



## WASHINGTON LETTER.

### SCRAMBLING FOR THE NEW PORTO RICO OFFICES.

The Republicans Having a Merry Time Chasing for the Plums to Fall.—Senators by Popular Vote.

WASHINGTON, April 16.—Administration Senators and Representatives are wrangling fearfully over the plums made available by the Porto Rico Act, which goes into effect May 1. Nearly every one of them is grabbing after at least one of the biggest and juiciest of these plums for a constituent and they are making Mr. McKinley very wary by their persistency. The selection of Mr. C. H. Allen to be Governor was entirely personal on the part of Mr. McKinley, just as the same gentleman was personally chosen by Secretary Long to be assistant Secretary of the Navy when "Teddy" Roosevelt resigned that office to become a rough rider. If some of the men who are after the other places over there succeed in getting them, Mr. Allen will have to keep his eyes wide open to prevent his administration of the affairs of the island getting into the breakers of scandal.

It is a little puzzling to understand why the administration is preventing action on the Nicaragua Canal bill at this session of Congress, but perfectly plain that it is doing so, through its agents in both House and Senate. There is something behind the desire to postpone this legislation, which has been endorsed by all the political parties and by the public sentiment of the country as well. Of course, Mr. McKinley isn't openly antagonizing the Canal bill, but it was administration Senators who voted down Senator Morgan's motion to take up the Canal bill, and it has been administration Representatives who have headed off Representative Hepburns several attempts to get a date set for its consideration by the House.

Nothing could more surely show the steady increase of public sentiment in favor of the election of Senators by direct vote of the people, than the adoption by the House of a resolution proposing a constitutional amendment for selecting Senators, by a vote of 240 to 15. A similar resolution has been adopted by the House in a previous Congress but not by such a large vote. Whether the Senate will respond to public sentiment by adopting this resolution is yet to be seen, but it is doubtful.

It is bad enough for paid lobbyists to engage in manufacturing public sentiment in favor of or against pending legislation in Congress, but it is infinitely worse for a bureau of the government to engage in such business. The Interstate Commerce Commission has been sending out thousands of circular letters, printed and mailed at public expense, asking that letters be written to Senators and Representatives to make them support the Cullom bill, for the enlargement of the power of that Commission. The exposure of this official lobbying has caused a sensation in Congress, and it ought to cause the summary dismissal of every official who either participated therein or countenanced it; but Mr. McKinley's backbone is hardly equal to such heroic treatment of the case.

A bill to make more Republican patronage, which can be utilized in the coming campaign, has been reported from the House Census Committee. It provides for the creation of a Census printing office, with a superintendent at \$2,500 a year, and a large force of printers and book binders. In previous censuses, this work has been done at the government printing office, and there is no other reason than greed for more patronage on the part of Republicans why it should not be done there for this census.

Under orders from the Republican bosses, who wish to keep down the total of appropriations at this session of Congress, the House Military Committee, which had previously agreed to increase the annual appropriation for the support of the National Guard of the states to \$2,000,000, has reduced the amount to \$1,000,000.

Only one Democrat in Congress is publicly supporting Admiral Dewey for the Democratic nomination for President. That is Representative Levy, of New York, who is a very nice gentleman, but who has not been recognized as one of the Democratic leaders. Admiral Dewey now openly says that it is the anti-Bryan Democrats from whom he expects support enough to get the Democratic nomination, but where he expects to find enough of that brand of Democrats to come within a hundred miles of nominating him is something that is beyond the comprehension of ordinary folk. A proposition in connection with Admiral Dewey's candidacy is being talked about in Washington and it would be a good thing to carry out. It is that

Admiral Dewey and Col. Bryan shall pledge themselves to support the ticket nominated by the Kansas City Convention, before their names are presented as candidates. Every Bryan man to whom this proposition has been submitted has endorsed it. Admiral Dewey says he will make public this week a statement of his position on public questions. It is awaited by the public with more curiosity than anxiety.

### LATE NEWS NOTES.

Admiral Schley, the hero of Santiago, is mentioned in connection with the Democratic nomination for vice president.

The vote on the Quay case is to be taken Tuesday next, if nothing happens. His friends claim five majority for him, and his seat end in June.

The Washington county Republican primaries went strongly against Quay, and cost him four members in the next legislature, where his losses will render him weaker than in the late session.

The Philippine war is not over after all yet. There is a skirmish now and then with small bodies of the insurgents, the latter usually getting the worst of it with some killed on our side.

By a recent ruling of the internal revenue office, soda water will be taxed one-eighth of a cent on each glass sold. Next will be a decision taxing each plate of ice cream, and then the girls will raise a general row.

An anti-trust law is being proposed now, since a presidential election is on, and the fellows making the move are the ones who created the trusts. This is done to fool the people, just as the farmers are being fooled in the oleo law.

Turkey owes the United States a claim of \$90,000 and refuses to pay. A war vessel will ask for the cash now and in the event of its not being forked over at once some shooting is to be done. Another war, perhaps. The claim is for property destroyed belonging to an American mission.

### Coming Down on Landlords.

At the Fayette county court, last week, Judge Reppert, prior to announcing the list of liquor licenses, made some sensational remarks and new rules governing the sale of liquors. The most important to saloons is that on Thanksgiving and Christmas days all bars must be closed at 11 a. m. for the remainder of the day.

If the Court learns of a saloonist being forced out of a building by increased rent, the house will not be relicensed, and there will be no transfers except in open court, before both Judges, and all parties must be present. Hotel keepers are warned to keep cleaner houses, and brewing companies will not be allowed to "carry" any saloonist by giving him credit and advancing money for their licenses.

All license holders must keep out of politics, and political discussions and indiscriminate treating by politicians must not be allowed in bar rooms.

Fayette county ought to be happy now.

### Marriage Licenses.

The following marriage licenses were issued during the past week:

Francis A. Foreman and Sara E. Kline, of Centre Hall.

G. W. Kelley, of Fillmore, and Anna Letzel, of Penn twp.

John E. Ripka and Lizzie Immel, of Spring Mills.

Geo. W. Johnston, of Fairbrook, and Clara Cole, of Boalsburg.

Walter M. Barr, of Sandy Ridge, and Bessie B. Chowher, of Taylor twp.

Toner A. Hugg and Mary A. Kreamer, of Milesburg.

Elmer B. Jackson, of Lemont, and Sadie Treaster, of Pleasant Gap.

Charles Boob and Alice Frederick, of Laurelton.

### Had a Good Run.

Foundryman W. O. Rearick has had a busy time of it for weeks past putting his specialty, the Centre Hall corplanter on the market. He manufactured nearly five hundred machines and his busy season is right at its height. Wm. keeps a steady force of hands going the year round, and this industry is one of the town's most important.

### Renovated the Room.

Since Meyer & Musser have taken possession of the old Wolf's store stand, they have directed their main efforts to a renovating process all through the room. The walls and ceilings have been papered and the general appearance of the room greatly improved.

### Seven Graduated.

Examinations were held recently at Centre Hill for Potter township scholars who wished to obtain graduation certificates under the Berkeley system. There were eight candidates and seven of them secured certificates.

For fine job work, try the Reporter.

### Oleo Frauds Show Up.

The Philadelphia North American, of Tuesday last, completely exposes the fraud committed in the sale of oleo as pure butter, with the connivance of officials under the state agricultural department over which John Hamilton is chief. The North American for many weeks had detectives at work who got at the bottom of the vile game of the pure food commission in assisting the oleo venders in the fraud of selling oleo as pure butter, doing just the opposite of the requirements of the law and their appointment under it.

The American makes out a clear case and exposes the caboot of the officials with the oleo dealers in Pittsburgh and Philadelphia, who have been paying these state officials one cent on each pound of oleo sold as pure butter, a bonus of \$50,000 per year for protecting, refusing to prosecute, the venders of fraudulent butter!

If these officials of the state are not sent to the penitentiary, then let the penitentiary be abolished and all rascals put upon an equal footing.

The North American intimates that John Hamilton has some skirts to clear in this matter, which we will be glad to know he can do beyond a speck of suspicion. He pretends, in a weak manner, to have been ignorant of the doings of the rascals in his department.

### Fishing on Another's Land.

The trout fishing season opened in Pennsylvania April 15, but anglers did not lawfully dare throw their lines until Monday, on account of the 15th falling on Sunday. It is reported that the speckled beauties are more plentiful than last year. It is opportune to remind piscatorialists, however, that they are trespassers if they fish on anybody's land or in any stream that is the private property of any corporation, unless granted the privilege of doing so by the owners. Judge Albright, of Lehigh county, has recently ruled that a fisherman is guilty of trespass who enters a stream and fishes without the consent of the landowner, although he wades the stream and does not touch dry land; and the fact that the state has stocked the creek does not make it a public one.

### Plans for Raising Big Funds.

The 20th century thank offering commission of the Central Pennsylvania Methodist conference met at Harrisburg Wednesday and furthered the plans for raising a half million dollars by mass meetings and special services in the churches toward the support of Dickinson college and Dickinson seminary, the Methodist hospital, Philadelphia; retired ministers' fund and local church debts.

The secretary's salary was fixed at \$2,000, and in addition he will be allowed the expense of traveling and what may be necessary to keep up the work. The secretary will arrange conventions and mass meetings, which will be held in every city throughout the conference.

The trustees of the conference in session considered plans for raising a \$100,000 annuity fund, one-half of which is to be raised by the laymen and the other half by the ministers.

### Fire in Sugar Valley.

The farm house of W. H. Strohecker between Booneville and Greenburr, occupied by Perry O. Sheats, was burned Saturday morning about 1 o'clock. The contents, except a few articles, were also destroyed. It is believed that the fire was caused by the explosion of a lamp. The loss on the house is \$1200 with \$500 insurance.

### Reduced Rates to Cincinnati.

For the benefit of those desiring to visit Cincinnati during the session of the People's Party National Convention, May 9, the Pennsylvania Railroad Company will sell tickets from all stations at the rate of one first-class fare for the round trip. Tickets will be sold and good going on May 7 only, and returning leave Cincinnati not later than May 12. apr19-21

### A Better Showing.

In Haines township, east of Aaronsburg, where crops seldom get below an average, sheltered by the hills and being the cream of our soil, the wheat fields show up about 15 per cent better than in other parts of the county, but will fall considerably short of an average crop.

### Card of Thanks.

Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Gross wish to extend their sincere thanks to the ladies and neighbors who kindly tendered their services in the recent bereavement in their family.

### Permanent Certificates.

The examination of applicants for teacher's permanent certificates, will be held in the arbitration room in the court house, Bellefonte, April 20th and 21st.

## TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS.

### HAPPENINGS OF LOCAL INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS.

Many in Centre County Caught in the Baltimore Building and Loan Bubble.—Both Investors and Borrowers.

Centre county has within its limits a large number of victims who were caught in the Baltimore Building and Loan Association which recently had a receiver appointed to liquidate the affairs of the association. Many had invested their savings in this Company which had a branch in the county and the dividends to be secured after the receiver gets through promises to be small indeed. The association has a large number of borrowers in this section who built homes and gave the Company a mortgage on the property. There is consternation among these for it is a legal point whether the regular payments can be credited on the mortgage, and if the mortgage must not be paid in full to satisfy the judgment.

### Supreme Court.

Cases from this district were argued before the Supreme Court sitting this week in Philadelphia. Several cases from this county were appealed to the higher body, among them that of Mrs. Mary T. Fox against the Pennsylvania railroad, growing out of the killing of her husband, Joseph Fox, by a draft of cars on a Bellefonte siding in November, 1898. The plaintiff asked for heavy damages, and before Judge Love was non-suited. The Supreme Court decided against her.

### A Native of Centre County.

Dr. Alexander Murray, a native of Centre county, died suddenly at his home at Liverpool, Perry county, last Sunday. He was aged about 67 years, and is survived by one son, his wife having died about two years ago. The funeral took place on Tuesday afternoon, interment being made at Liverpool. Dr. Murray was a brother of druggist J. D. Murray, Centre Hall; Hon. W. A. Murray, Boalsburg; John Murray, Lemont; Mrs. Smith, Huntingdon, Pa., and Mrs. Houser, of Houersville.

### A Deer on His Farm.

On Tuesday evening John Moore on the Lingle farm, a short distance west of town, saw a deer coming towards his farm buildings at an easy canter. When the deer got close to his barn John called to his family to come and see the unusual sight, and deer put on speed and was soon out of sight. The deer was a doe and a good size. It came down from Nittany mountain and was heading for the Seven mountains.

### Cut the Baby's Finger.

A. B. Schell, of Mt Jewett, McKean county, was engaged in removing a stove pipe when a wire which supported it broke, letting the pipe slip from his grasp through the ceiling of the room below, where it landed on a table upon which was the extended finger of his eighteen-months-old son. The finger was cut entirely off, but the operation was performed so quickly that the child suffered but little pain.

### School House Burned.

Brungart's school house, five miles east of Rebersburg, was burned to the ground on Tuesday afternoon of last week. The fire originated from sparks from a traction engine passing by. Owing to the dry weather it did not take long until the entire building was a mass of flames. Some of the furniture was saved. The school closed the day previous.

### Started a New House.

Our new citizen Alfred Durst began operations this week on his new dwelling he will erect this year on Hoffer street. Ed. Foreman will start his main dwelling as soon as possible; Lyman Smith is hard at work on the foundation of his new residence, and Alf Krape expects to get his completed too before fall.

### Remains Intact.

B. D. Brisbin, who bought the Presbyterian church building at Centre Hill, has not yet begun the work of demolishing the building, and the structure remains intact, with all of the loose property in it removed. The church will be razed during the summer.

### Farmers Plowing.

During the last week the weather permitted the farmers to start their spring plowing. The ground was somewhat wet in some places, yet a great deal of work was done. The warm rain on Tuesday and Wednesday did much to give the wheat and grass a fresh start, and the grain fields will take on a healthier hue.

## STATE COLLEGE COMMENCEMENT.

Program Which Will Mark the Close of the Fortieth Year.

Arrangements have already been practically completed for the fortieth annual commencement of State College, which will be held June 10-13. The baccalaureate sermon will be preached in the College chapel Sunday, June 10, by Rev. Lawrence M. Colfelt, D. D., of Philadelphia. On Monday afternoon the annual inter-class track and field contests will be held on Beaver Field, and Monday evening the junior oratorical contest will occur in the chapel.

Those of the class selected to speak on that occasion are A. M. Arney, of Centre Hall; Thomas Crumley, Wayne; G. A. Elder, Philipsburg; T. H. Miller, Bruin; C. F. Shoop, Mechanicsburg, and Guy Wise, Allentown. The alternates are B. L. Moore, Harrisburg; H. C. Heaton, Woodmont; S. H. Kuhn, Altoona.

Tuesday will be the big day of the commencement, the exercises including the annual meetings of the alumni and trustees; the election of trustees for ensuing three years' term; the alumni dinner in the armory, battalion parade, faculty reception, etc.

Wednesday will be graduation day, when a class of forty will be given their diplomas in the different courses. Bishop John H. Vincent will deliver the commencement address. L. E. Young, of Columbia, will be valedictorian, and the class of orators, in addition, F. T. Cole, Ufaonville; A. W. Oakwood, Tyrone; G. K. Warn, Meyersdale; D. E. Wentzel, Bellwood.

### Will Centre County Farmers Join a Move for Self-protection?

A Minneapolis dispatch says: "All the farmers in the world in a sort of international trust to restrict the production of wheat and raise prices," is the plan which it is hoped to carry into effect at the International Agricultural Conference, at Paris, July 9-15.

It is proposed to ask the farmers of the world to reduce their output by 20 per cent, and not to sell for less than \$1 a bushel.

J. C. Hanley, of St. Paul, executive agent of the chief farmers' associations and the Farmers' Alliance, and Prof. G. Ruhland, of the University of Fribourg, Switzerland, are, respectively, the leaders of the movement in America and Europe.

Such a move, honestly carried out, will prevent the trusts from keeping down the price of wheat, to a ruinous figure.

Colonel Fred Reynolds, who is the owner of a score of farms in this county, and will be at the Exposition as one of the Commissioners from this state, the Reporter feels assured, will give this move his earnest support.

### Aged Couple Divorced.

Judge Metzger, at Williamsport Thursday, granted a divorce to Abraham Swartz aged 84 years, from his wife, who is about 70 years old. The decree was issued upon the ground of desertion, is being alleged that the woman left her spouse about two years ago. The couple had been married over twenty years and Mr. Swartz is a great-grandfather by a former marriage. This is the oldest couple that have ever been separated by a divorce in Lycoming county and probably in the state. After the proceedings were at an end, Swartz wept and asserted that he still loved the woman.

### An Appeal to Court.

The sidepath commissioners of Dauphin county, created under the bicycle tax act of 1890, have filed an appeal in court from the report of the county auditors. In the assessment and collection of the tax the county commissioners incurred some expense which they paid out of the sidepath fund. The county auditors also charged and paid themselves \$75 for auditing the account. The sidepath commission asks the court to decide whether the county commissioners can pay expenses of assessment and collection out of the funds.

### Court Week.

The regular session of April court convenes next Monday morning, 23d, at Bellefonte. There is the usual number of cases on the criminal list, none beyond the ordinary interest. The civil list is quite large.

### The Best in the World.

We believe Chamberlain's Cough Remedy is the best in the world. A few weeks ago we suffered with a severe cold and a troublesome cough, and having read their advertisements in our own and other papers we purchased a bottle to see if it would effect us. It cured us before the bottle was more than half used. It is the best medicine out for colds and coughs.—The Herald, Andersonville, Ind. For sale by J. H. Ross, Linden Hall; S. M. Swartz, Tusseyville; F. A. Carson, Pottery Mills; H. F. Rossman, Spring Mills; J. F. Smith, Centre Hall.

## LOCAL ITEMS.

Callings of More than Ordinary Interest from Everywhere.

### A Spring Poem.

Oh, the robin on the wing  
And the blackbird on the bough,  
They can pipe like anything,  
But I never heed their row;  
For I hear the springy clamor  
And the vocal rat-a-plan  
Of the dago and the bananer  
And the ole-cloes man!

Oh, the butterfly and beetle  
And the daisy and the rose,  
They can waggle wing and petal,  
But I never look for those;  
For I see the grindstone whizzers  
And the open face of fan  
Of the man that grinds the scissors  
And the ole-cloes man!

Oh, the mellow, yellow glamour  
And the slither and the cling;  
Oh, the pearly, plump bananer  
And the scissor-sound of spring!  
For I know there's naught to hinder  
When I hear the winter's ban  
In the yell beneath my winder  
Of the ole-cloes man!

—N. Y. Press.

O let the robin sit  
On the picket fence and sing!  
O let the jaybird flit,  
Let the lark be on the wing—  
Still the shirt-waist is the thing  
That's the surest sign of spring.

—Chicago Times-Herald.

Had a remarkably fine Easter Sunday.

Our farmers are busy plowing, and the women at house cleaning.

They report a wedding a-brewing in Centre Hall, and not green 'uns.

Isaac Walker, of Pinegrove, bought D. W. Ziegler's farm near Pennhall.

Wm. Emerick, aged 85, of near this place, is in a hopelessly ill condition.

The wife of Charles Beck died at Nittany after a prolonged illness, last week.

Our physicians report considerable sickness in light attacks of pneumonia, fevers, and colds.

The light, warm rains of Monday and Tuesday nights, have brought out the green on vegetation.

Levi Kreps, of Pinegrove, is at the German hospital, in Philadelphia, for treatment of stomach trouble.

Rev. Rarick's appointments, Sunday April 22: Centre Hall 10 a. m.; St. Johns 2 p. m.; Georges valley 7 p. m.

The 'pike between Centre Hall and Pleasant Gap, heretofore in charge of Mr. Taylor, will hereafter be looked after by Frank Weaver.

The wife of Emanuel Bressler, near Tylersville, died on 13, of liver complaint, aged 67 years. Husband, three sons and four daughters survive.

Mr. W. W. Bible, of Potters Mills, intends removing to Bellefonte with his family, where he has secured employment in one of the town's industries.

Pensions recently granted: John H. Mullen, Bellefonte, \$6. Michael Summers, Potters Mills, \$10. Chas. Smith, Pinegrove, \$8. Catherine Symmonds, Bellefonte, \$8.

The ballot on the Centre Democrat's organ contest up to last week stood: M. E. church, Roland, 4788; Lutheran church, Pleasant Gap, 4140; Union Sunday school, Zion, 2806; Presbyterian church, Philipsburg, 500.

Hugh Walizer, near Clintondale while in the act of crossing a stream astride of a harnessed horse, Mr. Walizer fell or was thrown. His foot caught in the harness, and the animal dragged him through the water. Fortunately the harness gave way, else Mr. Walizer might have been killed.

Mrs. Andrew Campbell, of Bellefonte, died on Friday, 13, aged about 70 years. The deceased was a cousin of Henry and Joshua Potter, of this place, both of whom attended the funeral on Sunday. The maiden name of the deceased was Wilson, and her mother was a sister of Mrs. Joshua Potter, Sr., of near Linden Hall.

Dr. Charles Smith, of Lamar, Clinton county, father of Peter Smith, of Centrehill, will reach his 90th year on August 10, next, and is yet in reasonable health. Years ago he practiced medicine at Pennhall, where he owned a fine farm, and now has the Custer place in Nittany valley.

Last week Lowell Smith, age about 24 years, a brother of Smith Bro's at Spring Mills, went to the hospital in Philadelphia, in care of Dr. Alexander of Potters Mills, for examination as to an ailment in his side supposed to be caused by the rupture of a blood vessel. Upon examination, it is found necessary to perform an operation, then yesterday was fixed upon for it.

The Paris Exposition opened on Friday last. We noticed no Centre Hall or Penns valley folks attended. Colonel W. Fred Reynolds, of Bellefonte, appointed by Governor Stone one of the Commissioners for Pennsylvania, will soon take his departure for Paris, accompanied by his family. Ex-Judge Furness, of Bellefonte, and son of Philadelphia, also contemplate going to Paris and visit the Exposition.