

The Centre Reporter.

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A NEW LINE OF FRAUD.

DR. SWALLOW'S EXPOSURE OF STATE JOBBERY.

The State Robbed of Thousands by Office Holders Whose Only Work is to Draw Their Salaries.

In its issue of May 27th, the *Pennsylvania Methodist*, whose editor is Dr. Swallow, the open accusation is made against state officials of the public jobbery and farming that is permitted with the public funds. The *Methodist* says: The first accusation against the State authorities found in the now famous editorial of the *Pennsylvania Methodist*, of February 25, and on which we offered to produce evidence, if an investigation was ordered that would really investigate read as follows:

"That persons have been paid money out of the State Treasury who rendered no service to the State therefor, and in some cases no pretence of service except as politicians serving their party."

On this charge Messrs. Delaney, Hastings & Co. did not sue us for libel, we presume because they knew that we could prove the statement true; or possibly because they are so accustomed to such misuse of the State funds as not to regard it a crime.

In most of the sixteen departments of the State government they make their annual requisitions for supplies, such as stationery, and many other things necessary or unnecessary, as the commissioners and the heads of departments are honest or dishonest.

These are published in the schedule and estimates invited. We have already shown that these schedules are so drawn under the present administration as to give the contracts not to the lowest bidder, but to the persons named in the schedule, with whom the authorities evidently have a private understanding, resulting in robbing the State of large sums of money.

In addition to this, large amounts have been drawn from the treasury or placed to the credit of each or most of the sixteen departments, and are known as the "Contingent Fund." Each department has its contingent fund to be used in paying for such supplies or service or anything else not thought of or unprovided for when the schedule was constructed.

Much of this money has been used in a fraudulent manner, and the following is one method. Scattered all over the State are small politicians who at some time have been promised a position by the larger politicians in payment for service rendered the latter in securing office and its perquisites. But, there are not enough positions to go round. These "rounders and heeleders" demand fulfillment of the promises made before or during some campaign for services rendered to the successful candidate.

The offices have all been given out and something must be done. It was to answer this demand that, at the beginning of this administration, many new offices were created with large salaries, among them the Superintendent of Public Buildings and Grounds, and under him several subordinate positions.

But these did not supply the demand. Something more must be done, and fictitious positions were created where fictitious service only was expected, the incumbent drawing a large salary for nominal service.

It was our purpose to publish the names of these treasury thieves and their residence, but on inquiry we find that many of them were led into this disreputable business by higher politicians, and have been "more sinned against than sinning." We can, however, furnish these names to any one curious to know if they will apply to the editor of the *Pennsylvania Methodist*. These men get from five to eight dollars a day, and many of them have no qualifications for the work to which they are said to be assigned.

One, for instance, living in Harrisburg, was hired as a transcribing or recording clerk, but was given little of this work to do, and could not write well enough to do it if much work had been provided. Towards the close of the session he traded with another fake employe and became one of six doorknockers, when they needed but two.

An employe of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, who works in the Harrisburg yards every day that he is able or willing to do so, is also janitor of some basement room at the capitol. He does not know his duties, as he has never been called upon to perform them. A colored man does the work for one dollar and twenty-five cents a day out of the six dollars a day paid to the fictitious employe.

How was it done? This way: When the Quay-Wannamaker fight for United States Senator was on, Quay offered everything in sight to mem-

bers of the Legislature for votes for Penrose. A member of the Legislature took everything in sight, and among other things this grab from the treasury for this railroad friend and possibly a share of it for himself.

An editor of a party paper in Northumberland county is one of the men who gets a fat salary without even a pretense of service. When the *Pennsylvania Methodist* began its exposure this editor expressed great fear lest his party be destroyed. In that event "in the sweat of his face he would be compelled to eat his bread."

A gentleman in this city did the work as paster and folder of two men, one from Wayne county and another from Schuylkill county. Each got \$6 a day. These men never pretended to be present, or to supervise the work. The two men paid Mr. Hoke \$15.50 a day. He wanted \$3.00. Their representative refused and pocketed the \$5.25 apiece of the people's money. \$10.50 a day for doing nothing. We understand that Mr. Hoke made his bargain with Mr. _____, and never met the man whose work he was supposed to be doing.

Auditor General Mylin gave a man living at _____ a place at \$8 or \$7 a day, with nothing worth naming to do—till the excitement about extravagance and fraud began. He has since been collecting statistics, and says there are about twenty-four other fellows ostensibly doing the same work at \$6 a day.

A negro in Columbia, Lancaster county, has an appointment that requires no attention save drawing the \$6 a day. He is valuable as a party worker among the colored people.

Men and boys have been appointed pages in the Legislature who never came near till the close of the term and then only to get their money.

We have simply given a few samples of the Delaney-Hastings administration.

As near as we can ascertain there have been first and last during the past two years over one hundred of these fake employes, and they have been paid out of the hard earnings of the people during the most trying financial and business period in the history of the State not less than \$60,000.

In one of the departments intoxicating liquor has been given to visiting politicians by the head of the department, as also by all his subordinates except perhaps two. It has been a daily occurrence, and the contingent fund pays the liquor bill.

Quay Reform Bills Passed by the House.

The three Quay reform bills, to prevent interference at primary elections, to prohibit assessments for political purposes and to prohibit the wholesale purchase of poll tax receipts, finally passed the House the other day, the bulk of the opposition coming from Philadelphia, who did not believe in such reforms. Representative Keator attempted to have inserted the word "separate" in the Poll Tax bill, which would require those who could not purchase their own poll tax receipts to give a "separate" written order, but his amendment was voted down. As the bill now is constructed a division worker may have one order on the poll tax collector with any number of names attached, and get a poll tax for each one.

Snow and Ice.

June 1 in a wide section of the country had snow and ice. Minnesota, Wisconsin and Illinois, and eastward through Ohio and Pennsylvania and into New State, the frost has worked incalculable damage. Vegetables and fruits are nipped and frozen. Snowed in a number of places.

Will Recover.

Harry Nevil, of Colyer, who was shot through the left lung at Yeagerstown, Mifflin county, about two weeks ago, through the careless handling of a revolver, is improving and will likely recover. At one time it was thought he could not recover.

Mountain Fires.

Nittany mountain is burning again down in Brush valley, and the mountains south of Spring Mills have a big blaze too. The fires are plainly seen from here at night.

Under Roof.

Perry Luse has his new dwelling at the station under roof, and he will soon have it ready for occupancy. He is pushing it at a lively rate.

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 25c.

ALL AROUND.

Local Notes of Interest from All Around the Town.

Jacob Smith, merchant at Colyer, is quite ill.

There was frost in some parts Tuesday night, but hear of no harm done.

The cool weather of the past ten days has checked the growth of all crops.

A new board walk has been laid in front and north side of Wolf & Crawford's store building.

Our esteemed townsman, Henry Emerick, sports a big black eye, from being kicked by a horse.

Home-grown radishes and onions have graced the tables hereabouts in the past ten days.

The stone crusher has finished chawing rocks for the town streets and did its work very satisfactorily.

Ex-sheriff Spangler is putting down a stone walk in front of his cozy residence on east Church street.

The roads are unpleasantly dusty, and a warm rain is wished for to relieve the dryness of the surface.

Taxpayers in the borough are beginning to complain of the growing indebtedness with prospects for still more ahead. Be easy, perhaps we can get in on charity funds.

Last Saturday afternoon and evening we had the coldest air in half dozen weeks and all were apprehensive lest a killing frost would result, but, fortunately, it moderated during the night and Jack Frost was kept off.

James Herdic put the value of the present water works to at least \$8500. Our two or three town experts who have forgotten more than Jim Herdic ever knew about water works, have valued the plant as being high at \$2500.

Registration assessor Hartman gives the assessed valuation of Millheim borough as \$158,000 and money on interest, \$61,000. He found 65 school children between the ages of 8 and 13 years, and 84 men between the ages of 18 and 45 years, subject to military enrollment.

Our genial Dr. Jacobs added a fine carp weighing about one pound, to Murray's aquarium. The Dr. has a pond in which he put a number of young carp three years ago, but had forgotten all about it until on Monday in draining the pond he found the fish had grown from 1½ inches to 12 inches in size.

The Pennsylvania railroad company issued orders on Monday for the machine shops at Altoona to work 50 hours a week, and the Juniata shops 45 hours. The new orders went into effect on Tuesday. The men have been working at about half this time, and will be greatly benefited by the increase in hours.

A Complete Publication.

On June 1 the Passenger Department of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company issued the 1897 edition of its Summer Excursion Route Book. This work is designed to provide the public with short descriptive notes of the principal summer resorts of Eastern America, with the routes for reaching them, and the rates of fare. There are over four hundred resorts in the book to which rates are quoted, and over fifteen hundred different routes or combinations of routes. It is compiled with the utmost care, and altogether is the most complete and comprehensive handbook of summer travel ever offered to the public.

Its 219 pages are enclosed in a handsome and striking cover, in colors. Several maps, presenting the exact routes over which tickets are sold, are bound in the book. It is also profusely illustrated with fine half-tone cuts of scenery along the lines of the Pennsylvania Railroad and elsewhere.

Any doubt as to where the summer should be passed will be dispelled after a careful examination of the contents of this publication.

On and after June 1 it may be procured at any Pennsylvania Railroad ticket office at the nominal price of ten cents, or, upon application to the general office, Broad Street Station, by mail for twenty cents. June 3-2t

"For three years we have never been without Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy in the house," says A. H. Patter, with E. C. Atkins & Co., Indianapolis, Ind., "and my wife would as soon think of being without flour as a bottle of this Remedy in the summer season. We have used it with all three of our children and it has never failed to cure—not simply stop pain, but cure absolutely. It is all right, and any one who tries it will find it so." For sale by J. H. Ross, Linden Hall, S. M. Swartz, Tusseyville, Wm. Pealer, Spring Mills, and R. E. Bartholomew, Centre Hall.

—Lewins, Bellefonte, can give you an up-to-date equipment of clothing for less money than any other store in the country. Try him and see.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

ANOTHER PROMISED SUGAR INVESTIGATION.

Another White-Washing Will Likely be the Result.—Heed Revising His Rollings as the Occasion Requires.

WASHINGTON, May 31st.—A real investigation of the sugar scandal—one that would go to the bottom of things and not get frightened off when on the track of information that would incriminate Senators—would be a good and desirable thing to have, but another fizzle like the last one would be worse than useless, because it would do more harm than good. The people recognize a job of white-washing as quickly when it is done by Senators as by humbler wielders of the brush. Senator Jones, of Nevada, who was inferentially charged by Senator Aldrich with having given out the sugar schedule before the tariff bill was reported to the Senate, is Chairman of the Committee on Contingent Expenses, to which Senator Tillman's resolution for a sugar investigation by a committee of five Senators was referred, and he says the committee will report the resolution favorably. That makes it reasonably certain that the resolution will be adopted, because a number of Senators who would like to vote against it will not dare to do so. It will all depend upon the formation of the investigating committee whether it will mean business or a farce. Senator Tillman will be Chairman of the Committee. If he be given four colleagues as fearless as himself, the guilty Senators, if there be any such, will be brought to book, and the sugar trust, the head of which got cleared on that other indictment will also be shown up; but if he be given colleagues who are afraid of their shadows, nothing will come of the investigation.

The Republican Steering Committee in the Senate is slowly but surely undoing the work of the sub-committee that prepared the amendment to the Dingley tariff bill, and by the time the bill gets through the Senate, the rate of duties imposed therein will average almost or quite as high as the Dingley bill. The tax on tea and the increased tax on beer are doomed, and we are likely to have an internal revenue tax on bank checks, mortgages, etc., in their places, unless the Republicans get frightened out of the idea by protests.

Mr. T. G. Peyton, a well-known Virginia gold Democrat, thus sizes up the present situation: "It seems to me now that those of us who contributed to the success of the Republican ticket have been the victims of a confidence game. As I view it now, a very great mistake was made last November. It would have been much better for the country to have elected Mr. Bryan. I have not become a convert to free silver since the election, my belief in sound money is as strong as ever, but I am satisfied if Bryan had been elected, the country would have recovered more quickly from the ills that have afflicted it."

Speaker Reed's readiness to reverse rulings made by him as Speaker and opinions given by him as an authority on parliamentary law would be amusing, if the matter was not of too serious a nature to be so regarded. Whatever standing as an authority on parliamentary rules and practice Mr. Reed had previous to the present session of Congress, has been lost by his decisions, which have made it plain that he recognizes nothing higher than his own will in making decisions. Heretofore many people who disagreed with Mr. Reed's parliamentary rulings in many particulars have been willing to give him credit for conscientious belief in them himself, but they are not now. After all, Mr. Reed is not solely to blame. A few of the Republican members of the House could at any time rebuke the methods pursued by Mr. Reed, by voting with the Democrats, but they have not done and are not likely to do so. On the contrary, if Mr. Reed should rule that the Chaplain's prayer was out of order and a Democrat appeal from the ruling, the Republicans would almost to a man vote to sustain the Speaker. With the Republicans in the House, it is not a question of which is right to do, but of what Reed wants them to do. Senator Morgan was doubtless out of order when he made that stirring attack upon Speaker Reed and the House on the floor of the Senate, but the attack was certainly deserved and Senator Morgan's assertion that the present methods of the House are not constitutional is receiving close attention, and may result in a change.

The selection of Whitelaw Reid and his brother-in-law, Ogden Mills, to be respectively Special Ambassador and Secretary to the Ambassador to represent the United States at the Queen's Jubilee ceremonies in London, is another indication of Mr. McKinley's

disposition to cater to the wealthy. Reid, thanks to his father-in-law's money and some never very clearly explained business manipulations, acquired a controlling interest in the paper established by Horace Greely, and later by political trickery got Levi P. Morton turned down by the Republican National Convention and himself substituted for Benjamin Harrison's running mate in his last campaign. These may be reasons why he should be especially honored, but why Mr. Mills who has never been anything but an idle society man should be honored is inexplicable on any other ground than that of money-worship on the part of Mr. McKinley.

The Earthquake Felt Here—Eleven States Shaken.

The earthquake on last Monday afternoon was perceptibly felt in Centre Hall. The writer remembers feeling the tremor which aroused in him the thought that it might be an earthquake, which was confirmed afterwards by press dispatches. Mrs. Frank Arney up by the mountain distinctly felt the racket in her house at the precise time it was felt in other parts, but she did not have any idea what caused it. No doubt others felt the shock.

Reports from other parts: The worst earthquake since the fatal September, 1888, when Charleston, S. C., was partly demolished, seized upon eleven States Monday afternoon. In some places it was recorded as early as 1:30 and in others as late as 2 o'clock. One particularly astonishing feature is that in several instances there was a difference of about 20 minutes in time between the shocks felt at cities in the same State. People were driven from their houses in terror, but no particular damage was done. The States that felt the quakings were Pennsylvania (Western part), Ohio, Maryland, Kentucky, Indiana, Tennessee, West Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Alabama. A duration of five minutes is reported at Washington, D. C.

In Centre Hall the shock was felt at 2 o'clock.

Discovery Concerning Winds.

From Washington comes the important news that as a result of experiments with kites made by Chief Moore, of the Weather Bureau, the fact has been revealed that shifting of the wind occurs at a mile level above the earth's surface from twelve to sixteen hours before the same changes take place in the lower atmosphere, so that it will shortly be possible to make forecasts of the weather at least sixteen hours further ahead than can now be done. This discovery is not startling; for meteorologists have for years held the opinion that the conditions for accurate forecasts must be sought in the upper atmosphere. Nevertheless, the revelation marks an advance of the highest importance in the science of meteorology; and even though its promise may fall short of full realization in daily practice, it seems destined to prove of great value to mankind.

Growth of the Lutheran Church.

The growth of the Lutheran church in the United States is something phenomenal. In 1820 there were only 35,000 Lutheran communicants in the country, being one communicant to each 275 of population. In 1830, 55,000, or one to 234 population; 1840, 220,000, or one to 141 population; 1850, 144,000, or one to 162 population; 1860, 225,000, or one to 132 population; 1870, 338,000, or one to 100 population; 1880, 693,000, or one to 72 population; 1890, 1,100,000, or one to 55 population. This places the church numerically fourth in the rank of Protestant denominations in the United States.

The Johnstown Flood.

The eighth anniversary of the Johnstown flood was appropriately observed on Monday when thousands of people, many of them having lost relatives and near friends in the most appalling disaster of recent times, visited the beautiful cemetery of Grandview. The unknown plot that contains the unidentified bodies of over 800 victims of the disaster was literally covered with flowers, contributed mostly by persons who lost dear ones in the flood and whose bodies were never recovered.

Marriage Licenses.

The following marriage licenses were issued during the past week: Elwood Fisher, of Union twp., and Mary C. Zimmerman, of Bellefonte. Charles K. Hoffman, of Philadelphia, Pa., and Bertha May Holmes, of Walker, Pa. Geo. B. Howe and Mary Adams, of Phillipsburg. Geo. Justice, of Benner twp., and Maggie Miller, of Spring twp. Rev. Daniel J. Wolf, of Ruffalo, Westmoreland county, Pa., and Jessie M. Durst, of Potters Mills.

Died Suddenly.

Mrs. Sheets died very suddenly at her home at Fiedler, one day last week, from heart trouble. The funeral was held Sunday morning.

HYDRAULIC NOTES.

Water and Rumors of Water—Notes of Reports as They Reach our Scribes.

It is reported that work on the new water plant will begin about next Monday, making lots of work for men which, however, is not to be credited to "the advance agent of prosperity," as we have two or three sprouts of that rare plant right in town.

It was reported that work was to begin on the new water works last Monday, but it appears it was unfounded, as the matter was not in readiness for the digging.

Rumor brings it a \$60 borough order for attorney fees is drawn. No blame to the attorney.

A surveyor from Mifflin county is said to have been here Saturday last to map out a plan for the "new water works." If true the borough is in for another item of expense on a piece of nonsense; it's queer when we think that the old company laid down a first class plant without a cent for surveyors. But the property owners pay for it and the nons go free under the "new company."

A citizen asks an answer, for the information of others, to the question, "If our borough builds water works would such citizens as do not use that water have to pay boro' water tax." No—there is no such absurd law; gas, electric light and water, all come under the same law, and when a citizen does not use the gas or electric light in his premises the town does not charge him and water comes under the same law founded on reason.

Mr. Herdic, a son of the noted Peter Herdic, dec'd, of Williamsport, was here on Monday in conference with our esteemed councilmen, to make estimates and contract for the proposed water works. Mr. Herdic was kindly shown around town by one or the other of our honored boro' fathers and over the new water route, and finally up an high mountain and shown the excellencies of the blasted old water company's plant. Luk. 4:5, 6, 7.

Mr. Herdic, who is an experienced constructor of water works, left town inwardly disgusted in finding that he did not know one tenth as much about water as two or three of our secretly trained youths who have already been a success in running—the property holders hopelessly in debt.

It will be remembered that about a dozen years ago our sister town of Selingsgrove also went into the water works business through the unwise action of its town council; bonds were issued, the property of citizens mortgaged, years of litigation followed, and an enormous bill of costs fell upon the taxpayers which almost ruined the property owners of Selingsgrove. Peter Herdic, a well-known contractor of Williamsport, was given the contract by the Selingsgrove council. Take your first lesson from nearby Selingsgrove.

Meadville's council proceeded to erect water works in opposition to an old existing company. The Supreme Court by a unanimous decision decided against the council and now that town has five thousand dollars costs to pay besides big attorney fees. Verily, dear experience.

Another Water Suit Decided.

Judge Wilson, of Beaver, on last Tuesday handed down his opinion in the injunction case against Beaver Falls to restrain the borough from entering into a contract with the People's Water company. The judge finds that the Union Water company has been furnishing water to the borough, and that the borough has no right to enter into a contract with the People's company.

Mr. Isaac Horner, proprietor of the Burton House, Burton, W. Va., and one of the most widely known men in the state was cured of rheumatism after three years of suffering. He says: "I have not sufficient command of language to convey any idea of what I suffered, my physician told me that nothing could be done for me and my friends were fully convinced that nothing but death would relieve me of the suffering. In June, 1894, Mr. Evans, then salesman for the Wheeling Drug Co., recommended Chamberlain's Pain Balm. At this time my foot and limb were swollen to more than double their normal size and it seemed to me my leg would burst, but soon after I began using the Pain Balm the swelling began to decrease, the pain to leave, and now I consider that I am entirely cured. For sale by J. H. Ross, Linden Hall; S. M. Swartz, Tusseyville; Wm. Pealer, Spring Mills, and R. E. Bartholomew, Centre Hall.

—Ira C. Korman, of Oak Hall, sells the Osborne Columbia binder, Mower, and Reaper, and can furnish repairs for same; he can also furnish sections, guard and knives for any kind of binder and mower. Send him your orders for anything needed and they will be promptly filled.