



## WASHINGTON LETTER.

### GOLD STANDARD BILL PASSES THE HOUSE.

The Bill now in the Senate.—Some Republicans Do not Care to See the Bill Passed. A Couple Democrats Give Support.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 18.—Mr. McKinley, the man who once blackguarded Mr. Cleveland for worshipping the golden calf and being the enemy of silver, completed the job of jamming the gold standard bill through the House today. The program was carried out according to the advance announcement, in every particular, except that there were fewer Democratic votes for the bill than had been claimed by the Republicans. The bill has now gone to the Senate, where Mr. McKinley can do no jamming, and where this particular bill will be allowed to slumber in Committee. But the Finance Committee will report as a substitute, a gold standard Bill that is even more objectionable than the House bill. It is whispered in inside Republican circles that the party leaders would not be sorry if this session of Congress adjourn without final action on gold standard legislation, because it would be easier to raise a big campaign fund from the money kings, if the matter is left hanging, by promising to complete the job at next winter's session, than it will be if the bill goes on the statute book before the Presidential campaign.

Congress will adjourn on Wednesday until January 3. The Senate Committees have been re-arranged, under the Republican garb, and three new committees—on Pacific Islands and Porto Rico, on the Philippines, and on Cuba,—have been formed, and Mr. Henderson will announce the House Committees before adjournment.

The Roberts committee will this week hear witnesses that have been summoned from Utah and will then decide whether it be necessary for the Committee to go to Utah to take further testimony. It is now certain that the Committee will not make its report until after the reassembling of Congress, in January.

There was lots of behind the door political work done by the Committee which succeeded in getting Philadelphia chosen by the Republican National Committee, for next year's national Convention—June 19th. Before the Committee met, it seemed practically certain that Chicago would be chosen, and so it would have been had not the Philadelphians made a combination by which the southern members of the committee were promised help to knock out the scheme to reduce the representation of the south in the National Convention, in return for votes for Philadelphia. The combination won at both ends. Philadelphia got the convention by one vote, and Committeeman Payne abandoned the scheme to cut down the number of "nigger" delegates to the Convention, because of opposition to it.

Representative Sims, of Tenn., who is just beginning his second term in Congress, fired a number of questions at the Republican speakers, during the debate on the gold standard bill, in his efforts to gain information as to what the individual Republicans believed would be the result of the operation of the bill, if it became a law, and their reasons for supporting the bill. As a result of those questions and the answers, Mr. Sims expresses the opinion that very few Republicans voted for the bill, because they really favored it as a whole. He thinks they voted for it, simply because it was a party measure, and that the party unanimity should be a lesson to the Democrats to stand together upon all matters relating to party precepts.

The attempt of Nebraska Republicans to prevent the seating of Senator Allen, appointed by the Governor to succeed the late Senator-elect Hayward, on the ground that as Mr. Hayward never qualified as Senator, his death caused no vacancy that could be legally filled by the Governor, aroused nothing but amusement in Washington. There will be no opposition to the seating of Senator Allen, because there is nothing whatever upon which it could be based. The gold standard Republicans would like very much to find some way to keep such a stalwart friend of silver out of the Senate, until the long financial debate, which will begin as soon after the Christmas recess as the Finance Committee reports its gold standard bill, is over, but they know too much to butt their heads against brick walls. It is unnecessary to say that Senator Allen will be most cordially welcomed by the silver Senators who know his fine fighting qualities from experience.

The Senate Committee on Elections is considering the Quay case, which is being presented by able counsel on

both sides, ex-Senator Edmunds, heading the array against Quay, and the Attorney General of Pennsylvania appearing for him. Senator Penrose didn't appear as counsel, and when he attempted to participate in the proceedings by asking one of the lawyers if he was not employed and paid by John Wanamaker, he was promptly called down by Senator Pettus, one of the Democratic members of the Committee, who said that the privilege of rudely interrupting counsel was one that should not be extended outside the committee, even to a member of the Senate.

### ENGLAND'S BAD LUCK.

British pride has been humbled over its bad luck in the war with the Boers, and the Queen and her subjects have put on sackcloth and ashes as a lament over sore and unexpected defeats in South Africa, and the killing and crippling of a large percentage of the flower of Britain's army in conflict with the Boers. The queen is deeply affected and it is given out she may be driven to insanity.

England will arise in her might to wipe out this humiliation, London dispatches announcing a colossal army is to go from her shores to crush out the Boers, in one great campaign, under her ablest leaders. The last of the Reserves have been ordered out and the yeomanry has been drawn upon to obtain an overwhelming force. An army of 200,000 men is to be hurled against the Boers as soon as it can be landed where the conflict rages, and to accomplish what it was expected the force of 20,000 to 30,000 men would accomplish. The expense of this war, in life and treasure, will be enormous for England and she must meet it. Her ultimate triumph is not questioned; it is as a conflict between fifty to five.

Will she compensate herself by conquering the Boer country, so rich in diamonds, gold, copper and the other minerals, and holding that country as her own by right of conquest? We are inclined to believe she will. Her foe is not strong in numbers, but of unsurpassed bravery, skilled in war, cunning in setting traps, and occupying territory that largely favors them in their plans of warfare and goes far to make their small armies strong in a conflict against overwhelming numbers.

### Three Children in One Coffin.

The family of Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Cummings, of Castana, Clinton county, suffered the loss by death of four members within a period of a week. Charles, a twin son died on Friday last, on Sunday Lavina, a twin daughter died, and on Monday Lillian, a thirteen-month-old daughter died. The three children were interred in one coffin. A week later on Saturday a six year old daughter died, making four children within a week from the one family.

### WAR NOTES.

As a result of the British reverses the whole country northward is in rebellion. The natives there, as well as those in Basutoland, are said to be much disturbed and losing heart respecting the strength of the British.

The British have changed generals, Roberts, said to be their ablest, succeeds the defeated Buller.

England is aroused. An army of 200,000 men is to be sent against the Boers as soon as possible.

The besieged cities, Kimberley and Ladysmith, are to be left to their fate for the present.

### Will Capitulat Jan 1st.

The Centre Democrat says, Sheriff Cronister is making preparations already for his flitting from his home on the hill to his farm near Port Matilda. The moving will take place on Monday, January 1st, and there will be a lot of his neighbors on hand to assist. Sheriff Brungart and family will come up from Millheim the same day to occupy the stone bastille.

### Shortest in the Year.

Tomorrow, Friday, is the shortest day in the year. An old adage runs: "As the days grow longer the cold grows stronger," so we may look for cold weather later on. The weather so far has been mild, but there are two months ahead of us in which a shrinking mercury can be expected.

My son has been troubled for years, with chronic diarrhoea. Some time ago I persuaded him to take some of Chamberlain's Colic, Cholera and Diarrhoea Remedy. After using two bottles of the 25-cent size he was cured. I give this testimonial, hoping some one similarly afflicted may read it and be benefited.—Thomas C. Bower Glencoe, O. For sale by J. H. Ross, Linden Hall; S. M. Swartz, Tusseyville; F. A. Carson, Potters Mills; H. F. Rossman, Spring Mills; J. F. Smith Centre Hall.

Try the Reporter for all job printing.

### Views of the Grangers.

The State Grange which met at Lock Haven last week, on the subject of Stone's cutting the school appropriation, says in its resolutions:

"This reduction in the school appropriation means an increase in taxes on our farms and other real estate. Instead of getting taxes reduced they are increased."

Mr. Creasy, in his remarks, said: "We believe the time has come for farmers and other real estate owners to assert their rights and formulate a tax bill similar to the laws in operation in other States, so that the burdens of government shall be justly and equitably distributed among all and all protected thereby."

The committee on road legislation reported in favor of a law that shall either provide for equal taxation on all forms of property, except that exempted by constitution, for road purposes, or that it shall contain prerequisite aid by the State similar to the school appropriation.

As to Trusts a resolution was passed demanding that congress shall enact such legislation as will compel such combinations to occupy their true position as creatures and servants of the public by enforcing publicity of their methods and accounts, preventing over-capitalization in its various forms and forbidding discrimination in charges, etc.

A resolution favors the establishment of township high schools and higher wages for teachers.

A resolution favors the enactment of a law making game the property of the owner of the land on which it is found, and making it unlawful for any person to hunt game without the owner's permission.

A resolution favors the election of United States Senators by the direct vote of the people.

Lock Haven was again fixed on for next year's meeting.

### The Boers Got Ready Long Ago.

The letter of the Boer General Joubert to a friend in Europe, written a week after the breaking out of the South African war, shows the high strategy the Boers played on the British military and civil authorities. The Boers, confident that war was certain by Great Britain carrying out her designs of subjugation, commenced making preparations years ago. They supplied themselves with the material of war up to the latest date, in its destructive qualities. Arms and munitions shipped to the Transvaal in great quantities, and secretly stored. British spies were sent into the country, found their way to Pretoria and were shown masses of old and ineffective material, as the limit of the Transvaal preparations for the war. They reported it would be a safe enterprise to invade and subdue the Boer country. And the war came about as Chamberlain planned it. The Boers unmasked their timely and sagacious preparations, with results the British have found out in five or six battles, a defeated invasion, and a casualty roll that now counts up to well on to eight thousand fighting men in wounded or prisoners. General Joubert pithily says the Transvaal statesmanship was to "aim without relaxation and to hide these armaments from the English". It is singular that in this war, and that because of this marvelous strategy, the "embattled farmers" of the veldt have overmatched the power and resources of the British empire in strategy and fighting. The battle is not always to the strong.

### Insurance.

The quarterly meeting of the board of directors of the Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Company, was held at Runkle's hotel, Centre Hall, on Wednesday. The members present were Messrs. Campbell, Bailey, Bottorf, McFarlane, Shook, Evans, Haines, Brungart, Duck, Thomas and Kurtz. The amount of risks taken in the past three months was \$93,796.

### Death of a Young Lady.

Miss Neva Miller, daughter of Elias Miller, died at Madisonburg last Thursday morning, after a long illness from diabetes and heart trouble. She was aged about twenty years. The funeral took place on Monday morning, interment being made in the Reformed cemetery at Madisonburg.

### Running Strong.

The lumber industry through this part of the state is showing marked activity since the market price has risen to a profitable figure in operating. Lumber that sold several months ago at \$10 per thousand at mills near here, is now quoted at \$16.

### An Excellent Picture.

The Lock Haven Republican this week contains an excellent picture of Miss Florence Rhone, of this place. She was in attendance at the State Grange meetings, and is Flora in the order.

## TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS.

### HAPPENINGS OF LOCAL INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS.

Accused of Murdering a Companion in a Jersey Shore Hunting Party.—Railroad Employees to be Cared for.

Peter Koch, of Jersey Shore, was arrested by Detective Munson charged with the murder of William Marks. He has been committed to jail at Williamsport, for a preliminary hearing on Wednesday. The crime alleged against Koch was committed on November 21, while Koch and Marks, with a half dozen companions, were out hunting. Game was scarce and the members of the party began shooting at a mark. Fun ran high and the young men began taking the hats from each other's heads and firing at them. During the excitement Koch, who is a one armed man, shot Marks, injuring him so severely that he died the following day.

While his companions were carrying Marks to his home Clifford Jackson was accidentally shot by a boy dropping a gun, which discharged as it struck the ground. Jackson is still at the hospital.

The death of Marks caused a big sensation throughout the county and much sympathy was expressed for Koch, as it is believed that the shooting was accidental. John Marks, father of the dead man, appeared before District Attorney Kaupp and demanded the arrest of Koch, alleging that his son on his death bed asserted that Koch had deliberately shot him. It is also claimed that young Marks made an ante-mortem statement to his physician charging Koch with shooting him intentionally and with having threatened to do so.

### Pensions for Railroaders.

President Cassatt, of the Pennsylvania railroad, issued a circular explaining the plan of pensions for its aged employees, which goes into effect on January 1, 1900. It provides for the retirement on that date of all employees of the Pennsylvania railroad system east of Pittsburgh and Erie, who have attained the age of 70 years, and the payment to such employees of a pension equal to one per cent. for each year of continuous service of the average salary for the last ten years. On that date 950 employees will be retired and pensioned.

The plan also provides for the retirement of all officers and employees between the ages of 65 and 69 years who, having been 30 years in the service of the company, are physically disqualified, on the same basis. They will be retired and pensioned on the first day of the month following the attainment of age specified. These pensions will be payable at the same rate during the lives of the pensioners, provided the total amount for pensions shall not exceed \$300,000 per annum. The plan also provides that no new employee is to be taken into service who is over 35 years of age.

### Marriage Licenses.

The following marriage licenses were issued during the past week: G. A. Ripka, Spring Mills, and Mary M. Mitchell, Lewisburg. Nicholas Lucas, and Mary E. Hess, both of Boggs township. Frank P. Hanna, and Susan D. Kennedy, both of Spring Mills. James Moffit, Patton township, and Maggie H. Davis, McAleys Fort. Charles C. Smith, Pine Grove Mills, and Alice Matern, Majose. Daniel Neidigh, and Annie M. Perdy both of State College. J. A. James, Liberty, and Emma Miller, of Curtin.

Peter E. Cain, and Flora L. Keller, both of Spring township. Gottlieb Warner, and Augusta Smith, both of Mcnson.

### Guilt and Women.

Statistics show that man bears false witness 100 times to a woman's 17; man for forgery and counterfeit coinage was convicted 100 times to a woman's 11; in France women are summoned before the tribunal four times less than men. Taking the whole of Europe, women are five times less guilty than men.

### Great on Travel.

Alfred Kreamer, of Penn township, stepped on a needle a few days ago, and it broke off in his foot. He was unable to get the broken portion out and as the wound had closed up it is altogether likely that the needle will travel round in his foot and leg until it works out itself, as is so frequently heard of.

### Will Fill Appointments.

Rev. J. S. Houseman, of Colyer, will from this time on fill all the appointments of Rev. Solver, of the Evangelical church, in the various charges of the circuit.

### The Great Salt Supply.

The level of Great Salt Lake is steadily falling on account of the large volume of water tributary to it which is now absorbed by irrigation enterprises. The Jordan and Bear rivers, City Creek and other streams that flow into the lake rise in the high mountains to the east and the average volume of water they poured into the lake the year round before they were intercepted by irrigation ditches was about 10,000 cubic feet a second. This is a considerable quantity of water, but the evaporation from the surface of the lake is very large, and the diminution in the supply has of course resulted in lowering the lake level. Great Salt Lake to-day is not receiving as much water as it evaporates, and, if the process goes on, the time is not far distant when the lake will disappear, leaving only a bed of dry salt. The streams flowing into the lake are clear and limpid, and only chemical analyses reveal the presence of the salts they contain.

The disappearance of the lake would take from the neighborhood of Salt Lake City one of its chief attractions but would make easily accessible one of the greatest sources of salt in the world.

Scientific men estimate that the waters hold about four hundred million tons of common salt. Accepting this estimate as approximately accurate every other source of salt pales in comparison with the riches Great Salt Lake will offer if its waters disappear, leaving the mineral more easily and cheaply accessible, as it will be, than in any other salt mines or evaporation grounds of the world.

The United States produced last year 2,450,000 tons of salt. If all the salt makers of the country should go to the dried-up bed of Great Salt Lake it would take them, at last year's rate of production, more than one hundred and sixty-three years to exhaust the supply. The great salt centres of New York, Michigan and Kansas might be held as a reserve for the sixth or seventh generation to come.

### Died in Ohio.

Dr. J. B. Kreider, a native of this valley, died in the state hospital at Toledo, Ohio, last Friday. Dr. Kreider was a prominent physician and for many years was located at Bucyrus, Ohio, where he practiced his profession. Owing to exposure he became afflicted with brain trouble and it was necessary for him to take treatment in the State hospital. He was aged nearly sixty years, and was the father of two daughters, who survive him. His wife was Miss Georgia Stover, of Boalsburg. During the war of the rebellion he was a member of the 148th regiment, P. V. I. For several years after the close of the war he practiced medicine at Millheim, and then removed to Ohio, where he has since resided. He was a brother of Mrs. G. W. Stover, of Coburn, and Mrs. D. B. Weaver, of near Rebersburg.

### No Pay for Night Sessions.

The county commissioners of Lycoming county, created much excitement among politicians in Williamsport last Friday by refusing to pay twelve jurors for night work after they had been out on a case for thirty hours. The jurymen have been allowed a day's wages if they remained out after 12 o'clock at night. The commissioners are supported by the court. Judge Metzger says that there is great danger of such a custom being an expensive one, and one that may tempt such jurors to remain in the jury room until after midnight in order to get additional pay.

### Philippine Kill a General.

On Monday Gen. Lawton, in charge of part of the U. S. forces in the Philippines, was instantly killed by a ball from the rifle of one of Aginaldo's sharpshooters. He had been cautioned by his men not to expose himself but he disregarded their warnings, and soon after he was shot down.

### A Methodist Minister Dead.

Rev. Asbury Wefton Guyer, a veteran minister of the Methodist church, died last Sunday at Duncansville, Pa., aged 67 years. In 1836 he was in charge of the Penns valley circuit, and was stationed at State College from 1865 to 1869. He leaves four daughters to survive him.

### Curtin Monument.

General James A. Beaver, chairman of the Curtin monument committee, has called a meeting of that body at Bellefonte on Thursday next, December 28.

As a cure for rheumatism Chamberlain's Pain Balm is gaining a wide reputation. D. B. Johnston of Richmond, Ind., has been troubled with that ailment since 1862. In speaking of it he says: "I never found anything that would relieve me until I used Chamberlain's Pain Balm. It acts like magic with me. My foot was swollen and paining me very much, but one good application of Pain Balm relieved me. For sale by J. H. Ross, Linden Hall; S. M. Swartz, Tusseyville; F. A. Carson, Potters Mills; H. F. Rossman, Spring Mills; J. F. Smith Centre Hall.

### LOCAL ITEMS.

Cullings of More than Ordinary Interest from Everywhere.

### THE ANNUAL QUANDARY.

HE:

What shall I buy her for Christmas this year?  
What shall I buy for my sweetheart, my dear?  
A box of gloves?  
A dainty pin?  
A jewel case?  
To put it in?  
Some roses red?  
Such gifts she hates!  
A five-pound box of chocolates?  
A mandolin?  
She cannot play!  
Oh, tell me, pray,  
What shall I buy her for Christmas this year—  
Something she'll like and that isn't too dear?  
Tell me, oh, tell me, the day's almost here!  
And I'm hanged if I know what to get.

SHE:

What shall I give him for Christmas this year?  
What shall I buy for my darling my dear?  
A meerschaum pipe?  
Well, I guess not!  
I'd like to break  
The one he's got!  
Some good new book?  
He never reads!  
A testament?  
That's what he needs!  
A slipper case?  
Time thrown away!  
Some boxing gloves!  
Oh, tell me, pray,  
What shall I buy him for Christmas this year—  
Something he'll like and that isn't too dear?  
Tell me, oh, tell me, the day's drawing near,  
And I'm sure I don't know what to get.

Wet set in on Wednesday.

The war on porkers is near over. Read ad's for Christmas bargains. Turkeys, another attack to go thro'. Lyman Smith is preparing to build himself a house.

Not 100 deer killed in this county as reported to the dairies—not by half.

No paper next week. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to all our readers.

Rev. Reierick's appointments, Sunday, Dec. 24: Centre Hall, 7 p. m.; Spring Mills, 10 a. m., Tusseyville, 2 p. m.

War on turkey, after a cessation since Thanksgiving, is about to be renewed and great will be the slaughter up to the 25th.

Will Richard, who learned the art of a typo in the Reporter office, has been appointed County Supervisor of Drainage in the county where he lives in Michigan, at a salary of \$1000 per year.

One of the best timber tracts in Sugar valley, owned by D. K. Heckman, white pine and white oak, was sold to Edgar Holt, of Northumberland, and James Schrack, of Lewisburg, for \$7,000.

Sam'l M. Patterson, of Spruce Creek, died suddenly of heart failure on Sunday morning. He was aged over 70 years. As he was about to enter the United Brethren Church he fell over and expired almost instantly.

We were enabled to dine upon rabbit of no small proportions, the other day, thanks to the kindness of our industrious townsman, Lew Sunday, who raises bunnies for his own table, some weighing 12 pounds.

Monday evening a gas jet in a room at the Brokerhoff house, Bellefonte, set fire to a window curtain, and the fire created a small sized panic in the house. The flames were quickly subdued with a small damage.

The Harter brothers, lumbermen, of Lock Haven, have purchased of Joel Bailey, of Philadelphia, a tract of 4016 acres of timber land in little Sugar valley, this county, for \$10,000. The purchasers will at once begin lumbering operations on the tract.

The eclipse of the moon, Saturday evening, came up to time to the second, and, there being a clear sky, was plainly visible here. With the aid of a field glass we were able to have somewhat better opportunity to follow the progress of the eclipse than by the naked eye. Some persons still cling to the superstition that an eclipse bodes no good. It is nothing more than the shadow of the earth thrown upon the moon when our planet happens to cross the line between the sun and the moon. The phenomenon can be made plain by the evening lamp to represent the sun; a small circle cut out of a dark cloth placed against the wall, the circle to represent the moon, and between it and the lamp slowly pass a ball larger than the circle, and the shadow of the ball, representing the earth, will be observed passing over the face of the circle, obscuring it. It is the moon, crossing the earth's shadow that causes the eclipse.