

The Centre Reporter.



VOL. LXVI.

CENTRE HALL, PA., THURSDAY, MARCH 30, 1893.

NO. 13.

CAPITOL GOSSIP

NEWS OF A WEEK AT THE NATION'S CAPITOL.

Economy the Watchword Under Democratic Rule—Cutting off Useless Employes.

Washington, March 27, 1893:

Economy is the watchword in every department of the government and it will not be changed as long as democrats are in control. One of the very first things that President Cleveland impressed upon the minds of the members of his cabinet was that each of them should be liberal in the use of the pruning knife in cutting off sinecures and useless employes under them. Something has already been done in the cutting off line, but what has been done is as nothing when compared with what will be done. President Cleveland wishes the heads of the departments to anticipate the findings of the Congressional joint commission, which has already organized, for the purpose of investigating the work of the government departments, with a view to a reduction in the number of employes and an improvement in the present slow and in many instances cumbersome methods of transacting business, wherever possible. To change the methods will in many cases require a change in the law, but to compel every employe of the government to render an honest equivalent for the salary received, and to dismiss all the drones and shirks is within the power of the heads of the departments under present laws, unless somebody weakens it is going to be done. I heard of a case the other day which indicates that there is one Secretary who will not weaken, no matter what influence may be behind the shirkers. By accident Secretary Carlisle learned that an \$1,800 clerk—a woman—had only been on duty about half the time during the last twelve months. He sent for her chief and asked why this had been allowed. "Because she is backed by Congress—namely one of the most influential members of the House" ("That is no excuse at all," said the Secretary; "dismiss her at once, and understand that all the clerks in this department have got to work for their salaries or get out.")

Mrs. Cleveland has not indicated whether she intends holding any public receptions this spring, but all who desire to meet her can do so by writing and requesting that privilege, as she sets aside an hour twice a week—on Tuesdays and Fridays—to receive those who have in this way obtained her permission to call on her. Almost as many misstatements have been made concerning the status of the extra session of the Senate as about the intentions of Cleveland. Long stories have been written, and editors who knew no better have printed them, about the Senate remaining in session against the wishes of the President, and about the annoyance it was causing him. As a matter of fact, the extra session only continues at the pleasure of the President, and as soon as he shall notify the Senate that he has no further communication to make to it, adjournment will follow, unless precedents are all set aside. So powerful is precedent that at this writing it seems probable that the democratic officers of the Senate will not be elected at the extra session, although they have been nominated by the caucus and a resolution adopted to proceed to elect them. The republicans entered a protest against this proceeding on the ground that it would be a violation of precedent, and the indications are that the democratic Senators will not act against that protest.

Democrats who are here after office do not as a rule take kindly to the order of closing the offices of the members of the cabinet to the public on Tuesdays and Fridays—cabinet days—but it is really in their interest, for it will give the heads of the departments an opportunity to go over the papers filed with them and make selections for appointments.

The reports for and against the seating of the appointed Senators from Montana, Washington and Wyoming, were presented to the Senate today. It is expected that the debate will begin at once and that the Senate will hold daily sessions until a vote is reached. The result is still very much in doubt.

England and France having raised their ministers to the United States to the dignity of Ambassadors the new democratic representatives of the United States to those countries will, in accordance with a law enacted by the last Congress be Ambassadors, instead of ministers plenipotentiary, as heretofore. This will, of course, add no honor to our ministers in the eyes of Americans, but every one at all familiar with the customs and usages of European capitals knows that it will add much to their prestige abroad.

Secretary Hoke Smith's first land

decision was against the Southern Pacific Railroad's right to a large tract of land which it has claimed and kept from being opened to settlement. This decision not only opens this land to settlement, but it is a refutation of the silly republican charge that it was corporation influences which put Secretary Smith into the cabinet.

POTTERS MILLS.

Alex McCoy Loses a Valuable Mule from Lock Jaw.

Miss Sue Long, of Spring Mills, has been visiting her sister at this place. Mr. Alex McCoy has lost a very fine mule. He refused five hundred dollars for the span last week. It was one of the finest team of mules in Centre county. Mr. McCoy had three veterinarians from Lewistown, and did all in his power to save it but all in vain.

COBURN.

Washington Camp No. 680, P. O. S. of A. Instituted.

John Hoffa and wife spent Sunday at Lewisburg, with the former's parents.

W. F. Kern left for Lock Haven on last Saturday, where he will be engaged in painting during the summer.

Mrs. Platt, wife of Jacob Platt, is sick at present.

Some of our schools in this section have already closed.

Meyer & Co. moved their mill on the Meyer and Motz tract east of town and are now operating the same on custom work. They expect to saw out the timber on Daniel Meyers tract, adjacent thereto, and then the mill will be moved to the tunnel.

Chester Kerstetter and his newly made bride, of Lindale, Union county, were visiting among friends at this place over Sunday.

Mr. G. R. Stover sojourned a few days last week at Millinburg, at the home of her mother.

Quite a number of flittings took place during the last week. A Huey moved to Millheim and Mr. Heman moved into the house vacated by Mr. Huey, and Henry Snavelly moved into the house vacated by Mr. Heman, Dr. Ard, of Woodward, moved into Jacob Kerstetter's house vacated by Mr. Snavelly, G. W. Harter moved to Pleasant Gap, Samuel Lingle moved on the farm vacated by Mr. Harter, W. F. Smith moved his family to Millheim and Alfred Stover moved on his farm, Henry Zerby occupied the farm of Daniel Moyer vacated by Alfred Stover, Jacob Harter moved on Andrew Harter's farm and Andrew Harter will move to this place next week.

On last Friday evening Washington Camp No. 680, P. O. S. of A., was instituted at this place, by Mr. Yost, of Shenandoah, Pa., the State Camp's representative, and E. E. Erhard, of Fleming, District President, assisted by a number of members of Millmont, and Millinburg Camp. After institution the following officers were elected: Pres., J. F. Garthoff; Vice Pres., S. G. Rote, M. of F., P. H. Stover; P. P., W. W. Rishell; Cor. Sect'y, C. A. DeLong; assistant Cor. Sect'y, John Stonebraker; Finan. Sect'y, C. D. Wagner; Treas. T. B. Everett; Con. Thos. Witmyer; Indl., James A. Cooney; G., Daniel L. Kerstetter; Trustees, P. H. Stover, R. O. Braucht, Elmer E. Cooney.

AN IMPORTANT decision that concerns Mr. Edison, was rendered recently, by the supreme court in the case of Huber vs. Nelson. In this Huber case, as already reported, the court decided that a foreign patent having lapsed, by reason of non-payment of taxes, an American patent granted thereafter for the same invention is void. This action, it is said at the patent office, destroys Edison's quadruplex telegraph patent and also his three microphone patents, leaving the Bell company after January next to stand wholly on the Berliner patent.

DURING THE past year, it is calculated, that the vast sum of over \$700,000,000 was spent in the British Isles in alcoholic drinks, and even this is less by some \$1,500,000 than the expenditure of the year previous. Probably three-fourths of this sum of liquor was swallowed by one-fourth of the population. A reputable authority states that if the National drink bill were reduced to \$70,000,000 a year the health of the people would so improve that at least one-fourth of practicing physicians would find nothing to do.

IN ENGLAND members of Parliament get no pay, while an American congressman gets \$10,000. The question of paying members of Parliament is now being agitated in England.

STORIES of fellows being nearly struck by flaming meteors are getting painfully plenty—and at a rate that there is danger of somebody getting hurt some day unless all carry open umbrellas.

IMPORTANT CASE.

One of the Most Intricate Cases Tried in Our Courts.

Court commenced on Monday afternoon with Judge Sadder, of Chambersburg, presiding.

The first case called was that of the Tyrone Mining and Manufacturing Company vs James Cross. After the first jury was drawn it was seen that this case would consume several days and other jurors and witnesses were discharged and cases continued.

In the case before court Orvis, Bowler & Orvis appear for the Tyrone Mining and Manufacturing Company, and Senator S. R. Peale, of Lock Haven, Thomas H. Murray, Esq., appear for James Cross.

This is an action in ejectment to recover 100 acres of land in Halfmoon township, being the western part of a tract surveyed in the name of the "Richard Whitehead."

The defendant claims that the "Richard Whitehead" and "Samuel Bryan" are located one-half mile further east and did not cover the land in his possession.

The case was tried three times. In February 1887 the plaintiffs obtained a verdict, October 25th 1888 the supreme court reversed the lower court. The second trial occurred December 6th 1888 and resulted in a verdict for the defendant. The supreme court the following spring reversed the lower court. The case was tried in 1892 before Judge Krebs and resulted in a verdict for defendant. A motion was made for a new trial, was granted and it was in progress last week, making the fourth time this case was tried in our courts.

The land in dispute has the most valuable iron ore deposits on it and if Mr. Cross finally establishes his claim it will cause considerable confusion among land owners in that community who will have a time to find just "where they are at," and for this reason the termination of this case is eagerly watched.

It is one of the most intricate and technical ejectment cases tried in our courts for many years and attracts wide attention. The jury found a verdict for the Mining Company.—Centre Democrat.

THERE is a fair prospect for a general road law at this session of the legislature which will at least make a beginning in the direction of better roads, something that Pennsylvania needs about as much as any State of the Union. A State appropriation of \$2,000,000 is proposed for the next two years, and this is to be disbursed in proportion to the amount of work done by the people of the counties. The county and township supervisors are to declare what roads shall be considered public highways, and therefore under the provision of the bill. Local revenues are to come from a tax levy of 8 mills on property now subject to taxation, and a tax of \$1 on each male person. A county supervisor of roads is to be elected next November for a term of three years. He must have a special knowledge of roadmaking, or be an engineer or surveyor. His compensation will be fixed by the township supervisors who are to be elected at the February election. The whole thing will depend on the choice of county supervisor, and whether the country people will be liberal enough to vote a salary that will command first-class capacity.

JUDGE BRUBAKER has created a panic among the fee-grabbers of Lancaster by his refusal to confirm the accounts of any Court house official who has been charging illegal fees. It is not the loss of the fees in a single series of accounts that harrows the souls of these officials, although they grieve for the loss of the money without doubt. But a committee of seven lawyers have been investigating the rejected accounts, and have filed exceptions to seventy nine of them as exorbitant and illegal. The fee-grabbers not only lose the illegal fees, but are found out and exposed. Judge Brubaker has opened a promising field for reform in Lancaster county, and if he holds out as well as he has begun candidates for Court House offices will not be able to pay as much for the privilege of being nominated and elected as hitherto.

TO CARRY out the law of the last Congress requiring all railroads to adopt automatic car-couplers on all their cars, Mr. Chauncey M. Depew says, will require a very large expenditure of money. There are about 2,500,000 cars, and the equipping of a single car will cost about \$20, making a total for all the roads of \$50,000,000. If the sole owner of any patent could get his invention adopted by all the roads, he would soon be the richest man in the world. But as there are some twenty patents there is no danger of a monopoly by one individual.

THIS being the last week of lent, folks will use the balance of the year in returning what was borrowed.

EASTER AND LENT

HISTORICAL FACTS NOT GENERALLY KNOWN.

Eggs At Easter—Their Use Can be Traced Into the Most Remote Antiquity.

The festival next in importance to Christmas, is Easter, which comes in next Sabbath. Christmas commemorates the greatest of all events, the birth of the child Jesus. Easter is the commemoration of the crowning event in the life of Jesus, his resurrection from the tomb, which fulfilled the prophecies and removes all doubts as to His being the Son of God.

Easter, which is now preceded by Lent, in early days was introduced by fasting on one day only, the Friday in Passion week, now known as Good Friday. By and by the time was extended to forty hours, in token that Christ had lain that long in the tomb. Some centuries later this was extended forty days, in commemoration of the season of the temptation and fast in the wilderness.

The name Easter is probably derived from the Teutonic goddess of spring, Ostera, or Oestre, whose festival occurs about the same time as the observance of Easter. Lent is derived from the Anglo-Saxon word *lencetan*, which means "spring," and has no connection at all with fasting, as some people imagine.

It was not until the fourth century that there was any regularity about the fixing the date of Easter Sunday. Those of the early Christians who believed the Christian Passover to be a commemoration of Christ's death adhered to the custom of holding the Easter festival on the day prescribed for the Jewish passch, the fourteenth day of the first month; that is, the lunar month, of which the fourteenth day either falls on or next after the day of the vernal equinox.

But the most of the Christian churches, attaching greater importance to the day of Christ's resurrection, held to Easter being celebrated on the Sunday which followed the fourteenth day of the moon of March, the day on which Christ suffered.

This difference was finally settled by the Council of Nice, in the year 325. The rule then adopted is still in force. Easter is always the Sunday after the full moon which happens on or next after March 21—the vernal equinox. By this arrangement, Easter may come as early as March 22 or as late as April 25.

The use of eggs for Easter can be traced, says Count de Gebelin, in his Religious History of the Calendar, to the theology and philosophy of the Egyptians, Persians, Gauls, Greeks and Romans, among all of whom an egg was a symbol of the universe, the work of the supreme divinity. The Persians gave presents of eggs at the feast of the New Year—i. e., the feast of the vernal equinox—in honor of the renewal of all things. "The Egyptians held the egg as a sacred emblem of the renovation of mankind after the deluge. The Jews adopted it to suit the circumstances of their history, as a type of their departure from Egypt, and it was used in the feast of the Passover as part of the furniture of the table with the Paschal lamb." The early Druids used the egg in their ceremonies.

In Russia one man greets another on Easter with "Jesus Christ is risen." "Yes He is risen," reply is made; and then an egg is given. In Moscow no meeting takes place without this salutation and exchange. "The meekest pauper in the street presenting an egg and repeating the words 'Christos Vosrees' may demand a salute even of the empress." In some countries of Italy eggs are carried to the church to be blessed, and then taken home and set out with flowers on the table. Every visitor during Easter week is invited to eat an Easter egg, an invitation which must not be refused. Eggs in all countries are sent as tokens at this time, and enter into the sentiments and pastimes of old and young alike.

Deserving Praise.

We desire to say to our citizens, that for years we have been selling Dr. King's New Discovery for Consumption, Dr. King's New Life Pills, Bucklen's Arnica Salve and Electric Bitters, and have never handled remedies that sell as well, or that have given such universal satisfaction. We do not hesitate to guarantee them every time, and we stand ready to re and the purchase price, if satisfactory results do not follow their use. These remedies have won their great popularity purely on their merits. J. D. Murray, Druggist.

QUAY is laying plans to make ex-Lieutenant governor Stone the next Republican nominee for governor. Gen. Hastings is not on the Quay slate.

THE COURTS AND STRIKES.

The federal courts seem disposed—or are compelled to do it whether they like or not—to exercise a pretty sweeping jurisdiction over labor differences between railroad companies and their striking or boycotting employes. The circuit and district judges in northern Ohio, at Toledo, the district judge in Georgia, and the district judge at New Orleans, have important cases of this character before them. Some of them will reach the supreme court of the United States at Washington, and we may expect to hear the law of strikes and boycotts laid down by that august tribunal. This is desirable, as it will point out the path of judicious legislation, and legislators dependent on the votes of the people for their seats in congress will probably be put under considerable pressure. They have a great respect for the voting power of the various forms of labor and agricultural organizations. The decision of the New Orleans judge is to meet the questions raised in a strike in that city which has been settled for several months. It is a little late, but the position of the judge is important should it be sustained. There was a general strike and boycott in New Orleans in which a great number of trades were concerned; business was demoralized, and non-union men were prevented from working. This affected the transportation of merchandise through the city, interfering with interstate and foreign commerce, and Judge Billings holds that such interference is in violation of federal law. He recognizes the trades unions as lawful organizations, but says that when they take on unlawful purposes and do unlawful acts, such as boycotting and intimidation of non-union men, "the associations themselves become unlawful." This decision is far reaching in the disciplinary power it necessarily implies as being resident in the federal courts. We are evidently nearing a climax, and some very decisive judicial action in strikes and boycotts.

Chicago Gouge.

The Chicago exposition is getting a great deal of advertising these days of a kind that will hardly be relished by the managers. This is due to the exposure of an infinite number of "gouge games" to be attempted on visitors under concessions granted to inside showmen for petty little monopolies of one kind and another, but which have a great deal to do with personal comfort, and should never be made a matter of charge. The Chicago papers have been keeping very quiet on these annoying trifles, whereas a vigorous protest from them would have stopped the business. Now it is said, as the "concessions" have all been granted, it is too late to change. Probably it will be found out that it is not too late, and a change may be necessary. The Chicago Mail takes up the cudgels on behalf of intending visitors, and with a much better grasp of the situation than the other papers, which remain silent, calls pretty loudly for an abatement of the plans of extortion. In the course of an elaborate exhibit it figures up that the visitor will have to pay for extras necessary to his comfort, after he has paid his half dollar admission fee, the sum of two dollars before he has entered a single building or viewed a single exhibit. "If to the misfortune of weak limbs," says the Mail, "be added that of being the father of a brood of three or four children, with a wife in addition, one trip to Jackson park and the fair will sum up not only \$2.50 but \$12.50."

Will Check the Babies.

The Rev. B. Fay Mills, the evangelist, has added to his revival services in Minneapolis, a new feature in the handling of mixed crowds in the baby-checking system. He doesn't want young mothers debarred from his meetings, and he doesn't want the period of prayer disturbed by crying babies, so the babies will be checked. A corps of nurses is employed in the big convention hall, where the meetings are held. Mothers leave their babies in the check-room and receive for them a regular check as they would for an umbrella or a wrap. When the number of babies becomes too great or the little ones grow too trouble-some, the young men who serve as ushers are called upon to assist the nurses. Theatrical managers are watching the operation of the new system.

THE PENNSYLVANIA legislature would like to junket to the World's Fair at the expense of the people. Hope the members from Centre county will vote No on such a scheme; if any set can afford to pay their own way to the Chicago fair it is the legislators. The proposed junket would cost \$30,000.

In fattening sheep for market, Bull's Head Horse and Cattle Powder is the thing to give them. Price 25 cents per package of one pound.

Heroic Woman.

Deeds of heroism from the gentler sex are by no means rare altho not as numerous as blackberries—sometimes they partake of the nature of the judicious and then of the brave too. We will relate one which the reader of the REPORTER is at liberty to classify for himself. Some females are built for any emergency: one will face the ruffian with a club or a revolver, while another will flee in terror to a neighbor at the sight of a wee serpent or a mouse in the cupboard.

A mouse had reeled upon the dainties of the pantry to the annoyance of the queen who presides over that indispensable department of the domestic kingdom. The queen of the pantry was timid about entering that precinct on account of the animal that foraged there.

A council of war was held. It was resolved to purchase the latest patent mouse trap, and put in it a double charge of the dainties that will allure the most fastidious rodent, and the trigger was set and the terrible engine was stealthily placed where it would do most good.

The men of the premises went about their business one and a half miles distant, and the queen of the hearth and home retreated to her upper apartments breathlessly awaiting events, door securely locked and window open for a jump in case the trap and mouse should come thumping up the stairway.

For thirty minutes, which seemed like thirty hours, there was a death-like stillness; gently the keyhole was approached and a delicate ear covered it from within for a few moments, when "snap, whiz" was the report.

Trembling with fear the door was unconsciously unlocked and up to the garret she fled, wheeled, and back again to the sacred apartments, key turned quick as lightning and with remarkable presence of mind the smelling bottle was grabbed and a swoon headed off.

What was to be done? a five minutes quiet deliberation and it was resolved that the men must be called.

Stealthily down the stairs she crept and into the yard, a peep through the window into the pantry, and lo, a mouse was kicking for life in the trap. Off for the men she went, and when within hailing distance, a mouse in the trap was yelled and some one to come quick and kill it. She was told to get a stick, go back and a little pat would do the job. A piece of 10 foot scantling was found, with this armed to have all possible distance between herself and mouse, she mounted a chair, and from that safe altitude the attack she began, whack and stab, until the rodent was flat as a pancake, and a heroic story she had to tell of her masterly work.

THAT BOOM.

A Boom Eagerly Looked for by All Classes of Men.

All are waiting on a boom. Every town and village is looking ahead to a boom. The farmer is waiting for a boom in wheat. The merchant is waiting and wishing for a boom in trade generally. The laborer is looking for a boom in wages. The stock gambler is looking for a boom in his line so he can pocket a few hundred thousands in stock operations. The office seeker is looking for a boom in appointments to strike him. The candidate for a county office is looking for a boom in his favor to make him the favorite of the dear people. The lawyer is looking for a boom in litigation so there is a harvest of fat fees. The doctor is hoping for a boom in declining health to bring him many patients. The minister is sighing for a boom in things matrimonial that his scant exchequer may be livened up by numerous \$5's, \$10's and \$25's. The journalist is awaiting a boom that will run his circulation high up in the thousands. The real estate agent is anxious for a smart boom in lots and farms that he may reap corresponding percentages. The soldier is waiting for a boom in diplomacy that will make the cannon boom, and the sutler and camp follower are hoping for a similar boom so a big pile can be raked in from the private's rations.

Yes, every one is hoping, sighing and pining for a boom in his line. And now, if all these booms, big and little were to come along just about the same time, we would all be left pretty much "where we are at" now. A boom for everybody is a boom for nobody.

—When in need of footwear of any kind, for ladies, gentlemen or children, go to Mingle's shoe store, Bellefonte. His styles are the latest, stock the largest and prices the lowest, and these combined with satisfaction guaranteed will delight his customers. A visit will convince you of the truth of these facts.

—Subscribe for the REPORTER.