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 THE COLUMBIAN,
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THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 1901.

The annual report of the Controller of Luzerne County again brings public attention to the enormous amounts paid justices and constables in the way of fees. There has been an energetic effort in the county to reduce these expenses, but in spite of that the Controller's figures show that justices and constables have received during the year for discharged cases the sum of \$53,896, and in addition over \$10,000 have been paid as witness fees. It does not appear to make much difference to some of these petty officials whether a case reaches court or not, they have a way of getting out of it.

A bill to do away with the office of tax collector in Pennsylvania will soon be introduced in the Legislature by Hon. A. J. Palm, of Crawford county. In an interview he sets forth these reasons for the measure: "I can see no reason why the taxes of all kinds should not be paid direct to the treasurer of each county, thereby avoiding the handling of the funds by a middleman, who must be paid a salary for his work. So much money is lost by the shortages as in the recent case of Collector Hughes, of Titusville, and such amount is paid out uselessly in commissions, that I believe the bill abolishing the office of tax collector will become a law."

Many papers through the state are commenting unfavorably on the authorities of this county because no one has been arrested for the murder of Thomas McHenry. If we remember rightly, all the millions of A. T. Stewart, and the efforts of the best detectives in the land, failed to discover who stole the body of that multi-millionaire. The Nathan murder, committed in the heart of New York City some years ago, still remains a mystery. The abductors of Charley Ross were never discovered, though the boy's father spent a large fortune in the search. Many other murders have occurred in cities where the detective bureaus were at work within an hour after the commission of the crime, and yet it took months and years to run down the offenders. Columbia county is not the slowest place on earth, after all.

The most important state bill presented in the Legislature last Thursday was that introduced by Representative McLarn, of Washington county, which provides that every social, athletic, musical, political or other society, association, club or body of persons, shall not furnish their own members, friends or others, vinous, spiritous, malt or brewed liquors, without having first obtained a license in accordance with the laws regulating the licensing of hotels. It is understood that the real purpose of the bill is to increase the revenue of the Commonwealth. There are thousands of clubs located within the precincts of the Commonwealth, and immense sums of money are spent by them yearly by the purchasing of liquors, etc., for the use of members and visiting friends.

It is announced that prominent educators in the state are at work on a new compulsory educational bill which will be presented at the present session of the State Legislature. The compulsory educational act of 1895 and the amendments of 1897 have, it is claimed, proved to be defective and in many places so obscure that even lawyers are puzzled to know what was originally intended. The preparation of a new bill has been entrusted to a committee named at a meeting of the county school directors, with instructions to take all the good features of the existing acts and the ideas suggested at the directors' meeting and the committee conference and embody them in a new bill which would carry with it the repeal of the present laws. The committee's chief aim has been to prepare a law that could be easily understood. Under the existing law there is a number of loopholes which persons so disposed can easily take advantage of and keep their children out of school while seemingly complying with all the requirements of the law, as the directors understand it. As a result superintendents, directors and truant officers, have met with considerable difficulty in enforcing the law.

RADICAL CHANGES.

Senator Grady's Bill Affects Many Congressional Districts.—This District will be Changed.

There are some radical changes made by the Congressional apportionment bill, introduced last week. Certain well known districts in the Central and Western parts of the State have been knocked out of all semblance to their former selves. The bill was read in place Tuesday by Senator Grady, referred to committee and reported back affirmatively within fifteen minutes.

The bill arranges for twenty-nine sure Republican districts in Presidential years and three sure Democratic districts. In off years there are twenty-eight sure Republican districts, one doubtful and three Democratic.

In the Deemer-Packer district, Clinton County is dropped and Columbia County is substituted for it. The district will be known as the Sixteenth.

Congressman Wright's district has Sullivan County taken from the Polk district, and added to Wayne, Susquehanna, Wyoming, Sullivan and Bradford, thus continuing the Seventeenth district.

To Congressman Polk's district are added the Counties of Cameron from the Sibley district; Clinton, from the Packer-Deemer district and Union and Snyder from Congressman Mahon's district. Northumberland and Montour alone are retained. This makes a Republican district which stretches a third of the way across the State, retaining its old number of the Seventeenth.

The districts of Congressmen Polk and Hall, Democrats, are woefully partitioned. Polk is left living in a district putting his county, Montour, with parts of the district of Congressman Mahon, Packer and Sibley. Hall's county, Elk, and another county, Forest from his district, are put into a district for Sibley.

This makes the Seventeenth district consist of Columbia, Cameron, Clinton, Union and Snyder.

WASHINGTON.

From our Regular Correspondent.

Washington, Feb. 11, 1901.

The latest scheme of the Republican leaders is to take advantage of the popularity of the Nicaragua Canal project to push the Ship Subsidy bill through the Senate—they have only to issue orders to have anything put through the House at short notice. The scheme provides for combining the two by accepting the amendment to the Subsidy bill, offered by Senator Clay, of Georgia, providing for the construction by this government of the Nicaragua Canal, and then to inform the Democratic Senators that unless they vote for the two in one the Nicaragua Canal project will not be legislated upon at all. Senator Hanna is credited with being the father of this scheme, and it is further said that he claims to have promises from a number of Southern Senators that they will vote for the bill so amended. Meanwhile the night sessions are on in the Senate and the Democrats and Populists, aided by the advice of Hon. Arthur P. Gorman, whose success in heading off the Force bill some years ago has not been forgotten, are giving the Republicans about all the fight they can handle. A few days will show whether this scheme is really to be carried out, or is only put out to make talk. The Senate passed the bill reducing war taxes last week.

Senator Teller made a short but vigorous speech just before the Senate adopted a resolution calling on the Secretary of War for a statement of the facts in the case of G. T. Rice, the American editor who was banished from the Philippines for commenting upon the rules and regulations concerning pilots and pilotage, as enforced at Manila. Mr. Teller read the editorial and then said: "The deportation of an editor is not a simple matter, to be whistled down the wind. I regard it as a grievous offense against the liberty of an American citizen that he can be taken, thrown into jail, and then deported under the pretense of the charge that he is a dangerous incendiary and a menace to the military situation. There is no such offense known to the laws of our country, or in the criminal statutes of any state. It is not known in any republic, in any free country in the world. He is but one man, to be sure, but he is a citizen of the United States. The offense against him is an offense against every citizen of the United States. I do not make any apologies for pleading his cause here. I would feel justified if this was the last hour of the session and an extra session should ensue through failure of an appropriation bill, in standing here and calling the attention of the country to this outrage upon a citizen of the United States."

The bill appropriating \$5,000,000 for the St. Louis Exposition has been favorably reported to the House, and Speaker Henderson has promised that it shall be voted upon, which is equivalent to a promise of its passage.

Representative Griggs, of Georgia, made the postoffice appropriation bill the text for a speech full of common sense against the tendency on the part of Congress to increase the salaries of federal employes. For instance, the following, the truth of which every one must acknowledge: "I undertake to say that there is not an employe of the government, who devotes his whole time to its service, who does not receive greater pay than he would for like service in private life. There is not an employe in the government service to-day who did not better his or her condition financially when he entered it. There is not one who, if he could better his condition in other service, would not resign to-morrow. Then, why this paternal interest in government employes? All of them are free men and women, and of full age. Why should we make them wards of the nation? How is this fatherly interest of legislators, so lately aroused, in what seems to me a cancerous growth eating its way to the very vital of the American body politic, to be accounted for?" Mr. Griggs answered the last question by citing the growth of associations of various classes of government employes, organized ostensibly for other purposes, but actually used to lobby for a Congressional increase of the salaries of their members.

Among those nominated to be brigadier generals in the regular army were two captains—J. Franklin Bell, now serving in the Philippines as a brigadier general of volunteers, whose promotion jumped him over 1,032 officers, and Leonard Wood, now serving as a major general of volunteers and military governor of Cuba, whose promotion jumped him over 507 officers. Fred Grant, another one of them, who is serving in the Philippines as a brigadier general of volunteers, owes his appointment to his name rather than to any distinguished service he has rendered as a volunteer officer. He had been a failure in every civil occupation he had tried and it was felt by some of his father's old friends that he ought to be provided with a life-time job where the salary was certain.

Gen. E. S. Otis, who is in Washington, is said to be much disgruntled because he had been led to believe that he, and not Gen. Nelson A. Miles, would be nominated for lieutenant general of the army. It is said that one of the reasons why President McKinley took the unusual course of asking the Cabinet to decide by ballot which of the major generals should be nominated for lieutenant general was his desire to allow Otis to think that his nomination had been prevented by a majority of the Cabinet. It is said that Otis has been promised that Miles will be compulsorily retired by President McKinley when he reaches the age of 62, which will be next August, and that the place will then be given to him.

PENNSYLVANIA CANAL.

More Talk of Closing the Water-Way.

The Philadelphia Press of last Saturday published the following article: "In all probability the canals of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company in this state will not be in operation after this year, and it is probable that after the annual meeting of the company next Tuesday, action will be taken which will discontinue the business on these canals. Ever since the Johnstown flood the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, which is the parent company of the Pennsylvania Canal, has been abandoning its canals, and that portion which extended from the Susquehanna River to Hollidaysburg, has ceased to be in operation for some time. The company now has a canal extending from Columbia to Nanticoke and from Northumberland to Muncy Dam. This system comprises a waterway of about 179 miles, and at one time a large amount of business was carried through the canals.

The Pennsylvania Canal now consists of four divisions. That portion from Northumberland to Nanticoke is included in the Wyoming division; from Northumberland to Muncy Dam in the Upper West Branch Division; from Northumberland to Clark's Ferry in the Lower West Branch Division, and from Clark's Ferry to Columbia, in the Eastern Division. The business over these canals has materially decreased during the past few years, the falling off having been brought about by the reduction in freight rates and the better facilities offered by the railroad companies for the speedy handling of business. The canal company spends considerable money each year cleaning out

the canals, but its finances were in such a low state last year that only a portion of the canals were cleaned, and to enable the boats to pass through them without grounding, the draughts were reduced and the boats were not loaded to their full capacity. All these canals are now in need of a good cleaning, but so far no orders have been given for the work. It is said the company has no funds on hand and has no securities which it can use as collateral on which to borrow money.

These canals were formerly owned by the state and became the property of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company when it bought the state works. At that time this was the only means of transportation to many points in Pennsylvania and not only freight boats, but passenger boats as well, made daily trips between many important interior cities. The business was very heavy and large returns were secured from freight and passengers carried. In 1866 the canals were taken out of the direct management of the Pennsylvania Company and the Pennsylvania Canal Company was formed. These canals have ever since been operated by that company.

When the Philadelphia and Reading Railway Company abandoned the Tidewater Canal, it hurt the business of all the other canals in this state. This canal ran from Wrightsville to Havre de Grace and when in operation a large volume of business was shipped through it for points along the Delaware River and to New York. Owing to the heavy expense incurred yearly the canal was abandoned."

Consumption

is destruction of lung by a growing germ, precisely as mouldy cheese is destruction of cheese by a growing germ.

If you kill the germ, you stop the consumption. You can or can't, according to when you begin.

Take Scott's Emulsion of Cod Liver Oil: take a little at first.



The genuine has this picture on it, take no other.

It acts as a food; it is the easiest food. Seems not to be food; makes you hungry; eating is comfortable. You grow stronger. Take more; not too much; enough is as much as you like and agrees with you. Satisfy hunger with usual food; whatever you like and agrees with you. When you are strong again, have recovered your strength—the germs are dead; you have killed them.

If you have not tried it, send for free sample, its agreeable taste will surprise you.

SCOTT & BOWNE,
 Chemists,
 409 Pearl St., New York.
 50c. and \$1.00; all druggists.

TOWNSEND'S
STAR CLOTHING HOUSE!

WE NOW HAVE

A SURPRISE SALE!

Clearing Out Sale of

WINTER CLOTHING!

To Make Room for Spring Goods. Big Reductions in OVERCOATS, at

Townsend's Star Clothing House,
 BLOOMSBURG, PENN'A.

THE
WEARING AND USING TIME

The wearing and using time for winter goods is now. It will continue for nearly three months to come. We are selling winter merchandise now at prices that would prove ruinous at the start of the season. Much of this merchandise is not susceptible to style change; staple as wheat, but the stock takes up much less room in the till than it does in the fixtures. You'll find many an object lesson in practical economy in this store at this time.

Bought That Jacket, Ye?

If not, take a look at this lot, compare the qualities with the prices and then wonder.

All our jackets we sold at \$10 and \$12 now go at \$5.00—less than half price.

Winter Underwear.

Broken lots with price inducement hitched to them that will tempt you, if you are inclined toward underwear.

Ladies' 50c underwear reduced to 39c.

Ladies' 75c combination suits reduced to 62c.

Men's 65c gray underwear reduced to 49c.

Wool Dress Goods.

These are odd lots, but

good choosing at these prices. Want to change them into money at once. This should do it.

We sold them from 75c to \$1.00, reduced to 49c.

Blankets.

You don't buy a pair of blankets for one season's wear. So if you can buy a pair now at a saving of 25 per cent. less than actual cost, you should at least investigate.

65c cotton blankets, good size, 49c.

\$6.50 white wool blankets, 11-4, reduced to \$5.25.

\$4.50 colored blankets, 11-4, reduced to \$3.85.

Our Linen Sale.

Our Linen Sale will close February 20th, 1901. If you will need Linens of any kind in the next year don't leave this chance go by. We are safe in saying that we have never sold such a big quantity of Linens in one week as we did last week. We never offered so good a value for your money as we do now at this sale. We never worked so hard to get good linen as we have the last six months. We did not only work ourselves, but had our friends watching to get linen below the market for us. But they must not only be a low price, but the best made we could find. We invite you to come to our store and leave us show you these linens.

F. P. PURSEL.

FIRE! FIRE!

Big Fire Sale of
GROCERIES.

Commencing Saturday
 February 9th,
 and continuing until entire
 stock is disposed of.
 Tooley & Co. 43 E. Main St.

The officers of the Bradford County Agricultural Society, who were arrested on a charge of maintaining or allowing gambling devices at the fair at Towanda last fall have been exonerated. The grand jury found "not a true bill" and the prosecutor to pay costs.

Members of the Benevolent Order of Elks can obtain address cards with handsome designs at this office.

CASTORIA.
 The Kind You Have Always Bought
 Bears the Signature of
 J. C. Watson