

The Centre Reporter.

VOL. LXXX.

CENTRE HALL, PA., THURSDAY, JUNE 13, 1907.

NO. 24.

CLEVER AND CLUMSY CAPITOL FRAUD

Experts Say Iniquity and Cunning of the Thieves Commands Respect.

Cleverness, though "criminally rather than honestly employed," excites a bewildered sort of admiration. The openmouthed wonder with which even the victim of a pickpocket will regard the deftness required to do the trick is very nearly related to the amazement aroused by the performance of a prestidigitator. Much the same has been the effect on the experts of the Capitol Investigating Committee of the "clever workmanship criminally employed" by the trimmers and furnishers. Referring to the brazen, iron-cored, lead-loaded bronze chandeliers the report of the experts says: "The ingenuity that was used to cunningly put together parts of ordinary castings to appear like false core work, three times as expensive, cannot but command respect."

There was little that could be called ingenious, however, about the fraud practiced on the State in the Capitol job; most of it was gross enough. The specifications called for "Government statutory bronze," an alloy not well adapted for the purpose intended. Its chief merits were the difficulty of working it and its expensiveness, so that contractors not in the game would have to bid high. The "inside" bidder, of course, would have foreknowledge of the leniency of the architect, and could figure on the substitution of less costly material; and, in fact, more brass was used than bronze—and scrap metal, at that, worth not more than 45 cents a pound. Sanderson, or his influential and as yet unknown partners, got \$4 85.

This is just ordinary swindling; and in the same category belong the charging for tons of chandeliers over and above the weight actually delivered; the addition (with the sole object of increasing the cost) of reflectors which obstruct more light than they reflect, and the casting solid of parts which should have been hollow. The experts also comment on the dangerously flimsy chains and bolts by which these massive candelabra hang. The member of the Assembly who felt uncomfortable seated under the threatening mass of one of these fixtures was perfectly justified in his fears.

The clumsiness of the swindle perpetrated on the State is well exemplified by the "per foot" rule, the true inwardness whereof has at last been completely disclosed. The architect and contractor would arbitrarily fix a price for a piece of furniture supplied, or for the wall and ceiling decorations of a room, and divide the total by \$18 40—which was the contract price per foot; the quotient thus obtained would be the number of feet set down in the bill. That a fraud so transparent could have escaped the notice of the official guardians of the Treasury is past belief.

A Great Success.

The M. E. Sunday school, of Centre Hall, did itself great credit in the rendition of a most excellent Children's Day program, Sunday evening.

The music was of a high order and was rendered by a choir composed of much of the best musical talent of the town. Members of several of the different church choirs assisted, and gave strong support.

The following children and youths took an active part: Helen and Margaret Broer, Mabel Kerney, Floyd and Raymond Walker, Agnes Harisock, Ruth, Ralph and Carl Horner, Andrew Miller, Robert McCormick, Harry, Grace and Fred Armstrong, Harry Gross, Bessie and Norman Emerick, Frederick Moore, Roy Puff, John and Mary Whiteman, Jennie Stahl, Elizabeth Sanders and Marion McClain.

The church proved far too small to accommodate the great crowd, fully one hundred people found not even standing room and left the service.

The offering, which was for education, was a splendid one—the best in the history of the congregation.

Large Barn Burned.

The large bank barn on the John Snyder farm in east Nittany Valley, in Lamar township, Clinton county, with all its contents was destroyed by fire Wednesday morning of last week at about 2 o'clock.

It is supposed the fire was of incendiary origin, and was discovered by Miss Snyder from her bedroom. One horse was gotten out of the barn. Three valuable horses, a two year old colt, a yearling colt, two calves and a lot of pigs were the live stock burned. Also a binder, wagon, all the harness and some other farming implements, about 400 bushels of wheat, oats, hay and straw were consumed. The cattle were in the barn yard and were released and gotten away.

The barn was a large and fine one, the stock valuable, and the loss is estimated at from \$3,000 to \$3,500, with some insurance in the Dunker Church Insurance Company.

DEATHS.

ANDREW JACKSON TATE.

Andrew Jackson Tate died at his late home near Lemont Monday morning of last week of heart trouble. The deceased had been in delicate health for several months and his death was not unexpected. Mr. Tate was born in the old Mitchell manor house more than seventy-five years ago and had spent all his life within a few miles of the place of his birth. In early life he followed the trade of coachsmith but later took up farming, retiring from active pursuits about ten years ago, and taking up his residence at the forks of the Bellefonte pike and Nittany Valley road. There was probably not a better known man in the county than the deceased. Mr. Tate was a Democrat of the old hickory type, and religiously was a Lutheran, being a member of the Shiloh church.

He was married to Angeline Roop April 13, 1853, the union being blessed with ten children: George, of Pittsburgh; Wesley, Lemont; Mrs. Margaret Lee, Axmann; A. J. and William S., Pine Grove Mills; Mrs. Sadie Smith, at home, and a nephew in Orangeville, Ill. He made his home with Mrs. Smith, who tenderly cared for her father in his declining years.

JOHN T. SEIBERT.

John T. Seibert, a well known farmer of Buffalo Run Valley, died Friday morning. He had been a sufferer for quite a long time from an affection of the heart. The deceased was born in Benner township, September 20, 1832, and followed the occupation of farming.

Mr. Seibert was married to Mary Boal, (now deceased) a sister of Rev. James Boal, D. D., of Centre Hall. He leaves to mourn his death the following children: C. H. Seibert, State College; Mrs. Lucy Longwell, Benner township; Mrs. Ella Dale, DuBois; Mrs. Mary Corl, State College; Mrs. Margaret Reynolds, Grayville; Mrs. Martha Goheen, Rock Springs; Geo. Seibert, Niagara Falls.

JACOB REED.

Jacob Reed, a prominent citizen and retired farmer, of Haines township, died at the home of his daughter, Mrs. George M. Homan, at Aaronsburg. He was stricken with paralysis one evening and died six hours later.

Mr. Reed was born in Haines township, August 2nd, 1832, making his age at the time of his death seventy-four years, nine months and twenty-eight days.

He was a son of the late Daniel and Elizabeth Reed and was a continuous resident in Haines township since his birth. He leaves to survive two daughters, Mrs. Sarah E. Homan, wife of George M. Homan, and Mrs. Amanda R. Stover, wife of E. L. Stover, all of Aaronsburg.

Clarence Hackenberg, son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Hackenberg, died at his parents' home at Skullton, of a complication of diseases, aged seventeen years, ten months and twenty-three days. Funeral services were held at his parents' home, conducted by Rev. G. W. McClain. Interment was made in the Union cemetery, Rebersburg.

Mrs. Michael Heaton died at her home, at Yarnell, aged seventy years, nine months and four days. Her maiden name was Margaret Thiel. She is survived by her husband and the following children: James, of Yarnell; Edward, of Galeton; John, of Avis; Charles, of Snow Shoe; Harvey and Ross, at home.

Mrs. P. H. Martin, of Bellefonte, died at the hospital in that place Wednesday of last week of a complication of diseases. Her age was twenty-three years, and she had been ill for about twenty days. She is survived by her husband and one child, also her mother and several brothers and sisters.

Mrs. Sarah Walter, relict of Samuel Walter, died at her home at Woodward, of heart failure, aged seventy-five years. Funeral services were conducted by Rev. C. F. Garrett, and interment made in the Union cemetery at Woodward.

Edward Wasson died at his home, near Waddle station, after an illness of several months from cancer of the bowels. He is survived by his wife and two sons. He was aged about sixty years.

Birds You May Kill.

Under a penalty of \$10 for each bird you are forbidden to kill any bird except the bluejay, the English sparrow, the European starling, the kingfisher, the cooper-hawk, the sharp-shinned hawk, the goshawk, the duck-hawk, the pigeon-hawk, the great-horned owl, the barrel owl, crow and the raven.

THE NEW DOG LAW.

Annual Tax 50 Cents and \$1.00—Constable to Kill Dogs Not Wearing "Tax Paid" Tags.

The new dog tax law was signed by the Governor recently. Briefly stated the new law is as follows: The tax remains the same as heretofore—50 cents for a male and \$1.00 for a female.

Section one provides that all dogs must wear a collar furnished by the owner, and a tag furnished by the county commissioners.

Section two provides that the county commissioners are annually to furnish tax collectors metal tags, which tags are to be given dog owners upon payment of the tax assessed against the dog. Upon the one side of the tag will be stamped "Dog for the year—(naming year) paid."

Section three provides that the owner of the dog must attach the tag to the collar of his dog.

Section four provides that if the owner of a dog fails to comply with the requirements of the law the constable must notify him that unless the law is obeyed within ten days, the owner must kill his dog, or else the deed must be performed by the constable.

Section six provides that a citizen or the tax collector may notify constables of the violation of the law, and it shall then become the duty of the constables to do the killing of the dogs, and for this service the constable is to receive fifty cents.

The Sober Light Plant.

D. H. Martin, general agent for the C. K. Sober automatic acetylene gas generator, offers to place this latest improved Sober machine along side of any other generator. Use the Sober generator two weeks, then use any other machine two weeks and let the buyer be the judge and purchase the machine he likes best.

Any person interested in good light will please write D. H. Martin, Home office, McAlisterville, Pa. Estimates given on plants alone, or on plants already installed, with all fixtures. Mr. Martin can show you all kinds of testimonials on the late improved machines.

This should not only interest town people, but country people as well. Light your home, make it pleasant and keep the boys and girls at home. Remember this machine does not raise the rates of your insurance. It is safer than kerosene, gasoline or electric lights. It is the only light for churches, stores and business places of all kinds.

All communications to the above address will receive prompt attention. Mr. Martin expects to be in Centre Hall the last of this month. Any person thinking of lighting with acetylene should write him concerning the matter, and when he comes he will call and give estimates on installing plants complete.

The Orphans' Home.

The committee in charge of the laying of the corner stone for the new addition to Odd Fellows' Orphans' Home, Sunbury, has decided to celebrate the occasion on August 15th. The committee, of which H. B. C. Russell, of Tanquetta, is chairman, is making elaborate preparations for the proper celebration of the affair. Invitations will be sent to all the Odd Fellow and Rebekah lodges in eastern Pennsylvania to participate in the ceremonies. Governor Stuart and many other prominent state officials have received invitations to attend, and it is quite probable that they will be present.

101 at Old Fort Hotel.

The Old Fort Hotel outdid itself Sunday when it served at its tables one hundred and one persons, all of whom were from out town. It was a most delightful Sunday, and consequently there was much pleasure driving, automobiling and cycling, the greater part of the pleasure seekers stopping at the Old Fort for dinner or supper. It is useless to speak of the elaborate meals served at this well-known hotel, because almost everybody who has ever even passed that point with anything like a hungry feeling has at least had the pleasure of sniffing the aroma of victuals that were being prepared.

Joint Council Meeting.

There will be a special meeting of the Joint Council of the Centre Hall Lutheran charge, at Centre Hall, Saturday, 2 p. m., June 22nd, at which time business of importance will come before the body. All members are requested to be present.

T. M. GRAMLEY, President.
H. W. FRANTZ, Secretary.

Lutheran Appointments.

Services will be held Sunday, June 16th by Rev. B. F. Reber as follows: Union, morning; Georges Valley, afternoon; Centre Hall, evening.

TEACHERS' SALARY LAW.

State Will Refund to Districts the Difference Between the Old and New Minimum Salaries.

There was much misunderstanding regarding the provisions of the new minimum salary law enacted by the recent legislature. Appended is the act in full, which can be studied by teachers, directors and tax payers, and deductions made:

AN ACT

Fixing the salaries of common school teachers, in districts of this Commonwealth receiving State appropriation, at no less than forty dollars per month where teacher holds a provisional certificate, and at no less than fifty dollars per month in all cases where the teacher holds a professional, permanent, or normal school certificate, and has had two years experience and obtained a certificate of proficiency in practice from the superintendent in charge of said teacher, and providing payment by the State for the increase of salary.

Section 1. Be it enacted, &c., that from and after the passage of this act, the salary of common school teachers, in districts of this Commonwealth receiving State appropriation, shall be no less than fifty dollars per month in all cases where the teacher holds a professional, permanent, or normal school certificate, and has had two years practice, and presents a certificate of proficiency in said practice, for said time, from the superintendent in charge of said teacher.

Section 2. That the minimum salary shall be forty dollars for all teachers holding certificates of less grade than required under section one of this act. And that the State shall pay the amount of increase in all salaries that are provided for under this act, and over the amount of salary paid in each school district in this Commonwealth in one thousand nine hundred and six, and said increase shall be paid out of the increased appropriation for the common schools.

Section 3. The president and secretary of school districts, where the prescribed salary is greater than that paid for the school year beginning June, one thousand nine hundred and six, shall certify under oath to the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, on blanks prepared by him, the number of teachers, with the salary paid to each; the number of teachers, with the salary paid to each, in one thousand nine hundred and six; the number of teachers, with the salary paid to each, for the year for which the report is made; also the number of months in the school term for said year. In order that any district may participate in this additional appropriation its report must be filed in the Department of Public Instruction on or before the first Monday of October, one thousand nine hundred and seven, and at the same time annually thereafter. The total amount payable to all the school districts in the State, on account of the increase of teachers' salaries as provided for in this act, shall first be deducted from the total annual school appropriation, and the balance of said appropriation shall be apportioned and distributed among the several school districts, as provided for under existing laws. The State Superintendent of Public Instruction shall, at the usual time of paying the regular appropriation, pay to those districts, on an excess equal to the difference between the salaries of the teachers for the school-year one thousand nine hundred and six and the minimum salaries prescribed by this act.

Section 4. This act shall take effect the first of June, one thousand nine hundred and seven.

Section 5. All acts or parts of acts inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed.

APPROVED—The 31st day of May, A. D. 1907. EDWIN S. STUART.

LOCALS.

In Lewistown a plant to pasteurize milk has been put into operation.

Sunday was children's day in Centre Hall, and how the little ones did enjoy it!

The date for the Dale family reunion this year has been set for Saturday, August 30th.

Mrs. Margaret Heylman Wise, a sister of J. G. Heylman, of Bellefonte, died at her home at Trout Run.

The Pine Grove Mills correspondent to the College Times writes: John Glenn was relieved of his wallet containing \$50, at Boalsburg, on Memorial Day.

Mrs. J. R. Sechrist, of Centre Hall, and Mrs. Anna Lenker, of Lemont, attended the sessions of the Woman's Missionary Society of the United Evangelical church, held in Altoona, last week. They report that the meetings were very interesting.

Farmers are very much exercised about the corn crop. Some of the planting was done a month ago, but little of it is above ground. A number of farmers replanted their entire crop, others part of it, and still others are deciding what best to do on account of the lateness of the season.

JUNE 14TH FLAG DAY.

The Stars and Stripes were Adopted on That Day 130 Years Ago.

June 14th will be Flag Day, which year by year is winning more of the general observance of which it is due. It was on June 14, 1777, that the Continental Congress enacted "That the flag of the thirteen States be thirteen stripes, alternate red and white, in a blue field, representing a new constellation." With the admission of new states new stripes were added until the Congress of 1816 restored the flag to its original thirteen horizontal stripes, alternating red and white; that the union be twenty stars, white in a blue field, and that on the admission of a new state into the union, one star be added to the union of the flag; and such addition to take effect on the Fourth of July next succeeding the admission." The story of the nation's growth is told by the forty-five stars which now gleam in a field of blue. Enforced patriotism is a mockery, but the proper observance of Flag Day is an admirable idea.

Transfer of Real Estate.

J. C. Croyle, et. ux., to Thos. E. Griffith, April 27, 1907; premises in Phillipsburg, \$1900.

Hamill Holmes, et. al., to John L. Holmes, April 3, 1907; premises in Ferguson twp. \$1400.

W. E. Rager, et. ux., to Levi L. Wance, May 31, 1907; property in State College, \$1500.

Ada E. Miller to Elizabeth E. Baer, March 23, 1907; lot in Rush twp. \$100.

John Stoner, et. ux., to Christ Reformed church, Feb. 19, 1907; lot in Miles twp. \$60.

W. Rush DeHaas, et. ux., to Miles Yingling, May 27, 1907; premises in Rush twp. \$800.

Good Intent Realty Co. to John T. Wineland, May 31, 1907; premises in Phillipsburg, \$1100.

Jacob W. Snook, assignee, to Mary E. Snook, Dec. 18, 1888; two lots in Millheim, \$280.

Mary E. Snook heirs to G. B. Stover, May 13, 1907; lot in Millheim, \$750.

Daniel K. Delcamp, et. ux., to Daniel B. Weaver, April 22, 1899; house and lot in Miles twp. \$520.

Sallie Wolf's trustees to Daniel K. Delcamp, May 7, 1898; 1/4 acre in Miles twp. \$325.

Wm. Lasteirs, et. ux., to Will Calvi; Meyer, April 15, 1907; two lots in College twp. \$50.

Cornelius Bower, et. al., to Geo. W. Keister, April 20, 1907; 4a 87p in Haines twp. \$500.

W. S. Heath to Mae Heath, May 2, 1907; lot in Rush twp. \$250.

Conrad Lesh, et. ux., to Cyrus F. Hoy, Feb. 23, 1907; lot in Zion, \$1125.

Letter to Thomas L. Moore.

Centre Hall, Pa.

Dear Sir: We should like to set your boys and girls at work on this question and casuistry.

A farmer is fattening three hogs in three small pens; they have equal room and straw and care, and are fed in these three ways: first hog, on a certain proportion of milk and cooked cornmeal; second hog, on the same, half water; third hog, on the same, half water and half sawdust. How long will it take, how much will it take, how much will they weigh, how much will it cost, and what'll the profit be on the three?

And a similar question in pigmentry. That same farmer is going to paint three barns, same size; and he says to three painters: "what'll you take to paint that barn?"

First painter scratches his head a few minutes and says: "I'll do it for \$50."

Second painter: "\$75."

Third painter: "\$97.48."

Will they each get a barn to paint, or one get two, or one all three, or nobody any; and what'll they make on the job?

That's about how painting goes sometimes.

But there is a way to reckon: \$5 a gallon. The difficulty is in knowing how many gallons to buy. There's a way out of that.

Buy the least-gallons paint, Devco. No matter how much one buys, he returns what's left. Costs nothing.

Yours truly,
F. W. DEVCO & Co.,
New York.

Kremer & Son sell our paint.

Religious News.

The Philadelphia Press is publishing a series of religious articles on Saturdays by William T. Ellis, who writes on the subject in a versatile and interesting manner.

The Press also publishes one-quarter of a page of interesting church news notes each Saturday of all denominations, and is securing many new subscribers everywhere, particularly from clergymen and others interested in church work.

Centre Reporter, \$1.00 per year.

TOWN AND COUNTY NEWS.

HAPPENINGS OF LOCAL INTEREST FROM ALL PARTS.

Friday a week is June 21st, the day on which summer begins.

Haines township supervisors purchased a new stone crusher, and put in operation last week.

Miss Margaret Knox, of Iowa, will spend the summer among friends in vicinity of Pine Grove Mills.

The Emanuel Cronmiller property in Aaronsburg was sold by the administratrix to Robert B. Hosterman. Consideration, \$525.

Miss Anna Orvis, daughter of Judge and Mrs. Ellis L. Orvis, graduated recently from a Philadelphia institution. The graduating exercises were attended by the parents of the young lady.

Haines township has made application for state aid to build one mile of road. The section to be built will extend from near the Millheim borough line eastward through Aaronsburg.

There is only one thing the matter with the new dog tax law: Constables ought to get \$10.00 for killing every dog not properly tagged, because a dead dog is cheap to the community at that price.

Invitations have been issued for the marriage of Miss Ellen Urania Clark and the Rev. Benjamin Gill, D. D., of State College, on Wednesday morning, June 19, at 11 o'clock, at the Fenway 28, Boston, Massachusetts.

By reason of the high character of its contents, their timeliness and the circumstance that they admirably reflect the more progressive sentiment of the day, "The Arena" is steadily and rapidly gaining in favor among independent thinkers.

W. K. Corl, a Ferguson township farmer, has been so bothered with dogs running over his grain fields that he has published a warning to all dog owners that unless the dogs are kept at home he will shoot them without further notice.

The latter part of last week Prof. S. Ward Gramley, accompanied by his little brother Eugene T., drove from Millheim to Centre Hall. He is giving some attention to the sale of school supplies during his vacation. In September he will begin his third school year as principal of the Mt. Union public schools.

"The future of the girl graduate," was the subject of an essay by Miss Elsie Bearick at the graduating exercises of the Millroy High School. She is a daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. O. Bearick, formerly of this place. The exercises were witnessed by Mrs. Mary Bearick, of Centre Hall, grandmother of the young graduate.

Friday afternoon Prof. John D. Meyer accompanied his cousin, Dr. J. Frank Meyer, to Philadelphia, where the Doctor holds a professorship in the University of Pennsylvania. Before returning home the former will attend the commencement exercises at Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, of which institution he is a graduate.

The Millheim school board organized by electing the following officers: President, A. Walter; secretary, J. Spigelmyer; treasurer, J. C. Hosterman. Prof. C. R. Neff was elected principal of the high school; M. C. Haines teacher of the grammar school, and Miss Clara Condo, teacher of the primary school. The intermediate school was not supplied.

One day recently while Isaiah Boob, of near Woodward, was operating a cross-cut saw on G. W. Wolf's stove mill, near Fiedler, the stove block he was sawing was thrown against his legs with such a force as to throw him down, and in falling he struck the saw with his left hand which was badly lacerated, remarks the Journal. Dr. C. S. Musser dressed the wound and amputated the third finger, which could not be saved.

Mr. and Mrs. Joseph K. Moyer, of near Rebersburg, last week started on a trip to the south and Jamestown Exposition. At Washington they will remain for a few weeks with their daughter, Mrs. Edwin A. Zeigler, formerly a school teacher in this place. They have not fully decided the termination of the trip, but they will at least go to North Carolina, and perhaps to Columbia, South Carolina, the home home of Mr. and Mrs. J. W. McCormick.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Nevin Meyer, and daughter, of Rebersburg, last week drove to Centre Hall to spend the day with D. J. Meyer and family. This was Mrs. Meyer's first trip to this place for almost a year, owing to the fact that her health would not permit it. Mr. Meyer who had been in the school book business for several years, and by the way a very successful agent, is not giving his attention to that business this summer, but is devoting his whole time to looking after his farm interests about Rebersburg.