

THE COLUMBIAN. BLOOMSBURG, PA.

THURSDAY, APRIL 18 1907

HARRISBURG LETTER.

Special Correspondence.

Harrisburg, Pa., April 15, 1907.

There appears to be a mania in the Legislature for increasing taxes. What the purpose of drawing such vast sums from the earnings of the people, is beyond the reach of conjecture.

There seems to be a well settled purpose to increase the appropriation for the public schools and there may be wisdom in such action. Money invested in education is wisely spent always and by proper economies in other matters, the State could probably pay all the cost of the maintenance of the public schools without materially increasing the revenues.

If increased revenues held out the hope of diminished local tax burdens, there would be reason in searching for new subjects of taxation. As a matter of fact, however, the only promise that can be drawn from the additional revenues proposed is of greater profligacy.

THE PROPOSED TAX BILLS.

Yet it is proposed to increase the revenues through new subjects of taxation to a total of upwards of \$15,000,000 a year. Six measures pending in the General Assembly are expected to produce this result. They are Mr. Hitchcock's bill levying one mill on all corporation assets for the benefit of country roads, counted on for \$2,500,000 a year; Mr. Endsley's bill to tax the capital stock of manufacturing corporations, set down as good for \$2,000,000; Mr. Howard's bill to tax anthracite coal three cents a ton, depended on for \$2,100,000; Mr. Creasy's bill taxing express companies, certain to produce \$200,000; Mr. W. S. Reynolds' bill imposing a stamp tax of two cents on each \$1.00 worth of stock transferred, estimated to be good for \$2,000,000, and Mr. Dunmore's bill adding three mills to the tax on the capital stock of corporations.

The only bill in this group which will not add to the burdens of the people is the Creasy measure. The express companies have been tax lodgers in Pennsylvania from the beginning of their existence and their rates are already so high that it will be impossible to surcharge the tax against the customers. Senator Meek, editor of the Bellefonte Watchman and Secretary of the Democratic State Committee, recently published in his paper a statement of the business of the Adams Express company and the amount of taxes it paid. He showed that while that company did a business amounting to \$8,905,955.00, in 210 of its offices within the State and probably twice that much in all its offices, it paid the State in taxes only about \$3,170.79. Mr. Creasy's plan is to compel just payments in the future. There is no possible way of recovering the past deficiency but the express business can be made to yield at least \$200,000 a year in the future without adding to the expenses of shippers.

THE ROOSEVELT HYSTERIA.

The Roosevelt hysteria struck the House of Representatives at the initial session last week. The Roosevelt propaganda is working day and night and under the Taft boom is making considerable progress toward its end term. It had been arranged to get resolutely and ostensibly endorsing the President's corporation policy but really promoting his Presidential ambition through the legislature of several States, simultaneously, or nearly so, last week. In Nebraska and Pennsylvania the scheme succeeded but in Iowa it failed dismally. The resolution

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An unequalled list of cures—40,366 testimonials in two years—proves its merit.

Sarsaparilla—For those who prefer medicine in tablet form, Hood's Sarsaparilla is now put up in chocolate tablets called Sarsaparilla, as well as in the usual liquid form. Sarsaparilla has not only the same curative properties as the liquid form, besides accuracy of dose, convenience, economy—there being no loss by evaporation, etc.—age, or leakage. Sold by druggists or sent by mail to C. I. Hood Co., Lowell, Mass.

Mrs. J. F. Gee, 50 Gould Street, Stoneham, Mass., says: "In 25 years experience I have never known Hood's Sarsaparilla to fail for spring humors and as a general blood purifier. It cures scrofula, eczema, has no equal as a general spring medicine. It gives me genuine satisfaction to say this."

GUARANTEED under the Food and Drugs Act, June 30, 1906. No. 324.

was introduced all right, but a motion to lay it on the table carried by an overwhelming majority.

But the lobbyists of the Pennsylvania Legislature took the bait with an alacrity that was surprising. Two years ago when the railroad rate bill was pending in Congress and the president "was sweating blood" in his anxiety to get it through, Mr. Creasy introduced a resolution instructing the Pennsylvania Senators and requesting her Representatives in Congress to support the measure. The resolution was adopted unanimously on the impulse but immediately afterward under order from the Boas Mansion or the Broad Street station the vote was reconsidered and the resolution defeated. Representative Hitchcock was among those who took the dose of crow on that occasion and he has probably been suffering with indigestion ever since. At all events he introduced the resolution last week and supported it with a speech so sycophantic as to create nausea.

So Pennsylvania stands pledged to Roosevelt and his policies and practices. This is interesting though more or less perplexing. In other words we are left in doubt as to whether it was his attempt to "electioneer" the Vatican in order to get an American Cardinal who would prostitute the Catholic church to the base uses of Rooseveltism, his efforts to get trust funds for the purpose of political corruption through Harriman, his promotion of a White House employe for dragging a helpless woman through the mud and mire, or his creation of an Ananias Club that has been endorsed. But something in relation to Teddy has been endorsed unequivocally and until Perrose takes a few of the recreants by the nose, it will stay endorsed.

DEFECT IN THE PRIMARY ELECTION LAW.

Chairman Charles P. Donnelly of the Democratic State Committee, was in Harrisburg on Tuesday of last week for the purpose of calling the attention of Senators and Representatives in the Legislature to some fatal defects in the Primary election law enacted at the special session last year which the Lydrick bill now pending fails to correct. The existing law provides for holding State conventions to nominate State tickets but requires that they be held within a week from the date of the June primary elections. The returns of those elections are to be made on Tuesday following and are to be canvassed on Wednesday. That leaves only Thursday and Friday to get ready for a State convention which it is physically impossible to do. The Lydrick bill makes no change in this provision of the law and Chairman Donnelly tried to get that fault corrected.

Mr. Donnelly discussed no other subject of legislation during his stay at the State capitol but some of the hysterical newspaper correspondents tortured the incident into an effort to help the Republican machine defeat an absurd bill in relation to voting for candidates for United States Senator at the primary elections. Section 3 of Article 1 of the

60 Years Old

and generally played out, when I commenced to use Dr. David Kennedy's Favorite Remedy," writes S. I. Young, of Hiram, Ohio. "For years I have suffered with inflammation and constant pain in the bladder and kidneys, and have gradually grown worse and expected at any time that passing urine by nature's effort would cease. Besides I have had rheumatic pain in every muscle and joint, and have suffered intensely, but I must say I have not in five years felt as well as I do now. Have improved daily since I began the use of

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About a week ago I gave a man afflicted with bladder trouble, some Favorite Remedy, and to-day he said: "That is a great medicine; I am better already," and he drove eight miles to get a bottle of it. You may have a free sample bottle of Dr. David Kennedy's Favorite Remedy, the great Kidney, Liver and Blood medicine, and a booklet containing valuable medical advice by simply writing to the Dr. David Kennedy's Sons, Rondout, N. Y. Mention this paper. Large bottles \$1.00. All druggists.

constitution of the United States declares "the Senate of the United States shall be composed of two Senators from each State, chosen by the Legislature thereof." Any other system of selecting Senators in Congress would be subversive of that constitution and invalid and that being the case it is not likely that Chairman Donnelly or any other sane Democrat would bother with it. The Democrats in the Legislature voted for the bill simply as a matter of form; it may be said that they had little if any interest in it.

The friends of Chairman Donnelly in the Legislature congratulated him during his visit to the capitol on his appointment to the office of City Commissioner of Philadelphia by the unanimous vote of the Board of Judges. Under the constitution of the State it was necessary to appoint a Democrat or City Party man. Mr. Donnelly was not a candidate for the office and had no desire for it. In fact he accepted the appointment reluctantly but in obedience to a sense of duty. Nevertheless his selection under the circumstances was a high tribute to his efficiency in the office and to his personal integrity.

THE GRAFT INVESTIGATION.

The capitol prebers spent most of last week in New York where they got little information beyond the fact that one sub-contractor testified that he agreed to pay Architect Huston ten per cent. of any money he received from the State for introducing him to Contractor Sanderson. During the only session held in Harrisburg last week it was discovered that the contract under which Congressman Cassell's company made the steel filing cases has been lost or stolen. Anyway it can't be found in any of the departments. It is believed that the document would have proved valuable evidence in the event of criminal proceeding after the pending inquiry is completed.

Business was rushed through both branches of the Legislature last week and if the same measure of industry is maintained to the end, it is safe to say that the calendars will be cleared by the time fixed by the House for final adjournment. In that event the only thing that would stand in the way of adjournment would be the capitol graft investigation. It is practically certain that more than the five weeks from this time until the 16th of May will be required to complete the investigation and everybody realizes that the report of the commission ought to be made public at once. For that reason the final adjournment may not occur until near the first of June. G. D. H.

Vagrant Cur Bites Danville Boy.

A vagrant dog of very treacherous disposition is causing some uneasiness in the vicinity of Ferry street, between Center and Chambers streets. A few days ago he bit a boy named Andrew Murray, who is suffering considerably from the effects of the wound. Several persons are said to have narrowly escaped being bitten by the dog, which without the least provocation is in the habit of snapping at the passerby. The cur will be very apt to pay the penalty of his treachery with his life one of these days. Thus far, however, he has managed to escape although several parties are looking for him.

The above is from the Danville News, and we observe that in Bloomsburg the tramp curs, male and female, are perambulating the town, committing all sorts of nuisances, in all places, blocking up and holding possession of the sidewalks, and obliging pedestrians to give way to them for fear of damage or dirt. Have not our citizens submitted long enough to the obscenity of these dirty dogs and to their obtrusiveness? Is the partly new Town Council going to follow in the steps of their good-for-nothing predecessors?

We beg the ladies to take up the cudgels and drive the dogs off the streets.

INQUIRER.

THE OLD AND THE NEW. (Continued from First Page.)

the past. I can say with Whittier: "The eyes of memory will not sleep—Its ears are open still; And vigils with the past they keep Against my feeble will."

And now with that sentiment and the knowledge of my memory still good, I desire to turn the slate and see how much gloom and sadness appears in these latter days; in the closing up of old homes and the forgetting of the friends who once occupied them. In my daily walks as I pass I call to memory many of them. The McKelvey home, now occupied by the First National Bank, post office and other offices; the Wm. Neal home, now occupied by the magnificent Masonic Temple; the A. J. Sloan home, now occupied by Mrs. Cleveland; the Jacob Eyer mansion, now owned by A. Z. Schoch; the Israel Wells home, now owned by Mrs. Reber; the J. J. Brower home, now owned by J. M. Robbins; the Elisha H. Biggs home, now occupied by Mrs. R. K. Little's new house; the L. B. Rupert home, now owned by John G. Freeze; the Morris Sloan home, now a part of E. B. Tustin's law; the Jesse Shannon home, now occupied by former Commissioner Fisher; the Joseph Sharpless and Dr. Ramsey home, now owned by Dr. John. I could lengthen this out several sheets, but will close by announcing to the public the closing of the Judge Elwell home on Third street. Perhaps there is no closing of homes in this place that comes to me with more sadness than this one, being just opposite from where I have lived for over forty years, only separated in the rear by an alley. Persons, with myself, were surprised when Judge Elwell purchased this home, supposing him to desire a more prominent location in accordance with his public position. But I soon learned of his quiet and retiring disposition, and in later years was convinced that his selection of a home was a wise one. It became an ideal spot for him. When after the spring courts were held he could be seen almost daily in his garden cultivating early vegetables and flowers, with an enjoyable ride in the evening behind his big black horse. The home is now offered for sale, thus ending the former home of one of Columbia county's greatest jurists. These are sad things to contemplate in our latter times. They will come to every family in Bloomsburg.

I. W. HARTMAN.

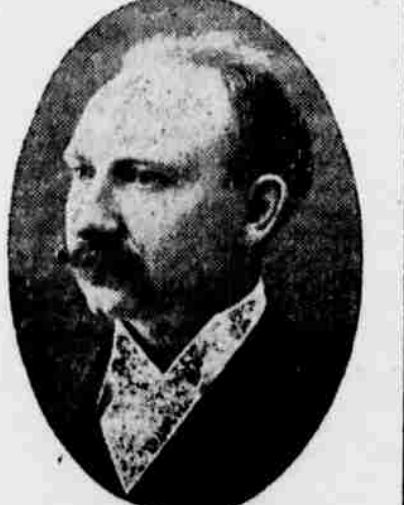
VOGEL'S MINSTRELS.

The scenery and stage settings used in John W. Vogel's Big City Minstrels, which comes to the Grand Opera House on Monday, April 22nd is said to be the most elaborate and expensive ever used for a similar purpose; the setting is called the Oriental Palace, a befitting title, because of the appropriate costumes, and the numerous and powerful calcium and electrical effects used thereon. This is the only setting of the kind in use by a minstrel organization, as the cost of same prohibits the average manager from investing the amount of capital required.

Constitutional Convention.

The house has finally passed the bill for a constitutional convention, the vote standing 136 for to eighteen against. The bill now goes to the senate for their approval. There seems to be considerable sentiment in the state in favor of the bill. It will mean the election of three delegates from each senatorial district in the state, who will meet at Harrisburg and proceed to frame a new constitution for the state. After their work is finished, the constitution as it comes from their hands will have to be advertised and voted on by the people, and is liable to fail, when the work would be in vain, and we would still be doing business under the old constitution. A proposition to hold a constitutional convention was voted down in 1892 by an overwhelming majority.

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