HARRISBURG LETTER.

Legislators Now Hope to Finish Their Work on June 6.

WORK AHEAD OF LAST SESSION.

A Hundred More Bills Have Been Acted Upon Than for the Same Time in 1893. The Beer Tax Bill Will Probably be Defeated.

(Special Correspondence.)

HARRISBURG, May 6 .- The legislature will probably wind up its affairs the first Thursday of June. The members have be-come tired of the daily grind of routine work and are anxious to get away. The senate calendar is in good shape, and, if necessary, can be cleared of all bills within forty-eight hours. The house took a spurt last week and cleaned up the calendar of first and second reading house bills. There are less than fifty senate bills on second reading, and about 200 house bills on third reading on the house calendar. This is equal to about eight days' work of six hours a day. Speaker's Clerk Huhn says it is the first time within his legislative experience of thirty four years that the house salendar was clear of second reading house bills the first week of May.

A resume of the work of the house up to date shows that it has considered 716 bills on first reading, 601 on second reading and 208 on third reading. A comparison of the work accomplished by the house up to May 2, 1898, and the same date this year shows that two years ago 556 house and 231 senate bills, or 787 in all, had been reported from the committees. This year the house bills number 624 and the senate bills 248, a total of 872. Two years ago, at this time, 129 house bills had been acted upon and sent to the senate, together with 14 senate bills. This year the numbers are 187 and 21, respectively. There have been 24 house bills passed both branches and gone to the governor, or one more than two years ago.

A comparison of the work of the senate up to date with two years ago shows that 597 bills have been read in place this year. as against 480 in 1893. Two years ago, up to May 2, there were 488 bills reported from the senate committees. This year there have been brought out 609.

The Senate Moving Slowly.

The senate is moving very slowly. Its members are in no hurry to dispose of the remaining house bills on the calendar until they have some definite information as to what is to become of their bills in the house. Two years ago, when the legislature adjourned, two hundred senate bills were left on the house calendar. The sen-ators claim that they are entitled to the same consideration the house has received at their hands, and they do not propose to concur in the joint resolution for a final adjournment until all their bills have been acted upon. The senate is an easy going body, and its members are willing to stay here until the middle of June, if necessary, to secure final consideration in the house of their pet measures.

Chairman Marshall, of the house appro priations committee, expects to report next Thursday about forty appropriation bills for state institutions. They will aggregate about \$4,500,000, a heavy reduction over two years ago. The managers of the state institutions have hitherto received a lot of extras that they will not get this year.

Discussing appropriations it might be said that there is very little hope for any of the institutions, other than those supported wholly by the state, that are now seeking aid. There has been no brighten-ing of the cloudy financial sky so far as the state government is concerned. It may be that after everything has been considcred and the accounts gone over carefully that there may remain a very little to be divided among the semi-state institutions,

There have been so many conflicting interests to be considered in this direction that it can be predicted that there will be the hottest kind of a fight over the various provisions. Members from the rural dis-tricts will raise the cry, which has been raised so often before, that the farmers are

being oppressed to the benefit of the corporations. But the men who have given the closest attention to this, and who have looked after the interest of the farmer as well as the interest of the manufacturer, claim that the revenue bill which comes out, as the result of the best thought of the tax conference, is by long odds the most equitable and perfect bill that has seen the light of day in Pennsylvania in

recent years. It is expected that the house will consider this week on second reading the nu merous local and special bills which have been lingering in committee and on the calendars for a long time. The bill creating the office of deputy auditor general and two traction measures will be considered in the house on third reading and final passage tomorrow morning on special orders

During the week the friends of the Flinn road bill, and the measure put in by Rep-retentative Smiley will endeavor to agree upon a bill satisfactory to both parties. It oks now as if there might be some road legislation this session. There will also be a conference during the week on the two bills changing the method of distrib uting the school appropriation.

The Porter School Bal Muddle.

The Porter school bill abolishing see tional school boards in Philadelphia, on which a hearing will be given tomorrow evening, is doomed to defeat unless its friends can rescue it from the hands of the committee on municipal corporations. In the first place it is conceded that a mistake was made in referring it to this committee; that instead of going to the committee on municipal corporations it should have gone to the committee on education. The friends of the bill claim that it was sent to the committee on municipal corporations by design and for the purpose of encompassing its defeat.

Speaker Walton was absent for several days last month and in his absence called Representative P. M. Lytle, of Huntingdon, to the chair. It was the latter gen-tleman who referred this bill to the committee on municipal corporations, and upon whose shoulders there has rested the charge of design in referring it. Mr. Lytle explains that he referred it to the municipal corporations committee because it was so marked by Speaker's Clerk Huhn, on whose judgment he relied, and Mr Huhn declares that he referred it to the committee on municipal corporations, instead of to the committee on education be cause it had been referred to that committee in the senate, and he supposed it should go to the same committee in the house, An interesting compilation of street

passenger railway, electric and traction power bills in house and senate has been made. It shows that there are just fourteen of these bills in the house and senate. One failed last week, four have passed second reading in the house, three are on third reading in the house, one has been substituted, two have passed the house finally, two still hang fire in the committee on street passenger railways in the house, and one is now in a committee of the senate

To Banquet the Legislators.

The members will mix pleasure with work this week. Tomorrow the associa-tion of country newspaper editors in the senate and house will tender a banquet to the eighteen legislative correspondents. The following evening Chris L. Magee will probably give a banquet to the mem-bers of both branches in honor of the approval of the greater Pittsburg bills. The intention is to hold the banquet on the evening of the day on which the three an-nexation bills receive Governor Hastings' signature. It is believed the governor will sign them on Wednesday, and not later than Thursday.

It will probable be determined this week

WASHINGTON.

From our Regular Correspondent, WASHINGTON, May 6, 1805.

"No entangling foreign alliances," is the good old Jeffersonian motto that President Cleveland has adopted for his administration, and, although a few loud mouthed jingoists are struggling hard to make it appear otherwise, there is litt e doubt that the majority of the voters of this country believe in that motto. It has governed the administration throughout the wrangle between Great Britain and Nicaragua, and, notwithstanding many previous reports to the contrary and the shrewd diplomatic efforts of interested countries, it is and will continue to be the governing spirit of this country's acts in connection with the new complications between Japan and Russia. President Cleveland is always ready and willing to use all the influence at his disposal to bring about a peaceful settlement of disputes between nations, but when asked to assume a position that would in effect, if not actually, be taking sides in the disputes he invariably declines, and thereby proves himself a true friend to the real interests of the United States. The idea is prevalent that when President Cleveland fills the vacancy in the Civil Service Commission caused by the resignation of Mr. Roosevelt (" our Teddy ") he will also appoint a successor to Commissioner Lyman, whose resignation has, it is reported, been asked for. Mr. Roosevelt's successor will be a democrat, but if Lyman goes out his successor will be a republican. It has for a long time been the opinion of many people, including members of the Corgressional committee which investigated the late Frank Hatton's charges against the Civil Service Commission, that Mr. Lyman ought to go,

but somehow he has managed to hold on through it all. Secretary Herbert has decided not to attend the celebration of the opening of the Baltic Sea canal, which is to occur at Kiel, Germany, on June 19. He received a special invitation to attend from the German government, and for a time thought he would be able to do so, but a closer study of the official programme he has mapped out convinced him that he couldn't. He abandoned the idea with reluctance.

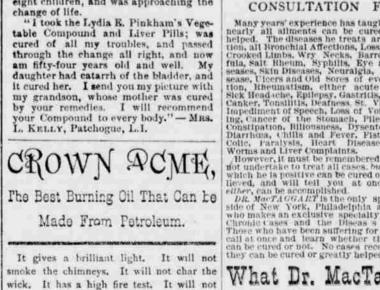
Assistant Secretary McAdoo is again on duty at the Navy department, having this week returned from his five weeks cruise with Admiral Meade's squadron. He is enthusiastic over the behavior of men and ships on the cruise, and says he learned and unlearned much that will be useful to him and beneficial to the government in administering his official business. He is greatly pleased at the result of the experiment made by the department on this cruise, of sending coal for the ships direct from the United States in order to head off the extortion of the coal dealers in



The Doctor wishes the public to

"Before taking it I had falling of the womb; such bearing-down pains, back-ache, and kidney trouble. I had had eight children, and was approaching the change of life.

"I took the Lydia E. Pinkham's Vegetable Compound and Liver Pills; was cured of all my troubles, and passed through the change all right, and now am fifty-four years old and well. My daughter had catarrh of the bladder, and it cured her. I send you my picture with my grandson, whose mother was cured by your remedies. I will recommend your Compound to every body." - MRS. L. KELLY, Patchogue, L.I.



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J. R. WOOD, Gen. Pass, Agt.

THE COLUMBIAN, BLOOMSBURG, PA.

but it will be so little that it will not be a drop in the bucket.

Nothing has yet been done by the legislature to increase the state revenues. The house ways and means committee will report tomorrow the Cochrane bill taxing brewers twenty-four cents a barrel for all beer brewed or sold within the state. This would raise an annual revenue of about \$900,000 If such a law is passed nothing can be realized from it for a year.

Opposing the Beer Tax Bill.

This beer tax bill has created one or two commotions in the house. The latest occurred last Thursday night, when an attempt was made to get the bill out of the hands of the committee on ways and means. Chairman Ritter objected, however, and the proposition failed, on the ground that it was not the fault of the committee that the bill had not been considered. The proposition is to tax domestic beer sixteen cents per barrel. It is also proposed to tax foreign beer-that is, all beer that comes from Rochester, Cincinnati, Milwaukee or Canada-a similar amount

When the remarkable decline in the state's revenues were first announced and the proposition was made to cut down the school appropriation the grangers imme diately raised a cry and declared that this was unnecessary, inasmuch as the loss in revenue could be made up by imposing a tax on beer. A bill to this effect was already before the house, having been introduced by Representative Cockran, of Arm strong, but it hung fire in committee. The grangers immediately began to agitate its assage. They sent committees to interview the governor, and formed temporary

organizations to push the scheme. Behind it all lay this fact, that if the school appropriation was reduced they would be compelled to increase their local taxation for school purposes. It is not likely that anything will be done with the matter. It will frighten the brewers and others interested in the production of beer, and that will be all. The stumbling block in the whole measure is the injustice of its dealings, should it become a law, to the Pennsylvania brewers.

So far as known there is no way in which the tax can be saddled on the brewer in Milwaukee shipping beer into Pennsylvania. He could claim protection unde the original package act of the United States government, and there the matter would end. It is now proposed to let them ship their products in original packages and then tax it after it gets in. No de-cision has been rendered on the subject by any competent authority and is not likely to be until final action is taken on the

The New Revenue Bill,

The new revenue bill will be considered next Thursday on second reading. Chairman Riter, of the ways and means committee, has the measure in charge, and has requested members who have amendments which they intend to offer to hand them to him, so that they may be submitted to the committee.

whether or not Philadelphia is to be "Lexowed." The senate judiciary general committee is expected to take final action tomorrow evening on the Penrose resolution for a senate committee to investigate the municipal affairs of the Quaker city. The same afternoon the opponents of the proposed investigation will be given a hearing by the committee. There will be more surprises in store for senators on both sides of this question. There are senators who are counted on one side who will vote on the other, and vice versa. All

newspaper estimates as to how the fight will result in committee are pure conjecture. One thing is certain, that the opposition is stronger than anyone has dreamed of, and it is pretty broadly hinted on what seems substantial grounds that unless Senator Quay gives orders that the resolu-tion be passed it will run a very doubtful course

Everybody is waiting to hear from Senator Quay. He has been expected here for a month. Last week a close friend said he had decided to remain away from the state capital during the legislative session. It is now stated on the highest authority that the senator will come to Harrisburg for a few days after the senate has disposed of the Penrose resolution. Senator Quay will spend the summer at his home at Beaver.

Burglars Use Dynamite.

TROY, Pa., May 6.-A daring burglary was perpetrated in this place during the The safe in Robinson's mill and night. feed store was blown open with dynamite and afterward the postoflice was broken into. The postmaster hearing the noise the burglars decamped, leaving a part of their tools in their haste. Only a small sum of money was obtained, the safe in the postoffice remaining unopened.

Judge White Wins His Contest,

INDIANA, Pa., May 6.—The contest court in the Biair-White judical election fight decided in favor of Judge Harry White, the Republican candidate. There is some talk of possible prosecution of White on a charge that he committed perjury in taking the oath of office, but the chances are that Harry White will be on the bench for ten years.

Evidence of Infanticide.

LANCASTER, Pa., May 6 .- The dead body of a newly born infant was found floating in Mill creek, not far from this city, yesterday. It was wrapped only in a petticoat and there were no marks of identification. The child had been born alive and had evidently been in the water about twentyfour hours.

One Miner Killed, Another Fatally Hurt.

ASHLAND, Pa., May 6 .- A heavy fall of oal occurred at Knickerbocker colliery. instantly killing Stein Matscar. His body was covered with several tons of coal and rock, requiring an hour to move it. An explosion of gas at the same mine fatally injured John Leckow, a miner.

siderable opposition and somewhat of an organized effort made to prevent the securing of labor for taking the coal from the American schooners to the ships ; but this effort failed. In one instance the local coal dealers employed all the labor in the market, paying the men to remain idle. But laborers were procured from the interior. The result of this very wise action on the part of the department -which will save annually a great deal of money-is that the local dealers in nearly all West Indian and Central American ports have made overtures to furnish coal at a reasonable increase over its market value in the United States. Not only will this keep the price down for the Navy, but it will open the market for the American article at ports where only English coal is now found, as the dealers know that they cannot compete in prices and continue to sell English coal.

The marriage in Washington, last Tuesday, of Senator Murphy's oldest daughter to ex-Mayor Hugh Grant, of New York city, is regarded by those who keep track of the side currents in politics as being much more than a mere society event. It means, they think, the uniting of two men's interests who will in all probability have a hand in directing the course of the democratic party of the Empire state for some time to come.

Secretary Gresham is again quite unwell and his friends are growing uneasy about his health. He has President Cleveland's habit of doing more work at times than he ought to, and his duties have been especially harassing of late, causing him to overtax his strength before he had entirely recovered from his recent illness.

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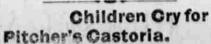
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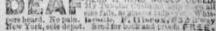
Senator Allison was in Washington this week, trying to drive a few spikes in the aspirations of the other republi can Presidential candidates. He has reached the I-have-nothing to say stage.

Acting through the blood, Hood's Sarsaparilla not only cures scrofula, salt rheum, etc., but gives health and vigor to the whole body.





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