



WASHINGTON LETTER.

PORTO RICO IS TO HAVE A TARIFF FOR TWO YEARS.

Our Colony Discriminated Against and Must Pay Duty at the Instigation of the Big Trusts.

WASHINGTON, March 5.—Two violations of the Constitution in a single week is the record of the Republican majority in the House—a record that should drive the Republican party from power. It does not mitigate the offense against constitutional government that one of these violations should have been an attempt to partially right the wrong committed in the other. A rightful thing wrongly done is often as bad or worse than a wrong. When the Republican majority, driven by the party whip, passed the bill levying a 15 per cent. duty on the products of Porto Rico for a period of two years, a grievous wrong was inflicted upon the Porto Ricans and the Constitution of the U. S. was violated. Later, when the Republicans became alarmed at the vigorous protests from all sections of the country against the proposed robbery of the helpless Porto Ricans, they again violated the Constitution by doing a thing right in principle in the wrong way,—passing a bill placing more than \$2,000,000, already in the treasury, and all the future collections under Dingley duties upon Porto Rican products, at the disposal of the President, to be expended under his discretion for the benefit of Porto Rico. It is perfectly right that every dollar of this money should be spent for the benefit of Porto Rico, but, as Representative Bailey so forcibly pointed out, it is everlastingly wrong to turn over to the discretion of one man money in the Treasury of the U. S., when the Constitution expressly gives the right to dispose of money in the Treasury to Congress, and not to the Executive. But good may come out of evil. These things serve to accentuate in the minds of the people the attitude of the two great political parties toward the Constitution,—to make plain that there is only one Constitutional party and that is the Democratic party.

Senator Jones, of Arkansas, said of the attitude of the Democratic Senators toward the Porto Rico bill: "The Democrats accept the issues tendered by the Republicans. Porto Rico has been annexed to the U. S. It is an integral part of the country. The flag proclaims our sovereignty there, and the Constitution follows the flag. The Republican proposition that we can enact discriminating legislation against the Porto Ricans and Porto Rico products is monstrous. We will fight it in the Senate to the limit of our extent, and we will fight it before the people from now until the ballots are cast in November."

Senator Stewart, who has been counted as a countenance if not an actual supporter of imperialism, said in a speech against the Porto Rico tariff: "I don't want any territory in which the Constitution does not follow the flag. We cannot discriminate against any section of our own country. If our principles of free government are not broad enough to cover any territory under the flag, then we would better bring back the flag."

Instead of avoiding the collision of imperialism and protection, as the Republicans who fathered it intended, the Porto Rico tariff bill seems likely to precipitate the collision, and the Republicans to be called on to say whether the country shall give up the Philippines or the protective tariff. If the Supreme Court decides, as many believe it will, that all territory owned by the U. S. is constitutionally speaking, a part of the U. S., the choice will have to be speedily made, and Senator Foraker has openly said on the floor of the Senate, that he would favor giving up the Philippines.

Junketing is catching. Secretary Root, accompanied by three members of his family is officially junketing in Cuban waters, aboard a government transport; Secretary Long is arranging to take the House Naval Committee to Newport News, on a government vessel, and there is talk of a Congressional junketing party to Porto Rico, made up of the Joint House and Senate Committee and their families.

There seems to be trouble ahead for the administration bill providing that the Adjutant General of the Army shall have the rank of Major-General. The Senate has adopted a resolution, offered by Senator Pettigrew, directing the Secretary of War to send to the Senate the record of the Court-Martial of Gen. Corbin, who was then a Lieut. Col., during the civil war, and a copy of a report made about the same time by Col. Thomas J. Morgan, relating to the first colored brigade, and Lieut. Col. Corbin's relations therewith. Corbin was court-martialed upon the charge of cowardice, one of the

specifications being that while under fire he got off his horse and hid behind a tree. He was acquitted, but the record, as well as the report of Col. Morgan, is said to contain matter which will cause Senators and Representatives to do some hard thinking before they vote to make such a man a Major-General.

The Republican leaders of the House are preparing for some sort of a political performance during the present week, as they have issued orders to every Republican member to be in his seat every day during the week.

COMMISSIONER RIDDLE DEAD.

The Republican Member of the Board Succumbs this Morning.

The death of Matthew F. Riddle, the Republican member of the Board of County Commissioners occurred at about two o'clock this Thursday morning, at his home at Pleasant Gap, after an illness of about ten days from complications arising from the effects of a heavy cold, in conjunction with heart trouble.

During the last year Mr. Riddle has been troubled with an affection of the heart, which at times caused him serious trouble. His friends at Pleasant Gap during the last two months had noticed a change in Mr. Riddle's health, he apparently suffering from some organic trouble. About two weeks ago he caught a heavy cold, which did not respond to the ordinary remedies and he gradually grew worse. On last Sunday evening he took to his bed and at once his condition became serious. He grew worse until the end this morning.

Mr. Riddle was aged over 55 years, and leave a wife and four children, three sons and one daughter to survive him. They are, Arthur, George, Marion and Ralph.

Mr. Riddle was a very popular man at his home at Pleasant Gap. By occupation he was a farmer. He was always a resident of Pleasant Gap, in which place he was born and raised. For many years he filled the office of assessor in his precinct, until elected to the office of county commissioner, which office he served one term and was elected last fall to the second term.

Mr. Riddle was a veteran of the civil war, and enlisted in 1862, when but seventeen years old. He served three years in the war and was mustered out at the close.

Mr. Riddle was highly respected and esteemed in his home town and by all who bore his acquaintance. He was charitable even to a fault.

The Board of Commissioners met at their office in Bellefonte this morning, and adjourned not to meet until next Monday morning, in respect to their departed fellow member.

The Constitution prescribes that when a casual vacancy occurs in the board of county commissioners the same shall be filled by an appointment made by the court, which we would understand to cover the unexpired term.

LATEST NEWS.

Philadelphia had a \$300,000 fire yesterday in the dry-goods section.

The British forces again defeated a portion of the Boers by a flank movement.

In the Texas Republican state convention yesterday, there were fist fights and a split up.

The Boers are massing near Bloemfontein, under General Joubert, and a great battle is likely soon to be fought.

The Boers are making haste to form a new battle line, and are deserting Cape Colony and Natal to get into the Free State. They are massing all their armies to give the British one big battle.

At the Red Ash coal mines, in West Virginia, on Tuesday morning, one hundred and twenty miners were entombed by an explosion caused by fire damp. The explosion was a terrific one and caused the entire mountain to tremble. At 9 o'clock at night 23 bodies had been removed and it is believed all within were killed.

District Convention.

A District Sabbath School Convention will be held in Emanuel's church at Tusseyville, on Thursday, March 15. There will be three sessions, morning, afternoon and evening, when important topics will be discussed. An interesting program has been prepared, and able speakers will be present, and the sessions promise to be very instructive and interesting.

Game and Fish Association.

A movement is on foot to organize a fish and game protective association in Centre county and the prospects for success are very bright. A meeting was held in the court house in Bellefonte this week at which plans were discussed. There were about twenty-five sportsmen present and a most interesting evening was held.

REMINISCENCES.

Queer Doings and Expressions of Some Persons.

Persons occasionally will do some queer things and make queer requests, of which we give instances below:

WANTED CHANGE.

In the days of the old copper cents, when they were the size of quarters, a devout church-goer, when the klingeckel was passed around for the collection, by mistake dropped in a quarter instead of a copper cent. We will call him Jones. After services, having discovered the mistake, he applied to the deacons for 24 cents change. After that he went by the name of Quarter-dollar Jones.

A DOG TRADE.

Years ago when winters meant more snows and drifts, a fellow from Snyder county, knowing that Joseph Gilliland had a dog that suited him better than his Snyder county canine, he tramped all the way up to Gillilands, near Centre Hill, some 25 miles, accompanied by his bow-wow, to swap dogs with Joe Gilliland, who was willing to get rid of his dog for any other, and the swap was made. Next morning the fellow from Snyder found himself so badly snowbound so he couldn't tramp home for a night a week with his new dog. That trip for a trade, owing to the blizzard, cost the fellow \$17.

GOT AN EXONERATION.

A citizen, living in the east end of the valley, finding that his cow was assessed \$10 higher than he thought was right, walked 18 miles to Bellefonte to attend the appeals and have the valuation of his cow reduced \$10, which was granted by the Commissioners. Pleased, he started home; called in the Reporter office, to tell us how he had made \$10 that day. He had not looked into the problem deep enough to discover he had only made 10 cents less on his tax by the \$10 off on the valuation of his cow.

LIVED HIGH.

A fellow in these diggins whose habits were not of the sort to keep his family away from hunger, made, as he thought, one day, a rich strike, by disposing of some horse-radish, realizing \$1.75. Feeling millionaire-like, he concluded to have his wife and little ones for once to enjoy high-living, by investing his pile in ginger-snaps at one of the town stores.

VIRTUE IN A CHESTNUT BURR.

A former resident of Adamsburg, in Snyder county, told the Reporter of his experience with another, both boys harrowing with a horse given to provoking tail-switching. The boys be thought themselves of a cure for that sin. So taking a chestnut burr, the tail of the animal was raised, the burr placed thereunder, and the switching apparatus at once shut down. That horse got home from the field without harrow, harness, or bridle. Try it.

COOL IN A PINCH.

In the good old days when our farmers enjoyed teeming frolics taking crops to market at Lewisburg, while a gang were in the Brushvalley narrows, one of the teamsters had occasion to stop to fix something under the wagon; his one hand was propped on the ground near the wheel. A little jerk of the team, and the wheel was on his thumb, pinning him fast; under excruciating pain he modestly called to the teamster back of him: "Sog, kum emol e' wennis bare. Un wan du so gote sy wit, fore e' wennis for."

DUBBED THEMSELVES.

About 35 years ago a district teachers convention was held in the village of Logansville. It was a genial and interesting gathering of teachers. At the close the following resolution was unanimously passed: "Resolved, that all teachers having a professional certificate are entitled to the degree of Professor." The immediate harvest was about forty "professors."

A FEW MORE.

A fellow had a vessel knocked off to him for 2 cents; finding it had a little leak, he waited a few hours to settle and insisted upon a reduction on the price.

A devoted husband was in the habit of walking 24 miles to a relative for his horse and buggy to take his wife on a visit, 19 miles, to her former home in the same locality. This making a round trip afoot until he got his wife home again.

Away back when New Berlin was a county seat, a denizen of the ridges went to town with a basket of cherries for retail on the street. Reaching the court house with doors open and court in session, he entered and halting in front of the bench and bar he sang out: "Wet er karabe cauffe?"

May Get New Brick Works.

Phillipsburg is making an effort to secure a new brick works. A proposition has been made that the citizens furnish from \$15,000 to \$20,000 of the capital stock of \$40,000 of the concern, the promoters promising to furnish the balance. The plant will employ not less than 75 hands, with a monthly pay roll of from \$3,000 to \$4,000.

TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS.

HAPPENINGS OF LOCAL INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS.

Officers Elected for the Grange Encampment and Inter-County Fair for 1900 [at Centre Hall.

The committee on Grange Encampment and inter-county fair held a meeting at Centre Hall, March 3rd, and effected the following organization by electing Leonard Rhone chairman, George Dale, secretary, J. J. Arney, treasurer. The following divisions were created: Supt. of camp, J. S. Dauberman; Supt. of the department of implements, horticultural and agricultural products, George Dale; Supt. of the division of live stock and poultry, George Gingerich. The chairman to be superintendent of general privileges and entertainments, with power to appoint such assistants as may be required.

It was decided to open the encampment on Saturday, Sept. 15th, the exhibition and fair to open on Monday, the 17th, and continue until Saturday, the 22nd of Sept.

A proposition is to be submitted to every subordinate Grange in the county to take a special interest to work up a large poultry exhibit by assigning to each grange two new varieties of poultry that they are to breed specially for the exhibition, the subordinate grange to purchase the eggs, and assign them to the members best experienced in poultry raising. A trio of each breed will be placed on exhibition for sale, the proceeds to revert to the grange to reimburse them for the purchase of the eggs, the balance to be retained by the breeder.

It was decided to plant additional trees for shade and ornament.

Already three of the buildings are engaged by exhibitors, so that the outlook for the Grange fair is better than ever. All that patrons need do is to go steadily on with their enterprise, and they will achieve still larger success in the future.

HURT IN A RUNAWAY.

James Durst Thrown from a Wagon and Severely Injured.

James Durst, our good townsman, received severe injuries this morning by being thrown from a wagon by his team running away, being frightened by the neck yoke slipping off, allowing the wagon tongue to drop, and the horses ran off.

Jim bought a fine team of draught horses recently at the horse sale. This morning he went to Joel Kerstetter, on the other side of the railroad station to borrow a two-horse wagon to do some hauling. In hitching the horses to the wagon, Jim evidently overlooked that the team was hitched "too long." He started off and as he was turning out of the alley onto the street the neck yoke slipped off and the tongue dropped to the ground. The horses became frightened and plunged upsetting the heavy wagon, and Jim was thrown. He landed on his head on the hard frozen and stony ground and was rendered unconscious by the fall. He was carried into the home of Mr. Kerstetter, and Dr. Glosser was summoned to dress the injuries. A deep gash was cut over the right eye, and there is an ugly cut into the skull bones on the back of the head, along with other minor bruises. Fortunately no bones were broken, although it is supposed he sustained internal injuries. His injuries were more serious than at first supposed. He would lose consciousness for a short time, and then recover again.

In spite of the rumor that the accident would prove fatal, the physicians say he will recover.

The team with the overturned wagon ran across the railroad in towards the town and scattered parts of the wagon along the street, badly wrecking it. They were caught on the hill at the home of A. S. Kerlin, with the front carriage only dragging along.

Spring Term.

The spring term of eight weeks, of the Centre Hall Preparatory and Normal School will open on Tuesday, April 17, 1900, in the High School building, Centre Hall, Pa. Especial attention will be paid to young teachers and those preparing for teaching, by giving thorough reviews in all the common school studies as well as the higher branches of learning. Terms are moderate. For information address, B. M. WAGENSELLER, A. B.

Woman and Gold Missing.

A story comes from Sugar valley to the effect that a woman who left her home near Carroll, last week, took with her \$700 in gold, the joint savings of herself and husband. It is thought she has gone to Germany, her native land. The gold was hidden in the smoke house for safe keeping.

Improving.

Howard Spangler, now in the Johnstown hospital, we are pleased to note, is on a fair way to recover from the effects of the amputation of arm, foot and some fingers, having been caught and frozen in a blizzard some weeks ago.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CONVENTION.

Program of the County Association to Meet in Centre Hall.

The annual convention of the Centre County Sunday School Association, will meet in the United Evangelical church, Centre Hall, on Tuesday, March 29th. The following program has been prepared for the occasion:

MORNING SESSION.

Devotional Service, conducted by Rev. W. W. Rhoads, Centre Hall. Address of welcome, Rev. J. M. Rearick, Centre Hall. Response, C. M. Bower, Esq., Bellefonte. Conference—Home Department Starting, Rev. Charles Roads, D. D., General State Secretary.

Report of the President. Appointment of Committees. Business. Address—"Right Beginnings," Mrs. J. W. Barnes, Supt. Primary Work of the State Association.

AFTERNOON SESSION.

Devotional Service, Rev. G. W. Kerschner, Centre Hall.

A Symposium of Short Addresses on Practical Topics—(15 minutes each.) The Proper Use of Proper Helps, Rev. A. A. Black, Boalsburg.

Missionary Work in the Sunday School, Rev. D. M. Wolf, Spring Mills. Building Up the Sabbath School, Rev. D. T. Hepler, Lemont.

The Adult Bible Class, W. A. Murray, Esq., Boalsburg.

Conference—The Normal Class and Progress, Rev. Chas. Roads, D. D.

Address—"Home Co-operation and How to Secure It," Mrs. J. W. Barnes. A Scripture Exercise, by classes from the several Sunday schools of Centre Hall, arranged by Rev. R. Crittendon, of Bellefonte.

Election of Officers. Business.

EVENING SESSION.

Devotion and Song, Rev. Chilcote, Spring Mills.

Address—"Teach the Little Ones to Pray," Mrs. J. W. Barnes.

Address—"The Parents Place in the S. S.," Rev. Chas. Roads, D. D.

The music of the convention will be in charge of Prof. E. W. Crawford, of Centre Hall. The program will be interspersed at intervals with music, prayer and offerings.

The Country's Pensioners.

Responding to an inquiry from Senator Gallinger, Commissioner of Pensioners Evans sent to him a statement giving the number of pensioners borne on the rolls of the office on account of each of the wars of the United States and giving a brief review of laws under which they were granted. The statement as to the number of pensioners is as follows: On account of the Revolutionary War, 4 widows and 7 daughters. War of 1812, 1 survivor, and 1899 widows. Indian wars, 1832, and 1842, 1655 survivors and 3889 widows. Mexican war, 9205 survivors and 8175 widows. Granted since 1861, under general laws, 321,555 invalid and 92,901 widows and other dependents; under law of 1890, invalids, 420,011; widows and dependents, 140,227. Total 990,528.

Died at Aaronsburg.

The death of Mrs. Anna Walters, one of Aaronsburg's oldest citizens, occurred at the home of A. D. Keener last Thursday morning. She was over 88 years old, and her death was caused by a general failing of health incident to old age. Mrs. Walters is survived by nine children: Mrs. A. D. Keener, Mrs. Hannah Reed, Miss Lydia, and Mrs. Edelman, of Aaronsburg; Mrs. Daniel Kerstetter, of Haines township; Mrs. Michael Everett, and Isaiah, of Coburn; Henry, of Swengle, and Wm. in the western part of the state. The remains were taken to Swengle, Union county, where funeral services were held Sunday morning.

Marriage Licenses.

The following marriage licenses were issued during the past week: Lewis Whitman, of Grampian, and Anna Iddings, of Clearfield. Orlando W. Weaver, of Wolf's Store and Nora Hoffy, of Rebersburg. Robert E. Auman, of Woodward, and Jennie Vonada, of Miles twp. David W. Sweetwood and Mary E. Ripka, both of Spring Mills. W. H. Watson and Carrie E. Withers, both of Union twp.

Woman and Gold Missing.

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LOCAL ITEMS.

Collings of More than Ordinary Interest from Everywhere.

Understood.

Thou know't, Lord—Thou know'st my life's deep story And all the mingled good and ill I do; Thou see'st my shame, My few stray gleams of glory; Where I am false And where my soul rings true.

Lord, I am glad Thou know'st my inmost being, Glad Thou dost search the secrets of my heart. I would not hide One folly from Thy seeing Nor shun Thy healing touch To save the smart.

Only, dear Lord, Make plain the path of duty. Let not my shame and sorrow weigh me down, Lest in despair I fail to see its beauty And, weeping vainly, Miss the victor's crown.

—Henry W. Hawks.

Has wronged a neighbor? Then to him restitution make, If thou a child of God would'st be. Thus is the stern command in Holy Writ, Lest thou wear the brand, hypocrisy. Stand up for this, and this alone, If thou would'st for the wrong atone And be a child of God.

—Case.

Public sales and free lunch are in full swing now.

Lew Sunday has added a possum to his rabbit farm.

Give us your change of address, the old with the new.

March came in like a lion; will it go out like a lamb?

Our friend, Will Allison, of Spring Mills, was ill last week.

At Ed. Stump's sale last Friday, cows brought high prices.

The revival services continue with a full house each evening.

A hard freeze again last night, and the wheat fields are suffering.

Monroe Armour, of Bellefonte, was granted a pension, \$6.

Sleet and rain set in Monday night followed by cold and high winds.

Last Thursday's flood was considerably higher than the one of Thursday before.

Prof. Fehr, State College, wants a girl with good references, for general housework.

Mrs. Sarah Danlap, Charles Snyder, and Miss Olive Zerby, of Serby station, are on the sick list.

Citizens of Shamokin are raising money to prosecute councilmen for dishonesty in making improvements.

To Messrs. McKinney, Hamill, Finkle, Harpster, and others, thanks for friendly expressions in behalf of the Reporter.

Six car loads of western horses, three at Centre Hall and three at Millheim, were sold at good prices, within two months.

Wild ducks are making their appearance on Penns creek. Station agent Stover, at Paddy Mountain, shot several recently.

Rev. Rearick's appointments, Sunday, March 11: Centre Hall, 10 a. m.; St. Johns church, 7 p. m.; Georges Valley, 2 p. m.

Mrs. Michael Decker, east of Centre Hall, has been quite ill the past week from an attack of biliousness. She is slowly improving.

At the public sales going this spring in the county, there will be put up at sale about 250 head of horses and about 350 head of horn cattle.

After being blind for nine years as the result of an explosion, C. O. Corman, of Bellefonte, has recovered his eye-sight without medical aid.

The flood of Thursday last raised the streams in this county higher than at any time since the Johnstown flood. The fall was almost as sudden as the rise.

John F. Seiberling, the Akron, O., mower and reaper manufacturer, once known at Centre Hall, on Monday filed a petition in bankruptcy. His liabilities amount to \$801,578.88. His assets are given as \$30 worth of wearing apparel.

The evangelistic services held in the Lutheran church of this place, by Rev. Warden, were continued by Rev. Rearick upon the former filling his time, and are having a large attendance since, the interesting exercises finding favor with people of all churches.

The Centre Democrat contest for an organ, up to last week, stood as follows: Lutheran Church, Pleasant Gap, 1993; Union Sunday School, Zions, 1845; M. E. Church, Roland, 1290; Presbyterian Church, Unionville, 210; Reformed Church, Pingrove, 93; Pleasant Valley Church, Yarnell, 85; M. E. Church, Howard, 41. The contest for the organ is to be kept open several weeks yet.