

—May wheat seems to have given Mr. GATES ajar.

—The Governor says the Legislature has "raped the grammar." How shocking.

—South America may have a waterfall that surpasses Niagara, but she has no Buffalo to use electric power.

—Mr. ROOSEVELT's press bureau seems to be taking its summer vacation earlier this season than usual.

—The evening editions of the city papers have no trouble in getting full reports of Republican state conventions.

—The Republicans have nominated a PLUMMER for State Treasurer and in so doing have found a new job for the ice-man.

—It seems to be a sliding scale that the Beef trust has adopted. As the price of cattle slides down the price of beef slides up.

—What difference will it make to ROOSEVELT whether his bottoms are clean or not, if he has to go to the bottom with them.

—From the bustling it been doing during the past few months, the Equitable is proving itself very close in kin to the strenuous life.

—In some parts of Ireland eggs are the accepted currency and we wouldn't put it past the Irish to throw their bad money at bum actors.

—The Texas boll weevil has jumped out onto the stage so early in the play that the Delaware peach crop failure will scarcely get a hand at all.

—What is the matter with Milwaukee beer? Is it going to permit FRANK G. BIGELOW to rob it of the distinction of keeping Milwaukee famous.

—Indications now are that more HYDE's than one will be pretty effectively tanned in that Equitable lye vat that has been building for lo! these many years.

—When it comes to getting a living there is not so much difference, after all, between the paper and the trust magnate. Both are indebted to the public for all they have.

—A contemporary remarks that the "merry click of the lawn mower is now heard in the land." The merry ha! ha! of the man who has to push it doesn't keep pace, however.

—Many a man who dropped a nickle in to the collection plate on Sunday had paid twenty dollars for the hat that adorned the head of the wife sitting at his side during the Easter-day services.

—The meeting of the Democratic county committee on Monday started the first subscription for flowers to lay on the political graves of HEN KLINE, LINO SWARTZ, ABE MILLES, et al.

—What a stroke of economy! With TOM LAWSON delivering their Fourth of July oration to the people of Ottawa, Kansas, have eliminated an expense bill for otherwise necessary pyrotechnics.

—Bellefonte is threatened with another plastering of posters. Two circuses are to bill for the same week in May and that means an extraordinary display of pink tights, pink horses and yellow amylies.

—With COL. JOHN A. DALRY, the Hon. JERMS FEIDLER and "Professor" FRANK BIBLE as principal pushers "your uncle" CEPH GRAMLEY's candidacy for county superintendent is floating very like a DUMONT air-ship.

—It will now be in order for Mr. PLUMMER to explain his niggardly treatment of our little Bellefonte hospital, and it will be for the scores and scores of poor people who are interested in its maintenance, later, to say if the explanation explains.

—With the new law paying county commissioners a fixed salary in effect the gentlemen serving in that capacity will have no further incentive to make us a new calendar each year containing more than three hundred and sixty-five days.

—So they were actually able to find some one from Blair county who would nominate PLUMMER for State Treasurer. Judging from the way in which he shied at the last county convention of his party we were of the opinion that he didn't have a friend at home.

—New York State appropriated \$50,000,000 for the betterment of its roads, while Pennsylvania appropriated but \$600,000. But then New York don't have to keep a \$15,000,000 surplus for the use of banks, and the manipulation of its State machine, as this in-glorious old Commonwealth is compelled to do.

—"Your Uncle" CEPHAS GRAMLEY, who three years ago and six years ago said he didn't want a re-election as county superintendent, has changed his mind again. Of course "Your Uncle" CEPHAS is old enough to sit up and notice things and that is the principal ground on which we base the guess that away down in his heart he has already seen the hand-writing on the wall.

—After signing the Anti-Stream protection bill with its army of officials, and its \$400,000 for salaries, the Governor has wakened up to the fact that the appropriations exceed the revenues over \$4,000,000, and it is said, will even it up by chopping off this amount from the Hospital appropriations. And yet there are some of us who had almost concluded that he wanted to do the right thing. How easily gullible people can be fooled.

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Hopeful Future of Democracy.

The Democratic State committee at its session in Harrisburg, last week, fulfilled the best expectations of the masses. It unanimously re-elected Senator JAMES K. P. HALL to the chairmanship and plainly indicated the policy of nominating only one candidate for Judge of the Superior court. The re-election of Senator HALL means a continuance of the sagacious and vigorous work for a complete organization of the party in the State. The nomination of only one candidate for Judge of the Superior court means that the Democrats instead of the Republicans will select the minority representative on that tribunal. The candidate will be a Democratic lawyer worthy the support of the party and when elected capable and willing to interpret the laws according to Democratic ideas.

The Republican machine hoped to be able to influence the Democratic convention to nominate three candidates for the Superior court bench and then choose between the three the successful candidate. During the session of the Legislature it was an open secret that negotiations were being carried on to that end. The plan was to lend fifty or sixty thousand votes to the candidate on the Democratic ticket who would engage in commerce with the machine. This proffer, if gossip of the corridors is to be relied on, was made to three Democratic members of the General Assembly during the session, in the hope of silencing them on the iniquitous machine legislation. But it failed.

State Chairman HALL and other Democrats in and out of the Legislature were too alert to permit such political commerce "under their noses." The result is that the Democrats will nominate only one candidate and he will represent the best impulses and loftiest purposes of the party. He will not consent to borrow any votes from the Republican machine in Philadelphia or elsewhere. He will be elected by the honest votes of earnest Democrats and he will be under obligations to no machine for his victory. In office, moreover, he will have no debts to pay or bargains to make good. He will interpret the law justly and fairly and serve the people, rather than the machine. Because of these results we are gratified with the work of the Democratic State committee.

Our Faith Still Firm

Governor PENNYPACKER is still wielding the veto axe with heavy judgment, vigor and assiduity. "Five vicious bills fell yesterday," were the headlines in a daily newspaper one morning within the week. "Seven machine bills were put to sleep yesterday," delighted our eyes another morning. And so it has gone every day since the adjournment. From five to a dozen is the daily average and the veto messages are marvels of vigorous English, excellent logic and sound morals. The constitution is violated in one instance, the rules of grammar are literally raped in another and political immorality is outraged in still another. Altogether the veto messages are "interesting" reading.

But thus far no paper has contained information that the odious Philadelphia "rippers" have been vetoed. Last week there was a hearing on the subject and eminent Philadelphians told His Excellency of the character of those bills and the effect if they should become a law. Lawyers pointed out to him the certainty that the police force would be converted into an agency for promoting and protecting crime. But he hasn't indicated a purpose to condemn them to everlasting destruction by the exercise of his constitutional prerogative. He hasn't even gone so far as to declare his sympathy with the unselfish citizens who went at their own expense to protest.

But we believe that the Governor will veto those atrocious measures. He has done some awful things in the past. Under the malign influence of the late Senator QUAY he signed the iniquitous press muzzler and gave his approval to other vicious legislation. But we have always hoped that the influence removed his own honest impulses would assert themselves and that he would prove by his actions his abhorrence of crime in public life. He has three weeks yet in which to justify our good opinion. Until the 13th of May he may exercise his veto power on legislation left in his hands at the adjournment of the session and we have faith that he will act right.

—Last Saturday was "apple day," and if the old adage be true that when the sun shines through the branches on the 25th of March it is a sign of a big apple crop, there should be an abundance of the fruit this year, as the sun shone all the day through.

—Anyway, that Harrisburg Republican ratification meeting didn't handicap the future expectations of the State machine, with pledges that the election of Mr. J. LEE PLUMMER would stop the leaks about the State Treasury.

If He Should Get Lost.

If President ROOSEVELT would spend all his time in the fatnesses of the Rocky mountains how happy and prosperous this country might be. Of course it costs money to keep luxurious special trains at convenient points for his accommodation. But the Pennsylvania railroad is probably paying the bill, as it bore the expenses of his last trip to the Yellowstone park. Equally of course the company may reimburse itself by adding to the charge for carrying mails. But even at that his trip is less expensive than a few swipes of the big stick among the Latin-American Republics and therefore we can afford the cost of the trip, though it would be more honest to make the charge direct.

Since the President "struck the trail" out from Glenwood Springs, Colorado, no disturbing sound has come from South America. Mrs. ROOSEVELT has been governing along the South Atlantic coast in a government vessel and such excursions "for the benefit of the children" are costly. But there hasn't been a single outbreak either in San Domingo or Venezuela and consequently there has been no occasion to dispatch a fleet or order a squadron of Marines to invade any helpless power. That being true we are all to the good financially speaking. One movement of a fleet to suppress a rotten usurper in San Domingo would cost more than the President's trip and his wife's voyage in southern seas.

Therefore we hope the President will remain in the mountain woods indefinitely. We don't need him here at all. The government at Washington is getting along as well without as it could possibly do with him while we are saving money. Of course it's a trifle hard on the constitution, which forbids the use of public money for such purposes. But the constitution would get the worst of it anyway. ROOSEVELT doesn't know anything about the constitution. His own caprices are the only guide he recognizes, so that all things considered the longer he stays away the better. We move that his salary be sent to him monthly so that he will not feel it necessary to come back at all.

Proposed Amendment to Democratic Rules.

Following is the full text of the proposed amendment to the State Democratic rules suggested by the Executive Committee and recommended by the State Committee at the recent meetings of these bodies, for the purpose of preventing or ending dead-locks in district nominating conventions. It will be presented to the coming State convention, and if adopted by that body, will become a part of the rules of the party within the State:

Proposed Amendment to State Democratic Rules Concerning Congressional, Judicial, Senatorial and Legislative Nominations.—All disputes or disagreements arising in any Congressional, Judicial, Senatorial or Legislative district in the State of Pennsylvania, as to the mode or manner of making nominations therein, or as to the number of Conferees or Delegates the several counties in such district shall be entitled to in the Conference in such district, or upon the question of rotation, or any other matter pertaining to the subject, shall be referred to the Chairman of the Democratic Congressional, Senatorial or Legislative Executive Committee.

If the counties forming any such Congressional, Judicial, Senatorial or Legislative district fail to agree within fifty-six (56) days of the election, as to any matter or thing pertaining to such nominations, then the mode of bringing such dispute to a settlement before the State Executive Committee for determination and settlement of the district, whereupon such petition shall be heard by the Chairman of the State Central Committee, or by the Chairman of the County Committee (or by the majority of the members thereof) of any county forming part of such district, setting forth briefly the subject matter of any dispute or disagreement, the truth of which shall be vouched for by the affidavit of at least ten (10) reputable Democratic electors of the district, whereupon such petition shall be forthwith referred to the State Executive Committee, which Committee shall fix the time and place for the hearing, at least five (5) days notice of which shall be given, by registered letter, to the Chairman of all of the County Committees of the several counties forming such district. The Executive Committee shall, at the time and place fixed, proceed to hear such relevant testimony and arguments, as may be presented on behalf of the parties in interest, and shall decide such disputes and disagreements, which decisions shall be final and conclusive upon the Democratic organizations in the several counties forming such districts.—Provided, however, that the member or members of the Democratic State Executive Committee representing the district in which the dispute under investigation occurs shall not have a vote in deciding the said disagreement.

—It was chairman PHILIP FOSTER, of the Republican county committee, and deputy revenue collector GEORGE WASHINGTON REES, who Mr. LEE PLUMMER, now Republican candidate for State Treasurer, unnecessarily and insolently snubbed and insulted when they called upon him in the interest of the Bellefonte hospital while the appropriation bill was being held in his committee. It will be seen later on, if either of these gentlemen have the spirit to resent either a snub or an insult when it is stuck under their nose.

—Seats in the New York stock exchange are selling for \$82,000, which leads to the conclusion that a good many of us will have to be content with hanging onto the straps for a while yet.

Does Mr. Gramley Know His Mind?

While we have no intention of raising the question of fitness for the office of county superintendent there are reasons why the aspirations of Mr. C. L. GRAMLEY to succeed himself should appear peculiar to the people of Centre county. Over and above them all is his own statement made before the directors' convention at the time of his last election when he said: "If I am elected this time I will never be a candidate for the office again." Mr. GRAMLEY made the promise in good faith and to good purpose; for while most of the directors at that time were naturally his friends many of them felt that he had taken advantage of his power to further his own ends by intimidation of parents and friends of teachers. It always had been an open secret that Mr. GRAMLEY mixed up politics with his office and directors were inclined to replace him with another man, when he came forward with the promise to serve one more term and get out.

By his candidacy now he has broken that promise and if he feels that he can break one with impunity, why not one in the future. There is only one of two conclusions to be drawn. Either Mr. GRAMLEY is not a man of his word, or else he does not know his own mind. In this contest we cannot be charged with playing the game of politics, because all of the candidates for the office are Republicans and on that score we have no choice, other than to suggest that the time has come for a change and it should be made.

Democratic County Committee Meeting.

In pursuance to the call of the county chairman a meeting of the members of the Democratic county committee was held in this place on Monday, the purpose of the meeting being to apportion the delegates in the county according to the vote cast at the last presidential election. The rules of the party provide for one delegate for every fifty votes cast. The excess vote in the various districts which did not aggregate fifty left eight delegates to be apportioned. These were distributed among those districts that had the largest fractional part of fifty, namely: Bellefonte, North ward; Philipsburg, 2nd ward; Haines E. P.; Centre Hall; Miles, M. P.; Penn; Potter, S. P.; and Walker, M. P. The following table shows the total vote cast and the delegates apportioned to each district:

Table with 2 columns: District Name and Delegates. Includes entries for Harris, Howard, Liberty, etc.

—A Saturday night free-for-all fight between a number of the colored population of the town and a few white people resulted in the arrest and incarceration in jail of one white man and a colored woman. Burgess Walker says that he is determined to break up all such rowdyism and he will see to it that any person implicated in trouble of this kind who may be arrested and brought before him will be given the extreme penalty allowed by law.

—Last Saturday morning Judge Orvis handed down his decision granting the license to the Garman house, this place, the application for which had been held over since the first of April. The license was granted in the morning and the bar was opened up at noon. During the past several weeks a number of very important improvements have been made in and about the hotel which will add considerably to the comfort and convenience of the guests.

—The death of the young Pittsburger who was shot by a policeman while attempting to evade arrest for causing a disturbance in the "red light" district of that city, is one of those distressing incidents that occur as warnings to others who think it great to cast respect for themselves to the wind in "a night off." The saddest feature of it all is the sorrow that such a death must bring to the young man's family.

—It is generally believed that Russia's financial condition would be all right if it would only stop the "running" expenses.

—It is not at all strange that the bakers are rising to protest about that 10-hour a day decision.

The Beginning of Another Rogues' Gallery.

From the Buffalo Courier. To this time New York state has had no thought of rearing a monument to Captain Kidd—but New York is not Pennsylvania. The Legislature of the Keystone state has voted \$25,000 for a statue to another but no less rapacious pirate, the late Matthew S. Quay. That individual personified political corruption, and as the New York Evening Post remarks, "if it is proper thus to honor Quay, it is time to pull down our monuments to Washington, to Lincoln, to Grant, and to replace them with effigies of Boss Tweed and of Adickes." It is unpleasant to speak ill of the dead; still, Senator Quay did much harm by his practices and example, and if instead of letting his name go into oblivion the politicians of his school insist on setting up a stone or bronze figure of him to be paid for by an appropriation of public money, civic decency is justified in raising its voice in protest. Various bitterly sarcastic inscriptions for the proposed memorial have been suggested. Pennsylvania political morals are notoriously low. Quay was typical of the worst of them. Right-minded people can hardly wish to see a rogues' gallery of sculpture.

Blood Money Pure and Simple.

From the Catholic Standard and Times. In the old law there was another sort of money that could not be given as alms or for religious purposes. This was money on which rested the stain of blood. When repentant but despairing Judas Iscariot brought back to the high priest the silver coins which purchased his treason to his Master, and flung them at his feet, the high priest forbade them to be put in the treasury for the poor, as they were the price of blood. Now, this is the sort of money which Cecil Rhodes offers American youth in his scholarships at Oxford. The blood of African natives and God-fearing Boers, slain that his dreams of empire might be realized, is encrusted thick on this other sort of "filthy lucre." We had hoped that there was sufficient decency and manliness in the American young men of today to reject this gore-stained British bribe, but the occurrence was misplaced. If the hand of Satan himself profaned money, there would be some here ready to accept it. Rockefeller's money smells sweet as compared with that of Cecil Rhodes.

What Greed Gives Us for Food.

From the Public Opinion. "In a bottle of catsup recently purchased in New York was found enough aniline dye to color sixty-four square inches of white muslin's veiling. A small jar of confection labeled 'plum jelly' yielded enough coal tar dye to solidify color 256 square inches of white cloth. In the Bureau of Chemistry are kept a number of large pieces of cloth dyed from the different colorings extracted from oaks and bottles of food products. Similar pieces of cloth dyed from canned and bottled products were exhibited at the World's fair. Sheets of wool and silk five feet square have been dyed with the artificial coloring found in a small quantity of strawberry syrup, catsup, jellies and port wines. Most of the soda fountain beverages are made almost entirely of coal tar dye, acids and artificial flavors without containing the smallest particle of the fruits from which they are named."

When Gambling is Gambling, and When it is Something Else.

From the New York American. Strange, isn't it, the inconsistency of our moral code? To bet on a horse race is immoral, even criminal, unless you do it at the track under the protecting care of the eminent gentlemen of money and method who foster horse-racing, purely in order to improve the breed of horses. To bet on the improve the breed of horses—a thing that may at any moment be influenced by some popular orze or by such a flamboyant proclamation as that of Lawson yesterday—is commendable business, provided you bet enough. If you can only chip in a hundred or two it is "bad bet-shopping," and therefore despicable. If there is to be suppression of gambling, why not suppress all kinds? Can any one doubt that mere gambling in stocks has brought as much misery to families in New York as "playing the races"?

Prayers for a Little Boy.

Burgess Johnson, in Harper's Bazar. Now I lay me down to sleep, I pray Thee, Lord, my soul to keep. If I should die before I wake, I pray Thee, Lord, my soul to take. And this I ask for Jesus' sake. But while I live, I want to be from quick and angry passions free, With gentle thoughts, and happy face, and pleasant words in every place I pray, whatever wrong I do, I'll never say what is not true. Be willing at my task each day, and always honest in my play. Make me unselfish with my joys, and generous to other boys, And kind and helpful to the old, and prompt to do what I am told. Bless every one I love, and teach me how to help and comfort each. Give me the strength right-living brings, and make me good in little things.—Amen.

But the Bear Makes No Contribution to the Campaign Fund.

From the Buffalo Courier. A bear hasn't much chance in the face of a first-class rifle aimed by an experienced marksman; but a Meat Trust or Coal Trust possibly may have no fear at all of the same hunter.

Its Superior Penetration.

From the Columbus Press. In an ancient times the leaders of the church were anointed with olive oil. Nowadays it is Standard Oil.

—Subscribe for the WATCHMAN.

Spawls from the Keystone.

—New Castle expects to capture a Chicago concern to make "noiseless" car wheels. —A 350-pound dynamite blast at Northampton threw out 3,000 tons of rock at the Royer quarry.

—About 3,000 riveters employed by the Pressed Steel Car company, of Pittsburg, went on a strike for an advance in wages.

—By the explosion of a lamp in the home of Mahlon Prinvenhoof, at Montgomery, Pa., bank notes valued at \$10,000 were destroyed.

—Mifflin county's soldiers' monument committee has several munificent gifts in prospect, provided the general fund shall match them.

—Mrs. George D. Miller and Mrs. Samuel D. Brosey, 75 years old, twins, celebrated their birthday at Manheim, Lancaster county, Saturday.

—The governor has signed the bill making it unlawful for boys under 16 years of age to frequent public pool rooms, bowling saloon and ten-pin alleys.

—The Blair county commissioners recently awarded a contract for \$106,500 to W. V. Hughes & Son for certain alterations and additions to the court house at Hollidaysburg.

—Orders have been issued by the National Tube company for the shutting down of its plant in Chester, Pa., and the transferring of all future orders to the new works in Lorain, O.

—William L. Hall, who has been assistant baggage agent at Tyrone station for the past two years, has been promoted to baggage agent at Clearfield. Mr. Hall took charge of the Clearfield office on Monday, April 24.

—Rembrandt Peale is interested in a large tract of coal land at Karthaus, Clearfield county, which is slated will soon be developed. The land is located within a short distance of the Karthaus Fire Brick Co's plant.

—Mahanoy City's council has authorized a \$35,000 bond issue for the paving of two more streets. For the size of the town, Mahanoy City has done more street paving than any other municipality in that section of the State.

—The forty-fourth annual reunion of the First Defenders, comprising the five Pennsylvania military companies who first responded to President Lincoln's call for troops on April 28, 1861, was held Tuesday at Pottsville, Pa.

—A doe has been living with a herd of cows near Watsonstown for over four months. It goes with the cows to pasture in the morning, returns with them in the evening and sleeps with them in the barn at night. All efforts of the farmer to drive the animal away have so far proven futile.

—The Brookville and Mahoning railroad, an extension of the Pittsburg, Shawmut and Northern, is to be built at once. Construction will begin at Brookville within a few days. The building of this road means a great boom for Jefferson county.

—The new paper mill at Williamsburg has been completed and it is the intention of the management to begin the manufacture of paper about June 1. The company will manufacture super calendered and machine finished book papers, writing paper and specialties.

—Ten feet below the earth's surface a vein of anthracite coal has been discovered near Royer, Blair county. Some of the coal was taken out and burned, and found to be of excellent quality. The extent of the vein has not been ascertained. Much excitement has resulted among the farmers in that locality.

—Altoona is riding on the crest of the prosperity wave, merchants saying that more money is being spent this month than at any like period in the history of the city. The Pennsylvania Railroad company paid out this month in wages there \$800,000, \$75,000 in excess of any previous month's payroll.

—The ordinance prohibiting congregating and loafing on the pavements and streets of Altoona is being enforced. One fellow Sunday, for violating the ordinance Saturday night, was given the alternative of paying a fine of \$5.80 or going to jail five days. He paid. Such an ordinance would be a good thing in Bellefonte.

—While in the act of reaching for a mail pouch at a small station just east of Johnstown, Sunday night at midnight, C. O. Mount, a railway mail clerk, residing at Harrisburg, lost his balance and fell from the car to the roadbed. He was taken to the Johnstown hospital where he is being treated for serious injury of the head.

—One of the bills passed by the legislature of special interest to volunteer firemen throughout the State, provides for the payment of \$12 to each volunteer fireman annually. The bill is now in the hands of the governor. The bill, as interpreted in this section, will, if signed, make the payment optional with the governing bodies of municipalities.

—The statement of Food Commissioner Warren, of the State pure food bureau, shows that during the year 1904 the receipts of this department from all sources were \$193,700, and the expenses \$163,300, which leaves a clear profit over all expenses of \$30,400. In addition there is due the State about \$30,000 from fines not yet paid. Of the many hundred prosecutions instituted, 90 per cent were won.

—Pennsylvania fish will hereafter be protected against Sunday fishermen if the fish warden are watchful enough. Three Wyoming county fishermen were arrested for Sunday fishing nearly a year ago and taken before a local justice of the peace, who fined them twenty-five dollars and costs each under the act of 1878. The fishermen appealed the case to the Superior court which has just handed down a decision sustaining the lower court.

—Another steel plant at Pittsburg, starting out with a backing of \$15,000,000, likely to run up into the hundreds of millions as time goes on, will serve to render that city more than ever the iron and steel capital of the world. A syndicate of its business men has just paid \$1,500,000 for six hundred acres of land near Alleghria, on the Ohio about fifteen miles from the city, and the work is to be carried forward with a rush. In addition to steel mills, a large blast furnace and a plant for the manufacture of pressed or wheels are to be built.