

Ink Blotting.

—Kingston, Jamaica, had an earthquake that wasn't caused by a powder mill explosion.

—The President has come down the tree in the Brownsville episode, but he hasn't explained why he went up.

—CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS drew a salary of \$320 per annum and that is all he got for discovering us but fame.

—What the country Members received in the way of appointments at Harrisburg wasn't enough to take care of many of their constituents.

—Old man Winter seems to have found his way back to his business office. During the fore part of the week it looked very much as though he had ramosed.

—An English wind mill at Reigate has been turned into a church. If environment has anything to do with it here will be a congregation that will get long enough sermons.

—It is just three days since the departure of SAMUEL W. PENNYPACKER from Harrisburg and it will scarcely be three days more until Pennsylvania will have forgotten that he ever was.

—Wonder how the Hon. BOB MURPHY, of Johnston, feels surrounded by that pressed leather frieze in the reception room of his suite in the capitol. It is certainly a fine nest for such a fine looking bird.

—Many a lazy fellow who could be laying up something against a rainy day finds it much more to his liking to spend his time arguing out how long this wave of prosperity is going to sweep over the country.

—The small turnout of people from a distance to the inaugural ceremonies of Governor STUART was probably not so much due to a lack of desire to attend on the part of the faithful as it was to a lack of free transportation.

—In Utah the Legislature is going to pass a law permitting candidates for certificates as dentists to practice on the convicts in the state prisons. It is not clear whether the plan is to secure better dentists or fewer convicts.

—The banking power of the banks of the United States is only six billion dollars less than the combined power of all the banks of all foreign countries, yet every time one of the directors of the Bank of England blows his nose Wall street begins to doctor for a case of grip.

—The spring elections are only a little over a month off and it is important that good men aspire to the offices to be filled. Don't give your support to anyone, but remember that the men you are to elect will fill offices which effect you more directly than any others within your gift.

—The Pennsylvania State editorial association on Monday resolved to demand the repeal of the press-muzzler law, but unfortunately for the efficacy of the resolution many of the editors who joined in its passage had previously supported Legislators who will not vote for the repeal.

—The Pennsylvania Railroad probably thinks of issuing that two million lot of bonds and stock in order to let the newspaper people of the State in. We haven't had much interest in the old concern since Jan 1st, 1906, and perhaps this is to be a nice chance to invest some of the money we have so kindly loaned to delinquents.

—The Hon. ANDY CARNEGIE reported more personal property for taxation than any of the others of New York's multi-millionaires. This does not mean that ANDY reported absolutely all of his. It is mentioned merely to show that while no one knows how much honesty is involved ANDY is that much more honest than the rest.

—The people interested in the welfare of the Bellefonte hospital are not alarmed because the Board of Public Charities has recommended that its bi-annual appropriation of five thousand dollars for maintenance be reduced to four. It will be put up to the Legislature good and strong and if returns are not forthcoming then we will be disappointed.

—The nerve of Senator D. S. WALTON in wanting to be president pro tem of the Senate session of 1909, is not a very remarkable exhibition. He was president of the busted Farmers and Drivers National bank of Waynesburg and any man who could do what he did to that institution would have nerve enough to want to take St. Peter's place at the gate.

—Under the sheep law now in effect in this State an owner receives six dollars for each sheep killed by a dog, while the costs for deciding that the sheep is dead run from six to eight dollars. Wouldn't it be better to have the wool pulled over the eyes of justice occasionally and pay for a few sheep that have not been killed than to spend so much on the red tape of proving it.

—Governor-elect STUART's inaugural sounded alright but the first action of the Legislature looked bad. Every one of the reform Republicans voted with the machine Members to force Treasurer BERRY to pay that fifty thousand dollar warrant to architect HUSTON. Mr. BERRY had refused payment with the hope of precipitating a suit that would carry the scandal into court where a proper investigation could be made, but it is evident that even the reformers don't want that kind of an investigation.

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Senator Tillman's Speech.

We own to feelings of satisfaction over the speech of Senator TILLMAN, of South Carolina, on Saturday. TILLMAN is not always wise and sometimes he is too radical in his opinions to be effective. But he is honest, invariably, and candid, and on the occasion in question those merits of his discourse were supplemented by accuracy. He declared that the President's order dismissing the negro troops for participation in a murderous riot at Brownsville, Texas, was a usurpation of authority and a crime as atrocious as lynching. The troops were guilty of a grave crime, he said, and deserved punishment. But the law provides a punishment as well as a method, and in imposing sentence outside of the law and by other than the lawful method, the President committed a grave offense.

The negro troops were guilty of the highest crime against the community in which their murderous assaults occurred. The proper course to pursue under the circumstances was to give the civil authorities ample opportunity to apprehend and punish the wretches. Under precisely similar circumstances that course was pursued in Ohio when white soldiers were involved. But the President wouldn't consent to it in the case of the black soldiers while he proceeded to punish guilty and innocent alike in violation of the constitution, the law and every principle of justice. No tribunal has a right to punish innocent men because others have committed a crime. No man has a right to punish even guilty men unless they have been convicted by due process of law. President ROOSEVELT has done both of these things.

But he has done more and worse. Ever since his elevation to the Presidency he has been encouraging the negroes to a frame of mind which Senator TILLMAN declares leads inevitably to racial conflict. He has incited the negro troops in the army to envy and vengeance. Having accomplished this result he disposed the troops so as to give them the fullest opportunity for vengeance. For example, he knew that the men who perpetrated the outrage at Brownsville were ruffians. They had been guilty of similar offenses at northern posts and yet were sent to that southern station where race prejudices would be certain to incite them to violence. As a matter of fact the affair looks like a conspiracy to reach precisely the climax expressed in the shooting up of the town and the subsequent usurpation of authority by the President.

Promises Without the Right Ring.

Governor STUART continues to make reform promises "to the ear," though there is danger that he will break them to the hope. In his inaugural address on Tuesday he professes great anxiety to pursue the investigation of graft in the construction of the capitol. He declares that he is in favor of full exposure and fit punishment at any cost to the treasury. He even recommends an appropriation and the employment of special counsel. That sounds fine to the casual listener. But it lacks the ring of the true metal. It jingles, in other words, like a coin with a hole in it.

The only way to get a searching and sufficient investigation of the capitol graft is in the courts. A legislative inquiry will not do and an investigation by a commission will prove equally disappointing. The transparent subterfuge of Attorney General CARSON is the best evidence in the world of this. He has gone to the pains of asking a great many questions, the answers to which have been evasive or contemptuous. But they have apparently satisfied CARSON, who is now putting questions and answers in the form of a report to the Governor. The Governor will probably refer it to the Legislature and the whole matter will be treated as a vindication.

If the new Governor and those associated with him in the administration of the State government are in earnest they have a splendid opportunity now to inaugurate a real investigation. Demand was made at the State Treasury the other day for payment of what the State Treasurer regards a fraudulent claim. Payment was refused and it is expected that mandamus proceedings will be begun soon. But there is time enough yet to organize a successful fight for the defense of the treasury. If the Legislature will appropriate \$20,000 to employ counsel and procure evidence twenty times that much will be saved and if the new Governor will say the word the money will be appropriated.

Both on Good Committees.

The Senator from this district—Hon. GEO. M. DIMELING, and the Member from this county—Hon. JOHN NOLL, have no reason to complain of failure to be properly and creditably recognized in the formation of the committees. Both have been placed on some of the most important committees, and each one will have an opportunity, as they will have the disposition, to care for the interests of their constituents in the best manner possible. In the Senate Mr. DIMELING has been placed on the committees of Agriculture, Forestry, Game

and Fish, Public Buildings and Grounds, Law and order, Finance and Inland Navigation, and Mr. Noll in the House, is a Member of the Appropriation, Elections, Geological Survey, Library and Federal Relations.

We congratulate these gentlemen on the auspicious start they are making, and feel assured that the interests of the people of Clearfield and Centre will be watched and carefully guarded while in their charge.

A Disappointing Appointment.

The first official act of Governor STUART, if an act performed before his inauguration can be so designated, is not indicative of reform along a line upon which improvement was specifically promised. The appointment of M. HAMPTON TODD, of Philadelphia, to the office of Attorney General, on the other hand, implies an adherence to the old policy of corporate dominance in the State. Mr. TODD is all that could be desired in ability and character. In complimentary phrase it is said of him that he is "a lawyer's lawyer." In other words, he is so well grounded in the principles of law that other lawyers come to him in moments of doubt and perplexity. No higher tribute could be paid to his legal attainments.

But Mr. TODD is essentially a corporation lawyer. He is what might be justly characterized as an equity expert. During the long period of his professional experience he has devoted his considerable mental energies to the mastery of, not so much the science of law, as the infirmities of the statutes. It is no disparagement either to his mental or moral equipment that this is true. Mr. TODD had no aspirations for public life. His ambitions were all in the direction of professional success and corporation practice is the certain and short line to achievement in that direction. Corporations seek lawyers who are able and adroit in equity courts and equity practice trains the mind to favor corporate interests.

In the appointment of Mr. TODD to the office of Attorney General, therefore, it may be said that Governor STUART has disappointed the expectations of those who imagined that the interests of the people rather than those of the corporations will be conserved by the new administration. Possibly the new Attorney General will hold the balance evenly between the two interests and while conserving the rights of corporations will not subvert those of the people. But it is certain that thoughtful and observant citizens would have felt safer for the future if a man less obligated to corporations and more familiar with the general principles and practices of the law were Attorney General. Constant use of corporation lenses ultimately give a corporate tinge to things.

Why are Our Senators Silent.

Why is Senator PENROSE silent when the President is accused of usurpation and why does Senator KNOX mean by urging LODGE, of Massachusetts, to withdraw his resolution declaring that the President was within his constitutional limitations in dismissing the colored troops? Are we to understand that the Pennsylvania Senators are among the opponents of the President in the controversy now in progress? It can hardly be. The charge is of the gravest character. If it is sustained it may result in impeachment proceedings and the disgrace of ROOSEVELT. PENROSE will hardly contribute, even negatively, to such a peril. KNOX couldn't possibly be a party to such a thing.

Only a few weeks ago PENROSE was shrieking hysterically to the voters of Pennsylvania to support the President and KNOX made two or three speeches during the campaign to the same purposes. The only menace under which ROOSEVELT rested at the time was that a real friend of his, personal as well as political, appeared likely to be elected Governor of the State. ROOSEVELT wouldn't have suffered in consequence of the incident though the Republican machine would probably have been fatally damaged. But PENROSE and KNOX sounded the alarm that the President was being threatened with all sorts of enemies and opposition and urged voters to come to his rescue. Now that he is in real danger, however, they are silent.

We believe that the conduct of the President in relation to the negro troops is indefensible. It was a usurpation that involves the gravest danger and may work disastrous consequences. But PENROSE ought to make some effort to shield him and KNOX is equally bound to come to his defense. They pretended to be his friend last fall even after the incident which has brought him under criticism and stirred up the prejudices of others under the false pretense that he was in danger. But now that he is in danger, now that determined and able men like Senator FORAKER openly accuse him of high crimes and misdemeanors, for the usurpation amounts to that, they are silent.

—This has been another week of rain, mud, snow and general disagreeableness.

Stuart Rebukes Pennypacker.

The striking feature of Governor STUART's inaugural address is the palpable rebuke of the practice of his predecessor in office, the absurd PENNYPACKER. "Pre-eminently," declares the new Governor, "I desire to call attention to the condition of the hospitals for the care of the indigent insane. To my mind the care of these unfortunate is the first duty of the State whose wards they are. This obligation is a sacred one and not only rests upon the grounds of common humanity, but arises because it is utterly impossible for the indigent insane to receive, elsewhere, the treatment which they ought to have and which the State should furnish to them. We have not kept pace," he continues, "in the last ten years with the rapid increase in the number of cases of this character and as a consequence the state institutions for the insane are much overcrowded."

Two years ago precisely the same conditions existed and the machine Legislature reluctantly obeyed the public demand for improvement by appropriating money, in part, if not sufficient, to remedy the evil. But Governor PENNYPACKER vetoed every such appropriation for the ostensible reason that the funds in the treasury were insufficient whereas, as a matter of fact, there was abundance of money in the treasury to meet every requirement of that kind. What Governor PENNYPACKER really meant, however, was that the measure of the cupidty of his grafting friends had not been accurately taken and the indigent insane and other helpless wards of the State should wait and suffer until the last desire of the grafters was satisfied. It was to rebuke this iniquity that Governor STUART spoke as he did with reference to the delinquencies in charity work for the past ten years.

The money that ought to have gone to improve the conditions of the insane was stolen out of the treasury to feed the rapacity of the grafters concerned in the construction of the new capitol. The conditions of the treasury would not permit of sanitary plumbing or additional space in the Danville insane asylum, where helpless patients were huddled together like pigs in a sty. But there were plenty of funds to buy anobgany chairs by the foot and bronze chandeliers by the pound at an aggregate cost unparalleled in the history of architecture. That was PENNYPACKER's method of compensating his friends for flattery. As QUAY discharged his obligations by placing public patronage where it would do the most good PENNYPACKER paid his political debts by opening the treasury to those who served him.

Cortelyou's Nomination.

The nomination of GEORGE B. CORTELYOU to be Secretary of the Treasury continues to create trouble. The latest aspect of the affair is a difference between the National City bank of New York, which is opposed to the confirmation, and J. PIERPONT MORGAN & Co., who favors him. The National City bank is the Standard oil financial institution and is said to have been receiving all the treasury favors for ten years or more. MORGAN & Co., have not been favored with advance information or even deposits under the administration of LYMAN J. GAGE and LESLIE M. SHAW. They think it is about time that they should have an inning.

There are a good many people opposed to CORTELYOU for that office for other reasons than those which influence the Standard oil crowd. As chairman of the Republican National committee during the recent presidential contest Mr. CORTELYOU put himself under obligations to certain financiers for sinister services and it is widely believed that his nomination for the office was for the purpose of giving him an opportunity to reimburse them. But that is an old fashioned notion which won't cut much ice. If CORTELYOU's nomination is rejected it will be for other reasons than that. There is another nigger in the woodpile.

We are of the opinion that CORTELYOU will be confirmed in the near future but predict that it will be after an understanding has been reached with the managers of the National City bank. The nomination has been referred to the Finance committee of the Senate of which Senator ALDRICH is chairman. ALDRICH is related to the Standard oil company by marriage. That is to say, his daughter is the wife of Mr. ROCKEFELLER's son and incidentally the Senator is the agent of the Standard in the Senate. The party can't afford to lose CORTELYOU so that it is safe to guess that the problem will be solved by an agreement between the candidate and the confirming power.

—Twins were born to an Austrian woman, living near the Bellefonte furnace, last Saturday afternoon. One of the babies died within an hour but this fact did not deter the father and his fellow countrymen from enjoying the usual christening feast of good things to eat and drink. The dead child was buried Sunday afternoon in the Catholic cemetery.

Pennypacker's Record.

From the Pittsburg Post. Samuel W. Pennypacker on Tuesday finished his work as Governor of Pennsylvania, which office he yielded the same day to his successor, Edwin S. Stuart. The record of his administration can now be easily summed up. Many who ardently supported his election have been much disappointed in his gubernatorial career and there will be few regrets expressed in any quarter over its termination. Governor Pennypacker entered upon his term with the reputation of being personally honest, and he finishes it without any allegation having been made of his having been guilty of corrupt practices. He undoubtedly prevented considerable evil legislation being enacted by making known in advance his intention to veto such measures as he perceived to be dangerous. Unfortunately he permitted some measures to go upon the statute books which he might well have disapproved.

The great weakness of Governor Pennypacker was his singular and absolute blindness to the real character of State political leaders to whom he owed his selection for the governorship and to the evils of the machine built up and fostered by the organization of which they were the directors. In his eyes these men could do no wrong, although history has already condemned them. He could see no evils in the government of Pennsylvania worthy of mention. But in spite of this he was compelled to call an extra session of the Legislature to enact measures to remedy many evils. Although all parties in the Commonwealth have declared the need for further reform legislation by this Legislature, Governor Pennypacker's last measure made no plea for such reforms. The piece of legislation in which he took the most interest during his term was the act which he fondly hoped would prevent the newspapers of the State telling the truth about the politicians whom he worshipped, and which signally failed of its purpose.

The greatest blot upon Governor Pennypacker's administration will be his action in connection with the furnishing of the new capitol. Although reputed to be a lawyer and judge of ability, yet in this matter he seems to have shown the utmost ignorance or disregard of the law. He sanctioned the payment of millions of dollars without understanding the manner in which the bills were made up or how the work charged for in them was performed. From all the evidence it seems that the State lost by his blindness and incapacity in this matter probably \$6,000,000, for which he has received no value. And while he permitted this extravagance to go on he at the same time out of the appropriations for the insane and the charities of the State on the ground that the condition of the State's finances rendered such action necessary. It is doubtful if a Governor who was personally corrupt could have been the State more than has Governor Pennypacker's blindness to the faults and the schemes of the machine leaders and their friends.

In his appointments to office Governor Pennypacker did both well and ill. Some of his appointments were excellent. But it must be remembered also that he put or retained in office men like Israel W. Durham, David Martin and John A. Berkey and that he permitted the insurance and banking and highway departments to be run by politicians for political rather than business purposes. Governor Pennypacker was unsuited by nature and training to properly administer the duties of his office during the critical period of the last four years. Had he been clearer sighted and determined to do his utmost to improve the government of the State he could have accomplished much for the good of its people. But had he possessed the necessary qualities for such work he would never have been selected by the machine leaders as their candidate for Governor. Whether his successor, however, will do any better than he did remains to be seen.

Architect Huston's "Explanation."

From the Altoona Times. Architect Huston, in a statement sent to Attorney General Carson, denies that \$9,000,000 were expended for trimmings for the state capitol, but gives facts and figures tending to show that of the \$13,000,000 spent upon the building over \$7,000,000 went for construction. The architect is a very simple-minded man if he believes this explanation will help the case of the board of public buildings and grounds any.

There was no authority for expending \$7,000,000 on the construction of the capitol, no matter what the authority may have been for expending enormous sums upon the furnishings. The only appropriation made for construction was \$4,000,000. The Legislature, apparently with the intention of keeping the expenditures well within this appropriation, explicitly provided in the appropriation bills of 1905 and 1906 that no part of the money appropriated for furnishings and repairs should be used to complete the new capitol.

How, then, can the expenditure of over \$3,000,000 for the purpose which the Legislature prohibited be explained? What excuse can the public buildings and grounds committee offer for overstepping its authority? Surely no exigency could arise that could make the will of a few men paramount to explicit legislative enactment.

Guggenheim's Wealth.

From the Chicago Public. One of the friendly descriptions of Simon Guggenheim, who is slated for Republican senator from Colorado—a description that we find in the Denver correspondence of the Cincinnati Enquirer—praises him for having "got his wealth from nature's storehouse." That would be praise indeed, if it were true. But the fact seems to be, not that Mr. Guggenheim got his wealth from nature's storehouse, but that he got the storehouse. With that "ouch" upon their industry the miners gave him the wealth.

—This is another touch of winter and the ice men are beginning to sit up and take notice.

Spawls from the Keystone.

—The Eichard Coal and Coke company, of Connettsville, has purchased 208 acres of coking coal lands in Stickle hollow, Fayette county, from James Clark, for \$375,000. Two hundred coke ovens will be constructed.

—There are three sisters in Chester county whose ages sum up 273 years. They are Mrs. Elizabeth Rambo, of West Chester, aged 93 years; Ann Cloud, of East Gorbun township, aged 91 and Mrs. Hannah Iliff, of West Chester, aged 89.

—The license court opened Monday in Schuylkill county, and there are 448 applications for new stands. The law and order society has remonstrances against all these and it expects to knock out about three-fourths of them.

—Last Saturday Abraham Francis, aged 81 years, and Mrs. Anna Snow, aged 87 years, were married at York, but their honeymoon was cut short, as on Thursday a warrant was served on Francis charging him with being a bigamist.

—S. M. McCormick Esq., of Lock Haven, city clerk and a leading member of the Clinton county bar, was found unconscious in his bathroom last Thursday at his home in the above city and died in a few minutes. Heart disease was the cause.

—The annual report of the controller of Lancaster county shows the amtg sum of \$141,699.32 in the county treasury. Appropriations for the ensuing year to the amount of \$425,500 are suggested. The county tax rate is two and one half mills.

—The Ninth internal revenue district of this State leads all others in the United States in the number of cigars made in 1906, having produced 763,702,018 during the year. One half of these were made in Lancaster county. The output required 14,796,543 pounds of tobacco.

—The Rockhill Iron and Coal company has purchased the Grove quarry farm in Blacklog valley, Huntingdon county. This is the farm on which is located the quarry from which the limestone is obtained for the Rockhill furnace and the supply is said to be almost inexhaustible.

—Mrs. Frank Urtio and little grandson five years old occupied the same sleeping room upstairs in their Franklin street home in DuBois Wednesday night, when the house caught fire on the first floor and all efforts to save them from a horrible fate were futile and unavailing. It was a most heartrending affair.

—The movement to build a hospital in the Panther valley of the anthracite coal region between Tamaqua and Lansford is assured. L. A. Riley, president of the Lehigh Coal and Navigation company, will furnish a site of six acres and makes a contribution of \$1,000 besides and the employees of the company, numbering 5,000, have pledged \$12,000. The cost is to be \$50,000.

—Thieves entered the house of Mrs. W. W. Daugherty, of Satsburg, Indiana county, recently, and stole two overcoats of her brother, J. A. Richards, agent at the Pennsylvania railroad station. In the hurry to get away through a window Mrs. Daugherty's coat and furs were dropped, the latter on the porch and the former in the window. A hat of Mr. Richards was also dropped in the back yard.

—Mary Carris, aged 16 years, was discovered in the home of Mrs. Peter Milmore, McKeesport. She sought desperately to escape, but Mrs. Milmore is a powerful woman and held her confined in a room until the police arrived. After her arrest she confessed that she had been a burglar for months. She stole jewelry to the value of nearly \$2,000 from another McKeesport home the day before.

—A number of persons about Hathoro, Montgomery county, having been robbed of their best poultry, Samuel Nice, who had suffered losses several times, placed a bell alarm in his poultry house with a burglar in his bedroom. Friday night the bell rang, when Nice hurried out with a shot gun and succeeded in capturing William Pope with a dozen fine chickens in his possession. He has been committed for trial.

—Richard Foote, of Altoona, had a narrow escape from being burned in the Miller hotel at Lewistown on Saturday night. He had retired for the night and was awakened by the cries of fire, which was burning in the room adjoining, the flames having already eaten their way through to his room. Clad in his night clothes he escaped to the street, but the fire was checked before it had spread much and he returned to bed in another room.

—Coming home from school, two children of George M. Mellott, a farmer in Belfast township, Fulton county, found their home deserted and the doors left open. Anxiously they searched through every room for their father, and, failing to find him, went to the barn, where they discovered his corpse on the floor. One of the terrified children stood guard while the other ran after the nearest doctor. The latter said that Mellott must have died of heart disease several hours before.

—George Scott, of Philipsburg, general manager of Irish Bros. extensive bituminous coal operations, was at Portage Friday, talking with him money to pay the employees at Puritan mine, near that place. While he was making an inspection of the mine he was making a thousand dollars of the money in charge of the engineer and fireman, who locked it in a tool box. A few minutes after Mr. Scott had left the engine room a supposed miner rushed in and said Mr. Scott wanted to see the engineer and fireman in the mine. When they returned from what proved to be a fool's errand the tool box was open and the money gone.

—The mystery concerning the disappearance of Rev. John Van Horn, a well known Presbyterian clergyman of Sugar Hill, a small town near DuBois, was ended Wednesday night, when he appeared at a hotel at Falls Creek and after registering his name retired to his room, dying instantly. Monday through his brain, dying instantly. Mr. Van Horn had been missing since last Monday, and although the police of all the neighboring towns were searching for him no trace was found until he showed up Wednesday night. It was thought that he was mentally unbalanced and while in this condition killed himself. He left a farewell letter to his wife but gives no reason for the taking of his life.