# HARRISBURG LETTER.

# The Hardest Kind of Work for Logislators This Week.

# LITTLE PROGRESS MADE THUS FAR.

The Greatest Interest Conters in the Penrose Resolutions Providing for an Investigation of Alleged Philadelphia Crookedness, Which Will Doubtless be Reported Favorably in the Senate.

### (Special Correspondence.)

HARRISBURG, April 29.-There is nothing but the hardest kind of work for the state lawmakers, especially the members of the house, from now until the close of the session. The committees are working day and night to get rid of the bills not yet acted upon, so that the members may be free to give all their attention to the general calendar of bills. The house committees have about cleared their calendars of house bills, and are disposing of senate bills as fast as they come over. Beginning this week, the house ways and means committee will hold two sessions on Tuesdays, Wednesday and Thursdays, and one on Friday morning. The committee has been working all winter on the new revenue bill, and has finally gotten rid of it. There are about fifty other bills on its calendar for consideration.

The house general judiciary committee is the hardest worked committee in either branch of the legislature. It has already disposed of 400 house and senate bills. The committee has also under consideration the petition of James W. M. Newlin, the Philadelphia lawyer, charging Judge Gor-don, of that city, with holding a secret court in violation of the bill of rights. This matter will be taken up tomorrow evening and disposed of. The sentiment in the committee is decidedly in favor of Judge Gordon and it is believed he will be exonerated of Newlin's charge.

The Appropriation Committee Busy. The house appropriations committee is still grinding away at bills. Chairman Marshall has prepared a special calendar of appropriation bills, but will not bring them out until it is definitely determined just how much the state can give to charities the next two years. Governor Hastings and his cabinet have not yet been able to solve this problem. If the bill tax-ing brewers twenty-four cents a barrel for all malt liquors brewed or sold in the state becomes a law it will raise about \$1,000,000 annually. State Treasurer Jackson estimates that it will cost about \$100,-000 to collect this tax. The bill is still in the house ways and means committee.

The congressional apportionment bill will be brought out this week by the house committee. Chairman Lawrence has prepared a bill which he will submit to the committee tomorrow morning. It gives Philadelphia and Allegheny each an additional congressman and makes no material change in the other districts in the state outside these two counties. The legislative and senatorial apportionment bills are still in committee. The senate has not yet acted upon the judicial apportionment bill, which passed the house six weeks ago. The senators do not like the changes made in certain districts and will not agree to them. If the house stands by the bill as it passed that body it will have have to go to a conference committee. This would mean that the governor will not receive it until near the close of the session.

The legislature has now been in session 118 days. Both bodies have apparently worked hard, and yet they have accomplished nothing practically in the way of legislation. Up to date Governor Hast-ings has signed but twenty-eight bills and vetoed six. He has also signed thirty joint resolutions. The Farr compulsory education bill and a few others which have been passed finally by both bodies were sent to the governor today. The governor has dis-

### room. Senators Osbourn and Penrose are both members of the committee, as is also Senator Grady, who is admittedly the most sarcastic member of the senate, and the latter is expected to take a prominent part in the debate in favor of the resolution.

Who Will Oppose the Resolutions ?

The legislators are wondering who besides a few senators will appear in opposition to the resolution. No open evidences of a fight have appeared on the surface except the bitter attack made by Senator bourn, and so far as can be learned for men who are thought to be most decily interested in blocking the appointment of a committee are doing nothing to that end. There is talk of powerful corporation influence being exerted to prevent an investigation, and some very influential men are credited with having gone to Wash-

Ington to reason with Senator Quay, who returned on Friday from Florida. Friends of Colonel Quay declare, however, that he is satisfied with the outlook, and cannot be induced to call off the investigation. Some go so far as to say that even Senator Quay could not prevent the appointment of the committee if he desired to do so. The evidence which the friends of the resolution possess is so strong, it is claimed, that the investigation is not only warranted, but the opposition will be placed in an embarrassing situation in arguing against the resolution

The nomination of William B. Ahern to be clerk of the quarter sessions of Philadelphia, to succeed General Latta, who as-sumes the office of the secretary of internal affairs a week from tomorrow, will probably he sent to the senate on Wednesday. Colonel Grier, of Columbia, will retire as superintendent of public printing on Tuesday. He will be succeeded by Thomas Robinson, of Butler. On the following Tuesday Auditor General Gregg goes out of office, to make room for ex-Senator Mylin.

The board of pardons will meet on Wednesday to dispose of the case of Hugh F. Dempsey, the Pittsburg labor leader, and a number of others which have been un-

d radvisement since the first meeting in nuary. The board will also dispose of the e of Fred McConnell, the boy murderer, er sentence of death at Meadville for 11 urder of a companion. McDonnell en of yet 18 years old. There is doubt of anity, and the board has asked the rek wittee on lunney to select a sanity exo report on his condition at Wednes meeting. This will be the final of the board as now constituted, retary of internal affairs retiring cent in favor of his successor. Gen-Latta.

### Country Storekeepers "Downed,"

bill which was nimed principally at enterprise of some of the leading grocers of Philadelphia was killed in the house the other day. It provided that no agent for any business house could solicit orders from private families without first securing a borough license, the fees for which are made so high as to be prohibitive. For a one day license the fee was made \$5; for a week. \$30; a month, \$100; three months, \$200; six months, \$400; a year, \$800. The confessed object of the bill, as explained by Representative Ben Focht, its author, was to prevent certain Philadelphia grocers from sending their agents out through the country to solicit orders, to the great detriment and loss of the country storekeepers. Instead of the country merchants competing with their city rivals the object was to choke off competition by legislation, but the house buried the hill so deep that it will never be heard of again.

An unusual sight about the capitol during the last few weeks has been the stalwart form of Senator Flinn, of Pittsburg, moving around on a pair of crutches. Although one of the healthiest looking men in the state, the big senator is a victim of rheumatism. He recently spent several weeks at the White Sulphur Springs, of Virginia, but apparently without deriving any lasting benefit from 15. During the past week his greater Pittsburg bills were

# COLUMBIAN, BLOOMSBURG, PA

# WASHINGTON. From our Regular Correspondent.

THE

WASHINGTON, April 29, 1895.

President Cleveland has a right to feel offended with any democrat who believes that he contemplates or has ever contemplated taking any step that would even seem like an attempt to coerce Federal office holders into advocating his view of financial matters. No one is surprised that republicans should pretend to believe that the President has such intentions; they have always misrepresented his acts as well as his intentions, but it is certainly surprising that any democrat, in view of Mr. Cleveland's record on the subject of office-holders taking an active part in political matters, should be willing to accept such a story. President Cleveland doesn't differ from other men, in wishing to see his views on finance, or any other public question, adopted by his party, but he has no idea of asking or of allowing office holders to neglect their legitimate duties in order to advocate his own or anybody else's views on finance or any other political subject.

The much talked about Allianca incident will soon be satisfactorily settled. Secretary Gresham this week received a dispatch from Minister Taylor saying that the Spanish government would accede to all of the demands of the United States in the Allianca affair, and that the captain of the gunboat that fired on the Allianca would be punished for so doing.

Now that it has been settled that the Supreme Court will hear arguments on the petition for a rehearing of the income tax cases on May 6, and expected that a full bench will sit on that date, everybody is trying to discover some method of ascertain ing how Justice Jackson will vote, as his vote is likely to be the deciding one as to a rehearing, and if favorable thereto, as to constitutionality of the law. Justice Jackson, although a democrat, was appointed to the Supreme Court by President Harrison. He was made a U. S. Circuit Judge by President Cleveland, during his first term.

So we are to lose our "Teddy after all. He has not been able to stand the "taffy" lavished upon him by big New Yorkers, who believe, or have made him believe that they believe him to be the only man who can make a thorough job of reforming the police force of New York city. Consequently "Teddy," otherwise known as Hon. Theodore Roosevelt, will resign from the U.S. Civil Service Commission and accept the position of Police Commissioner of New York city. It is not surprising that the newspapers of New York city should have been a unit in favoring this change of base on the part of "Teddy. They know that he will keep himself and everybody else connected with the police department of that city in hot water from the time he enters office, and that he will stir up lots of interesting local copy for them. But will he reform the police? That's



tions, weakness of the stomach, indigestion, bloating, lencorrhœa, womb trou-ble, flooding, nervous prostration, headache, general debility, etc. Symptoms of

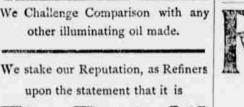
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Womb Troubles are dizziness, faintness, extreme lassi-tude, "don't care," and "want to be left alone" feelings, excitability, irrita-bility, nervousness, sleeplessness, flatu-lency, melancholy, or the "blues," and backache. Lydia E. Finkinan's Vege-table C. table Compound will correct all this trouble as sure as the sun shines. That Bearing-Down Feeling.

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# What Dr. MacTaggart HAS DONE AND IS DOING.

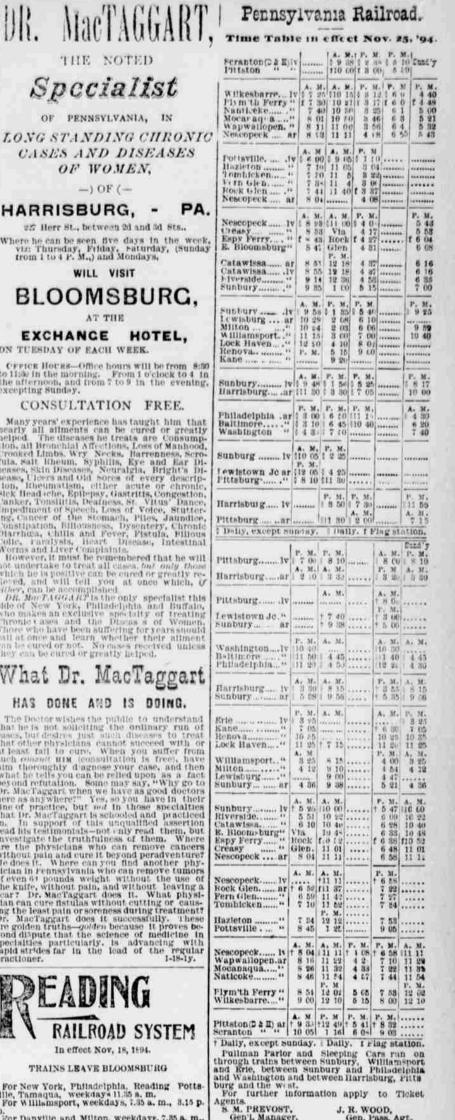
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posed of all the bills he had previously received.

### Working Overtime Objectionable.

The house has been doing good work the past two weeks. The members started in last Thursday to clear the calendar of second reading house bills and succeeded by extending the afternoon session a half hour. Encouraged by this remarkable feat an attempt was made on Friday to clear the calendar of senate bills on sec-ond reading. The members worked faithfully for an hour or two, and then the spring fever struck them and the remainder of the session was given up to pounding on the desks, smoking bad eigars and other "innnocent" amusements, and in-cidentally considering bills. After having been in session four hours the legislators concluded they had done enough work for one day, and adjourned with upwards of seventy-five bills on the calendar for future consideration. There will be few special orders here-

after, except for revenue, appropriation and apportionment bills. The house rules committee has learned that the wrangling over requests for this privilege costs too much valuable time, and has determined to choke off all future requests for orders except in the case of bills of vital impor-

It seems to be definitely settled that there will be no road legislation this session. The Smiley and Brown bills have been killed, and the Flinn measure, which went through the senate, has been laid aside by the house. It does not meet the views of the rural members, who are most interested in road legislation, and will probably never be called up.

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### Watching the Penrose Resolutions.

The proceedings of the senate will be watched with keen interest this week. Everybody is waiting to hear of the action of the judiciary general committee on the Penrose resolution to investigate the operation of the Bullitt bill. The committee will meet tomorrow, and an attempt will be made to bring out the resolution without delay. There is no doubt as to the action of the committee. Three-fourths of its members are friendly to Senator Penrose, and will vote to report the memorial favorably. Senatof Quay will be here this week, and it is thought he will be consuited by President Pro Tem. Thomas and Senator Penrose before the committee is announced. Senator Kennedy, of Allegheny, seems to be the general favorite for chairman. He is a personal and political friend of Senator Quay.

At the meeting of the committee a large attendance of interested people is looked for. It is expected that interesting statements will be made by the men who will be on hand to urge a favorable report on the resolution, and there may be some lively tilts between members of the committee. In fact the violent speech made by Senator Osbourn on the floor of the mate in opposition to the investigation is believed to have been merely a prelude to what he will say in the committee

passed through the house and he was com pelled to be on the ground to see that no mishap befell them, and as his old enemy was again in full control, he had to resort to crutches.

While suffering bodily Senator Flinn has, however, been envied by his fellow-legislators, as he just cleared a cool \$160. 000 in a little oil deal. Before the recent boom in oil Senator Flinn, with a few friends, became interested in some oil Since the rapid advance in prices land. this has been sold to the Standard Oil company for \$500,000, of which Senator Flinn's share amounted to \$160,000.

Hearing Arguments at the Seashore. No matter what their verdict may be, the members of the senate elections com

mittee now investigating the contest of H. D. Heller for Senator Laubach's seat, are determined to have a good time, and during the last few days, when the mercury got up close to the nineties, they were enjoying the cool breezes at Atlantic City at the state's expense. The ostensible reason for the jaunt to the seashore was for the purpose of hearing the argument of counsel in the case. Those on the outside cannot understand why legal arguments can be made better in New Jersey than in Pennsylvania.

Representative George A. Vare, of the First Philadelphia district, has been so seldom in his seat during the present session that the sight of him in his place would be a great surprise to the other members. The members occupying seats in his vicinity are positive that he has opened his desk only once this session, and that was at the beginning, to see what was in the desk. Two of the most faithful attendants at the sessions of the house are Representatives Stewart and Fow, of Philadelphia, W.

### A Desperate Gang of Tramps.

HUNTINGDON, Pa., April 26.-A gang of about thirty desperate tramps, many of whom were armed, boarded a westbound freight train on the Pennsylvania railroad, at a point near Ryde station. When the trainmen tried to put them off the tramps resisted, firing a number of shots from their revolvers, none of which took effect. When the train reached here the police, aided by a large posse of citizens, made an attack on the desperadoes, and after a florce fight, succeeded in capturing five of the ringleaders, who were put in jail. The others escaped to the woods, Some members of the gang are suspected of having taken part in the \$40,000 burglary at Mifflintown.

### Convicted of Murdering His Wife,

PITTSHURG, April 26 .- James McMullen has been found guilty of murder in the first degree for the killing of his wife some months ago. He attempted suicide at the time, and as a result cannot speak above a whisper on account of the wound made in her throat. The trial was one of the shortest on record, only three hours being consumed in giving testimony, but it took the jury two days and nights to reach a conclusion.

another question altogether. He may, and then again he may not. He has been the High Mucky Muck of the U. S. Civil Service Commission during the greater part of two administrations, but if he has been instrumental in bringing about any real reforms in the Government service no one except himself has been able to locate them. But he always shows up well in a newspaper interview, and talks interestingly; hence he has had little difficulty in keeping himself before the public, which is always ready to forgive any fad of those who know how to make themselves interesting. Wash-ington regrets the loss of "Teddy" but expects to keep track of him through the New York papers.

President Cleveland might have een excused for smiling and quietly shaking hands with himself when he earned that his "Boy Comptroller' of the Currency-Hon. James H. Eckels-had been offered \$10,000 a year to become financial editor of the Chicago Times-Herald, which has recently become the property of Mr. Kohlsaat, and had declined the offer. It was certainly a notable tribute to the sagacity of President Cleveland in selecting Mr. Eckels for the position he has filled so well.

The latest estimate of Treasury officials is that at least 20 per cent of those who are known to be liable to the income tax have failed to make returns, among them some of the richest men in the country, including the Vanderbilts. The delinquents will be proceeded against as soon as possible, but legal resistance is expected from most of them, as it is known that it was by the advice of their lawyers that many of them failed to make returns.

Senator Voorhees denies that he said, as was recently widely published, that he had information that the Supreme Court would reverse the decision of Judge Woods and release Eugene Debs. What he did say was that he believed the Supreme Court would so decide, his belief being founded on his opinion of the law, and not upon any advance information as to what the court will do. Secretary Morton is still after the beef trust. He will show up its

methods, even if the anti-trust law 5 n. g.







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