

THE COLUMBIAN.

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THURSDAY, MARCH 21, 1901.

A bill has been introduced by Representative Castner, of Lycoming county, providing for the pay of election officers. It provides that from and after the passage of the act the pay of the judges and inspectors, and of the clerks to each election board, shall be three dollars and fifty cents each at each election so held, for the first two hundred votes polled, and sixty cents for each additional one hundred votes or fraction thereof polled, provided that the provision of the act shall not repeat any special act now in force in any of the counties of this Commonwealth, and shall not apply to any city co-extensive with a county, and shall not alter or effect in any manner the compensation of return judges as fixed by existing laws.

Legal Jugglery Begun.

Proceedings have been instituted in the Lackawanna county court to test the constitutionality of the so-called Pittsburg "Ripper" bill. With the exception of the legal farce enacted in the court of this county some time ago for the ostensible purpose of testing the legality of the Governor's unconstitutional mutilation of the school appropriation two years ago, nothing more ridiculous has ever occurred in any court of this Commonwealth or for that matter in the history of the jurisprudence of the country.

This farcical performance is not only an insult to the intelligence of the people, but it is an outrage on justice. The judge to whom the petition was presented is a candidate for the federal bench and unless he perverts the law to suit the purposes of the conspirators he will lose an office of life tenure which his heart covets. The petitioner in the case is a candidate for the succession on the common pleas bench to be made vacant by the promotion of the judge to whom the petition was presented, and unless he does precisely what is wanted his cherished ambition will be disappointed.

The scheme is to get only such aspects of the case presented to the Supreme court as will necessarily be decided in favor of the machine. In other words these conspirators would have a judicial determination of a grave constitutional question predicated on a false premise. That is to say there being no question of the removal by the Legislature of an officer elected by the people, the mayor of Scranton having resigned, the only question which would come before the court in all probability would be as to the constitutional authority of the Legislature to abolish the office of mayor and create that of recorder. Both these rights are conceded on every hand.

This Scranton proceeding, like the proceeding in the school case in this county, is nothing more or less than a bit of legal jugglery. It is a shame that the Attorney General of the Commonwealth and Judges on the bench will debase themselves by the practice of such hocus pocus in the courts. But they do and in the face of such facts the rights and liberties of no citizen are safe.

Judge Archbald has done just what was expected, and has filed an opinion upholding the "ripper" bill.

Taxes Repealed.

The bill for a reduction of the war revenue, as finally agreed upon in conference, was reported to the Senate and the House, and passed by both bodies. The changes in the present law will go into effect on the first of July next, and are as follows:

Tobacco, 20 per cent. discount of the original tax of 12 cents per pound as against 25 per cent. reduction as fixed by the Senate and none as the bill passed the House. The rate agreed upon will make the tax \$9.60 per 100 pound.

Cigars: On those weighing more than three pounds per 1,000, the House rate of \$3 per 1,000 was retained as against \$3.30 as fixed by the Senate, and \$3.60 as in the present law. On those weighing less than three pounds per 1,000, the Senate rate of 18 cents per pound was allowed to stand, as against the rate of \$1 per 1,000 as fixed by the existing law, which was not disturbed by the House.

Cigarettes: On those weighing not more than three pounds per 1,000 the Senate action fixing the rate at 18 cents per pound prevailed. The House did not change the existing law.

Beer: The House rate of \$1.60 per barrel and repealing the 7 1/2 per cent. discount was retained.

Bankers' capital: Present law retained, the Senate receding from its amendment.

Commercial brokers' tax: Repealed in accordance with original action of both Houses.

Certificates of stock transfers: the rate of 2 cents for each \$100 is retained, and the Senate amendment making the law, include the transactions of bucket shops was accepted by the House conferees.

Sales of products at exchanges: The Senate amendment exempting sales of merchandise in actual course of transportation was accepted but the rate of 1 cent for each \$100 as fixed by the present law was retained; the Senate amendment making the rate \$1 being disagreed to.

Bank checks: Repealed in accordance with the House action.

Certificates of deposit: Tax repealed.

Promissory notes: Tax Repealed.

Money orders: Tax repealed.

Bills of exchange, foreign: The rate fixed at 2 cents for each \$100 in accordance with the Senate amendment.

Bills of lading for export: Repealed.

Express receipts: Repealed.

Telephone messages: Repealed.

Miscellaneous bonds tax: Repealed except upon bonds of indemnity.

Certificates of damage and certificates not otherwise specified: Repealed.

Charter party: Repealed.

Conveyance: Exempted below \$2,500; above \$2,500, 25 cents for each \$500, in accordance with Senate action.

Telegraph messages: Tax repealed.

Insurance: Tax repealed on all kinds of insurance, in accordance with the action of the House, the Senate conferees receding on all Senate amendments.

Leases: Tax Repealed.

Manifests: Tax Repealed.

Mortgage: Tax Repealed.

Steamship passage tickets: Exempted below \$50 in value, and the rate fixed at 50 cents for each \$50 in cost for that price and over.

Power of attorney: Tax repealed.

Protest: Tax repealed.

Warehouse receipts: Tax repealed.

Proprietary medicines: Tax repealed in accordance with House action, the Senate amendment being disagreed to.

Perfumery and cosmetics: Tax repealed.

Chewing gum: Tax repealed.

Legacies: Law modified so as to exclude from taxation legacies of charitable, religious, literary, or educational character.

The total reduction of the revenues as made by the bill as agreed upon will amount to about \$41,000,000, as against a reduction of \$40,000,000 as it passed the House, and \$45,000,000 as amended in the Senate.

Not Suffering for Judges.

The State of Pennsylvania does not seem to be suffering because of any scarcity in the number of judges. Yet notwithstanding that fact, the Legislature seems to be of the opinion that we cannot get too many of those officials. At the present time the State of Pennsylvania has more courts than England, with a population of 30,000,000. Yet, nevertheless, new ones are being created and judges are being provided them. A great array there is now. There are seven judges of the Supreme Court, seven of the Superior Court, eighty-nine common pleas judges, and nine presiding over separate orphans' courts.

Miners vs. Operators.

It looks as though the United Mine Workers, elated and overconfident as the result of their success in striking last fall, were about to make a move which can have, in all probability, only one outcome—the defeat of the union, the loss of whatever fruits of victory they have gained and a period of idleness which will bring misery and suffering to thousands.

Last fall sympathy was with the men. It was felt that they as individuals were toiling for starvation wages. There was general recognition of the fact that their demands were only reasonable and fair. The battle was joined on the principle that man is entitled to equitable remuneration for his labor. But at present the chief grievance seems to be the absolute refusal to recognize the union. The operators profess willingness to hearken to the complaints of their men as individuals at any time and to redress their wrongs, if investigation shows they have suffered any. But they decline to deal with the organization. That is the rock on which they split. It is not then a question of securing wages which will prevent the men and their families from starving, but it is recognition for the union that is in dispute. That is a different matter and it is doubtful whether the union can command the support and sympathy that would flow out spontaneously to the individual.

Another barrier to the success of the strike proposed lies in the fact that summer is approaching, less coal will be needed, the bins of the operators are full to overflowing and every demand can be met with ease. Instead, however, of coal taking its customary summer drop a strike would be used as an excellent argument for maintaining prices. In the end the coal trust would be the gainer by a shutdown at this season, while the loss, and it would be a heavy one, would inevitably fall on the miners and the public.—Harrisburg Patriot.

WASHINGTON.

From our Regular Correspondent.

Washington, March 18 1901.

President McKinley has squally times ahead on the Isthmian Canal question. The patronage he has at his disposal is keeping Republican Senators and Representatives from publicly talking now, but that will not hold good long. He is accused of having acted in bad faith, in order to prevent the Senate passing the Nicaragua Canal Bill, by withholding semi-official knowledge he had before the adjournment of Congress that the British Government had decided to reject the amended Hay-Pauncefote treaty, and worse yet, he is accused of standing in with the ring that is trying to unload the Panama Canal on this Government. The last accusation seems hard to believe, but circumstantial evidence is certainly in its favor. Whatever may have been his object—preventing the passage of the Nicaragua Canal Bill is the only logical one—he did withhold until last week the rejection of the treaty from the public. The rejection was not officially handed to Secretary Hay until early last week, but Secretary Hay admits that the administration knew of it before Congress adjourned. President McKinley's future troubles are not likely to be lessened by his having instructed Secretary Hay, who was so completely bamboozled by Lord Pauncefote in the old treaty, to open negotiations for a new one. It is among the probabilities that the Isthmian canal question will split the Republican party in the near future, probably during the next session of Congress.

Some idea of the progress of American invention, which is such an important factor in our prosperity may be obtained from the fact that a single firm of patent lawyers, C. A. Snow & Co., have procured for their clients more than 22,000 patents.

It is evident that the Administration isn't altogether satisfied with the reports of the situation in Cuba, sent to Washington by Gen. Wood and other Administration agents, which differ so radically from reports sent by competent and reputable correspondents of American newspapers. In order to get another view of the Cuban situation President McKinley has sent Senator Proctor as his personal and confidential representative to see what he can find out about the intentions of the Cubans. That Senator Proctor's trip was made unexpectedly by him was shown by the fact that he had called a meeting of the sub-committee of the Senate Military Committee, of which he is Chairman, charged with the duty of investigating the alleged connection of Lt. Col. Heistand and a number of prominent War Department Officials with the Philippine hemp scandal, for this week, and

that he left Washington without notifying the other members of the committee of his change of plans. After it was learned that Senator Proctor had gone to Cuba, Senator Hawley was made Chairman of the sub-committee and the investigation, which already shows the earmarks of a white-wash, was started.

Mr. William J. Bryan passed through Washington last week, on his way home from New York, where he went to get pointers for the betterment of his newspaper plant. He declined to be interviewed on politics, but said of the late ex-President Harrison: "He was always respected by his political opponents as a clean conscientious and able statesman. Those who differed from him could criticize his politics, but they could not attack his motives. His conduct after retiring from office was such as to strengthen his hold upon public esteem. The death of such a man is a distinct loss to the country."

Hon. Martin Maginnis paid this high compliment to Montana's new Democratic Senator: "The State of Montana could not have settled upon a more suitable man to represent it than Paris Gibson. Mr. Gibson is a man of fine parts and a staunch Democrat. He has been the best sort of a Democrat all his life. He is now nearly seventy years of age, but is robust and hearty, and in the full vigor of his mind. He will make, in my opinion, as good a Senator as the Commonwealth of Montana has ever had."

It seems to be the general opinion in Washington that the failure of the Republican Legislature to elect two Senators will result in restoring that State to the Democratic column. Speaking of that failure a well known business man of Wilmington, who was in Washington last week, said: "The people of Delaware have become resigned. They have been for a considerable period of time with only one Senator in Congress and I suppose they can get along for awhile without any. I think Delaware has learned what it has to expect from the Republicans and will be found in the Democratic column the next time it has an opportunity."

Senator Depew is known as a smiling conciliator rather than a fighter, but if his own words are to be depended upon he is likely to figure as a fighter if the announced intention of President McKinley to appoint Col. Sanger, of N. Y., Assistant Secretary of War, in spite of the protests of Senators Platt and Depew, be carried out. Speaking of threats of what the administration would do if he opposed the confirmation of the nomination of Col. Sanger, which have been heard of in administration circles, Mr. Depew said: "If a fight is to be declared against me in this matter I will be prepared for it, and I will fight it to the bitter end. I do not intend to sacrifice my constitutional right or responsibility through fear of losing favor with those in authority." There are reasons for the belief that Senators Platt and Depew are merely making a big bluff for the purpose of landing some appointments and that they have no idea of making a fight on Sanger.

W. G. F. Laxative Bromo-Quinine Tablets the remedy that cures a cold in one day

TOWNSEND, MERCHANT TAILOR SPRING STYLES

A large and elegant line of Foreign and Domestic Suitings and Trousers just received. For more than a quarter of a century we have been making clothing for the citizens of Bloomsburg and Columbia County, and we are still making our goods in the latest styles and reliable goods by experienced workmen. Call and see the largest stock.

Trousers to Measure from \$4.50 TOWNSEND, Merchant and Haberdasher. Suits to your measure from \$15.00

BLOOMSBURG, PENN'A.

Giving Proper Prominence To Important Features.

Such as the season's opening sale of waist and dress goods, the full showing of tailor made suits, the grand values in new waist fabrics, big values in bed room furniture and sideboards, some brave hosiery bargains, interesting notion items.

Items. Dress Goods and Waist Goods.

We have already emphasized some of the fresh lines of gown stuffs. Now we invite you to view the big, handsome spring showing in its entirety.

Much to choose from, and that much all of the best. A few items for you: Granite cloths, all colors, at 56 and 75c.

Storm serge and chevots, sponged, 50 ins. wide, 85c.

Striped and plain Chud-dah cloth, for summer waists, 55c.

38 ins. wide, mixed chevots, steam shrunk, 50c.

Fine, mixed French suitings, 46 ins. wide, \$1 00.

Full Showing of Tailored Suits.

Ready for you now. Every line of the best makes is here. You may select with full assurance that what you select will be just right in every particular.

We have all sizes again of the misses Eton suit, trimmed with gold buttons. Price, \$7 00.

Ladies' Eton suit, made of the best make of chevot, trimmed with stitched Taffeta silk, on jacket and skirt. Price, \$12 75.

Any fitting needed, we do it.

Very Pretty Printed Cottons.

And lots of them. There'll be a "power" of wash goods

sold in this shop during the next few days. Prices are so very reasonable that you'll buy if you look.

Printed Pongee, as pretty as silk, at 28c.

Fine satin striped Dimities at 22c.

Lawns and Dimities at 12 1/2c.

'urs'll be a Easy Hosiery Section.

Proper qualities, proper sizes, proper spring assortment, and prices to prompt you to buy your whole season's stocking outfit.

Heavy ribbed hose, for boys, worth 25c, at 15c.

Ladies' dropped stitched hose, worth 40c, at 30c.

Misses' fine ribbed hose, would be value for 18c, at 12 1/2c.

Bed-Room Furniture and Sideboards.

Easter is not far away. You'll want your bed room to look nice. You'll want a nice, fresh looking place to eat your meal in. You can make it look fresh if you get some of our furniture, and you won't need a big pocketbook.

Bed room suits, from \$18 to \$50.

Sideboards, from \$12 to \$35.

We put them right in your house, fresh from the factory, and no extra expense to you or trouble.

Groceries.

If you like good peas, buy a can of our London peas, or good corn, try our Sunbeam, or good tomatoes, try our Sunbeam tomatoes. Try a sample of our string beans. You can always find fresh groceries at our store. The best prunes, dried fruits money can buy. We handle nothing but the best country lard, fresh eggs, country butter.

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.

ADMINISTRATRIX'S NOTICE.

ESTATE OF WM. B. PETERMAN, LATE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF SUGARLOAF, DECEASED. Notice is hereby given that letters of administration on the estate of Wm. B. Peterman, late of Sugarloaf Township, deceased, have been granted to Rhoda L. Peterman, to whom persons indebted to said estate are requested to make payment, and those having claims or demands will make known the same without delay to Rhoda L. Peterman, Administratrix, JOHN G. FREEZE, ATTY. GUAVA, Col. Co., Pa.

ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.

ESTATE OF THOMAS W. McHENRY, DECEASED. Notice is hereby given that letters of administration on the estate of Thomas W. McHenry, late of Greenwood township, Columbia county, Pennsylvania, deceased, have been granted to Amos Seyhard, of the Borough of Orangeville, to whom all persons indebted to said estate are requested to make payment, and those having claims or demands will make known the same without delay to AMOS SEYHARD, CLIXTON HERRING, ATTY. Bloomsburg, Pa., Feb. 14th, 1901.