



THE CAPITOL PROSE.

Quarrel Among Graders May Result in Honest Men Coming by Their Own Special Correspondence:

There are indications of a quarrel among the capitol graders and if that expectation is fulfilled, the rest will be easy. When rogues fall out honest men come by their own. It is proverbial, and the moment that Architect Huston undertook to shift the blame upon Governor Pennypacker, close observers began looking for the finish. There is some possibility in Huston's observation. Pennypacker did have a lot to say in the Board of Public Buildings and Grounds and the asperity and enthusiasm with which he served the machine on every occasion has prepared the public mind to accept such a solution of the problem. But Superintendent of Public Buildings and Grounds Shumaker is out with a statement that Huston is the real culprit. It was the architect, Mr. Shumaker declares, who "made a monkey of the old man."

Pennypacker is a curious mixture of weakness and intriguing force. With the ambition of Caesar he has the vanity if not the mental infirmities of an imbecile. As Governor he imagined that he was above the law. When the constitution interfered with any of his purposes he simply brushed the constitution away. An act of assembly was of no consequence to him if it ran counter to his desires. Yet he maintained always an appearance of the greatest respect for law and morals. He actually made intelligent people believe that he was the most law-abiding executive the State had ever had and that the least infraction of the principles of common honesty would shock him immensely. As a matter of fact, however, in practice he was a little better than a pervert. If he knew the difference between right and wrong he paid no attention to it.

STONE AND HARRIS TALKING WAR.

Former Governor Stone and former State Treasurer Harris are also "talking war talk" at each other. During the early stages of the capitol construction work both those gentlemen were members of the board of Public Buildings and Grounds and during their administration of the affairs of the Board the contract for the metal filing cases was given to Congressman Cassell's company at grossly exorbitant figures. Governor Stone declares with much emphasis and some profanity, according to reports from Pittsburg, that he was not present in the session of the Board when the contract was awarded and intimates that if he had been there would have been no award. To this statement Treasurer Harris rejoins that Stone was present and participated in the award and declares he can prove the fact without much trouble. It is estimated that Cassell got more than a million dollars for those cases more than they were worth and this little difference of opinion between Stone and Harris may help to develop the facts.

Meantime the probing goes on with increasingly startling results. For the first time Huston and Sanderson were brought together during the session of last Wednesday. A Mr. Hamilton, of Washington, testified that after he had been dickered with Huston for some time they came to an agreement in the main but Huston added that "he had better go to see Sanderson" who told him that he "didn't want him to bid for any one else." Another interesting witness of the week was a man named DeKosenko, president of the Stirling Bronze Company of Philadelphia. Some time ago he had published a statement in one of the Philadelphia newspapers which was very damaging to the conspirators and the feature of his testimony was an attempt to contradict himself without being caught. In this he failed, of course, for the newspaper representative who obtained the interview followed him in the witness stand gave the substance of his conversation and proved that in the preliminary work "Sanderson, Huston and DeKosenko were altogether in the matter." Together these witnesses have proved collusion and conspiracy beyond the shadow of a doubt.

CHARGES AND OVERCHARGES SO FAR.

The following is a summary of the principal figures which have been disclosed by the investigation to date:

	What State Paid Sanderson.	Cost to Sanderson.
Glass mosaic friezes in the rotunda.....	\$ 28750 00	\$ 7224 26
"Baccarat" cut glass.....	133770 09	26084 34
Painting and decorating.....	789472 96	174962 00
Designed woodwork for 14 rooms.....	155069 60	28170 00
Rostrums for Senate and House caucus rooms.....	90748 80	2060 00
Thermometers.....	59408 00	24885 00
Boothick's stand.....	1619 20	125 00
Woodwork for Senate post office and other ante-rooms.....	62486 40	6145 00
Barber's case in Senate lobby.....	3256 80	325 00
185 Mahogany clothes trees.....	13616 50	2973 00
140 Umbrella stands.....	8427 10	1851 00
Woodwork for Governor's suite.....	94208 00	16089 75

HIGH SCHOOL COMMENCEMENT.

Five Young People Graduate—Dr. J. P. Welsh Delivers Graduation Address.

Wednesday evening of last week occurred an event of more than passing interest to the people of Boalsburg and Harris township. At that time was held the graduating exercises of the first class completing the High School course. The class numbered five, as follows: Alida Rothrock, Earl Ross, Harry Keller, Charles Ross and Fay Weber.

The salutatory was delivered by Alida Rothrock on the subject "What is Success." Earl Ross followed with an oration, "The Indian—the Nation's Ward." The subject of Harry Keller's oration was "Our Greatest President." Fay Weber pronounced the valedictory, choosing for her theme "The Rural High School."

Dr. J. P. Welsh, vice-president of Pennsylvania State College, delivered the commencement address. His talk was very practical in its nature. He spoke of some of the qualities essential to success, and pointed out why under very similar circumstances some succeed while others fail. Dr. Welsh is a pleasing speaker and his words were well received.

R. B. Harrison, president of the school board, in a neat, clear-cut, practical speech presented the class with diplomas.

The exercises were held in Boal's Hall which was crowded to its utmost capacity, even standing room being at a premium. The stage was most beautifully and artistically decorated with flags, class colors and potted plants. On the stage with the class were the school board, Dr. Welsh and Rev. J. I. Stonecypher, who pronounced the invocation.

The class colors are orange and black; the motto, "The end crowns the work."

Smith's orchestra, of Bellefonte, furnished the music.

LOCALS.

Mr. and Mrs. Isaac Smith, of Farmers Mills, and B. F. Reish, of Centre Hall, went to Jacksonville last Sabbath to attend the funeral of Mrs. Joseph Kling.

Miss Verna Rearick, of Lansdowne, is visiting her friend Miss Alice Robinson, in this place. She is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. Frank Rearick, formerly of Spring Mills.

While standing on a scaffolding making repairs at his stable, Friday of last week, Samuel J. Rowe fell and sustained several fractured ribs. The accident was caused by a piece of timber slipping.

At the Sabbath evening meeting of the Christian Endeavor of the Presbyterian church, Mrs. L. G. Rearick sang a hymn composed by W. A. Krise, entitled "The House of Many Mansions." Miss Verna Rearick, of Lansdowne, accompanied on the organ.

Miss Lois Krise, who has been attending the grammar school during the past winter, left Friday for her home in Johnstown. She is a daughter of Warren S. Krise, a member of the firm of Krise and Ott, dealers in real estate and fire insurance. Mrs. W. A. Krise accompanied her granddaughter and will remain for several weeks.

After considerable delay the Speicher house was finally moved to its location on the Neff farm, and will be the rear portion of a large brick dwelling to be erected by Prof. C. R. Neff. For part of the distance the building was hauled by a traction engine, but later a windlass was used. The work was performed by Contractor Aaron Thomas, who has shifted almost every house in Penns Valley that stands on any other than its original foundation.

The Nittany Iron furnace is in operation again, after an enforced idleness of six weeks caused by an explosion. The great difficulty was to remove the material from the furnace proper, but with the exception of a single "clinker" the filling was removed by using the shovel and pick. This one "clinker," however, which it is estimated weighed over nine tons, was hoisted on to a car, by using chain and tackle, and was then dumped on the cinder pile. To give an idea of the toughness of this mass it need only be stated that fourteen sticks of dynamite failed to make an impression on it.

(Continued from previous column.)

50 Desks for Senators.....	18230 00	9230 00
208 Desks for Representatives.....	59432 00	16224 00
"Medicine" chest for room of President pro tem. of Senate.....	239 20	75 00
Desk for Lieutenant Governor.....	349 60	130 00
Chandeliers and bronze standards, including \$137000 for models.....	218722 36	60581 28
According to Salon, Sanderson's brother-in-law, the comparative figures on chandeliers alone are.....	1612572 56	540772 00
Electric lighting.....	71883 60	17825 00
Clocks.....	32079 20	15655 00
Parquet flooring, per foot.....	1 27 1/2	44
Monarchian tiling, per sq. ft.....	2 25	1 08

TWO-CENT FARES.

Governor Stuart Signed Bill Friday—Railroads May Appeal.

Friday Governor Stuart signed the bill calling for two-cent passenger fare rates after September 30. The law also carries with it a penalty of one thousand dollars for each offense.

Barring successful railroad appeal to the Courts the two-cent fare experiment is now assured of a trial in Pennsylvania. Whether the trial shall be fair or otherwise will depend on the action of the railroad managers in the premises.

The railroads contend that they cannot carry passengers profitably at a maximum charge of two cents a mile without cutting off commutation rates and reducing the quality of their service to a two-cent level. Experience in other States and on other roads less skillfully managed than are the trunk lines in Pennsylvania is at variance with this pessimistic outlook. Cheaper fares mean increased traffic without proportionately increased cost of operation. If this view be speculative, as President McCrea of the Pennsylvania Railroad has characterized it, it is at least a speculation firmly grounded on proven facts.

It is up to the railroads to accept the dictum of the Legislature with good grace and to remodel their passenger tariffs without attempted retaliation on commuters and special excursionists, which in the end can only react on themselves. The people of Pennsylvania are fair-minded. If the doleful predictions of the railroads should be realized, and if it should be demonstrated in actual practice under reasonable conditions that the passenger traffic cannot be profitably handled at two cents a mile, the two-cent fare act would be short-lived. It is far more likely to prove mutually beneficial to the carriers and the traveling public.

The Tramp.

Many people think that the tramp is simply a man out of work, willing to labor if he has a chance, and others again claim that he is more a victim of circumstances than of his own perversity.

Neither of these opinions cover the case. A tramp is a man who prefers vagabondage to any other business, and is generally satisfied with the wisdom of choice. Not one in fifty could not find work or say he never had a fair chance in life. Almost any day, in the summer at least, the tramp can earn his keep if he is not too lazy, and even in winter work could be had if he cared to do it. But he hates work, and in the majority of instances confess that he is a voluntary idler.

celebrated 87th Birthday.

One of the best known families in Ferguson and College townships is that of the Neidigs, consequently the eighty-seventh anniversary of the birth of Mrs. John Henry Neidig was one celebrated recently with more than ordinary interest. The family now lives at State College. There were present on this occasion one person for every year of Mrs. Neidig's life, the company embracing four generations—the last being a ten months old child. The affair was greatly enjoyed by every one present.

Double Murder and Suicide.

What is believed to be a double murder and suicide occurred at Westport, Clinton county, where Mrs. John Conner and her two children were found dead from strychnine poisoning. Mrs. Conner had been in poor health for several months and frequently expressed a fear that she might die and leave her children without the care of a mother.

Governor Signs New Liquor Law.

The first amendment to the Brooks high license law was signed Saturday by Governor Stuart. It imposes an additional license fee on retailers as follows: Townships, \$25; boroughs, \$50; third class cities, \$50; first and second class cities, \$100. Only the state will benefit by the additional tax.

Summer School.

The spring term of the Boalsburg Normal and Preparatory School will open April 15th and continue eight weeks. Pupils from a distance can obtain boarding at reasonable rates.

For further information address

H. C. ROTHROCK, Principal.

Post Cards.

A new line of Souvenir Post Cards—all kinds and at all prices. The local views are the prettiest yet offered for sale at this office.

Birthday, Stork, Art, Poses, Comic Cards, etc., etc.—more than one hundred kinds.

A fellow can always raise a little money by putting up his umbrella— with a pawnbroker.

PREPARING FOR SYNOD.

Sunbury Lutherans Will Give Warm Greeting to Church Body.

Local members of the Lutheran church at Sunbury have begun making preparations for the reception of delegates to the General Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran church, which will begin in that place May 22 and continue eight days. The Synod is composed of twenty-five districts and is the oldest ecclesiastical body of the Lutheran church in America, as well as having one of the four general divisions of the church. It has a membership of 256,000, churches being located in every Northern State from New England to the Pacific.

Over three hundred clergymen and laymen are expected to attend, and among them will be prominent India missionaries, and some of the ablest ministers in the United States. Addresses to the general public will be delivered each evening at Grace, Trinity and Zion Lutheran churches.

Fortune to Bury Secret.

John Ellmore, "the poor cobbler of Altoona," whose fuel discovery promises to revolutionize the industrial world, returned from Pittsburg after demonstrating to the manufacturing interests of that city that his discovery is a success.

Before leaving Pittsburg through the United States inspector at the armor plate plant he arranged to give a demonstration at Annapolis, Md., in the presence of prominent navy officials and Government experts. The demonstration will begin Monday and continue for two weeks.

Ellmore received a telegram from Chicago coal men offering him \$5,000,000 straight if he would bury his secret and never reveal it to the world, as it is thought the process will kill the coal industry in a few years.

LOCALS.

The swindler always tries to drive his bargain at once; with him delay is dangerous.

License has been granted Henry Kohlbecher, at the Central hotel, Boggs township.

Dr. John Keichling, of Bellefonte, has located at Petersburg where he will take charge of the practice left by the late Dr. McKee.

William Lingle, of Georges Valley, moved into the tenement house on the farm of John Q. A. Kennedy, and will do the farming for Mr. Kennedy.

Monday trout fishing opens. To say the least the average fisherman will wish for longer arms to indicate the length of the speckled beauties that slipped back into the stream.

Farm implements of every description are offered for sale by J. H. and S. E. Weber, Centre Hall and Oak Hall. The quality of the implement and the price is the argument.

Mrs. Mariah Youz, of Lewistown, Tuesday came to the home of James A. Keller, east of Centre Hall, for a short stay. Before leaving she will also visit her niece, Mrs. Frank M. Fisher, at Penn Hall.

The home of James S. Stahl, immediately west of the borough line, has been greatly improved, by the addition of a large front porch. A new roof has also been put on the building, as well as a new siding.

James T. Allman, Secretary of the Pennsylvania State Grange, was elected to the Legislature, at a special election held to fill the vacancy caused by the death of W. C. Pomeroy. His majority was forty-seven votes.

Before signing a contract with a stranger consult your neighbor about the deal. A good night's sleep over a contract or deal of which you know very little or nothing is also a good thing, and oft times brings revelations with many dollars.

The name of Olivia post office at the close of business at the end of March went out of existence, and the office April 1st assumed the name of Bald Eagle. B. L. Fraut, postmaster, had had his postmarking and money order stamps and other necessary equipment ready for a week to commence business under the name of Bald Eagle.

Frederick W. Smith, aged seventeen years, of Cold Spring township, Mercer county, claims to have the largest colt in the world. When six months old it weighed 940 pounds, and recently he received a reward of \$75 offered by a stock food company for the largest colt raised by a boy or girl under 18 years of age.

If you have the Philadelphia Sunday Press delivered at your home each week you get, besides the news of the day, a splendidly illustrated ten-cent weekly magazine. Such famous authors as Conan Doyle, Anthony Hope and Sewel Ford are frequent contributors, and you cannot get better reading. If you order the Press served at your home seven days in the week you are sure of getting the best there is, both as to news and other features.

WORK OF THE LEGISLATURE.

Trolley Bill Passes House Finally—Bills Become Laws with Governor's Signature.

As a wind-up to a lengthy session Thursday of last week the House passed finally the Homsher trolley freight bill. Not a single vote was recorded against the measure and final passage was accomplished with no debate.

The vote was 178 to 0, Republicans and Democrats voting alike in support of the bill, which was pledged by the platform of all parties. The bill now goes to the Senate.

Another bill to pass finally in the House late in the day was that providing a system of initiative and referendum. That is the measure that was drafted at the suggestion of former Senator William Flinn, of Pittsburg, who for years has been an ardent advocate of the referendum principle. Explained briefly, the bill aims to afford the people of a city or borough to vote on an important project before it may be ratified by Councils.

The McCullagh bill reducing rates on Pullman cars was also passed finally by the House, the vote being 133 to 11. The measure now goes to the Senate. Its fate in that body is problematical.

MORE MONEY FOR ROADS.

Good roads got consideration in the House when the McLane bill was passed finally. This bill increases the amount of money to be returned to the counties for road purposes, and carries an additional appropriation of \$3,000,000.

Each county is to receive from the State a sum equal to 50 per cent. of the amount the county raises by taxation for roads, provided such State subsidy shall not exceed \$20 per mile. Under the act supervisors are limited to \$30 a year as compensation.

BILLS SIGNED BY GOVERNOR.

Governor Stuart approved the following bills:

Fixing the pay of road commissioners, viewers, etc., at \$3 a day and the surveyor \$5 a day and 5 cents a mile for each mile traveled.

Providing that city and borough teachers' institutes may be held throughout the school year on five days or ten half days.

Meeting of the Ministerial Association.

The Penns Valley Ministerial Association met in the Reformed parsonage, Centre Hall, Tuesday at 10 a. m. April 2. The meeting was opened by devotional exercises conducted by Rev. Daniel Gress and Dr. James Boal. Minutes of the previous meeting were read and adopted. Those present were Revs. Black, Boal, Rearick, Schuyler, McLinay and Gress. The Association decided to hold the next (May) meeting at the home of Dr. James W. Boal, on invitation.

The program announced by the committee for the May meeting is as follows: A paper by Dr. Schuyler on "The Scriptural Observance of the Sabbath." A sermon by Rev. W. K. Harnish, alternate, Rev. J. I. Stonecypher.

The program of the day was then taken up. Rev. A. A. Black gave a sermon outline, The Easter Message. Rev. Rearick read a paper on "The Abrahamic Covenant." The paper was then discussed by all members present. The meeting was closed by a prayer by Rev. G. W. McLinay. All repaired to the dining room where an hour's enjoyment followed.

New Landlord at Penns Cave.

Penns Cave has a new landlord in the person of Orris McCormick, who with his family moved into the Penns Cave hotel beginning of last week. Ever since the natural curiosity has been entered by pleasure seekers and sight-seers, the name of Long has been associated with Penns Cave until Mr. McCormick became the landlord last week. Mr. McCormick will be ready to entertain guests at all times and be on hand at all hours to take tourists through the most wonderful cavern.

When Penny Takes the Snaid.

When the ex-governor, who made it possible for Sanderson, et al., to beat the state to the tune of five or more millions of dollars in building the capitol, takes the stand he will brush the whole controversy aside by pointing out that it is none of the people's business what was done with state's money, because it was collected from foreign corporations!

And then the ex-governor will expect the people to believe him! But they will not.

Phasant Lives in \$600 Nest.

Joshua R. Phasant, who lives on the Bower farm, one mile east of Mt. Eagle, recently purchased the E. T. Hicklen homestead in the village of Mt. Eagle, to which place he moved and where he expects to live a retired life. The sum paid for the property was \$600.

TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS.

HAPPENINGS OF LOCAL INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS.

Look out for the swindler.

The governor of Minnesota signed a two-cent railway fare bill.

After all the coal baron will be on top—how will you get coal ashes without first buying coal.

Mr. and Mrs. D. A. Boozer went to Sunbury Friday, and for several days were the guests of Dr. and Mrs. W. E. Park.

Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Miller and daughter, Ina, and Mrs. George F. Miller, of Millheim, are now living in Williamsport.

All grades of fertilizers—J. H. and S. E. Weber, Centre Hall and Oak Hall. The quality of goods and the price is the argument.

Clarence L. Peasly, Esq., of Williamsport, has been engaged to deliver the Memorial address at Millheim the coming Decoration Day.

One of the clauses in the Oklahoma constitution to be voted on August 6th, provides for absolute prohibition—Intoxicating liquor must not be brought within the state.

Dr. Stahr, president of Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, and Rev. Schmidt, of the Bellefonte Reformed minister, will travel together through the foreign lands.

Although he has been afflicted with nervous trouble and can find little or no relief, Joel Struble intends erecting a brick dwelling house in Zion during the latter part of this summer, and hopes to occupy the same.

Rev. H. C. Bixler, of Rebersburg, was agreeably surprised by the members of the Madisonburg Lutheran church, who visited him with an Easter donation, consisting of many useful articles for granary and larder.

Thos. G. Wilson, formerly of Centre Hall, now of Hazel Green, Wis., has been granted a patent on a combination window shade and curtain bracket. It is a very simple device, yet looks as if it might prove to be of considerable value.

The American Lime and Stone Company has been sued by Mrs. Annie Simco and Mrs. Rosa Beranco, widows of the two Italians who recently lost their lives in the company's quarries, for fifteen and ten thousand dollars, respectively, as damages.

The McBride corner, Bellefonte, has been purchased by R. Brannan, proprietor of the "Workmen's Store," for \$4000, and Aaron Katz purchased the building occupied by Katz & Co. from the Isaac May estate. The price paid by the latter was \$5100.

Shall or shall not a curfew ordinance be adopted in Bellefonte is a subject much discussed by the people of that town. If the age limit was made between three and sixty-five years and applied to male and female such an ordinance ought to become a law.

John Ruble, who last week moved his family to Centre Hall from the Shirk farm, east of Centre Hall, Friday afternoon went to Ashtabula, O., where he will be employed by a steel structural company. He is a young man capable of filling a responsible position, and has the Reporter's best wishes for success.

A hen owned by D. F. Rimmer, of Bellefonte, is credited with faithfully observing the Sabbath day so far as doing unnecessary labor is concerned. The hen began laying on Washington's birthday, and every day since, Sunday excepted, the hen deposited its egg on a cushioned chair in Mr. Rimmer's kitchen. She is a pet—the dear old hen.

Colonel G. Decker, of Spring Mills, one of the Decker Brothers engaged in the manufacture of lumber, was a caller Friday. The firm recently purchased a new saw mill, the arrival of which they are anxiously awaiting. At present they are cutting timber on the Long farm, in Brush Valley, recently purchased by F. M. Fisher, of Penn Hall.

The joint consistory of the Aaronsburg charge, Reformed church, met in annual session at Aaronsburg. The consistory recommended that the several congregations comprising the charge, that had not as yet instituted young people's meetings, should hereafter have them as part of the weekly services. It was also decided to install a telephone in the parsonage at Aaronsburg.

A swindler representing his name to be Charles H. Long, bought three sets of harness from James Wan, in Bellefonte, and ordered the goods shipped by rail to Mill Hall. The bill was paid by a check forged on Charles H. Long, of Mill Hall. Before the goods were shipped, the fraud was discovered. Other swindlers are also reported to have taken place in the central part of the state, and evidently it was the same person who committed them.