

BY P. GRAY MEER.

Ink Stings.

-It was a very short summer we had.
-The household motto these days is: Clean up.

-Chicago has gone Republican. Not so much Republican as anti-HEARST.

-SANDERSON certainly didn't give those capitol clocks to the State on "tick."

-Centre Hall seems determined to hold her position in the centre of the stage of excitement.

-We are waiting to see what position the Hon (?) SAM SALTER gets under the new deal in Philadelphia.

-They are serving rotten meat to the workmen on the Panama canal. Can it be possible! And poor old uncle RUSSELL ALGER is sleeping 'neath the sod.

-The Jamestown exposition police are to be called the POWHATAN guards and there will probably be a POCOHONTAS and a JOHN SMITH for every POWHATAN.

-TOM COOPER failed in his attempt to put the Legislative Record out of business. More's the pity. Both the Record and TOM had better look out for Dr. OSLER.

-PENNYPACKER seems anxious to testify before the capitol probes, but if the old dummy didn't know what was going on at the time what can he have to tell about now?

-A German professor declares that the numerous sun spots have put the earth in a very restless condition. Buck-wheat cakes or strawberries have the same effect on most mortals.

-The Braddock miner who ate fifty eggs in two and one-half minutes on Monday must have felt like an omelette or decidedly scrambled for a few days following his gastronomical feat.

-Judged from what the President says he wrote to Mr. HARRIMAN and what Mr. HARRIMAN says he received from the President the letters must have been opened and changed en route.

-The girl who doesn't have one of those dear little sugar loaf hats these days must have been as many secret spasms of coronation as the Bellefonte physician who doesn't have an automobile.

-If PENROSE can do it the McCORD bill, which legalizes the election of United States Senators by popular vote, will be killed. The Boss don't want to put his chance of re-election up to the people.

-It didn't take a financier to get rich furnishing the capitol at Harrisburg when all that had to be done was buy desks at forty dollars each and charge the State eight hundred and sixty-four for them.

-According to the President E. H. HARRIMAN is not only a rascal but a modern ANANIAS. We presume that the President is still of the opinion that Mrs. BELLAMY STORER is the Mrs. ANANIAS of the present.

-Secretary CORTELYOU knows his business perhaps, but it is very funny financing that makes our government issue fifty million in new bonds when there are two hundred and fifty million dollars lying idle in the treasury.

-President ROOSEVELT has discovered a diabolical plot to rob him of the presidential electors of Pennsylvania and Ohio, and he is correspondingly hot under the collar. The surprise in this to the public lies in the fact that everyone thought ROOSEVELT wasn't after a third term.

-It is very probable that the fellows who are suggesting now that BERRY should be elected Governor as an acknowledgement of his great service to the State have forgotten BERRY entirely by the time another gubernatorial election comes around. Such is the fleeting memory of gratitude.

-Mayor REYBURN, who has just succeeded Mayor WEAVER, of Philadelphia, has installed all of the gang in office again despite the pre-election promise of an honest administration. The gang and honesty are so incompatible that we fear Philadelphia is to have another of the SAM ASHBRIDGE administrations.

-Everybody is filled with righteous indignation at the way our State was robbed in building the new capitol, but we have not heard a single expression as to what we are going to do about it. It is all right to discover and expose the thieves, but if we can't get the money back would we not have been happier had we known nothing about it.

-BOOKER T. WASHINGTON'S latest bit of advice to his race reads like this: "Don't be taking five dollar buggy rides on six dollars a week; don't put a five dollar hat on a five cent head." We stop right here to listen to the chorus of Amens! to the latter admonition. There would be lots of them in Bellefonte had their husbands the sand to express themselves.

-A Chicago bank has discharged a clerk because he got married on a salary of less than a thousand dollars a year. The action is just about the same as deciding that under such conditions there is nothing left for the young man to do but steal. And in the face of all this wisdom we are ready to bet that the wealth that founded that very bank came originally from men who had married on far less than a thousand a year.

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Roosevelt and Harriman.

If any man in the public life of the country has ever been pilloried as a hypocrite and a fraud, that man is THEODORE ROOSEVELT. In a letter written by EDWARD H. HARRIMAN to SIDNEY WEBSTER the sinister relationship between ROOSEVELT and the Wall street pirates is fully revealed. "My being made at all prominent in the political situation," writes Mr. HARRIMAN, "is entirely due to President ROOSEVELT and because of my taking an active part in the autumn of 1904 at his urgent request and his taking advantage of conditions then created to further his own interests. About a week before the election in the autumn of 1904," Mr. HARRIMAN continues, "when it looked certain that the State would go Democratic and was doubtful as to ROOSEVELT himself, he, the President, sent me a request to go to Washington and confer upon the political conditions in New York State. I complied and he told me he understood the campaign could not be successfully carried on without sufficient money and asked if I would help them in raising the necessary funds, as the national committee, under the control of Chairman CORTELYOU, had utterly failed of obtaining them."

Of course Mr. HARRIMAN consented to perform this sinister service. Men who are contemplating burglary are always obliging to the officers of the law and HARRIMAN wanted to put the President under obligations to him. The unpopularity of Senator DEWEY stood in the way somewhat but the President promised to get him out of the way by appointing him Ambassador to France, so that HARRIMAN undertook the work at once. He subscribed \$50,000 himself and got others to contribute to the full amount. "The checks were given to treasurer BLISS, who took them to Chairman CORTELYOU," continues Mr. HARRIMAN. "If there were any among them of life insurance companies, or other like organizations of course CORTELYOU must have informed the President." The irony in that expression is worth its weight in gold. It is inferentially an accusation that the President was cognizant of the looting of the insurance companies and approved it. He is not so particular about moralities where his own interests are involved as they were when he found his political ambitions in jeopardy. There was an stench to the tainted money which was used to promote his election.

Of course President ROOSEVELT denies this statement of facts. He had no alternative except to resign the great office which he has covered with shame. But he has not hesitated to falsify in other instances when such a course seemed necessary and it would be surprising if he should not do so in the present exigency when the necessity is greater than ever before. The chances are that he will coerce others into corroborating his statement, moreover. The President has a vast power over the business interests of the country and will not hesitate to exercise it to the full measure of his possibilities to discredit Mr. HARRIMAN. But the story is too well supported by circumstantial evidence and probability to be dispensed of in that way. There are too many known incidents embodied in the narrative to be blown out of sight by a breath. A man who is constantly denying and never proves his contention can't convict others who enjoy reputations for veracity by a simple denial. That is what ROOSEVELT has attempted to do in a dozen cases and if he hasn't already exhausted the patience of the public it is inexhaustible.

Some Wholesome Truths.

Senator JOHN E. FOX, of Dauphin county, gave his associates in that body some interesting truths, the other day, with respect to the State Highway Department. Senator FOX is a stalwart Republican and an adherent of the organization. But he is a distinguished lawyer and a careful observer of events and having ascertained the delinquencies of the Highway Department he had the conscience and courage to denounce it. It is rotten to the core and Senator FOX frankly declared that in his judgment there should be a complete reorganization of the Department before any more money is appropriated for its use.

This State needs good roads more than most things. The prosperity of the farmer depends largely on the condition of the highways over which he carries his products to market. The consumers of the products of the soil are equally concerned in the construction and maintenance of good roads. But both the producer and consumer can better afford to sacrifice the advantages of improvements than they can to have the public life of the Commonwealth polluted by the presence of such an iniquity as the Highway Department has been from the very beginning. It was created for political uses and has never served any other purpose.

While Senator FOX was literally accurate in his protest against the present Highway Department so far as he went, he didn't go the full length in the matter. He ought

to have said that the plan upon which the present Highway Department is predicated is fundamentally wrong. It subverts one of the vital principles of our government for it destroys home rule. The Highway Department intervenes between the people of a community and their local affairs which would be a dangerous thing even if its work were well and economically performed instead of being badly and profligately done. The Senator ought to take another fall out of the inquiry.

Hunting for a Scape Goat.

That the conspirators in the capitol grafting operations have determined to find a scape goat is practically certain. Architect HUSTON, in a recent interview, put the responsibility on Governor PENNYPACKER while former Superintendent of Public Grounds and Buildings SHUMAKER, with equal positiveness lays the blame on HUSTON. He was the Machiavelian, Mr. SHUMAKER declares, who "pulled the wool" over PENNYPACKER'S eyes and made that "bugologist" like a chunk of soft putty in the hands of the gang. Presumably some of the others will give their interpretations of the matter, later on. PENNYPACKER has declined to make a reply to HUSTON, already, but he may think better of it when he discovers that it is necessary to "save his own bacon."

Meantime the aggregate of graft is growing to prodigious proportions though nothing has been revealed to indicate what became of the money. It has been observed that SANDERSON is a very rich man now, whereas before the event he was only moderately well off. But nobody imagines that he got all the rake-off. It is an inflexible rule of such men that participants in grafting operations shall "understand addition, division and silence." HUSTON'S fees amounted to upwards of half a million dollars and the chances are that he would have to be satisfied with that sum. CASSELL, who furnished the metal cans, did tolerably well but was hardly allowed more than a million of "velvet." Assuming that SANDERSON, CASSELL and HUSTON divided three millions, what became of the rest?

The default of the Enterprise National bank of Allegheny entailed an extraordinary demand for funds on the machine and Treasurer BERRY states that he can discover no sign that the rake-off was used for the purpose of meeting this exigency. That being true the inference is plain that somebody, other than those named, must have participated in the loot. Nobody suspected until the fact was brought out in a judicial inquiry that DURHAM was getting a slice of the enormous profits on the contracts for the Philadelphia filter plant. Yet it is now an established and even an admitted fact and why might there not have been some such silent partner or partners in the capitol graft. The alternative is to assume that PENNYPACKER got a share.

Harriman Has the Best of It.

The assertion of HARRIMAN and the denial of Roosevelt creates a question of veracity which can't be decided off-hand, as the President observed with respect to another matter, the other day. There used to be a tradition that "the King can do no wrong" and a popular belief that the President of the United States can't tell a lie. But both these notions have been rudely bumped lately and so far as the President is concerned the reverse is beginning to be the popular idea.

A couple of years ago a distinguished citizen of Massachusetts reported a conversation with the President which ROOSEVELT subsequently denied most vehemently. Thereupon half a dozen others present at the time corroborated the statement of the gentleman from the Bay State and the country was humiliated because the President proved a falsifier. A year ago ROOSEVELT denounced Senators TILMAN and BAILEY as liars because of an assertion of theirs and they proved their point by substantial oral and documentary evidence. Later the President indignantly charged Mrs. BELLAMY STORER with falsification and that accomplished woman proved that she had come from him.

Under the circumstances, therefore, there is no presumption of veracity on either side and the actual facts must determine. ROOSEVELT admits most of the assertions of HARRIMAN and proves the others. For example, the intimacy between them in 1904 is revealed in the President's letters while a letter which he himself has given to the public shows that a few weeks before the election of that year, ROOSEVELT promised to consult HARRIMAN about certain features of his message. The inference is plain and no fair-minded man will hesitate to decide the question of veracity in favor of HARRIMAN.

On Monday, April first, the American Lime and Stone company increased the wages of its laboring men, those who are not on contract work, from \$1.40 to \$1.50 per day. The increase was entirely voluntary on the part of the company, hence the more appreciated by the men benefited.

Roosevelt and Foraker.

President ROOSEVELT has "declared war" on Senator FORAKER, of Ohio. The Senator was indiscreet enough, a few days ago, to offer the opportunity, and the President has availed himself of it. The chances are that the result will be disastrous to FORAKER. It can hardly be said that this is entirely regrettable. FORAKER is not the sort of a man about whom popular interest centres. He is selfish, secretive and in triumph far from magnanimous. In fact it may be said that the nearest he has approached to being right since the beginning of his public career, is in his opposition to the President. That expresses a protest against usurpation of authority and the arrogance of office which is ominous of evil.

But FORAKER has little chance of success in a fight with the President. There is not now in the public life in the country, and probably never has been, a man as adroit in political chicanery as ROOSEVELT, and few as conscienceless. He is restrained by neither law nor fear. A few years ago in this State when QUAY was in political danger ROOSEVELT openly allowed him to use the patronage of the government to buy votes in the convention which nominated PENNYPACKER. When a congressional investigation was threatened into the affairs of the Postoffice Department, ROOSEVELT appeared in the lobby trading offices for votes against the proposition because the expenses of his junket were paid by overcharges for carrying mails.

When FORAKER goes up against such an antagonist he will learn political tricks that he never dreamed of before. Under other circumstances the elimination of FORAKER would be a subject for popular felicitation. It would indicate the removal of a pestiferous partisan whose highest ambition is personal triumph and whose best impulses are influenced by bigotry. But when his defeat involves the triumph of a more dangerous man, it cannot be contemplated with complacency. On the contrary it then becomes a subject of grave concern. There is some reason for hope in the fact that Secretary TAFT rather than ROOSEVELT will be the beneficiary of the battle. But when TAFT lends himself to the sinister schemes of ROOSEVELT one can't be sure of him.

Roosevelt and Wall Street.

The President has practically determined, according to the Washington dispatches, to keep his hands and his mouth out of the Wall street muddle. It will be remembered that the railroad magnates have recently undergone a great change of mind with respect to federal regulation of railroads. For a couple of years they had been fighting the proposition with considerable vehemence and a lot of assiduity. The reason of it was, no doubt, that the States, the only authority which has a legal right to regulate, showed little inclination to assert their power and were giving the roads free rein. Under such circumstances the idea of federal regulation was obnoxious to the magnates.

A year ago things took a turn. Ohio led the way by passing a two-cent a mile passenger rate, and Indiana and several other States followed. The railroad magnates didn't seem to mind, however, until Pennsylvania and New York took the matter up and then it occurred to them that they would better have congressional legislation than the more drastic state legislation. Meantime an investigation into the methods of the magnates revealed such a rotten condition of affairs that owners of the shares lost confidence and a stamp ensued. To check this the pirates appealed to the President to do something that would restore confidence. They knew that he couldn't do anything but the promise would probably delay the State action and give them time to think.

The President has practically decided not to intervene, however. He proposes to let the frenzied financiers bear the consequences of their own immoralities. He is wise in this. He couldn't do anything, anyway, and what was the use in inviting the humiliation which inevitable failure must have entailed? So he says he will let Wall street take care of itself. He doesn't love Wall street very well, he intimates, and probably he is right. But as a matter of fact he is more responsible for the distrust of Wall street than he would like to admit. If he had interfered less with other people's affairs before there would be less need for interference now.

The Look Haven Democrat on Saturday came out in a new dress, just in time to celebrate Easter, and now looks as spry and span as a girl of sweet sixteen. The Democrat is a good paper, one that the people of Look Haven should appreciate fully, and it's always a welcome exchange on our table.

Sunday was not one of the most auspicious days for a display of fine feathers and Easter hats, and yet some Bellefonte women were brave enough to defy the weather and appear in gaudy attire.

What is Being Shown up at Harrisburg.

The Purpose of the Press Muzzler and the Real Pennypacker Graft in everything and everywhere. The benefits of Berry's Election, The Quay Statue Etc.

(Special Correspondence.)

Harrisburg, Pa., April 4, 1907. In the disclosures of graft made by the capitol investigating committee, the source of the "press muzzler" is easily traced. That Pennypacker wanted to silence the press in order to shield himself can hardly be doubted, for his responsibility for, if not his culpability in, the crimes of the conspiracy has been clearly revealed. The influencing reason for the prodigious and long continued venality in the official life of Russia is the absolute impotence of the press. Courageous, capable and independent journalism is a perfect security against corruption in public life. When the conspiracy which looted the treasury of Pennsylvania was in the process of formation the great fear of those concerned was the newspapers. Pennypacker undertook to remove this danger by muzzling the press. The failure of his purpose has resulted in the exposure of public life. If the press could have been silenced William H. Berry would not have been elected State Treasurer and in the absence of that result the grafting operations would still be in progress and the machine, entrenched in power in uninterrupted control of the official life of the Commonwealth.

A good many of our esteemed newspapers delude themselves or deceive their patrons by declaring that Pennypacker was honest but an innocent victim of the bad men about him. In the greatest of his novels the late Charles Dickens created a character, the helpless victim of vicious and designing associates, in the person of Pennypacker. But Pennypacker is no more like Dr. Strong than Architect Huston resembles Uriah Heep. He is weak because of an extraordinary vanity but not on account of a confiding nature. On the contrary there is no more cunning or resourceful figure in the public life of the Commonwealth at present as there has been none in the past. When the exposure of graft was first made the other conspirators, overwhelmed with consternation, "stamped." But not so with Pennypacker. He faced the accusation with a positive denial made the railroads accessories to the crime by organizing the penny-a-mile excursions to fool the public by the splendor of the "Palace of Graft." The thousands who availed themselves of that opportunity to deceive their own eyes couldn't tell whether the glass in the dome was made in France or Beaver county. Not one in a hundred of the most intelligent people can tell by cursory inspection the difference between veneered white pine polished mahogany. Pennypacker knew this and worked his understanding overtime. If the fraud could have been revealed the outraged public conscience would have denounced the conspirators and obliterated their party. But it wasn't and couldn't be and Pennypacker's genius for deception carried the Republican party to victory in the face of the most colossal frauds of modern history.

AMAZING EVIDENCE OF GRAFT.

As the investigation of the capitol graft proceeds the evidence becomes more amazing. Last week several new sensations were brought out. The brother-in-law of the favored contractor, Sanderson, testified that Architect Huston knew that Beaver county glass had been substituted for baracat glass. The specifications required baracat glass and the bills rendered were for baracat glass. But the material furnished was Beaver county glass and the fraud was perpetrated with the knowledge and assent of Huston. The State was robbed of a vast sum by the transaction and the contractor proportionately enriched. Yet Pennypacker's protests that there was no collusion and Huston declares that there was no collusion. They must imagine that the people are all fools.

That there was collusion between the contractors and the architect is made clear, moreover, by the relations shown between Sanderson and Payne. Payne didn't get his share of the profits as Sanderson but his rake-off was very great. For example he got fifteen cents a foot for the cement floors while the evidence shows that he paid only five cents a foot for them. In his case, however, the culpability is not so much in the overcharges. It is in the fact that he was cognizant of and a participant in the vast overcharges of Sanderson. As a matter of fact in some particulars at least, Payne was the agent for Sanderson and in all cases he exercised a supervisory power over the employees of Sanderson. That relationship could hardly have been in the absence of a partnership.

GRAFT IN SMALL MATTERS.

The testimony taken at the last session of the commission was more amusing than serious. That is it treated of the trifles about by huzzling. But it proved that the spirit of graft runs through the operation from beginning to end. The book's black's stand in the Senate cloak room, for instance, cost Sanderson \$125.00 and the State was charged \$1,619.20, the profit being at the rate of 1195 per cent. On the barber's case the poor fellow was only able to make 902 per cent, which indicates a hard-hearted sub contractor. The clothes trees and umbrella stands yielded profits of a fraction less than 500 per cent., which could be regarded in no other light than down-right cruelty if it were not for the fact that Sanderson had no money invested at all and the profit was on air. The same is true of the vast profits on the chandeliers. Brother-in-law Salom testified that not a cent of money had been paid by anybody for the stock of the Pennsylvania Bronze Co., which supplied the chandeliers by the pound and the shareholders got dividends amounting in the aggregate to 130 per cent. on an investment of absolutely nothing.

But the startling feature of all this is that if William H. Berry had not been elected State Treasurer in 1905 the public would never have known of this colossal fraud. It was the intention of conspira-

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Spawls from the Keystone.

-There were 446 liquor licenses issued in Berks county, and the license fees amounted to over \$150,000.

-Mary Champluvier, a waitress employed at the Parker House in Tunkhannock, Wyoming county, has fallen heir to an estate of from \$75,000 to \$100,000 left her by an uncle who recently died in France.

-Two swans were recently shot and killed near Westover, Clearfield county, and hearing of this Game Warden Rishel immediately got busy and had the men who killed the birds arrested and fined. Ten dollars was paid for each bird.

-The discovery was made last Saturday morning at the residence of Joseph Selinger, at Saladasburg, Lycoming county, that during the night a thief had effected an entrance and got away with \$400 in cash which was taken from a tin box which had been placed in a bureau drawer.

-The old car shops at Huntingdon were put in operation on April first by the Pittsburg Industrial Iron Works company, a new company which recently became the owner of the property. It is understood that about 150 men have been given employment and these are mostly skilled mechanics.

-Options in the sum of \$50,000 on lands in Juniata and Penn townships, Huntingdon county, have been taken up by Messrs. J. R. and W. Simpson for the Raystown Water Power company. A gang of men has been at work for some days past putting down test holes to get a location for the first dam.

-The last legislature having failed to make provision for the payment of any fees to health registrars for their services under an act passed by that body, the health registrars of Schuylkill county have decided to apply to the present legislature to provide for the payment of salaries or fees now long overdue.

-Samuel Shellenberger, a young plumber, of York, was terribly burned on Sunday morning in a club house on Diamond island, in the Susquehanna river, by an explosion of gasoline while he was trying to start a fire in a gasoline stove. Only by the prompt action of two friends, who smothered the flames, was his life saved.

-A short time before Easter the Ladies' Aid society of the Lock Haven hospital made a request for contributions in the shape of eggs for that institution, the same to be in the shape of an Easter gift. The response was most generous and on Saturday it was announced that a total of 2,200 eggs, or 153 dozen, had been contributed.

-On Saturday Charles M. Newton, a grocer, of Jackson Run, Warren county, came into possession of a one dollar bill which told a story of the disastrous slump in Wall street, as these words were written across the back of it: "The last of \$17,600 lost in Wall street in Union Pacific, Reading, St. Paul, Northern Pacific and a few others."

-Miss Sallie Rambo, who for many years lived the life of a recluse at Swedesburg, Montgomery county, died recently at the advanced age of 98 years. On Wednesday while making an appraisal of her effects her friends were surprised by finding in the dark recess of a closet a moldy package, in which there was a roll of \$1,400 in bank notes.

-On Saturday Judge Bell, of Blair county, granted ninety-five licenses, refused seven and held six over for further consideration. He also notified the landlords in Altoona and Hollidaysburg that they would have to close their bars and sell no drinks after eleven o'clock and at all other hotels in the county the bars must close tight at ten o'clock.

-Taking a ladder from a nearby yard a thief raised it to one of the upper windows of the residence of J. P. Stevenson, consulting engineer of the Standard Steel works, at Lewistown, got inside and proceeded to ransack the rooms. When he left he took with him two gold watches, a scarf pin, three rings set with diamonds and two purses containing small sums of money.

-There resides in Greenfield township, Blair county, a family in which five generations are domiciled under the one roof. The head of the house is Frederick Dively, and with him live his grandmother, Mrs. Barbara Lingenfelter, his mother, Mrs. Rachel Dively, a married daughter, with several small children. The ages of this group run from 93 years down to less than one year.

-W. F. Jacoby has disposed of his coal interests at Smoke Run and McCartney to Clark Bros., Coal Mining company. They have four operations, Falcon, Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 4, two at McCartney and two at Smoke Run. The daily capacity of these operations is about 800 tons and 350 miners are given steady employment. E. C. Howe succeeds Mr. Miller in the office work at Smoke Run.

-George R. Miller, of Spring Creek, Warren county, awoke on Thursday morning at 1 o'clock and glancing into the room of his son Charley, aged 18 years, he noticed the bed was vacant. Knowing the boy is a sleep walker, the father arose to look for him and finally found him in the horse stable, partly dressed, and engaged in harnessing the horses to go to plow, having dreamed that he was to do that.

-The champagne egg eater of Fayette county is W. K. Knuckles, a miner, who ate 42 raw eggs in an sitting. In the store of W. E. Gans at Gans station, Knuckles was commenting on his capacity for eggs and the merchant offered to provide the eggs. Knuckles had lined his interior with 42 of them when Gans pulled the basket away, declaring Knuckles would kill himself. Knuckles indignantly asserted he could eat two dozen more without hesitating. He has offered to bet that he can eat 100 eggs without stopping.

-The breweries at Washington Pa., are all closed and the people are out of beer. The trouble is the result of a threatened strike by the brewery workers who belong to the United Brewery Workers' association. Before the workers had time to strike the proprietors of the three local breweries got together and decided to close. The workmen were notified on Saturday when they were paid off that their services were no longer demanded, as the breweries would not open on Monday. Several days ago the brewery workers asked for an eight hour day and more pay. These demands the brewers say, they cannot accede to.