

HARRISBURG LETTER.

Alleged Attempts at Bribery to Be Investigated.

BILL REGARDING PARTNERSHIPS.

It Gives Them the Privileges of Corporations, but Does Not Tax the Capital Stock—The Amended Traction Motor Bill.

(Special Correspondence.)

Harrisburg, Feb. 28.—The rumors of bribery in connection with the efforts to pass the McCarroll bill were taken cognizance of by the house of representatives last Friday, and a resolution was adopted authorizing the speaker to appoint a committee to make an investigation and report the result of its inquiry.

The resolutions were offered by General Koontz, the anti-Quay member from Somerset, who introduced the subject by rising to a question of the highest privilege. He referred to the reports of attempts to bribe members to move a reconsideration of the McCarroll bill after it had been postponed, and said the honor of the house was in question while these reports were being circulated. He then offered the following resolutions:

"Whereas, Certain charges have been made through the newspaper press, and many seemingly well founded rumors have become current, alleging that, both directly and indirectly, money, offices, appointments, employment and other considerations of value have been offered the members of the house to influence their votes upon the senatorship and the senate bill No. 5, known as the 'McCarroll bill,' and

Whereas, It has frequently been charged that persons have been, and are now, engaged in the occupation or practice of corrupt solicitation of members of this house:

"Resolved, That Representatives W. C. Kreps, S. D. Towler, J. H. Fow, George H. Dixon and Robert K. Young be and are hereby constituted and appointed a committee of investigation on the part of the house to examine into any and all of aforesaid charges, and they are hereby authorized to administer oaths, summon witnesses, papers and documents by subpoena or other process of law, examine the same and to do any and all things which a legislative investigating committee is empowered to do by the constitution and laws of the commonwealth; to determine the truth or falsity of the aforesaid charges; report the same to this body and to take any and all means necessary to protect its members, as aforesaid, from such offers of bribes, private solicitation or threats and intimidation."

General Koontz said the reason he named the committee in the resolution was because the house was divided on the senatorial question, and he desired to relieve the speaker from the embarrassment of appointing it. Objection was made, however, and Mr. Koontz withdrew the names of the investigators from his resolution. The appointment of the investigators, therefore, devolves upon the speaker.

A New Partnership Measure.

A bill on second reading in the senate that is attracting much attention, and will probably be vigorously opposed when it is called up, permits the formation of partnerships with all the privileges of corporations, as it limits the liability of the partners for the indebtedness of the firm to the amount of the capital subscribed by the different partners, and does not subject the capital to taxation, like that of corporations. It also gets around the various acts which prescribe the character of business which may incorporate, by permitting all kinds of business to form limited partnerships and enjoy the privileges of corporations without the disadvantages. The bill prescribes that persons so desiring to associate themselves shall subscribe to articles of partnership, wherein shall be stated the name and style of the partnership, its purposes and duration, the county wherein its principal office or place of business is to be located, the names of the several partners and the amount of the capital subscribed by each partner.

No member of any such partnership thus formed, recorded and published, whose liability is stated as intended to be limited, shall be liable for its debts under any circumstances, saving to the extent of the amount of his or her subscription, with interest on unpaid subscriptions, from the date or dates at which the same became actually due and payable. Payment of the amount of the subscription of such member of the partnership, with interest as aforesaid, shall exonerate such partner from all further liability.

Representative Stubb, of Philadelphia, after a lively debate in the house over his bill to give the state board of health \$50,000 and new powers therewith to search for sources of pollution of such streams as the Schuylkill, caused action to be postponed for the present. The bill was on second reading, and some up the state members evidently thought the proposed surveys unnecessary, although Mr. Towler, of Forest, said that the question was one of humanity and not of locality. The friends of the bill felt that its prospect could be improved by consideration when there would be a larger attendance.

Messrs. Fow and Stubb, of Philadelphia, and Nisbit, of Allegheny, championed the bill, and Messrs. Towler, of Forest; Baldwin, of Delaware; Moore, of Butler, and Hannon, of Venango, urged legislation instead of investigation.

The Motor Traction Bill. The recommended bill, which would have empowered traction companies to sell light and power to the public, will be amended in committee. Mr. Hosack, who introduced it, says that the only purpose of the bill is to give some additional powers to iron and steel companies, and the amendments will specifically except traction and other electric companies from the privilege of extending charter provisions.

A bill aimed to take \$1,000,000 annually in tax from a retail business of \$10,000,000 is in the hands of the ways and means committee of the house. On a business of \$100,000 the tax would be one per cent., or \$1,000, and the percentages are gradually increased up to 10 per cent. on \$1,000,000 or over. The bill was introduced by Baldwin, of Delaware, who said it was "by request."

At the same time he caused to be re-committed to the ways and means committee the other mercantile tax bills, one of

which, from Mr. Hoch, would put on a \$10,000,000 retail business a tax of \$10,000, and the other, from Baldwin, would tax that amount of business \$7,500.50. The discrimination in the percentages of this bill would bring a veto from Governor Stone for unconstitutionality if he agreed with a message from Governor Hastings on this subject. The bill comes from the Mercantile Tax Reform club, of Philadelphia, of which Charles R. Wood is president; W. W. Swetsfort and T. J. S. Barlow, vice presidents; Louis C. McCloy, treasurer, and William Haines, secretary.

At a meeting of the ways and means committee these three mercantile tax bills were referred to a special committee, appointed by Chairman Hosack, to prepare a tax bill that may have a prospect of passing. Hosack's committee will tackle also the various other revenue measures, including the bill to let the state keep all the personal property tax of half a cent a gallon, and Fow's bill to tax each place of business conducted by one person or firm.

To Publish the New Laws.

To provide for the publication of the laws enacted by the legislature in newspapers, a bill was introduced in the house by Mr. Kreps, of Franklin. It provides that the laws shall be published in two papers in counties of 25,000 or more; in four papers, in counties of over 25,000 and less than 50,000; in five papers, in counties of over 50,000 and less than 100,000; in six papers, in counties of over 100,000 and less than 500,000; in ten papers, in counties of over 500,000. The newspapers designated shall be of general circulation, printed in the English language. The rate for publishing the laws shall be ten cents for each folio of 100 words. The papers shall be selected annually by the commissioners of the several counties. Two of the papers shall represent the majority political party and the third the minority party.

The bill making a compulsory non-suit and the refusal of the court to take it off a bar to recovery in another suit for the same cause of action, except in the action of ejectment upon a legal title, was defeated in the house. The measure was introduced by Mr. Harris, of Clearfield, by request of the Pennsylvania State Bar association.

Another bill presented by Mr. Harris, by request of the State Bar association, was also defeated. The measure makes it necessary that all acknowledgments of a debt or demand based on contract except acknowledgments by partial payments and all promises to pay shall be in writing before the bar of the statute of limitation shall be removed.

A bill between Representatives Fow, of Philadelphia, and a clergyman, a passage of bitter words between Senators Flinn and Merrick, and the introduction of a lot of important bills, including one which Mayor-elect Ashbridge will come here to advocate, to abolish the Philadelphia board of health, made last Thursday's legislative proceedings decidedly lively.

The house, near the close of its morning session, and just before its reception of the senate for the joint balloting on Quay's sent, was excited by a scene in which Representative Fow and Rev. Dr. McCarroll, of the Presbyterian church of Shippensburg, brother of Senator McCarroll, were the principal actors. Dr. McCarroll's presence was in pursuance of his custom in coming to Harrisburg as an antagonist of bills to modify the Sunday blue laws of 1794 whenever they were introduced.

Mr. Fow Rebukes a Clergyman.

Mr. Fow's indignation had been aroused by seeing a letter which a Republican fellow member had received from Dr. McCarroll denouncing as vicious the bill recently introduced by the Seventeenth ward orator to so change the law as to let newspapers be sold if not by public outcry, to permit shaving by barbers until 11 a. m., to extend the time for selling milk and to legalize the running of street cars and the sale of ice, though not by delivery by wagon. Dr. McCarroll's letter, Mr. Fow asserts, had stated that the bill should be opposed not only on account of its character, but for the reason that it had been introduced by a Democrat who favored legislation of that sort, and he would, therefore, be opposed by many of his fellow Democrats on measures that he would offer or had presented.

Meeting Dr. McCarroll in an aisle of the house, Mr. Fow soon attracted a crowd of members around them by calling the clergyman's attention to the letter, declaring his assertions false. Dr. McCarroll replied that he could prove them.

Mr. Fow retorted: "It illy befits you as a minister of the Gospel to write a letter of that character couched in the language of a political partisan, instead of in that Christian spirit which you should have exhibited. You say my Democratic colleagues are opposed to any legislation I offer. Here they are all around me. Point to one of them. Tell me his name and prove your assertion. You had better leave matters of a partisan character to be attended to by your brother, I bid you good day."

The gravel and voice of the speaker here ended the heated dispute. The bill amending the street law of 1801, providing that portions of streets may be paved on petitions of the majority in interest and number, evoked a bitter personal debate in the senate between Mr. Merrick and Mr. Flinn. The bill was opposed by Mr. Merrick, who said the measure applied to boroughs. This Mr. Flinn denied, and he said that Mr. Merrick's opposition was the outgrowth of the senatorial contest.

"That is utterly false," replied Mr. Merrick. "I am opposed to this bill, as I have been opposed to the many other vicious and iniquitous measures introduced by the gentleman from Pittsburgh. He is now posing as a reformer. Great God, think of it! No man in Pennsylvania is responsible for the introduction of more vicious legislation than he. I do not propose to be bulldozed or hoodwinked by any member of this chamber. Lieutenant Governor Gobin, who was in the chair, said that the discussion had become too personal, and that it must cease. However, the combatants refused to be quieted, and Mr. Flinn insisted that his position on the senatorial fight was the cause of Mr. Merrick's opposition to the measure. 'I have noticed,' said the Pittsburger, 'that the gentleman from Flinn is in the habit of going to the cloak room when I call up bills. I am not blind, and I know why he does it.'"

The discussion ended after a motion to recommit the bill had been agreed to. WILKINS.

The Youngest Grandmother.

Knox county lays claim to having the youngest grandmother in the state, if not in the United States, says a Vincennes, Ind., dispatch in the Cincinnati Enquirer. Her name is Mrs. James Bourke and she is barely 33 years old. She lives at Deckers. Her daughter Bertha, married John Midkiff two years ago, and to them a little daughter was born last week. The mother of the child is not quite fifteen years old, while the father is but nineteen. The combined age of the father and mother is but one year older than the grandmother, and the combined ages of the grandfather grandmother, mother, father and child is only 100 years, yet this represents three generations.

FILLED WITH GRATITUDE.—"I feel grateful for what Hood's Sarsaparilla has done for me. I suffered a severe attack of rheumatism and was troubled with night sweats. Medicines prescribed did not give relief, but Hood's Sarsaparilla has cured me. I recommend it for these troubles." W. Henry Ziest, 2216 Colorado St., Philadelphia Pa.

HOOD'S PILLS cure all liver ills. Easy to take, easy to operate; reliable, sure. 25c.

A Big Job on Its Hands.

The New York society for the prevention of cruelty to animals has just resolved to grapple with a fine, large share of new responsibilities, by declaring that bull fights and chicken fights must forthwith cease in Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines. As for bull fights, it is said that only the Spanish care for them; but game cocks are dear to the native heart in all of the islands our flag newly waves over. Perhaps it would be well to finish fighting with the humans before we worry about the chickens, and maybe there are a few things more important than even them. Man is the animal who is suffering most severely from the various forms of cruelty in our various new lands.—E.V.

Educate Your Bowels With Cascarets. Candy Cathartic, cure constipation forever. 10c, 25c. If C. C. C. fail, druggists refund money.

MANY SCHOOL CHILDREN ARE SICKLY.—Mother Gray's Sweet Powders for Children, used by Mother Gray, a nurse in Children's Home, New York, break up colds in 24 hours, cure Feverishness, Headache, Stomach troubles, Teething disorders, and Destroy Worms. At all druggists 25c. Sample mailed FREE. Address, Allen S. Olmstead, LeRoy N. Y. 2-16-41-d

In his last will and testament George Washington bequeathed \$25,000 "toward an endowment of a national university under the auspices of the general government," but in some manner or another that has not been satisfactorily explained the money has disappeared. If it had been invested at ordinary rates of interest and compounded the bequest would at this time amount to over \$4,000,000.

A GOD SENT BLESSING.—Mr. B. F. Wood, of Easton, Pa., was a great sufferer from Organic Heart Disease. He never expected to get well again but Dr. Agnew's cure for the Heart was his good angel, and he lives today to tell it to others, hear him: "I was for fifteen years a great sufferer from Heart Disease, had smothering spells, palpitation, pain in left side and swelled ankles. Twenty physicians treated me, but I got no relief. I used Dr. Agnew's Cure for the Heart. One dose relieved me inside of thirty minutes. Seven bottles cured me."—26. Sold by C. A. Klein.

DYING PREPARATIONS simply develop dry catarrh; they dry up the secretions which adhere to the membrane and decompose, causing a far more serious trouble than the ordinary form of catarrh. Avoid all drying inhalants and use that which cleanses, soothes and heals. Ely's Cream Balm is such a remedy and will cure catarrh or cold in the head easily and pleasantly. A trial size will be mailed for 10 cents, large for 50 cents. All druggists keep it. Ely Brothers, 56 Warren St., New York.

Of the people whose consciences trouble them one-half worry because they are afraid they'll be caught; the other half because they are caught.

No-To-Bac for Fifty Cents. Guaranteed tobacco habit cure. makes weak men strong, blood pure. 50c, \$1. All druggists.

One way to humble a man's pride is to present him with a life size crayon portrait of himself made by an amateur artist.

COSTS TO CENTS.—But worth a dollar a vial!—This is the testimony of hundreds who have used Dr. Agnew's Liver Pills.—They are so sure, so pure so pleasant and easy acting. The demand for this popular Liver Regular is so great it is taxing the makers to keep up with it.—20. Sold by C. A. Klein.

CASTORIA The Kind You Have Always Bought Bears the Signature of *Chas. H. Fletcher*

900 DROPS CASTORIA A Vegetable Preparation for Assimilating the Food and Regulating the Stomachs and Bowels of INFANTS CHILDREN Promotes Digestion, Cheerfulness and Rest. Contains neither Opium, Morphine nor Mineral. NOT NARCOTIC. Recipe of Old Dr. J.C. WOOD'S PREPARED. Perfect Remedy for Constipation, Sour Stomach, Diarrhoea, Worms, Convulsions, Feverishness and LOSS OF SLEEP. The Simple Signature of Chas. H. Fletcher NEW YORK. 16 months old 35 Doses—35 CENTS. EXACT COPY OF WRAPPER.

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Fine PHOTO-GRAPHS and CRAYONS at R. B. GROTZ, Bloomsburg. The best are the cheapest.



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of Bloomsburg, notwithstanding the late financial and business depression.

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Its permanence and prosperity are now assured.

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Bloomsburg Land Improvement Company.

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THE MARKETS.

BLOOMSBURG MARKETS. CORRECTED WEEKLY. RETAIL PRICES

Table with market prices for various goods: Butter per lb., Eggs per dozen, Lard per lb., Ham per pound, Pork, whole, per pound, Beef, quarter, per pound, Wheat per bushel, Oats, Rye, Wheat flour per bbl., Hay per ton, Potatoes per bushel, Turnips, Onions, Sweet potatoes per peck, Tallow per lb., Shoulder, Side meat, Vinegar, per qt., Dried apples per lb., Dried cherries, pitted, Raspberries, Cow Hides per lb., Steer, Calf Skin, Sheep pelts, Shelled corn per bus., Corn meal, cwt., Bran, Chop, Middlings, Chickens per lb new, Turkeys, Geese, Ducks, No. 6, delivered, 4 and 5, 6 at yard, 4 and 5 at yard.

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PENNY GOODS A SPECIALTY.

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IF YOU ARE IN NEED OF CARPET, MATTING, or OIL CLOTH, YOU WILL FIND A NICE LINE AT W. H. BROWER'S 2nd Door above Court House. A large lot of Window Curtains in stock.

When you want to look on the bright side of things, use SAPOLIO

To Cure Constipation Forever. Take Cascarets Candy Cathartic. 10c or 25c. If C. C. C. fail to cure, druggists refund money.

Never Box Nor Pall the Ears. The reason a blow on the ear may do irreparable injury is that the air being driven suddenly and violently against the drum of the ear, might rupture the membrane and cause incurable deafness. The ears should never be pulled nor meddled with in any way, except to wash them in the gentlest manner, the orifice being cleansed with a fold of the washcloth rolled into a little cone.—March Ladies' Home Journal.

BABY HUMORS.—Dr. Agnew's Ointment soothes, quiets and effects quick and effective cures in all skin eruptions, common to babies during teething time. It is harmless to the hair in cases of Scald Head, and cures Eczema, Salt Rheum and all Skin Diseases of older people.—35 cents.—28. Sold by C. A. Klein.

Give the Children a Drink called Grain-O. It is a delicious, appetizing, nourishing food drink to take the place of coffee. Sold by all grocers and liked by all who have used it because when properly prepared it tastes like the finest coffee but is free from all its injurious properties. Grain-O aids digestion and strengthens the nerves. It is not a stimulant but a health builder, and children, as well as adults, can drink it with great benefit. Costs about 1/4 as much as coffee. 15 and 25c. 3 2 41d

FOODS FERMENT and Indigestion follows as sure as night follows day. Nature has supplied in the pineapple a wonderful supply of vegetable pepsin. Dr. Von Stan's Pineapple Tablets contain all the elements in a pure, harmless vegetable compound that heal all forms of stomach disorders in quick time. Make you well and keep you well. Pleasant and positive. 35c.—30. Sold by C. A. Klein.

Natural Gas is the name of a new paper started by E. Adam Sproul at Jamesport, Mo. It may be a misleading one, however, as it remains to be seen whether or not its promoter has really "struck it."

CASTORIA For Infants and Children. The Kind You Have Always Bought Bears the Signature of *Chas. H. Fletcher*

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