



WASHINGTON LETTER.

A GOLD STANDARD BILL PUSHED THROUGH CONGRESS.

The Republicans Wearing Gags and Submitting to Everything Forced Down their Throats.—Schley's Friends Alert.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 11.—Mr. McKinley's hired men, otherwise known as the Republican majority of the House, are obeying orders like trained animals. They began today the actual work of railroad through the House, in a single week, the gold standard bill that Mr. McKinley had prepared last summer. The vote is to be taken a week from today, and, of course, the bill will be passed, as it will be sure to get all the Republican votes, and it is being claimed that eight Democrats from New York, and possibly others from the eastern states will also vote for it. The Republicans are so fond of wearing their gags that they have offered to give some of the time allotted to them for debate on the bill to the Democrats.

The Navy Department has got Schley out of the way, but his friends in Congress are on the alert in his behalf, as was seen when a proposition, which originated with Mr. McKinley was submitted to them. The proposition was that Congress pass a bill reviving the grade of Vice Admiral in the Navy, and that Mr. McKinley would at once nominate both Schley and Sampson to that grade. This sounded well, but Schley's friends have so far declined to accept it, unless Mr. McKinley would promise that Schley's nomination should be made first, so that he would continue to rank Sampson. Representative Berry, of Ky., who is one of Schley's staunchest friends says he intends to push his resolution offering the thanks of Congress to Schley and the men under him for destroying Cervera's fleet, but if an agreement is reached about the Vice Admiral business, that will probably end the whole matter.

Representative Lentz, of Ohio, has offered a resolution asking for an investigation, by a special committee of the House, of the charges growing out of the interference of U. S. troops in mining troubles in Idaho, in defiance of and contrary to the Federal constitution, at the individual request of the Governor, when no riot or insurrection existed, and without consulting the legislature or the local sheriff.

If present indications may be depended upon, the position of those Democrats who voted against the dangerous method of refusing to allow a man with proper credentials, to be sworn in as a member of the House, is likely to be vindicated by the final disposition of the Roberts case. Members of the Roberts committee may, of course, change their minds before their report is made to the House, but it looks now as though their report would recommend that Roberts be sworn in and then be expelled, because of his being a polygamist. Members are beginning to realize that the precedent of not allowing a man with regular credentials to be sworn in, is too dangerous a one to be set up. If one man can properly be denied, one hundred men might be treated in the same way by an unscrupulous majority. It isn't the Roberts case, but the principle at stake that makes the action of the House important.

That Mr. Quay isn't as certain of getting that seat in the Senate, as his friends would like everybody to believe is shown by the presence in Washington, working in Quay's interest, of ex-Senator Don Cameron. Mr. Quay will also be in Washington this week. An adverse report is expected from the Committee on elections, which is one of the few committees not included in the Republican grab of increasing their representation, but the real fight will be on the floor of the Senate. The chances still seem to favor Quay, although several of the Senators who had been counted upon as certain to vote to seat him, are said to be in doubt as to how they would vote. It is on the personal friendship of those Senators that Cameron and Quay are now working.

Senator Mason's speech in favor of his resolution of sympathy for the Transvaal Republic, now engaged in a war for liberty with Great Britain, contains some hard knocks for prominent Republicans, including the President. Mason may not rank high as a statesman, but his tongue has a sting on the end of it when he wishes it to have, quite as nagging if not so polished, as that wielded by Logans, and other sting-slingers who have been in the Senate.

Boss Hanna appears to have emerged from his wrestle with the rheumatism and his check book, which is credited with such a prominent part in the Ohio campaign, as cross as a crippled bear. He was hobbling out of the White House, where he had

been holding a conference with Mr. McKinley and Mr. Henry C. Payne, of Wisconsin, who has been mentioned as Hanna's successor at the head of the Republican National Committee, when he was asked if it were true that he intended to retire from the Chairmanship of the Committee. He glared angrily at the newspaper man who asked the question, before answering, and then snapped out as he turned away: "No one is authorized to say what I will do."

Must Mutilate Stamps.

The Commissioner of Internal Revenue has issued a circular amending regulation fees to cancellation of documentary and proprietary stamps, providing that "in all cases where documentary stamps of the denomination of 10 cents or any larger denomination shall be used for denoting any tax imposed by the act of June 13, 1898, the person using or affixing the same shall in addition to writing or stamping thereon, with ink, the initials of his name and the date when affixed, mutilate said stamp by cutting three parallel incisions lengthwise through the stamp, beginning not more than one-fourth of an inch from one end thereof and extending to within one-fourth of an inch of the other end.

"Where such stamp is cancelled by cutting or perforating in any manner authorized by existing regulations, as aforesaid, the mutilation herein provided will not be required."

This provision shall take effect and be in force on and after Dec. 15.

Poisoned the Horse.

A horse belonging to John Brungart, of Rebersburg, was taken from the stable on Saturday of last week. The horse was one of the best in Mr. Brungart's stable, and he at once instituted a search, with constable Winters, of Rebersburg, with a warrant for the arrest of the thief. He was captured in a short time and proved to be a 10-year old boy of Daniel Stamm, of Millheim, who was killed several weeks ago on a lumber job in Clinton county. On account of the boy's tender age, the case against him will not be pushed.

No Christmas Entertainment.

Christmas is just about ten days off, and the holiday of the world will pass in Centre Hall without any special entertainment or services by any of the churches, unless one should yet be billed. For years past one or several of the congregations always provided an interesting service appropriate to the occasion, but this year will go by default.

Horseshoe Sauce.

For horseshoe sauce: One cup of grated horse radish, two tea-spoonfuls of sugar, half a cup of cream, half a teaspoonful of salt. Mix thoroughly, then add vinegar to taste, and you will conclude that never before had you any idea of what horse radish might mean.

High Winds.

Old Boreas took a turn at the weather a couple days this week, and gave us a March sample some months ahead of time. The blower was opened wide and the wind blew a gale on Monday night and also all day yesterday. A little damage was done around the country to the fences, but the loss was comparatively light.

Season Over.

Tomorrow, Friday, December 15th, is the close of the legal season in Pennsylvania, for hunting and killing black, gray or fox squirrel, pheasants, rabbits, quail or partridge, wild turkey, and woodcock. Fifteen days time is allowed after expiration of season to dispose of game.

Plenty of Offers.

One of the recent arrivals in Centre Hall who moved here with his family, was supposed to be in the market to buy a home. From the number of houses offered him, this citizen made the statement that fully one-half the properties in the town were for sale.

Awake at Last.

Nellie Wolfe, a dining room girl at the Gamble house, Jersey Shore, who had been in a cataleptic slumber from Sunday night, December 3, until last Saturday evening, awoke then and is now as wide awake as anybody.

Death of a Physician.

Dr. James A. Hatch, a prominent citizen of Phillipsburg, died at his home in that place last Friday morning. He was a veteran of the civil war and was 56 years of age. He leaves a wife and two sons.

A Game Commissioner.

Governor Stone has reappointed C. K. Sober game commissioner. Mr. Sober was appointed for the three year term by Governor Hastings, and he is the proper person for the position.

LATE NEWS NOTES.

The people of Ireland are expressing sympathy for the Boers.

The 40 employees of the Bellefonte Lime Company at its Salona plant went on a strike Monday for an increase of wages.

Quay is short four votes, which is quite a come-down from the boasted pinnacle of getting his old seat with many votes to spare.

The Philippine insurrection is reported ended and changed into a guerrilla war. Aguinaldo is still being closely pursued in his flight.

Upon investigation the officials of Chester county have been found guilty of taking illegal fees, and a surcharge has been made all around, down to jury commissioners.

Upon Bryan's request the Governor of Nebraska has appointed ex-senator Allen to the vacancy caused by the death, ten days ago, of the recently elected senator Hayward.

The anti-Quayites of the state have issued a strong plea for honest elections, and for the wiping out of bossism. Senator Magee has taken a hand in the fight, and the best Republicans in the state have signed the document.

The investigation of ballot frauds in Philadelphia is going on, and astounding stuff has been brought to light. As many as two and three hundred fraudulent ballots have been found in a single box.

In the Boer war the British have lost 4000 men killed, wounded and missing. Of these 1300 are prisoners. It is impossible to estimate the Boer losses with any accuracy, as they are so carefully concealed. There are 330 prisoners at Cape Town, 250 on the British ship Pelelope and possibly 100 elsewhere.

BOERS WIN ANOTHER BATTLE.

Methuen's army of British met a crushing defeat on Tuesday. General Cronje trapped the advancing British army. The Highland Brigade was lured forward by the silence of the enemy's guns, and surprised by a hail of lead.

The defeated General reports that whole corps of the victorious army of Boers were wiped out by his shells.

The British loss was very heavy, and General Wauchope, the hero of Sudan, was killed.

The Boer loss is also reported as terrible. The engagement was on the Modder river.

The British marched in a column of fours, close order, not suspecting the enemy.

The Lafayette Dollar.

Preparations are being made at the United States Mint, Philadelphia, for the coining of the Lafayette dollar, the unique specie authorized by Congress in aid of the fund for the erection of the Lafayette monument in Paris. Fifty thousand of the coins will be struck. The first will be presented by the President of the United States to the President of France. The rest of the coins will be sold for \$2 a piece.

The coin is a legal tender dollar and bears upon its face a double medallion of the heads of Washington and Lafayette, and on the reverse a miniature reproduction of the equestrian statue of Lafayette, with the inscription, "In commemoration of monument erected by school youths of United States to General Lafayette, Paris, France, 1900."

How to Preserve the Wheel.

Winter approaches and thousands of cyclists will be laying aside their wheels until spring. Unless they wish them to deteriorate very seriously, there are certain precautions which should be adopted. First of all the machine should be coated with vaseline, especially around the bearings and nickel parts. The machine should be kept in a dark place and not too warm, as both light and heat are injuries to the tires. The tires should also be kept in inflated. If the machine can be hung up or turned wheels upwards, it will be all the better.

Marriage Licenses.

The following marriage licenses were issued during the past week: Charles W. Burd, Aaronsburg, and Margaret C. Baker, of Lock Haven. Alfred Lucas, Axemann, and Grace Folger, Walker township. James Justice and Bessie E. Shaffer, both of Benner township. James W. Lucas, Howard, and Lillie Sharp, Curtin.

Not Known.

Frank Casey who succeeded in passing a check for \$6.50 that he had raised to \$200, in Lock Haven last week, is not a resident of Coburn, as his statement would make him, says the Clinton Republican.

Died of Scarlet Fever.

An only child of Mr. Sowers, aged about three years, of Pleasant Gap, died of scarlet fever, yesterday morning.

TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS.

HAPPENINGS OF LOCAL INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS.

Farmers Have Settled Down to Lock Haven to Discuss Matters.—Cut in School Appropriation Denounced.

The twenty-seventh annual session of the Pennsylvania State Grange opened in the court house at Lock Haven on Tuesday with over 400 delegates present. The following appointments were announced:

Chaplain, A. C. Barrett, of Susquehanna county; assistant stewards, C. H. Kerner, of Elk county, and Mrs. F. Lear, of Lackawanna county; pomona Mrs. Louis Piolet, of Bradford county.

Committee on Credentials—J. B. Steinbach, of Huntingdon county; F. E. Lear, of Lackawanna county; Mrs. Ida Shuler, of Lycoming county, and Miss Louise Wilkey, of Fayette county.

Division of Labor—G. D. Humes, of Crawford county; A. J. Ayer, of Bradford county; Mrs. A. T. George, of Armstrong county.

Publication—G. L. Ebbo, of Centre county, and John Patton, of Huntingdon county.

The address of Worthy Master W. F. Hill, the youngest man who ever filled that position, was delivered at the afternoon session. He extended congratulations to the agricultural people on the good results obtained by their thorough and co-operative organization. The problem of trusts, he said, must be intelligently and effectively treated. He regretted the cutting down of the school appropriations as it detracted from ground gained for tax equality to the extent of \$1,000,000. The success of the experiment of free delivery of rural mail, he said, has proved that the mass of the people will soon demand its general use. He insisted that all people of the state should contribute towards the construction of good roads. In closing, he recommended that in order to decrease the expenses and to derive greater benefits the representation to the State Grange be had through Pomona Granges on a numerical basis.

Physicians a few days ago removed two tumors from the wife of Henry Zerby, of Haines, and the lady is bearing up well.

Theodore Hosterman lost his pocket book near Sober, but finding it afterwards, \$66 in money were not in it anymore, but a draft for \$500 was.

George B. Stover and wife, of Haines twp., are on the sick list.

Mrs. Alfred Hosterman last week had a light stroke of apoplexy.

Two-thirds of the strikers of the Bellefonte Lime Company went back to work yesterday at the old wages, and new men were put on for those who remained out.

Miss Sallie R. Meek was yesterday elected assistant principal of the Bellefonte High School, vice Boyd A. Musser, resigned. A good choice.

A Woman Has a Fight with a Buck.

Mrs. Ezra Shoupe of near Saltito, Huntingdon county, had an exciting encounter with a large five pronged buck last week. The deer was feeding in a grain field on their farm. She shot the deer in the shoulder, which enraged the animal and it started for the woman, knocking her down before she could reach a place of safety. The deer was handicapped with the broken fore leg, but it gave the woman several painful thrusts with its prongs. She had a knife and when the buck stumbled and fell she succeeded in cutting its throat, and the deer was killed. It dressed 150 pounds. Mrs. Shoupe's clothing was nearly all torn from her body in the encounter.

Protest Charles C. Harrison, of the University of Pennsylvania, says: "A graphic, and I think, convincing method of ascertaining when the twentieth century begins, is to construct a diagram of 100 vertical columns, and cross them horizontally by twenty-one lines. Then simply enter each year, or as many as are needed for illustration, in the successive rectangles so formed. Thus you will find that the twentieth century evidently begins January 1, 1901. I cannot see how this position can be controverted under the definition that a century consists of 100 full years."

President Eliot, of Harvard University, declares that the twentieth century begins with January 1, 1901. It is a question in chronology, not in astronomy, he says, and must be answered by a reference to the system of reckoning which has been adopted by chronologists. This system makes the birth of Christ a dividing point from which the years are counted backward and forward. The year immediately preceding the dividing point is called the first year before Christ, the year immediately following is called the first year after Christ.

Railway Employees in Pennsylvania.

The annual report of the state bureau of railways, the advance sheets of which have just been issued, shows that during the fiscal year ended June 30 last there were 295,629 persons employed by the steam railways operating in Pennsylvania, an increase of 245,057 over 1898. The total number of cars in service was 474,492 and the motive power was furnished by 10,298 locomotives. The total number of passengers carried during the year was 161,444,854. The total number of miles run during the year by passenger, freight and mixed cars was 226,495,504.

Death Near Pine Grove.

Mrs. Annie, wife of Newton Neidig, of Pinegrove, died a few days ago, after a short confinement of childbirth. She leaves a husband and five small children, the oldest being 12 years. Her age was 36 years.

Died in the Woods.

David Winslow, who formerly lived at Eagleville, was found dead in the woods near Johnsonburg. He was subject to epileptic fits.

All first class at Sechlers, and that is ever admitted by all. Call and see.

Interesting Clippings.

There was more fighting along the Modder river. The fighting is reported having been heavy.

Chinese brigands attacked the Belgian mission near Mukden. The band was caught and 300 beheaded.

Taylor has been sworn in as governor of Kentucky, whereupon Goebel has served notice of contest before the legislature, which has power to go behind the returns to unearthen frauds.

The Columbia county newspapers say that some of the farmers over there bring their butter to market adulterated with lard. These may be some of the ones that howl about oleomargarine.

Another 88 foot tumble was that of Daniel Bowers from a high stack at Flocks' Brewery, turning a complete somersault and alighted upon his feet. As he neared the ground he grabbed a rope and succeeded in breaking the force of the fall. No bones broken.

The supreme court has decided that the shade trees in front of a man's residence belong to him although they be located on public property. The case in which the decision was rendered was one in which the property owner sued a telephone company for cutting off the limbs of the trees.

The special expert sent abroad by the Agricultural Department in search of new seeds and edible plants has brought back an "everbearing strawberry." It is said to produce fruit for months on the same plants, and a small patch will supply a family table a whole season.

John H. Alleman was the trusted cashier of the First national bank of Hanover. When he died suddenly about a year ago, it was found that he was a defaulter to the bank for about \$50,000. Now comes the charge that he never did die and that a dummy was buried in his stead. The comment of a York paper is that while there are many cashiers in jail there are many more that ought to be there.

Around the County.

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LOCAL ITEMS.

Clippings of More than Ordinary Interest from Everywhere.

Hero's Good Luck.

The touch of a hand, the glance of an eye, Or a word exchanged with a passer by; A glimpse of a face in a crowded street And afterward life is incomplete; A picture painted with honest zeal And we lose the old for the new ideal; A chance remark or a song's refrain, And life is never the same again.

A friendly smile, and love's embering spark Leaps into flame and illumines the dark; A whispered "Be brave" to our fellow men And they pick up the thread of hope again.

Thus never an act or a word or thought But that with unguessed importance is fraught, For small things build up eternity And blazon the ways for destiny.

Old 1899 has one foot in the grave. Abbreviation of year 1900 will be '00.

Eli P. Tate, of Fillmore, was granted a pension, \$12.

Jasp Brungart, of Rebersburg, is on the sick list.

Abram S. Valentine, Bellefonte, was granted a pension, \$10.

Smith's store at the station unfurls its banner in another column.

The new post-office for Georges valley has been named Beech.

Mrs. A. Hettinger has returned to Spring Mills after a year at Altoona.

Sup't Giamley pays a high tribute to the excellency of our town schools.

Monday night's heavy rains caused a rise in the streams, and supplied the cisterns.

Indications for snow this morning. There may be sleighing at Christmas yet, you bet.

Thanks to Secretary of Agriculture for a handsomely bound copy of Agr. Report, '98, part I.

Aaronsburg's Lutheran and Reformed Sabbath schools will have Christmas entertainments.

United Ev. church of Rebersburg, will have a Christmas entertainment on Christmas evening.

Make at least one little one happy on Christmas by some gift, and don't forget the poor ones at all.

Thanks to the sportsman who had good luck for a pair of plump pheasants for the editor's table.

Jacob Bingham shot a black bear in the Brush valley narrows, that weighed over 400 pounds.

Persons seeking a nice town for a business location, come and see Centre Hall with its conveniences and advantages.

Rev. Reaick's appointments, Sunday, Dec. 17: Centre Hall, 7 p. m.; St. Johns Church, 2 p. m.; Georges Valley 10 a. m.

A nice little Christmas gift arrived at Tite Gramley's, Spring Mills, the other day. Now step softly and don't wake the baby.

The house of John Kunes at Eagleville was destroyed by fire Sunday night, together with most of the household goods.

The wife of W. H. Peters, of Buffalo township, Perry county, gave birth to her twentieth child recently, ten of whom are living.

One day last week while in Lewis-town John L. Ferguson, of Yeager-town, lost his pocket book containing \$600 in money and a note for \$335.

The exchanges are telling us that winter will begin at twelve minutes before eight o'clock on the 21st inst. We would like to know what they call the weather we are now having?

A man is able to be on his feet a whole day when he is attending a political meeting or a public auction. But he is not able to be on his feet while the parson offers a prayer.

Dr. Humphrey's Specific Manual.—A book of 100 pages on the treatment and cure of all diseases mailed free on application. Address the Humphreys' Medicine Comp., box 1510, New York.

Mill Hall has another enterprize in prospect in addition to the half dozen already existing and which have put big life into it. Mill Hall don't have fellows there who seek to ruin men of public spirit.

Union county agricultural meetings will be held Buffalo Roads, Dec. 28-29, and at Swengel, Dec. 30. State speakers will be Col. Jno. A. Woodward, Enoch H. Hess, esq., and A. J. Kahler, esq.

The December Magazine Number of "The Outlook," dated December 23, is the Eleventh Annual Book Number, filled largely with illustrated special articles on new and recent books and on interesting literary topics. The scores of advertising pages in themselves furnish an extremely valuable and remarkably complete guide to holiday books, \$5 a year. The Outlook Comp., New York.

Aged People.

Following are the names of the nine oldest citizens living in Loganton: John Berry 75, George Breon 74, Elias Zellars 75, Dan. K. Heckman 77, Levi Conser 80, G. N. Kleckner 81, Charles Parker 82, and Daniel Kerstetter 88.