

A SHAMEFUL RECORD

Plummer Earned Machine Favor By Abject Servility.

His Legislative Career Shows a Continuous Course of Iniquity and An Unbroken Record of Obedience to the Bosses—Voted For All the Vicious Legislation of the Gang and Against All Measures For the People.

J. Lee Plummer's rapid progress in the affections of the Republican machine managers was in reward of his servility. His first service in the legislature was in the session of 1903, in which he was chairman of the house committee on elections.

Base Use of Political Power. Political iniquity was never invoked for a baser purpose. The testimony was overwhelmingly in favor of the sitting members, and during the inquiry offers were made to abandon the contest in consideration of support of certain legislation by the gentlemen concerned.

Plummer, who prepared the reports by perversion of the evidence, was the only man who defended the iniquity, though it was assailed with great emphasis and considerable vehemence by both Democrats and Republicans on the floor.

Plummer As An Artful Dodger. Mr. Plummer likewise "dodged" the vote on the resolution of Frank W. Mohr, anti-machine Republican of Berks county, to refer to the committee for a public hearing the atrocious Snyder water works bill.

Further Proof of Turpitude. Though Mr. Plummer's efforts in these cases would have entitled him to the everlasting gratitude of the machine operators they are not the sum and substance of his infamous achievements.

Plummer's Crowning Outrage. It was during the session of 1903, moreover, that Plummer made clear his servility to the machine and treachery to the people by openly opposing personal registration.

He voted for the bill authorizing the city commissioners instead of the courts of Philadelphia to appoint election officers in that city.

Immunity in stuffing ballot boxes and manipulating election returns. He voted for the bill creating a state department of labor—Legislative Record, pages 1694-1700.

Hostility to Honest Elections Revealed. He voted for the bill appropriating to J. H. Shaw, one of the Philadelphia councilmen who voted for the gas lease and boasted that he would vote to override the mayor's veto.

He also voted for the bill abolishing the circle on the official ballot—Legislative Record, pages 3, 437-38. The bill was so manifestly dishonest that the late Malcolm L. McConnell, chairman of the House Republican steering committee, voted against it.

As a "dodger" Mr. Plummer proved himself quite artful, moreover, during the session of 1903. That is he "dodged" several very important measures upon which public interest had centered.

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The "culminating atrocity" of Mr. Plummer's record during the session of 1903 was his vote for the infamous but useless "Press Muzzler," the Salus-Grady libel law.

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As the claim of patriotism is "the last refuge of a scoundrel" so the bugaboo of the cost is the first and last resort of a corrupt politician who sees reform approaching.

THE MEDIUM AND HER MESSAGE

"You have noticed my young brunette?" inquired his hostess of Raoul Chenier.

It was impossible to refuse, so he followed unhappily, vaguely suspicious that the unknown was a widow, and that she was about to trouble his bachelor tranquility.

"Monsieur, I am delighted to meet you. I have heard your work so often mentioned!"

The butler carefully drew aside the portieres, announcing dinner, and they took their places, whereupon Mme. Deule immediately opened the subject.

"How more than interesting to search through the old writings, the very old ones, M. Chenier," she smiled.

Her companion countered quickly: "Do you happen to possess a letter from this gallant king?"

Mme. Deule gave a slight smile and her eyes shone more brightly.



"You are a keeper of records?" "One letter," she replied, calmly, pulling off her long gloves.

Time passed, and found the studious and very learned M. Chenier bending one morning over his desk, thoroughly absorbed.

"Am I disturbing you, monsieur?" "No, Mme. Deule; I shall be most happy to be of use."

Raoul Chenier smiled. Having guarded his own position so thoroughly, he was pleased to note that madame's eyes were increasingly charming and her smile entrancing.

"You have been good to allow me to upset your work and abuse your kindness, monsieur," she began.

"The word abuse has no reason to exist, madame, between you and me."

"Oh," responded M. Chenier, sadly.

"It is nothing to be afraid of," she went on, more boldly, "but rather it is a great consolation to be able to communicate with those who are no more."

"M. Deule, for instance?" queried Raoul.

"No," replied madame, sighing; "he has never responded to my call."

"What shame," sighed madame, softly, but the lady paid no heed.

"Without a word M. Chenier rose and went in search of the letters.

"How strange," she said, after a moment's pause, and in a somewhat puzzled voice.

"I thank you again, monsieur, and I place myself entirely in your confidence."

Some hours later an envelope, ivory white and faintly perfumed was brought to the recorder.

"Monsieur—You know the faith I place in the messages coming from the other world.

"Noble, Sweet and Beautiful Friend: We are pleased to make known our wishes to you.

"I wish to be certain that I do not owe all my happiness to the spirit before publishing it to the world."

Each day made M. Chenier more essential to the happiness of the charming widow, and it was easy to see that soon he would become more beloved than the name of the king.

"Ungrateful man!" cried the lady. "I think that I should refuse the last clause if my maid had not asked for a month's vacation this morning.

"You love me at last," cried Raoul. "But one proof alone can convince me of this love, which I doubt even now."

"Why, what further do you ask? Is not the proof given already? What more can I say?" Madame lifted her eyebrows.

"Oh," she cried, "it is written in the handwriting of Henri Quatre!"

"Monsieur—I beg you to have pity on me. I have my old mother and two sisters to take care of. I did not begin with the idea of trading on the credulity of madame.

"What does it mean?" murmured the poor spiritualist.

"It means, dearest, that you have been taken in by a fake. I called this woman to me, threatened her, and then kept her in my pay. I used your dear foolishness to serve my purposes, to make you love me. Can you forgive?"

"I am monstrous," sighed the lady. "What have you done with my false medium?"

"That pretended vacation was her flight. Had you not guessed?" "Indeed!" replied Mme. Deule. "For two years, M. Chenier, and during this time I have become more and more attracted by the material and incomprehensible."

A SUDDEN TWINGE

Of pain is generally the first warning of an attack of rheumatism. It feels as if the disease were in the bones or muscles, but the real cause of rheumatism is found in impure blood.



Dr. Pierce's Golden Medical Discovery has been very successful in the cure of rheumatism, because it entirely cleanses the blood from the poisonous impurities which are the cause of the disease.

These tiny, sugar-coated anti-bilious granules regulate and invigorate Stomach, Liver and Bowels.

Threatened Car Famine. All the Big Railroad Companies Need Cars for Carrying Coal.

The greatest car famine in history threatens the coal carrying roads of the country. So serious has the situation become that the New York Central, Pennsylvania, Baltimore & Ohio have issued orders prohibiting the use of cars except for the transportation of coal on their own lines.

With a delicacy delightful to madame, M. Chenier proposed that the engagement should be kept secret for some weeks.

"I wish to be certain that I do not owe all my happiness to the spirit before publishing it to the world," he said.

One evening as they were sitting among the flowers of the little salon where they spent long hours together, Mme. Deule dared to speak the magic phrase.

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FOOD VALUE OF BANANAS

They Are Not, Like Some Fruits, Good Only for Their Flavor.

Professors of dietetics tell us that the banana is not, as many fruits are, a flavor and nothing more, but a food and a source of real nutriment.

The flour made from it in its dried state is equal in nutritive value to rice, and how invigorating and sustaining rice is has been demonstrated in the recent achievements of the Japanese.

But it is in the fresh state that the banana chiefly appeals to us. Its creamy succulence and delicate odor are inviting, and its pleasant sapor is a prelude to good digestion.

Queer Case of Craft. The Russian press has been full of accounts of a mysterious discovery of gold on one of the trains arriving at Samara.

The Newwest, commenting on the incident, remarks: "That robbery of state property goes on in the far east we knew long ago."

Mushrooms in Bricks. The work of the plant bureau is in character almost infinitely varied. Take for example the successful experiments recently made in the growing of improved varieties of mushrooms.

Blasting with Acetylene. A new process for using calcium carbide in blasting is described by Guedras in the Comptes Rendus.

A Japanese Lighting Plant. The Osaka Electric Light Co. of Osaka, Japan, a city of 800,000 people, is equipped entirely with American electrical apparatus.

Wood for Pencils. The amount of wood which is used every year for the manufacture of pencils is almost incredible.

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