

—Have you contracted the habit of writing it 1906 yet.

—ODELL'S days of bossism in New York appear to be numbered.

—By the way has anyone heard that name J. LES PLUMMER mentioned since early last November?

—The Bellefonte Republican is awake at last. It sees breakers ahead for the Republican party in Pennsylvania.

—Stocks are jumping now but the man who doesn't have money to lose should be wise enough to let them alone.

—Sunday will be Russia's Christmas day, but our dear word "Merry" can scarcely be used in connection with it.

—A New York minister wants to know if the coming man will marry. And we rise to remark that he will scarcely get here if someone doesn't.

—The advent of 1906 loaded the water wagon to overflowing and that is probably the reason that some of the good resolvers fell off so easily.

—Bellefonte did not have a New Year's parade of Mummies, but it had enough shooting to put the whole San Domingan army to rout.

—Just to keep some of the other fellows from getting it three of the recently ventilated insurance companies have decided to give Mr. GROVER CLEVELAND \$12,000 a year.

—The cruise of the good ship Lithia, that began so hopefully Monday is already nearing an end. Desertions have been so frequent that there are scarcely enough men left aboard to man the pumps.

—It is estimated that JOHN JACOB ASTOR'S income is only \$30,000.00 a day. Poor man. Possibly his friends could get him a job as president of one of those New York life insurance companies.

—After being assured that he was honestly elected Mayor McCLELLAN, of New York, declared "this is the last office I expect to hold." From the closeness of the contest he had the last one came very near being the last one.

—A Chicago newspaper is fitting out an air-ship in which WALTER WELLMAN, the explorer and writer, is to make a try for the North pole. We are glad nothing more than WALTER and air is to be risked on the venture.

—Now that that very onerous duty of disbursing railroad passes has been lifted from the shoulders of our Legislators the fellows who didn't get any will think about as much of our worthies as the fellows who did.

—The Bellefonte public school teachers are carefully carrying out the requirements of the law in regard to vaccination. Every teacher and every one of the 713 pupils in attendance at the public schools has been vaccinated.

—It is quite probable that there will be enough lieutenants at home hereafter to look after the political affairs. Passes having been called off so many of them will henceforth not feel so frequently called upon to travel.

—The spring election is scarcely six weeks off and very little talk of candidates has been heard up to this time. The Republican bosses have decided to run WM. B. RANKIN for treasurer and W. C. CASSEY for tax collector, so that much is settled.

—Judge ENDLICH, of Berks county, has just handed down an opinion in which he declares that suckers are not game fish. Of course this applies only to the piscatorial tribe because every one knows that the other kind of suckers are anything but game.

—Things are never so bad that they couldn't be worse. Even the political grafters whose business seems to have gone to pot since the last election may be able to find consolation in the fact that there are still some hen roosts in the country that are not under lock and key.

—Governor PENNYPACKER has just appointed editor W. A. KINLOE, of the Look Haven Express, to the position of associate judge of that county made vacant by the death of JAMES W. BRIDGERS. The appointment is a meritorious one and inasmuch as the appointee is an editor it is really a notorious one for PENNYPACKER to make.

—Dr. Harrington, of the Massachusetts board of health, says "the majority of the people are going pure-food crazy" and that is no joke. Just take a look at the breakfast food, vegetarian, two meals a day cranks and compare them with their granddads who ate sausage and pie for breakfast, back-bone and boiled cabbage for dinner and any old thing that would swim in grease for supper and you will see what is becoming of long life and happiness.

—JOHN A. McCALL, president of the New York life insurance company, on Tuesday paid back to the company \$235,000.00 of its funds that he had wrongfully applied. Vast as the sum may appear it is probably a mere bagatelle in proportion to the moneys that have been siphoned from the policy holders of that company by similar processes during the years it has been doing business. While the credit of the New York life has never been questioned it is probable that had its affairs been honestly administered the value of every policy it has issued would be far in advance of what it is today.

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NO 1.

Give Smoot a Square Deal.

We are in cordial sympathy with the movement of the women of America to have REED SMOOT, of Utah, excluded from the floor of the United States Senate.

But there is a good deal in the doctrine of a "square deal," and the people of this country have learned, not lately as some people imagine, but long ago that equality under the law, which is the basic principle of our government, requires that all men be treated alike.

The editor of The Christian World says: "How difficult it is to keep the needle of life's compass pointing toward the north star of that truth of truth!"

Unique Legislative Session. The extra session of the Legislature which will begin work in Harrisburg next Tuesday week, will be a unique body.

The session will cost the people of the State something like a half million dollars. It may be hoped that the reforms contemplated will be worth the money for the reapportionment of the State into legislative and senatorial districts and the enactment of a personal registration law for the cities will be of great value.

But the most important reforms will be left for a new Legislature to perform. That is to say, under the call of the Governor the extra session will not have authority to consider measures looking toward honest elections.

Let Us Step Forward.

By the Rev. F. E. Lauffer Ph. D. pastor of the Reformed church, at Aaron'sburg.

When we are nearing Christmas, when we shall see and hear more of the incarnate Christ, it is a splendid time to "take stock" that we may be better equipped for the winter's campaign in the service of the Master.

We all desire to have the New Year open with opportunities for greater usefulness and more efficient service. If Christmas brings nothing more to us we can be sure that if it brings Christ nearer to us we will be stronger to walk with and to work nobly with the greatest of all heroes.

I believe, with the Hon. W. E. Gladstone, who when he was solving the great questions of national interest and shaping the policies of a great Empire, when talking of questions his ringing utterance voiced the glistering truth.

Enter upon a New Year with hopes high and confidence strong it is fit that we should cast a retrospective glance over the incidents of the year which has gone into history. It was a year of vast prosperity and splendid activity. In commerce and manufactures this country has advanced rapidly and substantially during 1905.

Obviously the Governor still cherishes the hope of the restoration of the machine to power in Pennsylvania. He still clings tenaciously to the schemes of "the most influential political leader" in Philadelphia now happily in disgrace.

In an interview the other day Governor PENNYPACKER most emphatically condemned the policy of vesting too much power in the hands of the Mayor of a big city.

The Legislature is not likely to follow the advice of Governor PENNYPACKER on that or any other question, however. There has been quite an awakening among the Senators and Representatives in the Legislature since the adjournment of the regular session last spring and the influences which carried the QUAY monument, the Pahl bill and the Philadelphia "ripper" will be potent in the future.

Up in Potter county the court and a jury of taxpayers have just convicted one of their county commissioners for "neglect of duty and wasting the county funds," by the letting of an iron bridge 70 feet span and 16 feet roadway for the sum of \$1,680.

—Subscribe for the WATCHMAN.

The Right Thing at Last.

We are unable to subdue a thrill of pleasure at the announcement that the Isthmian canal commissioners have determined to employ a bunch of musicians and organize a brass band.

The art of canal building is progressive and while our forefathers may have got on fairly well with no other accompaniment than the swish of the pick and the sound of the shovel, it is easy to see that in this period of advanced civilization something of a more inspiring and refining nature must be provided in order to keep things moving.

Besides the main purpose of the Isthmian canal commissioners appears to be to "cut up" money and they must have been stupid indeed when they failed to previously discover the efficacy of brass bands in promoting this result.

It is a scheme of measly promises but every little helps and we are glad that it has been adopted.

Pennypacker Favors the Vicious.

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Pennypacker's Cossocks.

From the Johnstown Democrat.

It is somewhat surprising to find the Lancaster Intelligencer giving at least a qualified approval to Gov. Pennypacker's Cossocks.

This state constabulary is without American precedent and it found its model in the constabulary forced upon Ireland by the British government.

It is not a police organization. It is a military establishment. And it will be governed by military rules and actuated by military impulses.

This is the thing that cannot and ought not to be overlooked. It signifies the departure that has been made from Democratic lines. It marks a long step away from the old landmarks of civil rule.

Common Sense on the Quay Statue. From the Somerset Standard (Rep.) In view of the sentiment that has developed throughout the State against the project, it is hardly conceivable that the real friends of the late Senator Quay will further urge the erection of a monument to his memory at the State's expense, and on State ground.

What Did It!

Before the late election there had been no reduction of the state debt for many years, although the sinking fund contained enough to buy up nearly all of the outstanding bonds.

Has Many Companions. From the Helena State.

Governor PENNYPACKER says he is poorer than when he went into office. Other Pennsylvanians are in the same fix.

Making Prosperity. From the Chicago Record Herald.

Russia has contrived to make this one of the most prosperous years the powder and bomb manufacturers have ever enjoyed.

The Roosevelt Bears.

Two jolly, wholesome bears from the mountains of Colorado, "Teddy B." and "Teddy G.," started E. A. Dewalt on his big trip to the Cen. 31 and Atlantic States.

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Spawns from the Keystone.

—Samuel E. Turner was chosen Mayor of Chester, to succeed State Treasurer-elect Berry.

—Owing to a slump in the window glass market the Altoona glass factory was closed down last week for the season.

—A fire occurred at Ramey, Clearfield county, Thursday night, resulting in the destruction of the dwellings of William Krug and Robert Hazelton.

—Major B. Frank Breuneman, one of the most prominent business men in Lancaster and well known throughout the State, died on Sunday at the age of 69 years.

—Judge H. M. McClure will not be affected by the abolition of free transportation on the railroads. He has been on the bench since 1891 and always has refused to accept passes.

—At the prayer service of the Baptist church, Barnesboro, Cambria county, Wednesday evening, the pastor, Rev. L. B. Underwood, announced that he had received a call to the Baptist church of Brookville, Pa., and had accepted his new field for Feb. 1st.

—About 9 o'clock Sunday evening a \$1,500 mortgage and a paper representing \$700 in interest, all of which had been paid and cancelled, were burned at the Third street M. E. church in Williamsport, while the worshippers joined heartily in singing the doxology.

—A dynamite bomb was thrown against the front door of the Giovanni Lazzi macaroni factory at 255 Franklin avenue, Scranton, at 1:15 o'clock Sunday morning.

—To see three teams in midwinter plowing in one field is a scene not often witnessed, yet such was the case one day last week on the P. B. Crider farm in Bald Eagle valley.

—Lying face down where he had shot himself by accident while hunting rabbits on Thanksgiving day, the body of John Crossman was found Wednesday of last week in the woods near his home, at Patton, Cambria county.

—John Hayes Ammerman, of Altoona, while on his way to Tyrone on Saturday night to spend New Year's day with his sister, Mrs. Emma Ricker, was struck by an engine near the red bridge and instantly killed.

—Cornelius D. Bowers, for half a century deputy prothonotary of Blair county, a veteran of the Civil war and one of the most prominent citizens of Hollidaysburg, dropped dead in his office in the court house shortly after noon Thursday.

—Plans of Beezer Bros., architects, of Pittsburgh, were approved and accepted by the board of directors for a new hospital building to be erected during the coming summer at Lewistown.

—Jacob Hauser, the double murderer of Johnstown, who, with Stephen Fellows, is to be hanged at Ebensburg on Feb. 15th, has a deeply-rooted conviction that he will never be punished for his crime, and that the Supreme court is going to save him.

—Having a slight wound dressed with turpentine cost Homer Switzer, a 15-year-old boy, of lower Udry township, Cambria county, his leg Thursday afternoon.

—Charles Shearer, whose home is at Mill Hill, Clinton county, is wanted in Ridgway for the crime of forging two checks, one for \$40 and another for \$20, says the Ridgway Advocate.

—F. A. Dewalt, a veteran railroad, of West Newton, cannot be convinced that thirteen isn't unlucky. His thirteen-year-old son has just returned from McKeesport, following an accident on November 13th, whereby he lost an arm.

—John W. Steele, known all over the United States as "Coal Oil Johnny," is lying critically ill at his home on a farm near Franklin.

—An answer from the anthracite coal operators to the request of the officers of United Mine Workers of America for a conference is said to have been received by Secretary John P. Gallagher of the miners' committee.

—The story of the adventures of "The Roosevelt Bears" will be told in the Pittsburg Sunday Dispatch, beginning next Sunday, by Paul Piper, who has had a good deal of fun with the bears already.