. They are proceeding to recommission Governor PEABODY just as though he had been elected and in order to compass the result they have invoked methods that would startle the machine managers in Philadelphia. For example, the other day the Republican majority of the State Senate ousted two members of that body who had held over from the previous Legislature and whose seats had been confirmed by judicial decision two years ago.

We want to see neither bloodshed nor anarchy in consequence of elections in Colorado or anywhere else. We have not forgotten the calamity in Kentucky in 1900, when a hired assassin shot to death the Democratic Governor-elect in order to prevent his inauguration and the present President of the United States, then Governor of New York, shielded one of the miscreants who organized the murderous conspiracy. But if the political pirates of Colorado persist in their plans of fraud and continue to the end their purposes of subverting the just results of the election, upon their own heads rest the consequences. In other words, murderous conspirators should be defeated at any hazard.

Two years ago a Democratic Congressman for Colorado withdrew from a contest because some frauds were shown, though not enough to rob him of his majority. But his Republican contemporary accepted the seat, tainted with fraud as it was, which came to him in consequence. The Democratic Governor-elect, ALVA ADAMS, declares publicly that he wants no commission tainted with fraud and asks for an honest investigation of the ballots, pledging himself to abide by the result. Notwithstanding this offer, however, the Republicans are endeavoring by every fraudulent process to steal the office. If the result of their lawlessness should be a wholesale slaughter we shall have little sympathy for the victims.

No, there were no trusts then. Had there been any the sage who advised his people to "take care of the dimes and the dollars will take care of themselves," would have known that there was no chance for the dollars when the trusts were around.

Antipathy Run Mad

Our esteemed contemporary, the Philadelphia Record, asked a number of distinguished Philadelphians what, in their opinion, is the greatest present need of that city, and published the answers as a New Year feature last Sunday. Various things were suggested by various gentlemen, the much desired thirty-five foot channel in the Delaware river being the most frequent. But there was a singular unanimity among the political pirates. Those predatory operators and purveyors of crime all agree that a greater respect for and more lenient criticism of the public officials is the paramount need of the officials anyway. What the rest of the people need doesn't matter to those highwaymen.

But the most curious response came from Governor PENNYPACKER. He is manifestly in accord with the others of the office-holding class, but with characteristic effusiveness threw in a few side suggestions which were particularly silly. For example, he said that the paramount need of Philadelphia is a newspaper which reflects the virtues of the model life of the city. Obviously this was a plunge into an ocean of irony and a subtle way of giving the newspapers a dig. The Governor like all other men of bad impulses and faint heart, has an antipathy against newspapers which denounce public corruption and expose official venality. In his letter to the "Record" he was giving voice to that antipathy.

This vain old man has no conception of his own absurdity. It is neither our province nor intention to defend the newspapers of Philadelphia against aspersions from any source. They are amply able to take care of themselves against all comers. But we are within the limits of reason in declaring that of all the iniquities of the late Senator Quay's public life the most atrocious was in imposing SAMUEL W. PENNYPACKER upon the people of Pennsylvania as Governor and thus making his silly monthings a medium of shame to the public. His aversion to the newspapers is influenced by the same impulse which makes it impossible for a rogue to have a good opinion of the law at the moment of his execution.

Indictment of Senator Mitchell

The indictment of JOHN HIPPLE MITCHELL, of Oregon, for participation in gigantic land frauds in the State which he represents in Washington, may have a correcting influence on such practices, but will not likely subject the distinguished offender against the law to punishment. If a thorough and searching investigation had been made by Congress two years ago when the attempt was made to inaugurate such a movement it might have been different. But the statute of limitations is a convenient shelter for Republican statesmen accused of crimes, and the chances are that it will be invoked by MITCHELL.

The fraudulent acquisition of public lands by men high up in public life is one of the gravest sources of public corruption. It will be remembered that when the late Postmaster General PAYNE was appointed to the Postoffice Department he was under accusation of stealing title to minerals beneath the soil of an Indian reservation in Utah. President ROOSEVELT wanted him as political manager, however, and a perfunctory investigation exculpated him. MITCHELL didn't operate that way. That is to say, he didn't acquire lands for himself. But he sold his influence as Senator to the land pirates and helped them to loot the government of its land under pretense of acting as attorney.

The President has now made up his mind to run down all such rascals, according to Secretary of the Interior HITCHCOCK. He no longer needs political help and proposes to punish those who were his accessories before the election. We are glad to learn of this change in his temper. A good deal of the public domain may yet be saved to the people by this reform of the President, and improvements are always "better late than never." But we will not be too free with congratulations until further developments. It is quite possible that the indictment of MITCHELL is in the nature of a false pretense.

A Rasping Compliment

According to the Philadelphia Press' presentation of the situation there is not an "actual leader or ruler of the Republican party in Pennsylvania," with the exception of Senator P. C. KNOX, outside of the city of Philadelphia. This is certainly paying a high compliment (?) to the hundreds of able and responsible Republicans residing in different sections of the Commonwealth, who have heretofore imagined that they amounted to, at least something, when it came to the matter of managing their party affairs. And this compliment is emphasized by the fact that creatures of the mental calibre of IS. DURHAM, JIM McNICHOLO, Mr. ANDREWS and GEO. VARE are put forward as four of the six actual leaders and rulers of the party in the State.

What a glory it must be to be a decent Republican outside of Philadelphia?

Could Benefit the State if They Would, But They Won't

From the Pittsburgh Post.

It is said the country Members of the Legislature are perfecting an organization for the purpose of caring for the interests of their constituents, and preventing the Philadelphia and Allegheny county members from dictating legislation. The proposed organization will embrace Democrats as well as Republicans. Certainly if such organization be effected it can, if properly directed, be the means of accomplishing much good for the people of the State. The one chief source of evil legislation has been the delegation from Philadelphia, whose membership with very few exceptions have for years been absolutely controlled by the corrupt city and State machine. In former years the only check in the Legislature upon evil legislation was the combination of some of the country members with most of those from Allegheny county. But of late the delegation from Allegheny has been joining hands with that from Philadelphia, with lamentable results for the State. Again, by enacting a personal registration law it will become impossible for the corrupt Philadelphia machine to elect the kind of legislators which the city has been sending to Harrisburg, to its own disgrace and the great injury of the State. The enactment of a uniform primary election law would still further improve the character of the Philadelphia delegation to the Legislature.

Yes, And It's One of The Wrongs The People Voted to Endure

From the Philadelphia Ledger.

If the allegations made against the International Paper company before a congressional committee last year be true, that trust ought not to be permitted to do business on American soil. It was charged, for instance, not only that it raised prices and fixed them at an exorbitant rate, and dictated to the newspapers where they should buy their paper and from whom they must buy it, but actually presumed to prescribe the size of paper the user should buy, the width of the roll and, therefore the kind of presses he should use. The charge has also been made that the General Paper company combined with all the other paper companies to close mills in order to curtail the supply, and, having obliged the managers of the newspaper publishers, who were thrown into a panic by a shortage of paper, it raised the prices beyond reason; that the paper trust or trusts have practically subdued the few remaining independent paper manufacturers to their will; that they buy up all the unsold paper of the smaller makers, corner the market, and then shut down their own plants systematically, in order to maintain oppressive prices; and that they sell the product which is unsold in this country at the conspiracy price to firms in Great Britain for what can be got for it, and at a much lower price than it is sold for in this country.

An Object Lesson Sure

From the Toronto Globe.

A man in the dry goods business in Boston, who has a farm in New Haven, purchased last summer an agricultural implement from an American maker, which cost him \$97. The farm next to his man's property is leased by an Irishman not long in the country. Soon after the arrival of the new implement the Irish farmer, looking over his fence, watched the new machine at work. "Two years ago, in Ireland," he remarked to the dry goods farmer, "I got a machine exactly like that made by the — company of the United States." "The same concern from whom I bought this; what did you pay for it?" asked the dry goods farmer. "It cost me £11 laid down in Belfast," was the reply, which brought forcibly home to the American the blessings of high protection.

Three Million Absentee Voters

From the New York World.

The fullest vote in proportion to the population ever cast in a Presidential election was in 1896; when the ratio was 1 to 5. By this ratio the vote in November would have been 16,600,000. The vote actually polled was 3,092,000 short of this. Just what proportion of these potential but absentee voters were dissatisfied Democrats, disgruntled Republicans, disqualified negroes, or Southern whites, who had not sufficient incentive to vote in the absence of a real contest in their State, there is no trustworthy method of ascertaining. But the fact that more than 3,000,000 citizens failed to vote—almost one-quarter of the number who did vote—is a fact that should be a matter of serious reflection to the men who are shaping our national politics and controlling the party organization.

She Was Near Enough Naked

From the Bill Board.

Mr. Carleton, the stage manager of Mother Goose, told this story the other day. A new ballet girl was engaged for Mother Goose in Boston when we were there last year. She had never been on the stage before. The night of the dress rehearsal she was given rights to wear and regular ballet costume. As she emerged from her dressing room I noticed that she wore eyeglasses, and I said to her: "You're going to take off those spectacles, aren't you?" "No, sir," she said very emphatically, "I'll not take off another thing."

Col. W. Fred Reynolds, of Bellefonte, has been elected president of the board of Missions of the Episcopal diocese of Harrisburg.

Spawls from the Keystone

The Clearfield county commissioner have announced their selection for mercantile appraiser in the person of John Boyce of Clearfield.

Nelson Babcock, of Mud Run, near Salladasburg, the other day killed two wild-cats and a fox. The cats were very large, one of them weighing 35 pounds.

Bradford is to have a large cutlery manufacturing establishment. Home capital is interested in the enterprise. Stock to the amount of \$60,000 is being subscribed.

Senators Penrose and Knox, it is announced, will recommend the appointment of B. F. Chase, chairman of the Republican county committee, of Clearfield, Pa., to an important consular service.

Dr. Benjamin Lee, secretary of the State board of health, reports that in the month of November, 1904, there were 409 cases of small-pox in the State of Pennsylvania, considerably less than in the same month last year.

The largest turkey ever raised in Lancaster county, a forty-three pound bronze gobbler, raised by John Erisman, of Zapher township, and purchased by John McGinnis, of Mt. Joy, was sent to President Roosevelt for his New Year's dinner.

Carnegie's first gift of the New Year is \$263,000 to the city of Baltimore to make possible the erection of a new building for the Maryland Institute, one of the oldest schools in the State of Maryland and which was completely destroyed by fire last February.

James H. Allport, of Hastings, recently received a consignment of six deer and three moose, which represented their portion of game secured by Messrs. Allport, Baldwin and Lord during a hunting expedition in the wilds of Maine, whither they go every season.

In a midnight encounter with a burglar at his home near Bloomsburg, last Thursday night, William Mourey, a farmer, of Kipp's Run, wounded his antagonist and would have captured him had not the burglar's companion come to his aid by sand-bagging Mourey.

Alone and without food on a bleak, wind swept island in the Susquehanna river, near Herndon, Thomas Erdman, son of Presiding Elder Erdman of the Evangelical church, was a prisoner for over 24 hours owing to the floating ice rendering it impossible for any one to go to his rescue.

The Beech Creek railroad company is said to be back of the quo warranto proceedings recently instituted by Attorney General Carson to forfeit the charter of the Altoona and Philipsburg Connecting railroad, which operates a line from Philipsburg to Ramey, a little over twenty miles.

It has cost \$30,000 to rescue the stranded logs from the subsidiary streams and get them into the Susquehanna river above Williamsport. It cost more than that amount originally to skid the lumber out of the woods and get it into the streams so that it might be carried down to the saw mills.

Robbers supposed to have been discharged prisoners from the Ebensburg jail, broke into and ransacked the Pennsylvania railroad company's passenger station and the postoffice at Ebensburg very early one morning last week, securing 18 cents in the former place and nothing at the postoffice.

The officers of the Pennsylvania railroad company have decided to operate the Petersburg branch by telephone. An office has been opened at the end of the double track at Carlisle and one at Springfield Junction. Between these two offices it is single line. Day and night men are employed at these points.

Throughout the Central Pennsylvania coal field work has been rather slack the past week on account of the miners celebrating the holidays, the lack of cars and the scarcity of water. The lack of cars is severely felt in all sections of the country, in the Pittsburgh district as well as in the Clearfield regions.

Prof. A. J. McKelvey, assistant secretary of the National Child Labor committee, read a paper on "Child Labor in Southern Mills" at the recent session of the American Association for the advancement of science held in Philadelphia, last week. He said there are more children under 16 years of age working in the factories of Pennsylvania than there are in all the southern States put together.

Imprisoned in a box car of corn, which he boarded at his home in Campaign, Ill., to ride five miles to visit his daughter, James McDevitt, aged 55, was carried 600 miles, almost to death. He was five days on the road, with nothing to drink and only corn to eat. Car inspectors in the Altoona yard heard faint groans, opened the car and found McDevitt in a pitiable condition, but he will recover.

Supt. P. E. Crowley, who since August, 1901, has so ably directed the affairs of the Pennsylvania division of the New York Central, with headquarters at Jersey Shore, has been appointed assistant general superintendent of the whole New York Central system, with headquarters at Syracuse, N. Y. His rapid promotion is the result of hard work united with capability in every detail of railroad work.

From the Youngwoman's and Kettle Creek regions and from the Slaton Run district come the reports that the pools are being depopulated of fish by muskrats, otter, mink and weasels, who burrow under frozen ground and ice and make prey of the fish in their contracted quarters. In one instance, along Kettle Creek, where an old splash dam formed a big pool, two black bears were seen feeding on trout which they had caught in their paws through an air hole. The fish kept schooling about the air hole, and the bears—quick as a flash with their paws—captured them.

Jefferson Garman, a brother of former Democratic State chairman John M. Garman, and who has lately worked as a hostler for T. J. Middagh, at Millintown, Juniata county, on Friday night, December 23rd, shot William A. Murray because the latter blamed the former for alienating the affections of his wife. Murray was taken to the German hospital, Philadelphia, where the bullet, which had penetrated the abdomen, was removed but the wound was such that he died Tuesday night of last week. Garman was arrested and is now in jail awaiting trial for murder.