

LIGHT ON \$2,000,000 CHANDELIERS

Bronze Company Worked On the \$2,000,000 Job Before Contract War Awarded.

That some persons will wear stripes for their grafting in the state capitol is the forecast of prominent lawyers, basing their opinions upon the developments made up to date by "frozen-out" bidders, and by State Treasurer Berry, ex-Governor Stone and the architect of the congressional library, Bernard R. Green, not to speak of many other competent witnesses, who, in due time no doubt, will appear before an investigating committee of the state legislature. Simultaneously with the steady increase in the magnitude of the revelations of capitol plundering come the startling disclosures that, with all the unexpended millions in the treasury, the money could not be spared for the decent housing of the unfortunate in the state hospitals for the insane. It appears that the scoundrels of the \$9,000,000 "extra" for the capitol were afraid that if they provided for the thousands of insane who are crowded in the corridors to spend the night there as best they may, the peo-



Jeremiah S. Black.

Fusion candidate for Lieutenant Governor. The brilliant advocate of reform, the fearless enemy of machine wrongs and machine methods, and the worthy representative of the young men of Pennsylvania.

ple would have missed the heavy drafts upon the surplus.

The United States architect, Mr. Green, who was supervisor for the capitol commission, has supplied a foundation for the probing by his sustaining in every detail the assertions of the commission's president, ex-governor Stone, in flatly contradicting Builder George F. Payne's claim that only the "shell" was to be put up by the commission through Payne's contract. Green, one of the best-known architects in the world, says:

"The Pennsylvania capitol was ready for the chandeliers and the furniture when we got through with it. There was nothing needed to be done except in the way of such additional ornamentation as the board of public buildings and grounds thought necessary. The structure was ready for occupancy, the plans had been fully carried out and the specifications had been complied with."

Now, as Green declares, the work, when the commission got through with it, was "well and economically performed throughout, and everything called for in the specifications was furnished," the great question for the probes is: "What has become of the finishings which were considered by so competent an authority to be good enough? Where are they? They have disappeared. Were they torn out or covered up by the imperial 'furnishings' which the board of public grounds and buildings, headed by the present governor, procured without a special appropriation? Mr. Green adds:

"Every room was complete in all respects. The building was painted throughout, the heating apparatus was in working order, the ventilating pipes were in place, conduits for electric lights were complete throughout the building and the wires were laid. Nor did any of this work have to be torn out and done over again. When the

building was turned over by the commission it was only necessary to put the chandeliers in place and move the furniture to make the building practically as it is today."

Since Green thus spoke Mr. Payne has said: "The ornamental work which we did was not in the original specifications." Asked what work done by his firm was torn out and replaced with more expensive trimmings, Payne replied: "I can't say off-hand what extra work we did for the board."

Inside Chandelier History.

As to the \$2,000,000 chandeliers, of which the cost would build a magnificent new road from end to end of the state, or would have prevented the death rate in the insane asylums from being 10 times the normal figure, it is now shown in private by Philadelphia manufacturers and contractors that even before the contracts had been awarded to John H. Sanderson the "Pennsylvania Bronze Company" had been organized by him and work on the chandeliers actually begun. The designs of Architect Joseph M. Huston's artistic bronze fixings were on display in his office for weeks before the actual awarding of the contract by the board of P. G. & B., and, according to one of the expert modelers employed by the company, he was set to work in the architect's office three or four days before the commission had considered the various proposals.

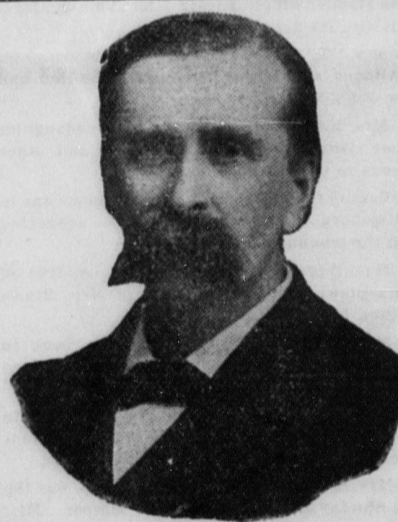
to John Maene, one of the expert modelers:

"Two months before the contract for the chandeliers was awarded the Pennsylvania Bronze Company was organized. I was employed by the concern while the contract for the state's illuminating fixtures was being executed, but at its completion the company went out of existence, and the big plant at 13th and Cumberland was later converted into an automobile factory. Even before it was announced that Sanderson's company would get the contract, and while other firms were figuring on the bids, not knowing how to estimate the cost of the chandeliers by the pound, I was employed by the company and made daily visits to Mr. Huston's office to begin work on the models.

"At that time I knew nothing about the affair, but three or four days after I began work one of the promoters of the concern, who afterward became superintendent of the works, came into the room where I was working and, with a sigh of relief, remarked: 'I feel better now, the commission's given us the contract.' It was then explained that the company had felt confident of getting the contract all along, but with the award by the commissioners of P. G. & B. and the signing of the contract, any trace of doubt which might have existed was wiped out, and from that day things went along flourishingly.

Cheap Make, But Fancy Price.

"One of the orders which struck me most peculiarly was to make the work heavier. As chandeliers are usually made rather fragile, we could not understand the strange order. Time after time models would be returned to us, and we would have to provide for more metal, until in some cases the chan-



William T. Creasy.

Fusion candidate for Auditor General, whose persistent and fearless efforts in behalf of a "fair deal for the taxpayers" of Pennsylvania has forced the Republican machine to belch its own record and to promise the very reforms it has denied the people ever since the adoption of the present constitution.

dellers would be six times as heavy as the ordinary ones. In some cases the weight was increased tenfold. Often the men would be hardly able to lift the things to be turned on the machines. While the specifications provided for the highest classes of work, the fixtures were turned out in the easiest way. French moulding was stipulated, but plain ordinary castings were deemed good enough. Everything possible was done to cut down the expense. Undercutting was avoided, and often castings were made and the chasers did the rest with their tools."

Maene added that prior to the election of Treasurer Berry, against whom the Sanderson firm exerted all of its influence, there was a prodigal use of money, but after Berry had won the

meta, contract was hurriedly finished and the proprietors were less particular about the quantity of metal.

But the foregoing is only one of many chapters to come. And meanwhile Lewis Emery, Jr., proclaims: "If I'm elected I say, not only as to the capitol, but as to the all in it and around it, that I will appoint committees to investigate every department at Harrisburg. We'll find out whether there is corruption, and if there is a law under which we can prosecute the people involved in it they will wear stripes, as sure as there are stripes in the American flag."

Falling of the Leaves.

When the storm clouds gather behind the brown autumnal woods and cold wind begins to blow, then the bright leaves come drifting down in fluttering, fast-thickening showers until it almost seems as if the wind were the active agent and actually tore the leaves from the trees. This, of course, is not the case. The leaf-fall only becomes possible after a long preparation on the part of the tree, which forms a peculiar layer of cells in each leaf stem called the cleavage plate.

The cleavage plate, or separation layer, consists of a section of loosely attached, thin-walled cells with a few strands of stronger woody fiber in among them; so, in the early autumn, although the leaves appear as firmly attached as ever before, they are really only held on the tree by these few woody strands and the outer brittle skin or epidermis of the stem. Now only a slight shock or wind flurry is sufficient to break the fragile support and bring the leaves in showers to the ground. We may see these woody strands broken through in the leaf-scar of the horse-chestnut, where they appear as little rounded projections on the broken surface and are often spoken of from their fancy resemblance to the nails of a horse's leg. The hickory and ash among other trees have similar markings on their leaf scars and from the same cause. On the root of the wild sarsaparilla which projects just above the ground a like series of little projections will be seen upon the ring like scar which surrounds the bud where the leaf-stalk has just separated.

Often the leaves separate and fall even on the quietest days, for their own weight is sufficient to break the frail support. These washed and supremely tranquil days we all remember, when our October walks are accompanied by the soft, small sounds of falling leaves, by the rustling and dry whispings of their showering multitudes.

—From Nature and Science in October St. Nicholas

—Caller: I have here several bills which are long overdue.

—(He utters a desperate cry): I am sorry to say that our cashier is out today.

—Caller: Oh, well, it doesn't make much difference. I'll call and pay them at some future date. Good day, sir.

—"You told me he was a good lad; a 'horse,'" angrily said the man who had made the purchase.

—"He was," replied the deacon. "My wife owned him and she's one of the best women I ever knew."

—Goodness is not goodly—goodness is not the same thing as goodness.

—The Mariner: O, yes, Miss, hunting whales do be a pretty dangerous job; but then, you see, we've got to have the whale-bone.

The Maid: But why run all that risk? Don't you know you can get whalebone in any of the department stores?—The Century.

—A public school magazine contains this courteous announcement: "The editor will be very pleased to hear of the deaths of any of the old boys." No doubt the old boys will oblige the editor from time to time.

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Table with columns: READ DOWN, Stations, READ UP. Lists routes and times for various stations including Bellefonte, Harrisburg, and York.

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BELLEFONTE CENTRAL RAILROAD.

Schedule to take effect Monday, May 29, 1905.

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