

—With brother SMITH in the field brother DIEHL sees the end of 'easy sleddin'!

—Mr. HOCH seems to have had elder SMOOR 'skinned a mile' in the matter of wives.

—MACHEN declared that he was innocent, but he went to the penitentiary chained to thirty negro convicts all the same.

—Little additional lustre will be added to Old Glory by the acquisition of such stars as are now being proposed in Washington.

—If all of the Russian Generals were to resign the Czar might be able to send a fourth army of very useless privates to the Manchurian front.

—The only way the Philadelphia clergy can hope to defeat the machine in that city is by using machine tactics and that, the clergy would not do.

—A barrel that will hold 43,500 gallons has just been completed in Germany. It is certainly not to take the place of any that our Uncle GASAWAY DAVIS had worn out last fall.

—It is too bad that each Congressman will have only sixty-two thousand packages of seeds to distribute this spring. Why, there will be nothing to keep "Uncle SOLY" busy in Washington.

—The British army is to practice shooting this year with both eyes open. Quite a change, because the Boers always declared that the Johnnies shot both eyes when they fired in South Africa.

—Science has just announced that fair-headed people have the best heads of hair. Of course, you know, we agree that science is a good thing in general, but it doesn't know it all by any means.

—Mrs. CHADWICK recalls, since the death of poor old man BECKWITH of the Oberlin bank, that he had sinking spells after his conversations with her. His bank had a sinking spell from the same cause.

—It is to be expected that the Legislature and the Governor will out down the appropriations to many of the worthy charities of the State in order that favorite banks may reap big incomes from balances carried with them.

—Horticulturalists are making a great fuss over having at last succeeded in growing an apple without a core. As a small boy we recall that most of our playmates declared that the apple they were eating 'ain't got no core.'

—Mme. SCHUMAN-HEINK, the opera singer, is to renounce her allegiance to Germany and become an adopted daughter of Uncle SAM. Hurrah for the Madam! Though we do have a suspicion that she is more for the coin than the stars and stripes.

—The Chicago board of health has issued an edict against the sapki, which is accused of being a purveyor of millions of microbes. It remains to be seen whether the Chicago man prefers to live long or have his chin free from the streaks of soft boiled eggs.

—The Russian nobles have recently given evidence of sanity that is marvelous. They have actually appealed to the Czar for the amelioration of the condition of his people. Of course, you understand, that in view of the threatened fall of the dynasty this overture means six for the people and half-a-dozen for the nobles.

—The country members are beginning to show signs of taking notice at Harrisburg. On Tuesday they actually go so far beyond the control of the machine that they would have killed the notorious judge's session bill right then and there, had not acting speaker MCCLAIN averted the action by his rulings. He only spared it off for WATSON, however, because the country boys say they are going to stick.

—The President has caused the appointment of BAT MASTERSON to be a deputy United States Marshal for the district of New York. BAT'S principal claim to eminence and fitness is the fact that he has killed twenty-eight men and has a notch for each one of them cut on the butt of his trusty gun. This is in the line of the President's remarks to the cadets at Annapolis. He advised them to make each shot hit.

—Mr. and Mrs. G. W. DUNVILLE, of Yankton, S. D., who have twenty-seven children, are to visit the President. The object of the visit is not stated in the dispatches but inasmuch as the number of children about the White House would indicate that the President is observing the biblical injunction to multiply and populate the land we would suggest that Mr. and Mrs. DUNVILLE might find more fertile fields for talking over their wonderful progeny in a single square of one of Bellefonte's most prominent thoroughfares.

—In a statement recently published by Mr. SAMUEL DIEHL, who is a candidate to succeed himself as overseer of the poor of Bellefonte at the end of the year 1904 was \$161.13. It is a matter of interest to the taxpayers to know whether this includes the outstanding orders, unpaid. If it does not Mr. DIEHL should state how much they aggregate, for they certainly represent indebtedness, since his statement shows he had no cash on hand to pay them. Another question might also be asked at this time. Will Mr. DIEHL add another mill to the poor tax for the next year in the event of his re-election.

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The Iniquity of the Season.

The political event of the season is the presentment of the Philadelphia grand jury which lays the blame for the white slave traffic of that city at the feet of the municipal administration.

The white slave traffic is peculiar to Philadelphia. Some time ago it was practiced in New York, but it is so atrocious a form of crime that the Tammany leaders wouldn't tolerate it. It is a traffic in the virtue of young girls. It may even be designated as a purchase and sale of human souls. The dealers in white slaves have their agents operating in country towns and at the wharves where immigrants land. In the country towns they beguile young girls to the city under promise of profitable employment. When they get their victims into the city they turn them over to the cormorants who hold them prisoner until they consent to sell their virtue. At the wharves they find friendless and ignorant girls who are disappointed in their expectation of meeting friends or acquaintances, and under promise of taking care of them betray them in the same way.

Such a crime is impossible without the connivance of the authorities. The helpless girls from the country and the ignorant ones from the wharf would attract the police by their desperate efforts to escape if the police hadn't been instructed to be deaf and blind. The result is they struggle as long as possible against vast odds and finally, exhausted and hopeless, yield. In Philadelphia this heathen traffic is encouraged because it helps the Republican machine in various ways. In the first place the operators in the crime pay a generous toll in money to the machine. Secondly, their resorts, or to speak more exactly, it would be better to say stations, are made places in which to colonize repeaters and ballot box stuffers for election purposes. In some of these dens of vice as many as twenty men are registered as voters, whereas, as a matter of fact, there isn't a man in the place except the manager of the concern and he votes somewhere else, though he invariably acts as pilot for the gang which happens to register from his place and is lodged there during the night preceding the election.

It must be interesting for the clergymen of the country districts to learn that the corrupt vote obtained by this process annually carries the election for the party which many of them support. Pastors from whose flock is occasionally missed a promising lamb will be delighted to learn that the wretches who have beguiled her are shielded in their iniquitous operations because they make themselves vehicles for keeping in power the party which they themselves take pleasure in supporting. It is an unnatural and unholy alliance which brings white slave traders of Philadelphia and the shepherds of the Christian flock in the country together in a common effort to keep the Republican machine in power. But it is a fact, nevertheless, as the clergy of Philadelphia have discovered, and every vote cast by a Christian minister in the country in support of the machine is a help to the white slave traders of Philadelphia.

This is no idle rumor or groundless conjecture. It is the sum and substance of the presentment of the Philadelphia grand jury.

Demand for Judges Increasing.

The efforts to multiply the number of judges in this State go merrily on. Bills have already been introduced in the Legislature during the present session for six new judges in Allegheny county, one in Erie county, one in Cambria county, and one or two others which have escaped our memory. It is said that from three to six more are wanted in Philadelphia, also, and that bills providing for them will be introduced in the near future and railroaded through both branches. The January grand jury for that city reports that there are 6,000 cases on the dockets of the several courts and that will be the excuse for the demand.

We have so frequently protested against this useless and dangerous form of extravagance that we may be accused of "painful iteration." But at the risk of that we again declare that there is no necessity for a single additional judge in any part of the State and that the creation of new courts or the increase of the number of judges for those already existing is criminal profligacy. If there were forty judges in Philadelphia instead of fifteen the business would be as backward as it is now. It is not for the reason that the judges are over-worked that the cases are not tried. It is because of collusion between the courts and the criminals to the end that justice may be defeated.

Take the case of Cambria county, moreover. The present judge in that district has not asked for help or in any manner indicated that he wants another judge. On the contrary, two years ago, when Judge O'Conner had less experience and consequently was not able to perform as much work as now, he declared that there was no necessity for another judge. In Erie county there is no greater need for another judge and so far as Pittsburg is concerned the present judicial force is ample as any lawyer at that bar in good repute will testify. Nevertheless the bills for new judges continue to multiply in the Legislature.

Rate Bill Passed.

By the time this issue of the WATCHMAN goes to press the House of Representatives at Washington will have passed the ESCH-TOWNSEND bill, by courtesy called the rate bill. On Monday a rule making the order was passed. The rule provided for discussion on Tuesday and Wednesday and a vote on Thursday, (yesterday). It excluded amendments and however palpable the defects of the measure there could be no alteration. At this writing the debate is in progress and the infirmities of the bill have been pointed out plainly. But all motions to amend have been defeated by a party vote, practically, and on Thursday the measure will be passed. In this State there are \$4,000,000,000 worth of railroad property. It has been wonderfully productive for the reason that it has been managed with infinite skill and marvelous judgment. Even if the management of the Pennsylvania and the Reading railroads had been less capable they would have probably been valuable properties for the reason that the State is so rich in resources and so abundant in prosperity that those railroads would have done well in spite of bad management. But the high value of the properties is likely to be impaired now that there is a chance to take the management out of the capable hands which have so well directed them and turn them over to a group of political pirates who will have no interest in them further than a mercenary one.

As we have before stated we are not averse to such regulation of corporate interests as may be assumed by government within the constitution and laws. But congressional legislation taking the power of regulating Pennsylvania corporations not only out of the hands of their owners but out of the control of the State, is a usurpation of authority, however, that can't be too emphatically condemned. It is not only a perversion of the fundamental law of the country, but an actual overthrow of the principles of our government. Happily the Senate, more conservative as well as more capable of treating such questions, hasn't as yet given its assent to the outrage and is lodged there during the night preceding the election.

Patton and Roosevelt.

Judge GORDON, of Philadelphia, was neither candid nor accurate in his speech at the EMORY dinner in that city. He may believe, as he stated, that President ROOSEVELT is at present "the foremost Democrat in official position in America." His political relationships in recent years have been such that his idea of Democracy may be more or less perverted. But he has no right to quote the late Governor ROBERT E. PATTON to support his views on the subject. At least he has no right to misrepresent the opinions of the distinguished Pennsylvania Democrat with the view of corroborating a statement which is absurd on its face.

Judge GORDON'S obvious purpose was to show that President ROOSEVELT'S present contention for federal control of railroads is a reiteration of the expressions of Governor PATTON on the same subject in 1883. "In reading President ROOSEVELT'S speech this morning," Judge GORDON declared, "I was struck by the realization that there was not a word or a line he uttered that may not be found, in spirit at least, in the inaugural address and subsequent messages of Governor PATTON, earnest and well considered pleas for the support of the constitution of the State."

There is a vast difference in the positions of Governor PATTON, as expressed in his inaugural address of 1883, and messages following, and that of President ROOSEVELT. As Governor of a sovereign State he urged the Legislature to obey the constitution by enacting legislation which would compel the corporate creatures of the State to fulfill their obligations to the people. He had taken an oath to obey the constitution and he was endeavoring to do so. But President ROOSEVELT is violating the constitution of the United States by forcing Congress to usurp the prerogatives of the States in order that his powers may be enlarged and his authority multiplied.

The Mystery of Judge Swayne's Case.

The effort to shield Judge SWAYNE, of the United States court for Florida, is the mystery of the present session of Congress. When the question of his impeachment was first brought into Congress the sentiment in favor of it was practically unanimous. He had been guilty of so many offenses against the judicial proprieties that every lawyer on the floor was outraged. The first step in the proceedings was to appoint a committee to frame articles of impeachment and if we remember correctly there wasn't a vote against the proposition. But when the subject came up again on a motion to adopt the report of the committee, a lot of votes were recorded on the other side and it was carried by a narrow margin.

What caused the change in sentiment is the mystery. No new evidence in defense

of the accused was discovered. No extenuating circumstances were brought forward. There was nothing palatable in the conditions to change the views of anybody. But General GROSVENOR, of Ohio, intimated that it was a political case. Mr. LITTLEFIELD, of Maine, said that it was a persecution. Mr. PAYNE, of New York, suggested that he wasn't quite certain. And so it went. Instead of the unanimous vote that was expected to sustain the report of the committee every Republican on the floor except twenty-three voted on the other side. No explanations were given. No plausible excuse was offered. There had simply been a reversal of nearly half the membership.

The cause of all this is at last leaking out, however. The principal charge against the accused is that he had used special trains of a bankrupt railroad for his personal pleasure. When the bankruptcy of the company became known he appointed a receiver whose tenure of office and compensation was subject to his own caprice. Subsequently he ordered the receiver to supply him with a special train equipped with provisions and manned by the usual force to take his family to California once and to Delaware other times. The expenses came out of the treasury of the road and the transaction was so nearly like that of ROOSEVELT when he went to Yellowstone park that the Republican leaders came to the conclusion that it would better be kept quiet. That is the reason that Judge SWAYNE is likely to escape the consequence of his "high crimes and misdemeanors in office."

An Outrage Upon Americans.

The decision of Attorney General MOODY to the effect that Canada wheat imported into this country for the purpose of grinding into flour for export shall escape the payment of import duties is a most astonishing official declaration. The DINGLEY tariff puts a duty on wheat imported, no matter where it comes from or what it is to be used for. The decision of the Attorney General, therefore, works an amendment of the powers of Congress which is specifically forbidden by the constitution. All legislation, according to that instrument, is vested in a Congress consisting of a Senate and a House of Representatives.

But if there were no such provision of the constitution the decision would be bad law and bad policy anyway. For example, it enables the importers of Canada wheat to sell flour to foreigners at considerably less than they can sell it to home consumers thus discriminating in favor of foreigners who buy flour in this country and against Americans. In the cost of production in this or any other country the cost of living becomes an active and important factor. For example, if foreign operatives can live for fifty cents a day and Americans in the same industry require seventy-five cents a day that difference must be paid to the American in wages which enters into the cost of production. Under the decision of MOODY that difference is created and that is a discrimination against Americans.

In the metal industry the Steel trust sells to foreign purchasers at \$10 a ton less than they charge home buyers. The result is that our shipbuilders, tool makers, engine builders and other manufacturers who use steel largely are at a disadvantage to the extent of that difference, in the markets of all other countries. The decision of Mr. MOODY now extends the advantage to all fields of industrial enterprise and the policy of our government is to put a handicap on all our industries. This is literally carrying folly to the full limit of absurdity. It is discriminating against our own people in every line of endeavor and a burning outrage upon the American people.

—The WATCHMAN has received from general superintendent T. B. Patton the eighth biennial report of the Huntingdon Reformatory, for the years 1903-'04. In it Centre county is charged with four inmates during the year 1903, who were there a total of 998 days at a cost of \$319.36. In 1904 this county had 4 inmates for a total of 643 days at a cost of \$199.33. The report throughout is a most creditable one for the institution.

—It can now be said that smallpox has virtually been stamped out in Centre county. Every case in Bellefonte has recovered and are out of quarantine and the only case now in the entire county is that of J. W. Lee, at Hubersburg, and he has almost entirely recovered. When this family gets out of quarantine the county will then be clear of the dread disease, a fact for which the local boards of health deserve special commendation.

—How much, if any, have you given toward the Academy grounds improvement fund. If you have not yet contributed, you should do so at once and get in at the head of the list.

Of Course It Won't, It's Not There to Lessen Taxes.

From the Williamsport Sun.

"Farmer" Cressy on Wednesday introduced in the House at Harrisburg a bill providing for the retention by the counties of all the license taxes now collected, part of which taxes are paid into the State treasury. This measure, if enacted into law, would keep in the county treasuries all of the revenue derived from liquor, billiard and every other kind of license taxes. Efforts have been made at previous sessions of the legislature to have a similar measure passed, but in vain, and it is not likely that the machine legislature will take kindly to Mr. Cressy's bill at the present session.

The Pennsylvania State Grange is back of the Cressy bill, and every farmer indorses the proposition as a means toward reducing taxation in the counties. The Legislature, however, will not take any steps to lessen the burdens of the counties. All the money that can be collected in the counties is needed to meet the extravagant expenditure of the Legislature and to go to help swell the State's deposits in the banks favored by the machine. The farmers who were told that it would be to their interests to elect machine legislators will reap nothing but disappointment for the faith they placed in machine promises.

A Victory Without Results.

From the Johnstown Democrat.

The Beef Trust has lost its fight in the Supreme court and now all those who regard Mr. Roosevelt as a real trust-buster will redouble their rejoicings. But it might be well to restrain jubilations over this triumph of the President until it becomes clear that it means something. There has been an injunction against the Beef Trust for many months. It has been just as binding upon the combine since the day it was put in force by the lower court as it is today. Yet the Beef Trust has gone about its business absolutely undisturbed and has levied tribute on consumers as ruthlessly as though no trust-busting Knight errant had ever rode down the pike to end his shining lance upon the face of the spoiler.

It is to be doubted whether any relief will accrue to the public as a result of this "victory." The real power of the Beef Trust lies in its secret relations with the transportation monopoly; and these relations have not been seriously impaired.

Why Flour is Costly.

From the New York World.

In extending the export drawback to wheat, which, even when mixed with a larger quantity of American wheat in the form of flour, the Treasury Department's ruling will make flour cost more in the United States than in any other country. There is a duty of 25 cents a bushel on imported wheat. Canadian wheat mixed with the softer American grain makes more and better flour. On all of this good flour sold to American consumers a tax must be paid. On all of this good flour eaten by foreigners the miller gets a rebate equal to the tariff.

The export drawback is of great value to the Minneapolis millers. There are some thirty millions of other people in the United States who would be glad to share its benefits.

Possibly You Could Tell Us.

From the Lincoln (Neb.) Commoner.

A St. Louis reader of the *Commoner* wants to know why a stolen horse should be returned to the owner, while a stolen franchise is held to be as good as against the people from whom it was stolen? The *Commoner* is not able to give any good reason. If anybody attempts to give a reason, it will probably be that the stockholders are innocent purchasers, but as that does not protect one who buys a stolen horse innocently, it can hardly be accepted as a sound reason. The time may come when the courts will treat a stolen franchise as they treat anything else stolen, only before that time comes cities will cease to either sell or give away their franchises to private corporations.

A Panacea for All ills.

A country newspaper speaks of a man who always paid for his paper a year in advance. As a reward he was never sick in his life, never had a corn on his toes, or toothache, his potatoes never rot, the froe never kills his pears, his babies never cry at night, his wife never scolds, and he has succeeded in serving three terms on the school board without being criticized. We do not know whether such happy results would follow paid-up subscribers to this paper or not, but it wouldn't do any harm to try it.

A Good Thing to Be.

From the Minneapolis (Kan.) Better Way.

The ship subsidy bill will occupy a good part of the time of Congress this winter. It is a scheme for the government to give several millions to ship owners as was formerly done with railroad companies. When the Farmers' Alliance advocated loans on land it was denounced as paternalism. The ship subsidy—a direct gift—is "business."

Be a ship owner.

And It's the Same With Republicanism.

From the Newton (La.) Herald.

Hamilton represented everything that a republic cannot be and everything that a monarchy should be. He was a typical aristocrat of the imperialistic school. He believed in a government of the few and for the few. He discredited the people, believing them to be incapable of knowing what they needed or of having sense enough to vote for it.

And That's Exactly What It Was Elected to Do.

From the Greensburg Argus.

Almost every move thus far made in the Legislature has had for its purpose the perpetuation of machine power and the strengthening of its hold upon the State treasury. Never in the history of the State has there been such studied effort to rob the people and so little legislation to further their interests.

Spawls from the Keystone.

—The family of the late Senator A. E. Patton has placed a handsome \$5,000 monument at his grave in the Curwensville cemetery.

—The new paper mill at Williamsburg, Blair county, giving employment to 200 people, will be ready for operation the first of May.

—The report of State Treasurer Mathews for January shows a balance in the general fund of \$10,663,924.57 at the close of business February 1st.

—A mica bed has been discovered near Trevorton, in Zenby township, Northumberland county, and a company is being organized to develop the land.

—A pine tree was cut at Hoover & Washburn's saw mill near Philipsburg a couple of days ago, which measured 15 feet around the stump, made 14 logs and sealed 4,511 feet of boards.

—While in the forest of Goshen township, Clearfield county, after firewood, his dog being along, Dorsey Wallace was attacked by a large wild cat, which first killed the dog. Armed with a stout club, Mr. Wallace succeeded in killing the animal after a hard struggle.

—The Good year brothers recently offered John E. DuBois \$1,000,000 for 9,000 acres of timber land in Clearfield county in order to keep their mills running full time. The offer was refused, however, as the timber is worth more than that on the stump, not counting the bark, etc.

—Twenty-one and two-tenth inches of snow fell during the month of January and including the rainfall of the month the precipitation was 4.15 inches. During the 17 years the Harrisburg weather bureau has been operated, only twice has the precipitation been greater during the month of January.

—Daniel Appleby, a resident of Mount Union, was run down and instantly killed at that place at 6 o'clock Monday morning. He was crossing the track, when he was struck by train No. 19, which was running late. Appleby was aged 60 years and had been employed in the freight station for a number of years.

—Ex-State Treasurer Frank G. Harris, of Clearfield, and Miss Glenora Gearhart, of the same place, were married, last Wednesday, at the home of the bride's brother-in-law, Mr. William A. Bloomer, in Ashville, S. C. An extended honeymoon trip will be made through the South ere they return to make their home in Clearfield.

—The total output of fish from the Erie, Corry and Bellefonte hatcheries, for 1904, was 78,975,867, of which 5,386,750 were game fish, including brook trout, black bass, yellow perch and sunfish. The remainder of the output was food fish. Frogs are included in this output, there being 33,000. The cost of operating the five hatcheries in the State, including office expenses, was \$28,656.21.

—There is a strike on in the Stewart township public schools, Fayette county. 43 pupils quitting because the teacher, Miss Mame Miller, resigned rather than to tutor for Antonia Piccio, an Italian. George Hall, county supervisor of schools, insisted that Piccio be enrolled as a student, but Miss Miller, backed by parents of her pupils, objected. Hall still insisted, and Miss Miller quit.

—The headless trunk of a man was found Sunday night near the Lehigh Valley railroad tracks in the northern part of Wilkesbarre. After considerable search the head was found many feet from the body. It was so badly mutilated that it was unrecognizable. The man was well dressed in a dark suit and was about six feet in height, weighing 225 pounds. No articles were found on his person that would serve to identify him.

—The ministers of the eastern part of Pennsylvania, who joined last fall in a protest against the holding of Sunday excursions to the mountain and lake resorts, were disappointed on Tuesday last to find that their crusade had not proved successful. They were apprised at a meeting of the railroad officials that it had been decided that as long as the people evince a desire for Sunday excursions by patronizing them they will be held.

—George E. Rorabach and Herbert J. Staunert, of Sunbury, will shortly build a plant a short distance east of Nisbet at which sand will be taken from the river bed and put through a renovating process, preparing it for market. They have bought for the purpose two acres of land between the river and the Pennsylvania railroad, from Francis J. Bowling. The consideration being \$400. Their plant will be an extensive one and will employ a number of men.

—George W. Getty, of Catawissa township, Northumberland county, the father of 28 children, is seriously ill, and grave doubts of recovery are entertained. Mr. Getty, who is a man now well on in years, and who has grandchildren and great grandchildren in large numbers, is well known throughout that section by reason of the number of his children, some of whom are themselves grandfathers, even though Getty's youngest child is not more than three years of age.

—One of the Cameron county lumber company's crews of log loaders have made a loading record which they challenge all other Pennsylvania lumbermen to equal. In 6 hours and 40 minutes they loaded 51 cars, on which were 711 logs, estimated to contain 170,000 feet of lumber. John Montgomery was loaderman; James McCracken, engineer, and William Wykoff and William Nunn, hookers. They operated with a standard-size steam log loader, and some of the logs were among the largest and heaviest cut in the Pennsylvania forests in many years.

—Edwin Hoeffer was skating on Wenger's dam, in Conestoga creek, at Brownstown, Lancaster county, Sunday, when his younger brother, John, and his sister, Elizabeth, came coasting down a hillside and upon the ice. Edwin Hoeffer skated up behind the sled and proceeded to push it about the dam. The ice broke and all three children were drowned. The sled was found on the brink of the cavity from which the bodies were taken. Edwin Hoeffer was 17 years old, Elizabeth 11 and John 9. They were children of George Hoeffer, an employe of the Conestoga Traction company.