

Winter is evidently getting ready to linger in the lap of spring.

The Rev. AMZ C. DIXON, of Chicago, says President ROOSEVELT is another Prophet ISAIAH. Why didn't he make him ELIJAH IV and call him to command in Zion city.

Gradually the list of gentlemen who are willing to serve their country by filling the county offices is growing. It is likely that by March 21st, the last day for filing papers, there will be a fine field to pick from.

In Alabama and South Carolina the laws prohibit the carrying of pistols less than twenty-four inches long. It is evident that when a man is held up down there some one must have pulled a real gun on him.

It is nice that Mr. C. F. BARCLAY has announced his desire to represent this district again in the lower house of Congress, otherwise few people would know that we have anybody representing us at Washington at this time.

Look Haven, Renovo and Jersey Shore are planning to have Bellefonte join them in a baseball league for next season. All that we need to get in is some gentleman who hasn't found out yet how easy it is for baseball to separate one from his coin.

The results of going to a party at which there were thirteen guests was a blockade of thirteen hours in a snow-bound train on Saturday night and Sunday, for a few Bellefonte gentlemen. Of course they are not superstitious but they just couldn't help thinking of it a little.

Three hundred and thirty persons having on deposit over \$700,000 in the defunct Knickerbocker Trust Co., in New York city, cannot be found. How much happier they are in ignorance of the crash than if they could be found. Why hunt them up to tell such bad news?

English investigations have proven that the death rate in communities having soft water is 19.2 while in those using hard water it is only 16.5. All the more reason to be thankful for our own beautiful spring, with water so hard that it will scarcely make lather enough for a decent bath.

It is evidently proving very difficult for the prosecutors in the capital graft trial to settle the matter of whether it was linear or cubic feet that they measured by. Anybody ought to know that it was both. Who ever heard of such hogs not getting both feet in the trough when they had the chance.

Mr. BRYAN'S versatility was never better shown than during his recent visit to Philadelphia. As a politician, as a statesman and as a lay preacher he appeared pre-eminent. Whatever else may be said of him it cannot be denied that he has a head full of brains, a lot of good red blood and a christian character.

It might be well for our Presbyterian elders, who are concerned to know why there are over two thousand pulpits in the country for which they cannot find preachers, to understand that the price of chickens has kept so steadily skyward that the dominies are not getting it every place they call for dinner nowadays.

It seems strange that the man who had been earning from two to three dollars a day, every day he would work for years prior to November first, should already be on the brink of starvation. It is true, however, and though experience is a sorry teacher, few of the laboring classes ever think there is a tomorrow to be provided for or of the proverbial "rainy day."

Mayor McCLELLAN, of New York, did the right thing in vetoing the ordinance passed by the board of aldermen of that city, prohibiting women from smoking in public cafes. As a matter of common sense women have just as much right to smoke as men, but the habit is so peculiarly unbecoming to a gentle woman that we can imagine none of them doing it publicly or in private.

Mr. THAW is in Matteawan for an indefinite stay. Matteawan is the place of confinement for the criminal insane of New York State. As to whether THAW is insane or not remains for the future to reveal, but certain it is that had most any other person done half the things he did before the murder of STANFORD WHITE they would not have had their liberty long enough to commit such an act.

The horrible tragedy in Portugal is only an expression of the acuter form of the mania that has seized the minds of the American masses. Unless there is greater civic righteousness in this country we cannot but expect the time when blood-shed will be resorted to as the only remedy for the ills of the common people. Then, woe betide the Republic and those who are trying to run it as a corporation monarchy.

The vast army of the unemployed in the country today indicates an economic condition that could easily be improved upon. At times when private and corporate industries are going through a period of depression would it not be entirely proper to make all the municipal, state and federal improvements possible. This would furnish employment for thousands when there is nothing else to do and they could all be turned back into other fields of labor the moment a demand for their services arose.

Democratic Watchman

STATE RIGHTS AND FEDERAL UNION.

VOL. 53

BELLEFONTE, PA., FEBRUARY 7, 1908.

NO. 6.

That Message.

The sensation of the season, it may safely be said, was the special message of the President sent to Congress on Friday last. Such a harangue has never been dreamed of before. In it the President has literally exhausted the vocabulary of vituperation. He hurled epithets at every man who doesn't agree with him and denounced every institution that is not of his own creating. He scolded Congress like a mad woman in a fish market, traduced private citizens like an outlaw and denounced everybody and everything from the courts down or up.

Yet there is much truth in what the President has said. The abuse of the power of injunction by servile judges should be checked, interstate commerce should be held under reasonable regulation by Congress, the swindling of the public by speculators in worthless stocks should be stopped, predatory wealth should be restrained from exploiting the public and the flagrant dishonesty of a few men should be punished to the full limit of the law. But Mr. ROOSEVELT should remember that these results cannot be achieved by scolding Congress in special messages.

Besides the spirit of the message is not to be commended. It is like a wail of disappointed ambition. Ascribing the panic to ROOSEVELT absolutely destroyed his hopes of a re-election and he resents that which seems to him a personal outrage. If he had done this in a different manner no fault could be found with him. But his method is petulant and peevish. He attacks from behind an entrenched position that is impregnable. No man can answer the President of the United States for the great office shields him.

Moreover President ROOSEVELT is as much to blame as any one for the abuses of which he complains. If the election had not been bought for his party in 1896 there would be no "malefactors of great wealth" to prey upon the public now. If MARK HANNA had not promised and procured for the "powerful wrongdoers" whose tainted money corrupted the electorate in 1900, the special privileges which made them predatory, we would not have the evils of which ROOSEVELT complains now. If his party had not, with his help, maintained a tariff system that robs the masses to enrich the classes, there would now be no such cancer on the body politic as that against which he inveighs.

In any event ROOSEVELT'S screech would have been in bad taste. Under existing circumstances it is not a paper to be proud of. The Democrats in the House of Representatives were justified in applauding it because it expressed some wholesome truths and for the reason that it confused and humiliated the Republicans. But it was not inspired by a lofty impulse or expressed in becoming terms. It was designed either to help TAFT for the nomination against a fitter man or to revive the third term corpse which already smells throughout the country. Neither purpose is patriotic.

Mr. Berry's Mistaken Idea.

State Treasurer BERRY was a trifle too lenient, in his great speech on Saturday night, to that element in the Republican party which has "simply failed" to observe how far their party has drifted from the traditions of LINCOLN. "In this class of Republicans," he added, "is the hope of Pennsylvania." If that be true Pennsylvania is "leaning on a broken reed."

Measured by his own standard of righteousness the representatives of that constituency have failed. Measured by any standard of rights there is practically no difference between one faction of the Republican party and another. The reformers and the gangsters are equally selfish and there is no material difference in their methods.

In the same speech from which we have quoted Mr. BERRY stated that he had "tried to induce the Legislature to authorize the treasurer to receive bids, subject to rigid provisions as to security, etc., and deposit the money at the commercial rate of interest established by competition, but the Legislature was Republican, and though it was then in the throes of a spasmodic reform, it was dominated by that cast of mind that does not see injustice in a legal process by which an individual is enabled to take the property of his neighbors without rendering a just equivalent, particularly if the individual is a liberal contributor to the party campaign fund." Mr. BERRY couldn't have brought the subject to a fairer test.

Among the Senators in the Legislature who passed upon that question was VIVIAN FRANK GABLE. He was elected by a fusion of the Democrats and the so-called reform Republicans of his district, the Democrats being vastly in the majority. But neither McNICHOL, nor KEYSER, nor BROWN, nor any other machine Republican on the floor was more zealous in the fight against Mr. BERRY'S obviously just proposition than Mr. GABLE. He was for reform when reform promised to gratify his inordinate ambition for office and vol-

ed for Mr. BERRY because it helped himself. But when the issue was drawn between genuine reform and political plunder, he joined the gangsters and helped them hold on to the spoils.

The Berry Testimonial.

The testimonial to Hon. WILLIAM H. BERRY, State Treasurer of Pennsylvania, at Philadelphia, on Saturday evening, was worthy of the man and the occasion. Nearly four hundred citizens of Pennsylvania and adjacent States assembled to express their esteem and admiration for a man who had performed not only for his State and country, but to the great cause of public morality, a substantial service. When the charges he had made against a corrupt ring were investigated he was refused, for partisan reasons, the recognition to which he was entitled. Because of this injustice the banquet in his honor was given and for that reason, moreover, its splendid success is a subject of popular felicitation.

When Mr. BERRY was elected State Treasurer by the people of Pennsylvania, the financial affairs of the Commonwealth were in the hands of a gang of pirates who were looting the public mercilessly. Immediately after the election the work of covering up the crimes was begun. If nothing else had resulted that would, nevertheless, have been worth while. Most of us believed at the time that that was all and sufficient. But Mr. BERRY discovered that vast frauds had been perpetrated in the construction of the capitol. He couldn't tell the extent or the exact nature of the frauds. But he knew that the people had been deceived as to the cost of the building and character of the materials, and demanded an investigation.

The results of the inquiry was the overwhelming support of his accusations. It was found that everything he said was true and that the whole truth had not been told. Yet the partisan commission withheld from him the just measure of praise which was due. In the report of that body his name was not even mentioned. The petty minds which managed the inquiry imagined that his part of the work could be eliminated from the memory of the people by that contemptible expedient. The event of last Saturday evening has proved the folly of such sily proceedings. Nearly four hundred just men assembled to do him honor and nearly as many more were turned away because there wasn't room for them.

That Capital Steel.

The graft trials at Harrisburg have not progressed far enough to afford even a good basis for conjecture as to the ultimate result, at this writing. It has been shown beyond question, that contractor SANDERSON vastly overcharged the State in everything that he supplied, and that the others accused of association with him in the conspiracy were marvelously indifferent to the interests of the public. The links of the chain have been formed and revealed as units. But thus far they have not been joined together. Fraud has been proved against SANDERSON, in other words, and original charges were against SHUMAKER, MATHIAS and SNYDER. But proof of the conspiracy is only implied.

As lawyer SCARLETT said the other day, "conspiracy is a shadowy thing." The operations of these men looted the treasury but it may be difficult to show that they were working in collusion. It will probably be impossible to do this by positive testimony. But to quote again from Attorney SCARLETT, "when a dice player throws five sixes all the time it is obvious that the dice are loaded." Those men were throwing sixes right along and there is no escape from the inference. The extraordinary rush for the payment of bills between the time of Mr. BERRY'S election and his induction into office is the connecting link which establishes the conspiracy. It could have had no other purpose than to complete the conspiracy.

That there was conspiracy is already established in the minds of all impartial minds and if the prosecution is earnest a verdict of guilty is inevitable. We have never believed that the prosecution was organized to convict, however, notwithstanding the earnestness of Mr. SCARLETT. It is too grave a matter for some of those who were concerned in the transactions but are not revealed in the indictments. It would be unfair to prejudge the matter, however. The court has been fair, thus far, and may be just to the end. But the State was robbed, however the trial concludes, and the authorities have been more concerned to suppress than supply evidence.

The commissioners of Centre county paid out during the month of January \$339 for bonusses on scalps. The total included 144 weasels, 82 foxes, 39 minks and 13 wild cat scalps, from which it can be seen that there are still a few wild animals in this section.

The ground hog has certainly demonstrated the fact that he is not a nature-faker.

Cause of Industrial Paralysis.

In a speech before the Ohio society of New York, the other night, Senator FORAKER declared that there are to-day "approximately 330,000 freight cars and 8,000 locomotives standing idle, representing an investment of more than \$400,000,000, and that there are more than 30,000 unemployed train men, discharged train crews of the idle equipment." That is a sad state of affairs, "a serious situation," as the distinguished Senator observed, "yet," he added significantly, "we should know the cause if we would find a remedy." If there were a Democratic administration in Washington, he would have no trouble in discovering the cause. The implied threat against the tariff would be ample to satisfy FORAKER.

Strangely enough, however, under existing conditions he is unable to find the cause and ascribes it to a wrong source. There has been overtrading, overexpansion of credit, overcapitalization of new organizations, high prices of labor, of stocks and of materials, he says. But the sinister effect of muck-raking has been the dominating cause of the trouble. By muck-raking he means the efforts of President ROOSEVELT to bring the "malefactors of great wealth" into obedience to the laws. No doubt the excesses in trading, in capitalization, in expansion of credits and high prices have had something to do with the matter. But enforcing the law equally against all men never has and never will work harm.

We can point out to Senator FORAKER the exact causes of the wretched industrial and commercial condition to which he refers. It is the excessive and unequal tax burdens which have been put upon the people by his party during the past dozen years. The DINGLEY tariff bill has robbed the productive energy of the country to the extent of a thousand million dollars a year to create millionaires like the THAWs and the HARRIMANS and ROCKEFELLERS, who exander it in vice or other forms of selfishness. That is the evil which both FORAKER and ROOSEVELT refuse to see though it is so plain that "he who runs may read." The remedy is equally plain. Remove the cause and the cure follows.

Roosevelt and the Monopolies.

In his speech at the banquet of the Ohio society in New York, the other night, Mr. ARCHBOLD, who is the real head of the Standard Oil monopoly, expressed his cordial agreement with President ROOSEVELT, that a federal license is what is needed to cure the worst evil. Just before the New York insurance scandals were exposed, a couple of years ago, the predatory plotters of those organizations were in accord with Mr. ROOSEVELT'S notion that federal control of the insurance business was the real remedy.

These facts singularly prove that President ROOSEVELT is a bogus reformer. In other words, while addressing the galleries he is always, and invariably, playing in favor of the monopolies. The railroads protested against his schemes of federal regulation until the state governments began regulating on their own account, and then the railroad hastened to get under the protection of the federal wing. It is much easier to manage than the States. The United States Senate is already packed in the interests of predatory wealth.

The Pennsylvania railroad managers had many a "bad quarter of an hour" between the date of the passage of the two cent fare bill and the decision of the Supreme court of the State that it was unconstitutional. All this "mental anguish" would have been avoided if ROOSEVELT'S policy of federal control had been in effect, for Congress will never pass a drastic rate bill and so long as the Interstate Commerce Commission is made up of decayed politicians, as ROOSEVELT constitutes it, there is nothing to fear from that source.

Captain Delaney as a Witness.

Factory Inspector DELANEY was a witness for the Commonwealth in the graft trials at Harrisburg, the other day, but his memory was absolutely incapable of rendering any service. He could remember nothing that was relevant to the inquiry. This is the best evidence in the world that the R-Republican machine doesn't want to aid the prosecution or give any evidence against the conspirators.

When HAMPTON L. CARSON, PENNYPACKER'S bogus Attorney General, was making a fake inquiry into the graft charges for the benefit of the grafters, DELANEY was "big" with information. He voluntarily declared that he had invented the "per foot" and the "per pound" system and knew all about it. He swore with the freedom of a trooper in Flanders that SANDERSON, HUSTON and other conspirators were as innocent as doves, so far as the measurements were concerned.

It was important then, from the machine view point, to show that the accused conspirators had not invented those methods to loot the treasury and DELANEY was equal to the occasion. He was surprisedly

ly garrulous and fluent. But the other day when the Commonwealth wanted information along the same lines, he was as dumb as an oyster. In other words his memory accomodates itself to the exigencies of the machine.

A Campaign Document.

From the Pittsburg Post.

Armed, ostensibly, by the overthrow of the employers' liability law in the supreme court, the President has sent an 11,000 word special message to Congress. The message is a masterpiece of evasion, and while the subject matter has not much in it of novelty, except a little plainer speaking than usual, the occasion of its deliverance and the present condition of the country make it worthy of a general and close reading, for the President, in the guise of a statesman, has put forth what must be regarded as a campaign document. He is for a fight to a finish with "predatory wealth" now, as this citation shows: "The gravely significant attitude toward the law and its administration recently adopted by certain heads of great corporations renders it desirable that there should be additional legislation to define the relations between labor and capital, and between the great corporations and the public."

Reading further, we find that it is the Standard Oil company more particularly than any other that the President is after. But with an utter disregard of strategy, he puts those who may agree with him as to existing evils, but who disagree as to methods of remedying them, into the same category with those opposed to his policies from selfish motives.

Nothing is more evident than that this Congress will do nothing in this matter. It has done nothing at all with the 30,000 word message Mr. Roosevelt discharged at it in the regular way less than 60 days ago. He cannot have had any hope that this latest outgiving will stir it to any action, hence its purpose must be ulterior. And can his party, without coming into the condemnation of being reactionary, avoid incorporating his inflammatory Federalism into its platform? And, finally, how are the people who have berated and voted against the Democratic party for its position against injunctions going to take this very much more radical pronouncement in the matter?

With Mr. Roosevelt, there is to be no more soft speaking, no cry of Peace, Peace, where as he sees it there is none, nor the prospect of any. He has cast the die irrevocably. He would force the issue at once and regardless. He stakes his popularity against the expedient-loving conservatism of his party. It is a direct appeal to the Caesar of public sentiment.

Huston and Pennypacker.

From the North American.

Huston believes today that a thousand years ago that building will be a voiceless, but ceaseless, chant in praise of its architect, keeping his fame fresh throughout the ages.

If ever Huston understood that he was changing peril he felt secure in the support of Penrose, McNichol, Durham and the organization. And back and beyond them he had what he regarded as another insurance policy—the acquiescence and active aid of Gov. Pennypacker.

The belief of the North American is that every man connected with this prosecution, from Governor Stuart down, has been honest and earnest. We believe that no investigation of misdeeds and process of punishment ever have been carried on with greater integrity of purpose. But just as firmly do we believe that a grievous error was made when Governor Pennypacker was not included in the list of defendants. To argue that Pennypacker is less culpable than Huston, assuming that neither accepted money or gifts, leads to a conclusion which we consider utterly unjustifiable. Unless Gov. Pennypacker is the most impossible of all recorded dunces, he knew that the state was being robbed, and he sanctioned that robbery by his silence.

This governor had been a judge. He was no artistic dreamer. He had sat upon the bench for many years, and before him civil and criminal suits, involving contracts, specifications, bids and all phases of commercial law, had been tried and adjudicated understandingly. The theory that this man could pass upon those Harrisburg contracts and supplies and be ignorant that the state was being bled by the men with whom he was in daily contact is beyond belief.

No man can plead for Pennypacker the extension that can be offered for Huston. Pennypacker was not swept away from right thinking by any love for art. He was blinded by no devotion to an ideal. It is farthest from our intent to ensure these prosecutors. But we predict that if ever Huston and the members of the board of public grounds and buildings tell the whole story of Gov. Pennypacker's connection with this job, the people of this state will believe that the investigators were far more lenient, in at least one case, than even-handed justice demanded.

Creasy's Pinck.

From the Northumberland Democrat.

The pluck of that staunch Democratic representative, W. T. Creasy, is to be commended and admired. After rendering valuable service to his constituents and the State for a number of years in the Legislature he had concluded to retire. He had already been an object of hatred to the Republican gangsters who fattened on the spoils of the State. The Philadelphia machine had arranged to defeat him this year if it could be done. This coming to the knowledge of Mr. Creasy he has reconsidered his intention to withdraw his candidacy this year and he will run. As he is certain of election, the gangsters are to be thanked for their invention to defeat him, which will have the effect of retaining the honest and useful a member in the Legislature.

The man who thought there would be no ice has changed his mind.

Spawls from the Keystone.

Wild cats are said to be unusually plentiful in Clinton county this winter.

On Saturday six large coal companies in the anthracite region paid to their employees \$350,000 for wages.

The Clearfield tannery, which has of late been running on partial time, started up in full blast on Monday.

Several barns were wrecked and many buildings were unroofed and fences blown down by a terrific gale which raged in Schuylkill county on Sunday.

The Juniata Oak Extract Works, of Mt. Union, Huntingdon county, recently shipped two car loads of their products to Australia, where it will be used in the production of fancy leather.

Six furnaces of the Phoenix Iron company at Phoenixville, which were closed a week for repairs, were started again on Saturday morning and several hundred men resumed their employment.

Twenty-two offices are to be filled next fall in Schuylkill county, and already there are over fifty candidates announced for the spring primary, with prospects that there will be over two hundred candidates.

Over one hundred names of heads of families have been secured to the petition praying for the establishment of a rural free delivery route from Newton Hamilton down the east side of the river through Ryde into Bratton township, and back by way of Sugar valley.

A report from Confluence, Somerset county, states that Mrs. Mary Walker, of that place, has a marvelous hen that lays two eggs a day. The fowl rests on her laurels for twenty-four hours after each performance and only produces eggs every other day.

The old and well known M. E. Barn-doll estate, doing business in Everett, Bedford county, under the name of Barn-doll's Department store, will on the 17th of February, pass into the hands of a new business concern to be known as "Everett Supply company, limited."

Peter S. Krick, a Lancaster butcher, found an open face gold watch in the stomach of a steer that he slaughtered on Tuesday. It was a western field steer that he had bought at the Union stock yards. Some time ago he found a wooden croquet ball in the stomach of a steer.

William H. Logan, of York, has been awarded a jury verdict of \$500 for damages against the Pennsylvania Telephone company for the mutilation of fruit trees on his property in Carroll township, in stringing telephone wires, and now he has instituted another suit for damages to 300 locust trees along a beautiful driveway.

Miss Clara Phleger, of Oriole, near Williamsport, met a peculiar accident in her father's barn. Stepping on the roller of a wagon tongue, she was thrown from the snow. In the fall her foot caught in some loose boards and she hung head downward until her father, who was attracted by her cries, released her. Her condition is dangerous.

Phenes Thomas, tax collector in Cleveland township, Columbia county, has one leg off and the other is paralyzed so that he is obliged to get around on his hands and knees, yet he is one of the best tax collectors in the county. Last week he settled up his duplicates at the commissioners offices and in the taxes amounting to \$1,065, he asked exonerations for only \$8.

The black bear that has been causing some hunters much concern in the 'Scotac region met his Waterloo on Thursday last when John Williams, an expert shot a laud him low. This particular bear was causing follow and gave many hunters who were after him a merry chase, eluding all until Mr. Williams got a shot at him. It was of medium weight, but had an exceptionally fine coat of fur.

On Friday morning while Mrs. T. C. Saylor, of Lock Haven, was preparing breakfast, the kitchen range exploded with a terrific noise and fragments of iron flew in every direction. Fortunately no one was in the kitchen at the time. At first it was thought the explosion was caused by the water tank being frozen but this was found to be incorrect and it is believed that there was a dynamite cartridge in the coal.

An application for a charter from the State Department for an intended corporation to be known as the "Watsonson Brick and Clay Products company" has been made by John B. Myers, of Lock Haven, who is solicitor of the same. Those persons whose names appear on the application are H. F. Alger, W. A. Nicely, E. H. Hilliard, of that section; Charles E. Ball, John B. Myers, of Lock Haven, and Samuel G. Davis, of Mill Hill.

A love romance was brought to a happy climax, when J. A. Herrold, of Independence, Snyder county, was wedded on the spot without prearrangement at a banquet at Middleburg, to Miss Minnie C. Erb, daughter of Rev. J. C. Erb, of Port Trevorton. While seated at the banquet board the would-be groom proposed to his sweetheart and she promptly accepted. Sweetheartly Shindel, being also a guest, was secured and the knot tied in the presence of all seated at the banquet table.

The pastor of the Rouserville circuit, Franklin county, of the Methodist Episcopal church, Rev. W. B. Kealey, serves his congregations afoot and covers greater distances than in his pastoral duties than any other minister in the county. There are six appointments on the circuit, and the distance from one end of the circuit to the other is about twenty-five miles, thus making a trip of fifty miles for the pastor in performing his usual duties. All the traveling necessary he does on foot.

A new bridge over the West Branch of the Susquehanna river at Lewisburg, designed so long by litigation and dispute, is at length nearing completion, and the last span was swung the latter part of last week. The people of Lewisburg, weary of paying toll, are overjoyed that their hopes are soon to be realized and a big demonstration is being planned when the new structure is opened to the public. The bridge when completed, will be one of the finest in the State, costing \$125,000. It will be finished in about two months.