

WASHINGTON

From our Regular Correspondent.

Washington, D. C., March 16, 1908.

An ugly land fraud almost under the dome of the Capitol has been discovered within the last week whereby the Government has been defrauded of land worth a very considerable sum and only by a mere chance avoided losing another valuable tract. Senator Carter exposed the transaction in the Senate and that body immediately repealed the law which conveyed to Bieber his last title, the Secretary of War having delayed acting under that enactment. It is not known what the House will do in the matter as it is evident that in that chamber there are powerful influences at work to hush the whole matter up. For the entire parcel of land, Bieber appears to have paid about \$5,000 the parcel containing about 20 acres, and for a small part of the land he recently refused to accept from the Pennsylvania Railroad \$15,000 cash. The Government has already expended \$300,000 for improving the Anacostia River on which this land, which carries the riparian rights, abuts, and it is proposed to expend a very much larger sum. The records show that for the last transaction Representative Bartholdt of Missouri was responsible and Mr. Bartholdt has made a statement saying that the action of his committee was perfectly proper and regular, but there is every indication that the Senate will express a different opinion. It is assumed in the Senate that Bieber must have exerted very powerful influence in the House to secure such favorable legislation.

Bieber was formerly assistant fire marshal of the District of Columbia. He became ill and through the kind influence of Speaker Cannon he secured a pension of \$90 a month for life, although he is still a man of middle age and is now in excellent health. He has recently been engaged in an effort to have the two delegates from the District instructed to vote for Speaker Cannon in the Republican National Convention. When asked on the night after Senator Carter made the expose in the Senate what he had to say regarding it, Bieber said that he was "too busy with local politics to discuss the matter."

The fighting in the Republican ranks is becoming more and more bitter every day. A Republican Representative, Mr. Acheson, of Pennsylvania, has recently inspired a report to the effect that Cecil Lyon, the Republican National Committeeman from Texas, was collecting from postmasters in that state to per cent of their salaries as a campaign fund. Then the President came back at Mr. Acheson and pointed out that a Republican, but not Cecil Lyon had attempted to make such a collection, that he had been prosecuted by direction of the President and that only last week the Supreme Court of the United States had decided the case against the said Republican who is now liable to a fine of \$60,000 and imprisonment for thirty years. The political end of the fight is interesting, however, from the fact that this arrays Acheson against the President and vice versa, and as Acheson is having a very hard fight in his district against a prominent Pennsylvania Elk, it is now believed the Congressman will be defeated.

The most brilliant speech which has yet been heard on the Aldrich bill was made last week by Senator Bailey of Texas. Mr. Bailey spoke for three and one half hours and held the attention of an audience which crowded both the Senate and the galleries, many Democrats coming over from the House to listen. Mr. Bailey opposed the Aldrich measure because he believes that the banks should be allowed to

Beware of Ointments for Catarrh that Contain Mercury,

as mercury will surely destroy the sense of smell and completely derange the whole system when entering it through the mucous surfaces. Such articles should never be used except on prescriptions from reputable physicians, as the damage they will do is ten fold to the good you can possibly derive from them. Hall's Catarrh Cure, manufactured by F. J. Cheney & Co., Toledo, O., contains no mercury, and is taken internally, acting directly upon the blood and mucous surfaces of the system. In buying Hall's Catarrh Cure be sure you get the genuine. It is taken internally and made in Toledo, Ohio, by F. J. Cheney & Co. Testimonials free.

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issue no money and that such issue should be confined to the government. He indicated, however, that if he could not get his substitute, providing for \$1,000 million emergency Treasury notes, he would vote for the Aldrich bill.

Congress seems prepared to pass the Frye resolution which provides that the material for the Panama Canal must be carried in American vessels unless the prices charged are extortionate. Of course this exception makes the bill seem fair on its face, but the fact is that under such a bill the Secretary of War will feel compelled to pay at least 50 per cent more to American ships than is asked by foreign vessel owners, and even it when asked still higher prices by Americans there will be a howl of indignation from the vessel owners if he dares to employ foreign ships. That was the case with the vessels carrying coal to the Pacific for the current battleship cruise, it will be remembered, although the Secretary did fly in the face of the shipowners and charter a number of foreign vessels.

Representative Tawney is again shouting economy and he declares there will be no public building bill this year and that provision will be made for only two battleships if he has his way. He says he is determined to keep the total appropriations down to the limit for the current year, \$920,000,000 but it will be interesting to see if Mr. Tawney raises his voice against the pernicious pension legislation whereby it is proposed to put all the old soldiers' widows who are not entitled to a pension under the existing laws, on the rolls at \$12 a month, thus increasing the pension budget by about \$15,000,000 a year. That is a measure with which it is expected to make Republican votes and perhaps promote the candidacy of Speaker Cannon. Cannon makes Tawney chairman of Appropriations, and so it goes.

There has been a little more variety in Democratic politics this week. Several representatives of Judge George Grey of Delaware have been in Washington looking over the ground and the action of the Minnesota Democratic committee in endorsing Governor Johnson adds somewhat to the gayety of the situation although there is as yet no indication that Mr. Bryan will meet with any serious opposition in the Denver convention.

Justice Triumphant.

Crime in high places has at last found merited condemnation by the law in Pennsylvania. The verdict of the Capitol jury at Harrisburg gives every citizen of this Commonwealth occasion to carry his head up proudly and affords him ground for honest gratification. Not that there is or should be any feeling of triumph over the convicted men, once the trusted stewards of the

people and now branded as felons—their downfall gives cause for sorrow, not for rejoicing. But past experience—the almost invariable failure of prosecutions involving charges of the malversation of public funds—made the outlook hopeless that knavery and criminal complacency in public offices could be brought within reach of the arm of the law.

The impression that legal quibbles and quiddities formed insuperable obstacles to any attempt to reform existing abuses through penal process blighted regenerative movements and deadened civic spirit. Wrongdoers felt safe in repeating with a leer Tweed's famous query: "What are you going to do about it?" And it seemed veritably as if nothing could be done.

The news from Harrisburg proves that "things are different," indeed, in Pennsylvania, and there is a promise in it that things will stay different. Unless the rulings of the trial Court should be found to have been so greatly in error as to justify a reversal of judgment on appeal—and in view of the simplicity of the legal questions involved there is little to fear on that score—the possibility of success in future prosecutions of political conspirators has been wonderfully increased. It will not be requisite to produce in proof of such conspiracy the confessions of the conspirators or sealed articles of agreement between them signed with their own blood. Juries will be permitted to draw the natural inferences from the acts of dishonest or criminally complacent custodians of public moneys or occupants of offices of trust.

The same rules that apply to conspiracies against individuals apply to conspiracies against the people. The finger of scorn can no longer be pointed at this community as one that is not only corrupt but content in its corruption it is a proud day for the Commonwealth and a proud day for the Democratic State Treasurer, whose vigilance and rugged honesty were the means of discovering the crime and bringing the great criminals to the bar of justice.—Phila. Record.

Sawdust Kills Fish.

State Fish Commissioner Meehan has instructed his wardens that hereafter sawdust will be considered a "poison" under Section 26 of the Act of 1901, relative to the pollution of streams, and that they prosecute all persons who pollute streams with this substance. Sawdust in the streams is a source of constant annoyance to the wardens who have streams in lumber regions under their surveillance, and there is scarcely a district in Pennsylvania which is not more or less affected. Many mills get rid of sawdust by dumping it into the streams, and it kills the fish by choking up their gills. Only one law was ever passed directly bearing upon this matter, and that one is nearly a century old, and according to Commissioner Meehan does not cover the ground.

On Trail of Fortune's Heir.

Boy of Romantic Career Soon to Be Restored to Luxury.

A definite clew has been discovered by detectives, of Luzerne county who for the past five weeks have been searching for Paul James, a young man who believes he is a penniless orphan, but for whom parents and a fortune are waiting in New York. The boy, placed in an orphan asylum in New York by his mother 17 years ago, after the mysterious disappearance of his father, was some years later sent to a farm in Susquehanna county, but ran away in September, 1905. The detectives have traced him from place to place in upper Pennsylvania and lower New York States, where he worked in small hotels and have now learned that he enlisted in the army and is now probably stationed in Cuba.

The father was shanghaied and taken on a long voyage instead of being murdered, as was at first believed. An injury to his head wiped out his memory. He turned up later in the Colorado and Nevada Gold fields and made a lucky strike, which gave him a fortune. A short time ago he regained the memory lost 16 years before. He went to New York and found his wife and since then has been trying to locate his son.

Last of Washington Elms.

The last of the famous Washington elms in Old St. Paul's churchyard, New York, was laid low last week. In Colonial days a line of these trees extended along the northern boundary of the churchyard from Broadway almost to the river. President Washington, in arriving at church from the executive mansion, at Cherry street, on Sunday mornings, invariably tied his horse to one or the other of the group.

The trees were cherished by generation after generation of sextons, but in spite of care bestowed they died, one after the other.

Woman 130 Years Old.

Perhaps the oldest woman in the United States is Miss Mena Miller, an inmate of the York county almshouse, who, according to the records of that institution, has reached the remarkable age of 130 years. Miss Miller was admitted to the institution on January 1, 1860, at which time it was claimed she was 82 years old. Since then she has been an inmate continuously, with the exception of a few weeks at a time when she took what she called "jaunts" between York city and Baltimore. The last of these trips was taken two years ago.

Trespass Notices.

Card signs "No Trespassing" for sale at this office. They are printed in accordance with the late act of 1903. Price 5 cents each. If

Several residents of Blairsville are reported to have been victimized by sharpers recently. Frank Christian, who recently embarked in the wholesale grocery business to get the Italian trade, gave an order to a traveling salesman for \$500 worth of goods, paying \$250 in cash and giving his note for the balance. A few days ago he received notice from a New York distillery company saying they held his order for fifteen barrels of whiskey and as soon as he makes payment of the note the whiskey will be shipped. Christian says he ordered no whiskey, and has sent an attorney to New York to investigate the matter. A farmer named Clark Dunlap was approached by a stranger who said he had an \$80 buggy at Derry that he would sell for \$40, and also a lot of groceries that he would sell for \$10, away under value. The farmer bit and in turn was bitten, as he is unable to locate buggy or groceries. Two other farmers were done up on feed propositions.

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Passing of the Veteran.

Thirty-One Thousand Civil War Veterans Died in 1907.

Thirty-one thousand veteran soldiers died last year. That would be about two army corps as their strength usually was. They had served their country well and lived to a good old age. Their average age would be little, if any, less than seventy years. And this year is to reap another harvest of still greater number, perhaps 40,000 will answer the last roll call this year. May they go on in peace and may flowers deck their graves on Memorial Day for a thousand years.

President May Visit London.

A persistent rumor that President and Mrs. Roosevelt will visit England next year is current in American circles in London. It is said that he will stay six months in London with his family and will study the organization of the navy and the management of the dockyards.

Story of a Famous Hymn.

A popular hymn is Theodolph's, "All glory, laud and honour," said to belong to the ninth century, and believed to have been written by the poet, while in an Angers prison.

The author of "Hymns and Their Makers" quotes a legend in relation to its use on Palm Sunday, 821, to the effect that when Louis the Pious, King of France, was at Angers, he took part in the usual procession of lay and clergy, and as the procession passed the place where St. Theodolph the Bishop of Orleans, had long been incarcerated he was seen standing at the open window of the cell, and there, amid the silence of the people he sang his hymn, to the delight of the King, who at once ordered him to be set at liberty and referred to his see. In some minor details this legend is referred to by other writers as well.

The original is too long to be sung in modern services as it has no fewer than seventy eight lines. The verses usually found in our hymnals are but a fragment of the original hymn, which, with more or less abbreviation, has been used as a processional for many centuries.

Hammer Oldest Implement.

The hammer, besides being a tool of universal use, is probably the oldest representative of a mechanic's tool kit. The hammer was originally a stone fastened to a handle with thongs, and it was as useful as a weapon as a tool.

Hammers are represented on the monuments of Egypt 20 centuries before our era. They greatly resemble the hammer now in use, save that there were no claws on the back for the extraction of nails. Claw hammers were invented some time during the Middle Ages. Illustrated manuscript of the eleventh century represent carpenters with claw hammers.

Hammers are of all sizes, from the dainty instruments used by the jewellers, which weigh less than half an ounce, to the gigantic 50 ton hammer of shipbuilding establishments, some of which have a falling force of from 50 to 100 tons. Every trade has its own hammer and its own way of using it.—Baltimore Sun.

Columbia & Montour El. Ry.

TIME TABLE IN EFFECT June 1, 1904, and until further notice.

Cars leave Bloom for Espy, Almedia, Lime Ridge, Berwick and intermediate points as follows:

A. M. 5:00, 5:40, 6:20, 7:00, 7:40, 8:20, 9:00, 9:40, 10:20, 11:00, 11:40.

P. M. 12:20, 1:00, 1:40, 2:20, 3:00, 3:40, 4:20, 5:00, 5:40, 6:20, 7:00, 7:40, 8:20, 9:00, 9:40, 10:20, 11:00.

Leaving depart from Berwick one hour from time as given above, commencing at 6:00 a. m.

Leave Bloom for Catawissa, A. M. 5:30, 6:15, 7:00, 7:45, 8:30, 9:15, 10:00, 10:45, 11:30, 12:00.

P. M. 1:00, 1:45, 2:30, 3:15, 4:00, 4:45, 5:30, 6:15, 7:00, 7:45, 8:30, 9:15, 10:00, 10:45, 11:30.

Cars returning depart from Catawissa 20 minutes from time as given above.

First car leaves Market Square for Berwick on Sundays at 7:00 a. m.

First car for Catawissa Sundays 7:00 a. m.

First car from Berwick for Bloom Sundays leaves at 8:00 a. m.

First car leaves Catawissa Sundays at 7:30 a. m.

*From Power House.
*Saturday night only.
†P. R. R. Connection.

WM. TERWILLIGER, Superintendent.

Bloomsburg & Sullivan Railroad.

Taking Effect Feb'y 1st, 1908, 12:05 a. m.

NORTHWARD.

Table with columns: Station, A.M., P.M., A.M., P.M. Rows include Bloomsburg D & W, Bloomsburg P & R, Paper Mill, Light Street, Orangeville, Forks, Zanes, Sillwater, Benton, Edsons, Coles Creek, Laubachs, Grass Mere Park, Central, Jamison City.

SOUTHWARD.

Table with columns: Station, A.M., P.M., A.M., P.M. Rows include Jamison City, Central, Grass Mere Park, Laubachs, Coles Creek, Edsons, Benton, Sillwater, Zanes, Forks, Paper Mill, Bloom, P & R, Bloom, D & W.

Trains No. 21 and 22 mixed, second class. Daily except Sunday. Daily 1 Sunday only. Flag stop. W. G. SNEYDER, Supt.

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