



## WASHINGTON LETTER.

### THE DEMOCRATS ENTERTAIN THE HOUSE.

Speaker Reed Gets a Few Filings, and Several Democrats are Trying to Square Themselves with their Party.

WASHINGTON, April 19.—There were probably few Democrats present at the last session of the House who did not feel a little bit ashamed of the proceedings. Representative Bailey, of Texas, rose to a question of personal privilege, and after having read an editorial from a Washington paper, that claims to be Democratic, calling him in effect a tool of Mr. Reed, he denounced the writer as an infamous and malicious liar. Later Representative DeArmond, of Missouri, arose also to a question of personal privilege, and made a speech explaining his attitude towards the Republican policy of semi-weekly adjournments, and disclaiming that he and the Democrats who thought as he did, had rebelled against the Democratic leadership established in caucus, and virtually charging that it was the other Democrats who were acting in opposition to the caucus. As if that were not enough for one short sitting, Representative Burke, of Texas, also made a personal explanation, calling the meetings of the House a "great national farce" and saying that so far as his own action was concerned, he had consulted no one. All of this was nuts for the Republicans and Mr. Reed took good pains to allow the Democrats to do as much talking as they wanted to do, so long as they talked against other Democrats. The majority voted for the three day adjournment just the same, and carried it.

The treaty negotiated by the last administration, with Great Britain, defining a portion of the boundary line between Alaska and Canada, will never be ratified in its present shape. By a pretense in liberality in giving the U. S. about fourteen square miles of territory (which we already had a legal claim to) the wily English diplomats made a trap which was intended to cost the U. S. all the territory worth having in that section, by shutting out our claims within what is known as our "thirty mile strip" and its intersection with the 11st meridian, and it came very near to succeeding too, as the treaty would have been ratified some time ago had not Senator Stewart objected. Mr. Stewart objected on the general principle that the matter was too important to be hastily disposed of, and now that the contents of the treaty is understood, he is being congratulated for having prevented the Senate making a blunder.

According to current gossip, ex-Representative Bellamy Storer, of Ohio, must be a queer sort of a duck. The story goes that he took advantage of Mr. McKinley's financial obligations to him to force a promise that he should be appointed Assistant Secretary of State. When the promise was made, Mr. McKinley did not know that Storer was not on speaking terms with Senator Foraker, or with either of the Republican Congressmen from Cincinnati, and now Storer insists on that appointment being made, although he cannot get the indorsement of either Senator, or any one of the Congressional delegation. He has refused to accept a foreign appointment, because his rich wife wishes to figure in the official society of Washington. It is said that Mr. McKinley has told Senator Foraker that there was nothing left for him to do but nominate Storer for the place, and that he added that any fight made on the nomination in the Senate would not be regarded by him as a fight on the administration. The nomination will almost certainly be rejected, and Storer must know it, yet he insists on being nominated.

Certain Republican Senators, among them Mantle, Carter, Shoup, Warren and Burrows, have demanded of the Republicans of the Senate Finance Committee that a duty of not less than two cents a pound shall be placed on hides and that the duty on wool shall be raised to meet a schedule submitted by them, and the demand is accompanied by a threat to defeat the tariff bill if their wishes are not complied with. It is clearly within the power of these five Senators to defeat the tariff bill, but it is not the opinion of those best informed that they will make use of that power to such an extent. They are simply exercising their right to make a big bluff in the interest of the products of their states, in order to get as much of the protection swag for their constituents as possible, but in the end they will take what is given them and vote for the bill.

Having satisfied themselves that Democratic Senators would make no further concessions, the Republicans accepted the last proposition made by

the Democratic steering committee, and the vacancies in the Senate Committees will all be filled in a few days. Politically speaking the committees will stand substantially as they did at the close of the last session. An agreement might have been reached before, but the Republicans wished to punish the silver Republicans for supporting Bryan, and the Democrats insisted that it should not be done, and it was not done.

### Greece Fighting for Her Rights.

The Greco-Turkish war is the result of the failure of reform pledges. The treaty of Berlin imposed certain obligations of reform upon Turkey, which that government promised faithfully to execute. Those promises were ignored. It gave certain territory to Greece. Turkey never yielded the territory. The powers obligated themselves to see that the Sultan carried out the reform plans. They neglected their duty. Pledged to protect the Christians in the Ottoman empire, the powers stood idly by while those Christians were slaughtered by scores of thousands. The powers did nothing but talk until the Cretans began to work out their own salvation, with Greek aid, and then the powers interfered in behalf of the oppressor, the treaty breaker, and with their heaviest artillery and most murderous projectiles fought against the Christians. The very Turkish batteries which the Greeks destroyed on Sunday were built at a point which Turkey was specifically prohibited from fortifying by the treaty of Berlin. The Christians are fighting for their rights; rights solemnly guaranteed by treaty, and rights which the powers have promised them, but which promise has been cruelly broken.

### Causing a Sensation.

White township, Clearfield county, has a mild sensation so far as trance visits to Heaven are concerned. Tillie the twelve-year-old daughter of D. T. Faith, who has been ill for several months, has been astonishing friends and neighbors by marvelous descriptions of Heaven and persons who died before she was born. She says she has been in a number of trances, and in each her spirit has visited the heavenly region. She describes accurately the way her mother, who died eight years ago, was dressed when buried, although the child did not see her dead parent before the interment. Tillie said she saw her mother during one of her trances. She also described a brother who died before she was born, and the description was so accurate that the bewildered father was frightened. Hundreds of neighbors have visited the Faith home and conversed with the child, and to all their questions she has given remarkably accurate replies.

### "Stickers" are Illegal.

The supreme court of the state, in a decision of much interest, holds that "stickers" have no rightful place on the official ballot, and if allowed, invalidate the ballot and the election should a sufficient number of them be received to control the result. This decision was to be expected. Blank spaces are provided on the official voting papers for the purpose of writing in the name of any one desired to be voted for, and whose name is not printed. To allow stickers would disregard the letter and spirit of the law. Stickers have no place on a secret ballot. They are themselves evidence of outside influence in making up the ballot.

### Wreckmen for It.

The following has been sent out by the press committee of the Pennsylvania division L. A. W. An analysis of the Hamilton road bill, which recently passed the senate by a vote of 41 to 6, and is now pending in the house of representatives, clearly shows its advantage to the farming element. First, the election of three supervisors without compensation, enables the farming districts to secure representative farmers as supervisors whose only motives will be the welfare of their co-workers upon an economical and systematic basis. One-half the tax is more than a large proportion of the taxpayers desire to work out, and the one-half cash will build some permanent roads by contract; in fact, the whole bill provides for an application of business principles to road work which will at once reduce the taxes in townships where permanent roads are not wanted and in others build a little macadam each year with the amount that now each year is wasted. The office now is sought by incompetent men, and the farmers are paying large sums for which they receive no return. The name it carries with it is a guarantee of its being framed in the interest of the farmers, for they have no more loyal friend than Professor Hamilton, assistant state secretary of agriculture.

## SCHOOL FUND DISTRIBUTION.

### Farmers Endorse the Scheme Suggested by Governor Hastings.

The existing system of distributing the public school fund is not likely to be disturbed by the present legislature. The farmers have been trying for years to bring a change that will give them a larger slice of the appropriation. The nearest they ever came to it was two years ago.

The present system it is claimed, discriminates against the smaller districts and the Philadelphia and Allegheny delegations will agree to none of the pending propositions.

Governor Hastings suggests that the appropriation be distributed by dividing one-third equally among the schools, one-third on the basis of the school population and the balance on the basis of the taxables.

This scheme has been endorsed by the farmers and Representative Smith, of Bedford, has introduced a bill to carry it into effect. The measure has been brought out of the house education committee.

There are still three other bills in the committee. Two were reported and then recommitted. One provides for the distribution on the basis of schools. This, it is said, would give some districts more than their total school expenses.

Another bill provides that one-half of the fund be distributed equally among the schools and one-half on the average annual school attendance. And still another provides for one-fourth on the number of schools, one-fourth on the school attendance.

### Brief Notes.

The large tannery at Clearfield is preparing to shut down; why don't the advance agent get around there?

The Lock Haven Normal now has 400 students.

The Odd Fellows' Orphans' home, near Sunbury, was opened on Saturday and 22 orphans were admitted into the institution. Odd Fellows' lodges from seven counties are interested in the home and each organization is assessed annually \$1 per member.

A big battle is looked for between the armies of Greece and Turkey any day. They are in close proximity.

The legislature at Harrisburg is not earning its salt; efforts are being made to create more new offices. The promises made by Quay in two platforms to have important Reform legislation enacted now proves to have been a sham to deceive taxpayers.

### Captured a Burglar.

M. J. Artman and Edwin Paul, esq., had a very exciting encounter with a burglar in the cellar of Artman's store in Milton, a few nights ago. They entered the store about half past nine o'clock for the purpose of fixing the fires for the night, and on descending to the cellar found the stair door partly forced. Mr. Artman seized a hatchet while his friend armed himself with a club, and the pair went down the steps. In the cellar they found a tough looking customer, who, on finding his retreat cut off, took a piece of iron and made an attack on his assailants. Mr. Paul pointed his club at the intruder and the latter threw up his hands and surrendered, in the dim light mistaking the club for a gun. An officer was called and the burglar was taken into custody.

### Marriage Licenses.

The following marriage licenses have been issued the last week:

Wm. W. McGee, of Magee's Mills, Clearfield county and Bertha E. Long, of Howard, Pa.

Arthur C. Young, of Hecla, Pa. and Emma M. Minnick of Nittany, Pa.

George E. Seibert and Nora B. Thompson both of Benner Township.

John H. Crossmore, of Curtins works, and Candace Bridge, of Marion Twp.

John H. Maffet, of Osceola, Clearfield county, and Alice J. Fleck of Julian, Pa.

Henry H. Clark, and Maud C. Bitner, both of Eagleville, Pa.

Rev Oliver Govnal, of Apollo, Pa., and Phoebe Ann Lamb, of Philipsburg, Pa.

John I. Grey, of Half Moon Twp., and Nannie C. Woodring of Port Matilda.

Mrs. A. Inveen, residing at 720 Henry street, Alton, Ill., suffered with sciatic rheumatism for over eight months. She doctored for it nearly the whole of this time, using various remedies recommended by friends, and was treated by the physicians, but received no relief. She then used one and a half bottles of Chamberlain's Pain Balm, which effected a complete cure. This is published at her request, as she wants others similarly afflicted to know what cured her. The 25 and 50 cent sizes for sale by J. H. Ross, Linden Hall, S. M. Swartz, Tusseyville, Wm. Pealer, Spring Mills, and R. E. Bartholomew, Centre Hall.

## CAPITOL BILL PASSES.

### NOW COMES THE OPPORTUNITY FOR PLUNDER.

The Bill Passed by the Legislature to Spend Over Half a Million.—No Limit Placed on Furnishings.

The Walton capitol bill passed the house last Wednesday by a vote of 149 to 39. It then went to the senate for concurrence in the house amendments and then to the governor for his signature.

The bill was taken up at the morning session on a special order for third reading and final passage. Mr. Smith, of Bedford, promptly moved to go into committee of the whole to amend by limiting the cost of furnishing and decorating the building to \$300,000. After a short debate the motion failed by a vote of 81 to 95.

Mr. Robb, of Allegheny, followed with a motion to go into committee of the whole to amend by inserting a clause providing for an annex to the east wing of the proposed building to be fitted up at a cost not to exceed \$25,000 with a plant to furnish heat and light for the public buildings.

Mr. Harris, of Clearfield, spoke against the amendment, and Mr. Nesbit, of Northumberland, took a fall out of the bill. He said he did not approve of the colonial style of architecture. If this plan was followed out in the construction of the building it should be followed in the furnishing.

Mr. Nesbitt said he knew the bill would become a law and predicted that ten years from now the people of Pennsylvania will not be proud of the day's work. Mr. McElhany, of Allegheny, opposed that feature of the bill giving the commission unlimited authority to expend the state's money in furnishing the building. The amount should be limited. Mr. Robb's motion was then voted down and the bill passed finally and was promptly messaged to the senate.

The measure appropriates \$520,000 for the erection of a capitol on the site of the old building. The work is to be done under the supervision of a commission composed of Governor, state treasurer, auditor general, president pro tem. of the senate and speaker of house. The building is to be ready for the meeting of the next legislature. It is to be furnished under the direction of the board of public buildings and grounds. The cost of furnishing and decorating is unlimited. Governor Hastings will advertise this week for bids for erection of the building.

### The Locusts Cry Again.

The cry now is that the seventeen-year locust is due in this part of the world this year. By June and July you will doubtless hear this rasping screech throughout the land. An exchange says: "His last engagement with this section was in 1880, when myriads of the troublesome insects did considerable damage to vegetation." It is a mistake to suppose that the seventeen year locust is a serious scourge. They subsist on roots and fibres when in the earth, in the grub state, but eat but little if anything, when above ground. The chief damage they inflict is by scoring or ringing of twigs on trees, making grooves in which to deposit their eggs. They cut a wide swath in this line for about six weeks, then they perish, and their larvae, falling from the tree, enter the ground as grub, which is transformed from one state to another until a cycle of seventeen years rolls around, when he again makes his debut as a screeching locust.

### Laughter is Healthy.

It is said that every hearty laugh in which a man or woman indulges tends to prolong life, as it makes the blood move more rapidly and gives a new and different stimulus to all the organs of the body from what is in force at other times. Therefore, perhaps the saying "Laugh and grow fat" is not an exaggerated one, but has foundation in fact. No truer words were ever uttered than those which state so clearly, "Laugh and the world laughs with you; weep, and you weep alone." The jolly, wholesome, happy-hearted people are those who have most friends and see the best that life holds out to them.

### Don't's in Furnishing the House.

- Don't onfound liking with taste.
- Don't put borders on carpets for small rooms.
- Don't hang chandeliers or lamps in low ceiled rooms.
- Don't be chary of rich warm tints in a northern room.
- Don't buy what suits the fancy, regardless of their combined effect.
- Don't select anything because it is fashionable, but because it is good.
- Don't have any apparent, much less any regular, arrangement of furniture.
- Don't believe for a minute that expensiveness is essential to beautiful effects.
- Don't make a table a pivoted point from which the rest of the furniture radiates.
- Don't use decided patterns for upholstery if you have for wall and floor coverings.
- Don't make a narrow door narrower with a heavy drapery. We drape too much.

### Of Interest to Odd Fellows.

The Central Pennsylvania Odd Fellows association will hold the largest demonstration in its history on the 23rd of this month, in Mt. Carmel, Pa. The local committee are making extensive preparations to receive the visiting lodges; The various mining operations will suspend work on that occasion and the railroads have given a special low rate of fare. A large number of cantons, encampments and subordinate lodges from Schuylkill, Lycoming, Northumberland, Montour, Columbia, Union, Tioga, Snyder, Carbon, Dauphin, and Luzerne counties will be represented in the monster parade.

## BLOW AT OFFICE HUNTERS.

### Postmaster General Gary Makes an Important Ruling About Small Offices.

Postmaster General Gary is credited with the adoption of a new policy regarding fourth-class postmasters in offices where the total remuneration in the course of the year does not exceed \$100.

Mr. Gary holds that in such a small place the postoffice should not be considered a thing for political reward, and has already declined to appoint several Republicans to such offices where the Democratic incumbent's time has expired, because the applicants had not the endorsement of any considerable number of the patrons of the office.

General Gary has notified several representatives that this policy will be strictly carried out, and the result will be that in Democratic districts, where the majority of the patrons of a little office are Democrats, there will be no change in the postmaster during the next four years.

### Laureate Constables Lectured.

At the Lancaster court on Monday when the constables made their usual returns Judge Brubaker gave them a lively lecture. When city constables were asked whether there were any violation of the liquor law in the way of "speak-easies" or so-called "clubs," all answered negatively.

The Court then accused them of neglect of duty. Said the Judge: "We are tired of getting our information from outside sources, and we have the information to 'spot' you all. We must and will have legal information of violations of the law." He then handed them back their returns, giving them until Saturday in which to correct them, and if not then properly indited the Court promised to indict every offender. Some of the county constables were given similar treatment, as they were informed that selling hard cider was as much a violation as selling liquor, if the parties had no license. One constable asked whether it was illegal for a man to take hard cider to a place and give it away to his friends, and was told that people did not usually give much drink away, and in such a case the party must be reported. If he was found to be innocent of an offence no harm would come to him.

### Base Ball Suits and Bicycles Free.

It is safe to say that nearly every member of the rising generation is now thinking either of base ball or bicycling. But how to get the bicycle and how to get the base ball uniforms are the problems. "The Philadelphia Press" solves both. That paper, which has always led in its amateur base ball bicycling departments, now makes two novel, interesting offers. It will furnish, absolutely free, to the amateur base ball club receiving the greatest number of votes before June 19, a complete set of the finest National League Base Ball uniforms. This includes caps, shoes, belts, stockings, shirts and trousers, and the whole outfit will be of the finest quality. The whole outfit will be given absolutely free to the amateur club receiving the greatest number of votes. Full details of the offer are given in "The Press" every day.

### Another Scholarship Contest.

The Centre Democrat has opened another scholarship contest to the Lock Haven Normal. Miss Violetta Wolf, of this place, will make an effort, with the assistance of friends, to win the prize.

### One Way to be Happy.

Is to attend to the comfort of your family. Should one catch a slight cold or cough, call on R. E. Bartholomew, Centre Hall, and G. H. Long, Spring Mills, and get a trial bottle of Otto's Cure, the great German Remedy free. We give it away to prove that we have a sure cure for Coughs, Colds, Asthma, Constipation, and all diseases of the throat and lungs. Large sizes 50c and 30c.

## Local Jots and Pleasantries.

### Advertise in the Reporter, everybody reads it.

Johnny Hosterman is still the champion cycle expert in this part of the kingdom. Speer Palmer bagged 82 trout the other day; he hooked them, didn't Speer one of 'em.

There has been nothing unfavorable to the grain fields and fruit crop thus far; all safe yet.

There is nothing so unsuccessful as that which never succeeds and ends in a miserable farce.

The mountain sides are full of overflow springs from the abundance of water filling the earth.

For fine job work, at reasonable prices, call at this office, including letter and bill heads and envelopes.

We still take the abused "53 cent dollar" in this office at 100 cents. Send them along on subscription.

Some fine trout have been caught in Penn's creek and other of our streams, no one as yet caught a barrel full.

A fellow who hiddenly breeds strife is the curse of a community, and employs cat's paws to do his work.

We had a few nights of freezing temperature within a week, but no perceptible harm done to fruit or grain fields.

Young Wells, of Pleasant Gap, on 16 caught 50 trout in Penns creek. He may now cut the last letter from his name.

Eggs at 8 cents per dozen are low enough to eat; sometimes you get a young chicken or two with them without extra charge.

On Saturday April showed that it had some remnants of winter on the shelf yet and could make it "linger in the lap of spring."

The Bellefonte electric light plant is in working order with a new outfit. Quick work since the fire less than three weeks ago.

Thanks to Maj. Aust. Curtin for invitation to seventh annual Commencement of the Chester Springs Soldiers' Orphans' School, May 3 and 4.

Notice to Winter: It is about time to get out of the lap of spring and betake yourself to hugging a sweet and lovely iceberg up at the north pole.

The Centre county troutists thus far met with something less than ordinary luck. Perhaps the speckled beauties seem to be looking after their own safety.

A fellow from Union county on 15th went home from Cherry Run with over 100 trout. The story is true, but there is a little silver connected therewith.

Potatoes continue plenty in this market and can be had for 10 and 12 cents per bushel. Eggs dashed over sliced potatoes and fried, make a cheap and royal dish.

Dr. Sum Musser, of Aaronsburg, informs us the general health in his field of practice is good. That's about the condition in all parts of the county, alarmingly for the doctors.

Tuesday morning, 20th, was the coldest on record for some date in April. Thermometer at all places, was about same as here, down to 20. The peach crop was badly damaged.

There is something funny about the label of a newspaper: If the subscriber examines it and finds it dated ahead he will smile; if the editor examines it and finds it in arrears he will sigh.

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The most harmonious water company are the trout and chubs in the drug store aquarium; each fish wags its tail without meddling with any other, and a lesson might be learned even from the trout and chubs.

We heard of a boy, the other day, taking his first lesson in fishing; with rod, line and grain of corn on the hook he made a cast among the chickens of the barn yard and soon caught a hen. Very soon after he caught a darn good licken' from the "ole man."

There are some bad board walks in town which may cause a suit for damages any hour. Perhaps the walk committee has no form for notification; if so, apply at this office, we can supply three sent to annoy and signed by one having a very ragged walk all the time.

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