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HARRISBURG LETTER.
**General Gobin's Charges Against the
Machine Legislature.**
HARRISBURG, Pa., Sept. 17, 1901
Of course the tragic death of the
President has been the topic upper-
most in the minds of men in official
and political life of the state capital
since that sad event last Friday
night and it may be added that no
less important an affair would have
served the purpose of diverting popu-
lar attention from the recent asser-
tion of Lieutenant Governor J.
P. S. Gobin that the legislature
which adjourned less than two
months ago was the most corrupt in
the history of the state. Coming
from such a man under such
circumstances the statement not
only shook the state from centre to
circumference, but left capital hill
in a tremble for considerable time.
General Gobin has especial oppor-
tunity to be familiar with the
subject to which he refers. As pre-
siding officer of one of the branches
of the legislature he was necessari-
ly in touch with affairs and an ob-
server, though probably unwilling,
of the methods and processes of leg-
islation. In denouncing in emphatic
language the venality which
came within his knowledge during
the session it cannot be said that he
was influenced by political prej-
udices. General Gobin is a republican
of the most stalwart type. For
many years he has been in the fore-
front of political contention and it
may be added, something of a fa-
vorite among the leaders of his
party. For fourteen years he filled
the office of senator in the legisla-
ture and always occupied a place
among the leaders of the body. He
has been an officer in the National
Guard for many years and stands
high in the G. A. R. and other frat-
ernal societies. In fact he is the
last man in the state who would be
likely to make careless accusations
against his party associates and fel-
low public officials.
But as a matter of fact General
Gobin has made accusations that
cannot go unnoticed. He declares
that venality permeated every
branch of the legislature during the
session recently ended. Senators
and representatives, he added, were
on the auction block and bribery
became so common that there was
no pretence at concealment finally.
Every measure of legislation in
which the machine was concerned
was obtained through bribery and
corruption. The "ripper" bills both
for first and second class cities were
passed by purchased votes. The
franchise grab bill passed through
a saturnalia of bribery. The at-
tempt to steal valuable coal depos-
its under the streams of the com-
monwealth was attended by open
and undisguised venality and was
defeated only because the corrup-
tion became too obvious, if General
Gobin is to be believed, and though
nearly a week was elapsed since he
made the charge it is still unchal-
lenged. No member of the legisla-
ture and no leader of the party re-
sponsible for the legislature has un-
dertaken to deny the charges.
Yet the republican party in state
convention assembled put the seal
of its approbation on the legisla-
ture and the work it performed. The
platform of that party adopted by
that convention is said to have been
written by the attorney general of
the state, Hon. John P. Elkin. It
is also said and with good reason
that Mr. Elkin was not only famil-
iar with the methods of legislation,
but that he was a part of the ma-
chine that profited by the measures
the character of which is thus chal-
lenged. Moreover he is confiden-
tially believed to be the choice of
the machine for the republican nomi-
nation for governor next year. Under
the circumstances the endorse-
ment of the legislature is an approval
of corruption. It is, unless the
charges of General Gobin are dis-
proved, a notice to the public that
venality is a virtue in a legislator
and bribery a merit among men.

PRESIDENT MOKINLEY.

The bullet of the assassin has done its work. President McKinley died at the home of John G. Milburn in Buffalo, on Saturday morning last at 2:15 o'clock. The remains were taken to Washington on Monday, on a special train over the Pennsylvania road. The remains lay in the rear end of an observation car, and the casket could be seen through the windows. It was covered with a silk flag, and guarded by soldiers and marines. All along the route thousands of people were gathered at the stations to pay a last tribute of respect to the dead President. At Sunbury nearly 10,000 people were assembled. The train stopped five minutes. Washington was reached at 9 o'clock Monday evening, and on Tuesday the remains lay in state in the Capitol. On Wednesday they were taken to Canton, Ohio, the home of the President, and the final ceremonies will take place today, the remains being placed in a receiving vault for the present. Fuller details will be found elsewhere in this paper.

The shooting of President McKinley, happening at a time of political calm, and so clearly traceable to the anarchistic infatuation of a shiftless, unknown creature, has created but one sentiment. The great underlying loyalty and honesty of the American heart came uppermost at once, and from every quarter and every shade of true citizenship have come like measures of sorrow, affection and indignation, as the incidents of the dastardly deed evoked them.

This assault upon the Chief Magistrate has brought forth a consensus among people and publicists that stern and active legislation must be enacted to suppress and prevent anarchism of the destructive school in the United States. It is all well enough that men oppressed wrongfully in other lands should make America their asylum, but they must not make it a slaughter-house. We enthroned in our White House no tyrants that need the swift and bloody medicine of derringer, dagger, or dynamite. Our atmosphere is that of liberty and law and must not be made poisonous by the breaths of those whose tongues and hands are against God, and government, and the public good.

It hardly seems possible that any man can be so devoid of all feeling as to approve of the act of the assassin who shot down President McKinley, and yet it has been reported that expressions of approval have been uttered at many places. In a number of instances these sympathizers with anarchists have been roughly handled. The American people are in no humor at present to tolerate such inhumanity, and the man who is rash enough to make use of such language is liable to regret it.

The sympathy of the whole world goes out to Mrs. McKinley, the widow of the murdered President, and if the prayers of the nation are answered she will be given strength to bear up under the terrible blow that has fallen upon her.

It is equivalent to a declaration that a commission to public service in this state is a license to plunder the people in every possible way and loot the treasury for the benefit of a corrupt machine.

Nor can General Gobin's statements be disproved. As he states there was no concealment of the bribery during the session. It is a matter of common understanding that money was paid on every one of the machine bills. Votes for United States senator were purchased at a price as high as \$20,000. It is known that as much as \$10,000 was paid for a single vote for speaker of the house and while Senator Washburn is generally rated as a cheap man, it is believed that he drew in all something like \$20,000 in bribe money during the session. While the oleomargarine bill was pending in the house a representative and a prime favorite of the machine in the presence of witnesses asked the senator who was most concerned in the defeat of the bill for a price for his own vote and those of two others. On the same measure a certain amount was paid in cash to one of the members of a delegation consisting of five members for the votes of all of them. When they all voted on the opposite side subsequently the man who paid the money followed the man who received it into a public place and demanded that it be repaid under pain of a personal chastisement. It is needless to add that the money was repaid.

The writer was one of a group of five or six newspaper men who were discussing the character of the legislature one afternoon last winter. Or to speak more exactly, the writer joined the group and was told that out of 204 representatives in the legislature they could pick out only twenty-four who were absolutely irreproachable, and of the fifty senators they could only find eight who were not susceptible to the influence of bribes. The list had been carefully gone over by the intelligent and observant gentlemen. The statement was appalling as I had never previously given the subject a thought and I suggested this man and that of whom I had never entertained a doubt, but in most cases my friends were able to cite one or two cases in which they had gone wrong under circumstances which left no doubt of the influences that were used to produce the result. I was able to increase the number of representatives above suspicion to thirty and the senators to ten. That was a beggarly showing.

But the republican state convention which was dominated by the present governor and the gentleman who has the friendship of the machine as his successor not only endorsed that legislature by platform declaration, but in a more substantial way. That is to say, it nominated for state treasurer a man who was foremost among the machine managers on the floor. No machine measure ever failed to receive his cordial support. Frank G. Harris, of Clearfield, was invariably conspicuous among the supporters of legislation that was vicious and mischievous. The "rippers" had his constant approval. The franchise grabs and the coal grab got his earnest support. In fact he balked at nothing, but took orders from the beginning of the session to the end and obeyed them. His nomination was the machine's reward for perfidy to the people which is implied in that record.

The funeral train conveying the remains of the deceased president from Buffalo to Washington passed through this city at a few minutes before 5 o'clock last evening and it was a most impressive spectacle. From an eligible point in one of the hotels near the station I saw the vast crowd assemble and disperse and it occurred to me that such a thing could hardly be possible in any other country than this. There were at least 30,000 people gathered within the range of eyesight of the train and there was neither an accident nor an unpleasant incident of any kind. The people came with heads bowed down in grief, paid the tribute of their love and respect to the memory of the martyred chief magistrate and went their way silently. There was no loud voice to disturb the solemnity of the occasion. A vast chorus sang "Nearer, My God, to Thee," as the train stopped and "My Country 'Tis of Thee" when it moved off. It was indeed a splendid spectacle and one that will long endure in memory.

Polk on Anarchism.
"I believe each state should make it a penal offense to teach anarchistic doctrines. That the spreading of their literature should be promptly suppressed and that all persons found attending their meetings, or aiding them in disseminating their teachings, should be punished. It should be made impossible for them to find a place to live in this country. I believe that any attempt against the life of the President should be made a capital offense."

Dragged-Down Feeling

In the loins.
Nervousness, unrefreshing sleep, despondency.
It is time you were doing something.
The kidneys were anciently called the reins—in your case they are holding the reins and driving you into serious trouble.

Hood's Sarsaparilla

Acts with the most direct, beneficial effect on the kidneys. It contains the best and safest substances for correcting and toning these organs.
A Woman on the Police Force.
The law officers of Washington have lately been busy with the question whether a woman may become a member of the police force, and have rendered the opinion that a woman may be appointed as an additional private on the police force for duty at a designated place. The question grew out of the request of the Humane Society for the employment of a woman as an additional private for the purpose of preventing cruelty to animals.

Fortunately the candidate for the place was already at hand, and unquestionably fitted for the work. She is Miss Woods, who some time ago proved herself plucky and quickwitted enough to stop a horse which was being cruelly driven by one of the leading sporting men of Capitol society. She held the horse until a policeman arrived on the scene, and the animal was found to be bleeding at the mouth. In addition to the natural qualifications of quick observation and determination, she has the advantage of having studied law.

There are some decided advantages about having a woman as special police agent for work of this kind. Of course, it goes without saying that she must be well fitted, by character and education, for the work. Otherwise she would be worse than useless. But in cases of cruelty to animals the culprit is apt to be a burly, ill-mannered fellow who could give a man a very pretty tussle if disposed to resist the law; and he would hardly do that with a woman. Moreover, the woman agent would in nine cases out of ten have the sympathy of the bystanders, and that amounts to something as a moral support. Women who are genuinely interested in this sort of work usually go into it with an enthusiasm which is contagious and effective, and are, perhaps, more zealous than the average man would be in hunting down and punishing abuses. There would also be the consideration, not unimportant that the women selected for such positions would be picked for superior qualifications, and would be in a measure in trial, and therefore stimulated to do the work better, if possible, than the ordinary policemen would do it. The idea of women as police is certainly a novel one, but in this particular case it does not seem bad at all.

The Great Reading Fair.

Berks County has always been noted for its large and highly successful agricultural exhibitions. The coming exhibition, to be held in the city of Reading, on the 1st, 2d, 3d and 4th of October, judging by the preparations in progress, will eclipse all previous efforts in that direction. Many special attractions have been provided, and the display in every department promises to be very fine. In fruit the county is rarely excelled, and a fine assortment of varieties may be expected. The races will be exciting and diversified by a special program of amusements. Ten large shows have been booked. The railroad companies have granted liberal concessions and will run excursions during the Fair, and will also sell excursion tickets good for the week. Reading is one of the most attractive cities to visit, and is seen at its best during the week of the County Fair.

Republican Clubs Convention.

INDEFINITELY POSTPONED ON ACCOUNT OF PRESIDENT'S DEATH, AND REDUCED FARE ARRANGEMENTS CANCELED.

On account of the death of President McKinley, the Convention of the Pennsylvania State League of Republican Clubs, which was to have been held at Scranton, Pa., on September 17 and 18, has been indefinitely postponed. Arrangements for reduced rates to Scranton via the Pennsylvania Railroad on this account are therefore canceled.

Outside and Inside.

Sandy Thomson had a wife whose tongue was quite equal to the task of "deaving a miller." One very wet, windy night, as the minister was passing the joiner's house he was surprised to see Sandy standing in the midst of the rain.
"Dear me," said the minister, "what are you doing outside on a night like this?"
"Oh, I'm shelterin' frae the storm," said Sandy, somewhat sadly. "Man, it's naething outside the wae that it's inside."—Dundee (Scotland) News.

Townsend's CLOTHING HOUSE

Will Tell You All About
Fall Styles
NEXT WEEK.

Look Out For
CLOTHING NEWS

FROM
Townsend's
Clothing House.

**FALL OPENING OF
DRESS GOODS.**

To-day our Dress Goods Department, next to Market street, is filled with such Dress Goods as rarely are seen in Bloomsburg. Of many styles there are but six yards, just enough for one dress pattern, and all that will be found in Bloomsburg. How can we paint the picture so that the charm of color and beauty of design will go from our minds into yours? There are Dress Goods here so beautiful in weave, so exquisite in texture, so varied in colorings, as to incite wonder. There are plain Black Dress Goods of so many weaves, so many weights, that you would be unable to find such a display short of a large city.

Here is almost every idea that might inspire beautiful gowns. Just to look fills you with the pure and exquisite joy of creation. We invite you to come and take a look at them.

New Tailor Made Suits.

The \$11.00 Suit is perfectly plain, one of the best we have ever had for the money. Double breasted, new sleeves, as well tailored and finished as our most expensive suits. The difference in price, of course, comes in the quality of material and the lining.

New Furniture.

A great variety, and we deliver it right from our Home Factory, so it is bright and new when you get it and at a less price than you can buy at other stores.
Combination Desks, \$11.00 to \$20.00.
Bed Room Suits, \$16.00 to \$50.00.
Sideboards, \$10.00 to \$35.00.
Rockers, \$1.49 to \$11.00.

Some Special Offers.

\$1.25 Counterpane at 98c.; \$3.50 Counterpane at \$2.98; 10 yards of Bleached Muslin at 52c.; 10 yards of Unbleached Muslin at 45c.; a lot of Dress Goods, worth 50c. to 75c., at 36c. A big lot of Tin ware and Enamel ware at a price to move them quickly.
LACE CURTAIN SALE NEXT WEEK.

F. P. PURSEL.

He Spoke Rashly and Now He is Sorry.

"It is a good thing McKinley is shot and I, for one, am glad of it. He should have been shot long ago," is the remark alleged to have been made by William J. Myles, a job printer of Kingston. The people of the town held an indignation meeting and condemned Myles. He now regrets his utterance, and went before Justice of the Peace C. W. Boone where he made affidavit "that he is heartily and thoroughly sorry that in a careless and thoughtless moment he gave expression to a sentiment which reflected im-
properly on the life and conduct of our President, and reasserts his loyalty and patriotism as a faithful citizen of the United States, ready at any call to serve the country, defend the President and honor the law."

CASTORIA
For Infants and Children.
The Kind You Have Always Bought
Bears the Signature of *Dr. J. C. Peck*