

INK SLINGS.

In any event we can see the beginning of HUERTA's end and that is comforting.

Clean-up week is approaching. Are you going to do your share in helping to make the town spick and span.

A contemporary heads an article: "Truths about Mexico." The truth about Mexico wouldn't be fit to print.

It costs nothing to be courteous. Yet that characteristic in a person is often his or her most valuable asset.

Philadelphia can at least boast of being up with the procession once. It donned its summer head-gear on the 26th.

If COXEY's new army really wants to help the government why doesn't it change its route from Washington to Mexico.

It may be said that the opening of the base ball season was inauspicious. The war news showed the scores off the first page anyway.

General VILLA may be an unscrupulous bandit, but he seems to be the only Mexican figuring in the present crisis who talks like a man with horse sense.

The A. B. C. countries will be all right if they can only close up their Mexican undertaking P. D. Q., and hang out the S. R. O. sign for HUERTA without having to send out the C. Q. D. call.

Col. ROOSEVELT claims to have discovered something new, brand new, in the "wild man" class down in interior Brazil. After all, perhaps, it was the Colonel's teeth that made them wild.

This week last year was very cold and wet, with a heavy frost on Wednesday morning. Some farmers had oats sowed and corn planted, whereas this year very few of them are more than half done plowing.

President WILSON is probably too busy now to bother with postoffice scandals but after the Mexican muddle is settled look out for a vacancy in the office of Fourth Assistant Postmaster General.

A. MITCHELL PALMER and JAMES I. BLAKESLIE, supported by VANCE C. MCCORMICK and State Chairman MORRIS have been conducting an office brokerage ever since the inauguration of President WILSON.

It is impossible for any Democrat to please Senator PENROSE. A short time ago he was railing against President WILSON because he didn't send an army to invade Mexico. Now he is denouncing President WILSON because he has sent an army into Mexico.

Italy's short war with Turkey, over the possession of Tripoli, cost \$191,000,000. Imagine what a long drawn out guerrilla war with Mexico would cost us in wealth, not to mention the precious lives sacrificed. Let us have peace, if we can have it honorably.

Democrats who are determined to be in the factional fight Mr. VANCE MCCORMICK is waging, have at least the privilege of determining whether they prefer the "bi-partisan" side, as he characterizes those who refuse to do his bidding, or the "my-partisan" crowd who accept him as their boss.

The very fact that that postmaster up at Mahanoy City, whom JIM BLAKESLIE was trying to keep in office, has resigned is prima facie evidence that there was something in the charge that our bombastic friend, the Fourth Assistant Postmaster General, and reorganizer leader had some sort of a bi-partisan deal on.

Next Sunday will be Go-to-Church Sunday in Bellefonte and if you haven't the habit already, that would be a splendid time to start cultivating it. Remember, that no matter how you may feel now, no matter how indifferent, the time is certain, absolutely certain, to come when you will need the church far more than it will need you. That time comes in everybody's life and it will come in yours.

The Easton Sentinel is evidently longing for some of the MCCORMICK millions. It announces that it won't publish, free of charge, "boiler plate" exploitation of MCCORMICK, "or any other office hungry citizen—without pay." In this respect the Sentinel seems to have a great deal more sense than many of the country weeklies of Pennsylvania. They are publishing pages of ready print matter booting MCCORMICK for Governor and doing it for what they imagine to be the good of the party.

But it is scandalous just the same and the Democratic party must bear the odium so long as these political hucksters are permitted to practice the incurrupt methods. The remedy lies in the overwhelming defeat of these ambitious conspirators on the 19th of this month at the primary elections. Even if they were honest they are unfit for the offices to which they aspire. PALMER is without professional standing and MCCORMICK has never shown any capacity beyond that of a scurrilous muck raker.

Yet they are trying to buy their way into public favor with other people's money contributed for an entirely different purpose. Democrats of Pennsylvania should put the seal of reprobation upon such frauds!

The GUFFEY crowd is not entirely blameless. There was no office brokerage business in Pennsylvania while Colonel GUFFEY was the party leader, it is true. But PALMER and BLAKESLIE and BERRY and WILLIAM B. WILSON were brought into public view during that period and it is suspected that he is partly responsible for them.

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Condemn These Corrupt Methods.

The record of the deal between the Republican postmaster of Mahanoy City and JAMES I. BLAKESLIE, as it is on file in the Postoffice Department at Washington, has been made public. It not only reveals a bi-partisan conspiracy of the worst type, but implies the crime of subordination of perjury. The Republican postmaster had been accused of writing poison-pen letters, anonymously, traducing Judge BRUMM, of Pottsville, and mailing them from his own office. The Department ordered an investigation and two inspectors found the accused guilty and recommended his dismissal. BLAKESLIE, who is Fourth Assistant Postmaster General, intervened and prevailed upon him to make an affidavit denying the charge.

While the inspectors were in Mahanoy City they asked Postmaster GRAHAM to swear to his denial and he refused on the ground that the writing in the poison-pen letter resembled his so closely that his oath wouldn't be believed. Besides, he said, "hand-writing experts might say he wrote it." When this report reached the Postoffice Department BLAKESLIE asked that it be turned over to him. He wrote to GRAHAM to meet him at the Democratic State Headquarters in Harrisburg, induced him to sign an affidavit denying that he had written the letter and asked the Postmaster General to permit him to continue in office. There the matter rested until Congressman LEE exposed the corrupt bi-partisan deal.

A. MITCHELL PALMER and JAMES I. BLAKESLIE, supported by VANCE C. MCCORMICK and State Chairman MORRIS have been conducting an office brokerage ever since the inauguration of President WILSON. Probably they haven't put any of the money acquired by this nefarious commerce into their pockets but they have used it to pay the campaign expenses of PALMER and MCCORMICK as candidates for the Democratic nomination for Senator in Congress and Governor of the State. Fitness for the offices or service to the party has not been considered in dispensing the patronage. Servility to PALMER and MCCORMICK and paying the price are the only conditions required. It is a plain but corrupt business affair.

How long will the Democrats of Pennsylvania permit this scandalous condition to exist? MCCORMICK is an immensely rich man and is conducting a campaign upon a basis of profligacy never known before. Expert canvassers were hired to circulate his petitions and solicit subscribers and advance agents were sent out to arrange for meetings and receptions throughout the State. But he is not paying the expenses with his own money. Funds extorted from office seekers and office holders, under the false pretense that the money was to be used to pay legitimate expenses of maintaining the State Committee, have been misused to pay bills thus padded in order to make competition for the office impossible.

During the period of QUAY's control of the Republican machine no man could stand against the candidates favored by him for the reason that the predatory corporations supplied him with all the money he needed for any purpose. Thus equipped he laughed at opposition. But the system was not his. It was invented by DON CAMERON, uncle of VANCE C. MCCORMICK, who taught QUAY. It was first introduced into the Democratic party when VANCE MCCORMICK ran for Mayor of Harrisburg. On that occasion the funds were supplied largely by Mr. CAMERON, ROBERT C. NEAL and other Republicans who were disappointed because the Republicans had nominated a candidate for the office who was not in the favor of the machine.

But it is scandalous just the same and the Democratic party must bear the odium so long as these political hucksters are permitted to practice the incurrupt methods. The remedy lies in the overwhelming defeat of these ambitious conspirators on the 19th of this month at the primary elections. Even if they were honest they are unfit for the offices to which they aspire. PALMER is without professional standing and MCCORMICK has never shown any capacity beyond that of a scurrilous muck raker. Yet they are trying to buy their way into public favor with other people's money contributed for an entirely different purpose. Democrats of Pennsylvania should put the seal of reprobation upon such frauds!

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Searching Investigation Needed.

There is a discrepancy in the statement of receipts and disbursements of the Democratic State committee for the campaign of 1912, that challenges investigation. The law requires a sworn statement of the contributors to the campaign fund as well as the amounts contributed. It also requires a sworn statement of the disbursements, to whom the money is paid and the purpose for which it is used and it is expected that the balance on hand or the debts due, if there be any, shall balance the amount received. The account filed at the State Department at Harrisburg for that year balances nicely except for the fact that there is no acknowledgement of the receipt of \$15,000 from the chairman of the Democratic National committee.

The accounts of the National committee are filed at Washington. In that of the treasurer of the National Democratic committee for 1912, there is an item of \$15,000 paid to the Pennsylvania Democratic State committee, which according to a statement made by Judge BONNIWELL, of Philadelphia, in a recent public speech is not accounted for either in the receipts or expenditures of the State committee. This naturally leads to the inquiry: what became of the money? If the treasurer of the National committee paid it to the State committee, the balance sheet of the State committee ought to show it. If he didn't pay it to the State committee his return is false and fraudulent and he is guilty of perjury. If he did pay it, as stated, its failure to appear in the account of the State committee, filed in the State Department, Harrisburg, evinces perjury.

In either event "there is something rotten in Denmark." If the money was paid and not accounted for it was embezzled and whoever is responsible is guilty of theft as well as perjury. The meager vote polled for the Democratic candidate would indicate a scarcity of money in the campaign but in view of the statement filed at Harrisburg and that filed in Washington by the treasurer of the National committee, there were abundance of funds for legitimate expenses if properly used. But the \$15,000 contributed by the National committee could not have been properly used or else it would have been accounted for in the statement filed at Harrisburg. We hope there will be a thorough and searching investigation of this matter.

CARRANZA is beginning to think that he is important enough to be reckoned with. He looks wise and opened correspondence with President WILSON a few days ago. But VILLA is still the boss bandit in that section.

Bright Hope of Peace.

Out of the tender of good offices by Argentine, Brazil and Chile there comes hope that war with Mexico may be averted. HUERTA has signified his acceptance of the offer and as the government of the United States had previously agreed to submit its case to the proposed arbitration, it remains only to agree upon terms. Few, if any, citizens of this country wanted war at any time and the administration at Washington is not likely to set up claims that will be difficult to meet. The elimination of HUERTA is about the only condition which is essential on our side and if the Mexicans are wise that will be agreed to readily.

We have been at some expense in sending warships to Mexican waters and it was some trouble to dispatch an army division to the scene of the disturbance. But the splendid achievement of both the army and navy in the movement, the perfect preparedness revealed, is ample recompense for both the trouble and expense. The thrills which swept across the continent as the warships moved out upon a few hours' notice could hardly be created by the expenditure of ten times the treasure in any other way. It was worth the money to learn ourselves and teach others, the world over, that our navy is ready on a moment's notice, for any service.

Then there is sublime satisfaction in the complete vindication of the policies of the President. We might have had war with all its attending horrors if President WILSON had been less wise, for good offices of friendly sister nations are inadequate where folly runs and passions rule. And it may be that even under existing conditions the beneficent plans for peace will fail of fulfillment. HUERTA may compel the exercise of corrective force. But it is a comfort to know President WILSON is anxious to avoid the atrocities of war and that he had shaped events so that with equal reason on the other side it might have been accomplished.

Governor COLE BLEASE, of South Carolina, declares that he will lead the militia of that State if it goes to Mexico. He would better follow.

Probably Palmer is a False Pretender.

The Hon. A. MITCHELL PALMER's press agent in Washington must have gone out on a strike—or a drunk. Anyway he is neglecting his business shamefully. He and Mr. PALMER himself have led us in the past to believe that President WILSON takes no important step in any direction without first consulting Mr. PALMER. In fact the Hon. A. MITCHELL assures us that whatever of good has been achieved by the administration is ascribable to him and that if his slate for State offices is not nominated by the Democrats of Pennsylvania on the 19th instant, the WILSON administration will collapse. In other words, according to Mr. PALMER, President WILSON is simply an instrument in his hands.

Great things have been doing in Washington within the last three weeks and strangely enough no mention has been made of the name of Mr. PALMER in the press reports concerning them. Of course Mr. PALMER has been busy in Pennsylvania telling the people how much President WILSON owes to him and his absence may account in some measure for his failure to lead the forces of the administration in these important Congressional struggles. But he was in Washington when the tolls exemption measure was under consideration and again when the Mexican problem was before the House of Representatives for solution, but his name was not mentioned in the proceedings.

President WILSON has been a good deal perplexed by recent incidents in relation to these grave questions and has been calling the Democratic leaders of the House and Senate into consultation frequently. He has had CHAMP CLARK, OSCAR W. UNDERWOOD, HENRY D. FLOOD, WILLIAM C. ADAMSON, HENRY D. CLAYTON, JAMES HAY, LEMUEL P. PADGET and others of the House and WILLIAM J. STONE, BENJAMIN F. SHIVELEY, GEORGE E. CHAMBERLAIN and others of the Senate in consultation at the White House. But PALMER has not been called upon for counsel and advice, if the Washington correspondents are to be depended upon, for his name has not been mentioned in that connection. Probably PALMER is a false pretender.

Should Make Him Friends.

We notice that our old friend, Mr. JOE LESHNER, who as editor and publisher of the Selinsgrove Times led the Democrats of Snyder county to defeat for many years and eventually landed his paper on the political junk pile, is now working to insure similar results for the Democrats of Huntingdon county and their paper, the Monitor. We are sorry to assure the many good Democrats of that county, who are patrons of the WATCHMAN, that in pinning their political faith to anything they may see in the Monitor, under its present management, they are placing their trust in the virtue of a very "weak sister,"—one who is willing to be led astray, on any occasion, but who always demands full recompense, in dollars and cents, for any favors that are shown. This fact will be verified by scores of unsuccessful and disappointed candidates, in districts in which Mr. LESHNER has heretofore resided, who have fallen under the blighting influence of his pretended friendship, and is a truth that the honest Democrats of our neighboring county of Huntingdon should keep in mind.

Our fellow townsman Col. H. S. TAYLOR, who filed his papers as a candidate for Congressman-at-Large upon the Democratic ticket, and did it without asking leave or license of any boss, clique or faction to do so, has already met the opposition of Mr. LESHNER and his Monitor, as well as that of the yellow-corn organ of this place, which facts of themselves, to persons knowing these papers, will be the most indubitable evidence of the Colonel's worth as a citizen and his entire fitness, both as a man and a Democrat, for the position for which these political sand-baggers are opposing him.

The American Union Telephone company has started work on installing a new and up-to-date equipment in the Bellefonte exchange, practically the same system as installed by the Bell Telephone of Pennsylvania company a year ago. The company has leased the four rooms on the third floor of Temple Court, along the alley and will place the new equipment there, giving up their old rooms on the fourth floor when the new exchange goes into operation. Being on the alley side of Temple Court they will be able to string their main cables on poles in the alley and will be able to do away with the large poles which now stand in front of Temple Court on Allegheny street, the two in the Diamond and those in front of Crider's Exchange. The installation of the new system will greatly enhance the value of the American Union company's property.

The Attitude of Villa.

From the Harrisburg Star-Independent. Pancho Villa, who prides himself on being just a plain soldier and who used to be just a plain bandit, declares he has no intention of making common cause with Huerta to resist the American occupation of Mexico, and says it is inconceivable that this country and the harassed Republic should go to war over the irresponsible acts of a drunkard.

His bold announcement of sentiments so diametrically opposed to those voiced by the Constitutional chief, Carranza, gives rise to the belief that he has broken with the man whom he has always referred to in the fervid Latin manner as "my General." Villa's success in his operations in the field against Huerta was responsible for a feeling of grave concern in Washington about what attitude would be taken by Carranza. It had been feared that the rebel General would follow the lead of his chief. Villa's co-operation with Huerta would make the American task in Mexico much more arduous, much more complicated. For this reason there is a feeling of distinct relief in Washington that Villa's flatfooted assertion of continued opposition to Huerta and his warm declarations of friendly feeling for the United States government.

The fact that Villa went to Jaurez of his own volition and without military escort showed that he was perfectly willing to trust himself within the sphere of influence of the United States forces and is apparent proof of his sincerity in wishing to maintain friendly relations with the American government. His satisfaction over the taking of Vera Cruz, which he frankly admits would have been impossible if not for his own forces, promotes confidence in his assurances.

Who He Is.

From the Clearfield Republican. W. H. Patterson, who is a candidate on the Democratic ticket for State Senator from the 34th senatorial district, composed of the counties of Clearfield and Centre, and whose announcement appears in our columns to-day, was born and grew to manhood on a farm near Warriors Mark, Huntingdon county, Pa. He was educated in the common schools, and at Millersville State Normal and State College. He afterwards taught school in winter and read law in the office of H. M. Baidrige, Esq., at Hollidaysburg, Pa., during the summer months. He admitted to the Blair county bar in May, 1878. In the following month he was admitted to the Clearfield county bar. On coming to Clearfield he located at Houtzdale, where he successfully practiced his profession for 17 years. He moved to Clearfield in 1895 and he holds a prominent position at the bar.

Mr. Patterson has always been a Democrat and a worker for his party, but has never asked for a State or county office. He served a number of years as a member of the school board of Houtzdale borough and as president of the school board of Clearfield. For the past six years he has been a trustee of State College. He is a director of the Clearfield National Bank and a member of the Presbyterian church.

Just a "Little Broil."

From the New York Times. The President's wise and temperate words and his scrupulously constitutional procedure will increase the confidence reposed in him by the American people. It is of good augury that the Hotspurs of the Senate and House found the President's statement too calm and dispassionate for their warlike temper. We could not have a safer leader in this venture, unpleasant at best, but not to be honorably avoided. Meanwhile we hope the memory of the Spanish war and of what preceded it has not so far faded but that we may profit by that experience. We behaved like a pack of silly fools then—at least that was true of a considerable part of our people. There is not the slightest occasion for popular excitement over this Mexican affair, there is no reason why anybody should get nervous either about the stock market or about his business. It is a blessing, of course, that we are so infrequently at war that we do not know how to behave when the shadow of war lies in the air, but at the same time a little common sense now would restrain both those who clamor for war at once and those who declaim against the dreadful wickedness of this particular little broil.

A Costly Accident.

From the Philadelphia Record. In all the political history of the United States there has been no such a costly accident as Theodore Roosevelt. Fully appreciating his capacity for mischief because of a certain vigor of personality and an intrepid self-sufficiency, old party stagers like Platt and Quay sought to exclude and shelve him by making him Vice President. Then Czolgosz shot him into Presidency. Once there, he was the party. Confronted with the opportunity of choosing between what was right and what was wrong, he never could withstand the pleading of notoriety. He promised to carry forward McKinley's program of reciprocity and gradual tariff reduction. His failure to remember his promise and the aftermath of tariff robbery which culminated in the Aldrich monstrosity cost the people of the United States millions of dollars and brought his party to humiliating defeat. The lump sum of \$25,000,000, which it is now proposed to pay the Republic of Colombia for the theft of the Canal strip, is probably the final humiliating step in adjustment of Roosevelt blundering.

SPAWLS FROM THE KEYSTONE.

The County National bank, of Clearfield, has offered prizes aggregating \$100 for the first, second, third and fourth best acres of corn grown in Clearfield county.

Mrs. Mary Shaffer, widow of Henry Shaffer, who died at her home in North Latrobe last week, was the third member of her family to die within the last ten days.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Lowry, of Indiana, celebrated the sixty-third anniversary of their marriage last Friday. A big dinner was served and the venerable couple were presented with a purse containing \$107.

Joseph P. Waters, a prominent resident of Portage, was found dead at his home Saturday morning. He had swallowed carbolic acid and left behind a note in which he complained of business reverses. He is survived by his wife and five children.

William Streck, of Glen Union, is under treatment at the Lock Haven hospital. He was standing along the railroad track when someone threw a small candy jar from the window of a passenger train that was passing. The jar struck Mr. Streck on the chest.

Complaining of a sore throat, young Charles Gessler, of Indiana, was taken to a physician who found a bullet protruding from the flesh in the back of his throat. The boy was shot in the neck during last year's Halloween festivities but the ball could never be found.

John Wilkinson, the Madera coal operator, after having served 60 days in the Clearfield jail for aggravated assault and battery on Miss Mary Pooler, the pretty young Madera school teacher, was given his liberty Sunday. In addition to the jail sentence he had to pay a fine of \$1,000.

During the past winter W. B. Walker, of Panther Run, Centre county, had captured three wildcats and one skunk. Two of the cats he killed were captured in traps and the third he caught alive. He keeps the animal chained in his barn, tied up by the collar, the same as one would keep a dog.

Samuel Powley, aged 48 years, residing near Barchand, Indiana county, left his home early Thursday morning. As he failed to return search was made and his body was found hanging to a tree about a mile and a half from his home. He was unmarried and seemed to be in his usual health previous to the tragedy.

Employees of the freight car department of the Pennsylvania railroad shops at Altoona, have been increased from 45 to 55 hours a week. About 1,000 men are affected by the order which was made necessary by an increased amount of work in the department. The short hours have been in effect since the recent retrenchment.

While working on a lumber tract in Sugar Valley, Clinton county, Henry Shaler, of White Deer, shot a bald eagle that stood between three and four feet high and measured seven feet from tip to tip of its wings. It had a white head and breast, and its bill was of great size. Shaler sold the monster bird to a trout fisherman for a dollar.

While on her way home last Thursday night about ten o'clock, Mrs. Thomas E. Stage, of DuBois, was attacked on the street by a highwayman who inflicted some ugly bruises upon her person and got away with her handbag, containing several valuable pieces of jewelry and about \$12 in money. She estimates her total loss at over \$100.

Mrs. Irwin Berschneider, of Summerhill, is under arrest charged with sending threatening letters to Mrs. Emma Shaffer, of the same place. Mrs. Berschneider admits that she wrote an anonymous letter and sent it to Mrs. Shaffer, threatening her with death unless she left \$300 upon a porch at a certain time, but she says the whole affair was a joke.

J. B. Irish, a member of the firm of Irish Bros., for many years one of the best known coal-operating firms in Cambria, Centre, Clearfield and Clarion counties, died suddenly last Saturday evening just as he was about to enter his home at Norrisstown, Pa. He had just returned from a business trip to Philadelphia when stricken. Mr. Irish was about 60 years of age.

Geremia Acitillo, who killed Guido Inquato at Madera, Clearfield county, on Thanksgiving day, was called before the Clearfield county bar on Monday and sentenced to the custody of the warden of the western penitentiary, there to remain until the Governor shall fix the date of his execution by electricity. Three other men accused of murder in Clearfield county are standing trial.

Dr. C. C. Meredith, of Pittsburgh, who was arrested some weeks ago in a sensational raid upon a private maternity hospital, known as the "house of mystery," pleaded guilty to malpractice on Monday and was fined six and a quarter cents, and sentenced to not less than five nor more than six years in the western penitentiary. The fine was imposed so that the costs would fall upon the accused.

J. A. Christie, of near Reynoldsville, Jefferson county, pleaded guilty to charges brought by the State Livestock Sanitary Board for violating the interstate cattle law. Mr. Christie brought cattle into Pennsylvania from New York without being accompanied by the required health certificate. When examined at Mr. Christie's farm most of the cattle were found to be badly diseased and were condemned and disposed of under State supervision.

William Lambert, a bachelor aged 60 years, residing with his brother Solomon and his sister, Kate Lambert, of Middlecreek, Snyder county, was burned to a crisp on Thursday morning. He was engaged in burning brush and it is believed that he was overcome by sudden illness and had fallen into the pile of burning brush. Several years ago Lambert accidentally shot and killed his father while shooting at a hog during the butchering season.

The report of the amount of food-stuff in cold storage throughout the State on April 1st, issued by Dairy and Food Commissioner Frost, shows the following: Butter, pounds, 923,645; eggs in shell, dozens, 111,568; eggs out of shell, pounds, 74,639; fish, pounds, 1,304,418; poultry, pounds, 3,253,475; game, pounds, 2,098; beef, pounds, 32,256; veal, pounds, 18,262; sheep, pounds, 10,793; hogs, pounds, 4,936; parts of carcasses not classified, pounds, 186,225; parts of carcasses classified, beef, pounds, 501,607; veal, pounds, 18,759; sheep, pounds, 106,830; hogs, pounds, 1,358,009.

Entrapped in their bedrooms on the second floor of the two-story frame dwelling in which they resided, Mrs. Mildred Varner aged 26, wife of Peter Varner, and her four small children, were burned to death at Mount Union Monday night about 10.30 o'clock when fire destroyed the dwelling and the home of Joseph Mallotte, adjoining. Mr. Varner was night foreman of a gang at the Silica brick works and was not at home when the fire started. When he got there and learned that his entire family had burned to death he was well-nigh frantic with grief. How the fire originated is a mystery.

Her hopes of starting in a home of her own blasted by a letter from her husband, Mrs. Blanche Miller, a bride of a few months, sent a bullet into her head at the home of her parents at Millington, Westmoreland county, Friday. Mrs. Miller expected to leave her home and go to housekeeping, and was packing up her belongings when the letter came from her husband telling her that he could not provide a home for her as good as what she had and that she should remain where she was. She fired the shot while alone in a room, and her sister reached her while she was yet living, the young woman dying in her arms.