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PHILADELPHIA, TUESDAY, JUNE 22, 1915.

Every fool wants to give advice, but this does not mean that men who give advice are necessarily fools.

Hill-deep for a Kill

THE Governor has driven his knife hill-deep into the nefarious body of bills...

The Better Part of Justice

THE commutation of Leo Frank's death sentence is as excellent an example of the purpose and the exercise of executive clemency...

Harpies of the Divorce Court

BETWEEN unsavory tales of "gunmen" furnished by detective agencies to act as "strike-breakers," and such an attack as William J. Burns has launched at the harpies of the divorce court...

The Table d'Hotel Tree

IN SPITE of the war, science continues to knock the props from under one terrestrial habit after another.

cost by using a running squash base. As for the small suburbanite farmer—what wonders open before him!

"Go Forth, My Son, and Help"

Thou hast heard men scorn thy city, call her wild Of counsel, mad; thou hast seen the fire of morn Flash from her eyes in answer to their scorn!

FLABBY Philadelphian the other day was bewailing in the lobby of a resort hotel the political conditions existing here.

But what a contemptible being is the man who shouts her vices from the housetop and will do nothing to end them!

Assist the Public Official

THE Department of Public Health has an arduous but an extremely valuable piece of work ahead of it this summer.

Germany's High-water Mark

ANY hour may bring news of Lemberg's fall. The present is as certainly the high-water-mark of Germany's war in the East as von Kluck's drive on Paris was of the war in the West.

Jitney is as Jitney does.

Next fiction hero: The Jitney Bandit.

Those oleomargarine crooks were slippery fellows.

France expects every fat man to do his duty.

To fit or not to fit, that is the question before Councils.

The "Anti" may ask the questions but the voters will give the answer.

"Olive" oil explosion causes \$50 damages.

French dressing called to the colors in Paris.

Goodness me! Victor Emmanuel went and forgot all about declaring war on Turkey.

Edison's portable 3,000,000 candle-power searchlight wouldn't be a bad thing for Pennsylvania politics. Or for Diogenes either.

Somebody ought to reduce the Allies' gains to a common denominator. This business of adding up a 4 of a mile, plus 43 yards, plus 3-1/2 of a kilometre is a little fatiguing.

Prexy Lowell may have told Harvard's graduating class that a man reaches his mental maximum at 33, but he didn't ask any of them to run the college for him.

HOMER'S NODS; OR, LITERARY HOWLERS

Unconscious Humor From the Writings of the Great, the Little and the Mediocre—Unintentional Fiction—Familiar Misquotations.

By ROBERT HILDRETH

FROM "schoolboy howlers" to "literary howlers" is not so very long a step, after all. Our enjoyment of them is due partly, no doubt, to a defect in our moral make-up.

In the case even of "schoolboy howlers" we feel a prideful sense of superior knowledge, and in the case of "literary howlers" we experience an accession of importance on discovering the fallibility of famous writers.

Perhaps, however, as was once suggested in a graduation essay, the slips (literary and otherwise) of great men owe their pleasantness and value principally to their usefulness in reminding and convincing us that we are all human and liable to err—the big, the little and the mediocre.

"When Homer nods," the phrase commonly applied to "literary howlers," is derived from a couplet in Pope's "Essay on Criticism," but is often employed in a connection somewhat different from that which it had originally. Pope wrote: Those oft are stratagems which errors seem, Nor is it Homer nods, but we that dream.

A Long Wait

Novel-readers who like to combine the classic with the topical may be turning back, now that another great chapter in the history of Constantinople is under way, to one of Walter Scott's less popular works, "Count Robert of Paris."

Some of the great panjandrums of French literature have perpetrated more amusing "howlers." An exceedingly familiar figure of speech gets the historian Thiers into trouble. "Throughout the day," he writes, "torrents of rain poured down and 20,000 Austrians hit the dust."

The wealthy and erudite lawyer, M. Troplong, proclaims in one of his sombre tomes that "in the midst of many crumbling institutions that of property stands erect upon its feet, seated upon Justice."

Francisque Sarcy, the great critic, writes, "On his helmet waves a missing plume," and again, "In the tones of Mlle. Ugalde one recognizes her mother's familiar hand."

Gustave Flaubert takes pains to collate many of the slips of contemporary writers; but he it is who wrote of a most accomplished lover that "with one hand he caressed her hair and with the other he said to her."

He also refers to a man who "was 70 years old and looked twice his age"; but doubtless the author means just what he says. One of the slips charged against Shakespeare, likewise, is no slip at all. Shakespeare speaks of "the seacoast of Bohemia."

In one of Scott's novels the sun sets in the east. Dickens makes Captain Cuttle put both hands in his mouth in giving a "halloo," though the gallant tar had long before lost one of his hands.

Mrs. Edith Wharton, strange to say, describes a man as walking on a stony beach, "his legs and arms still lashed to his sides." Chesterton writes of a man whose "two dark eyes on each side of his protuberant nose glistened gloomily like black buttons."

From recent popular novels and from stories in the magazines a great number of amusing blunders may be culled. As—"I screamed in silent rage."

"A girl tore her eyes from the stage, but her ears still lingered."

"I will never speak to you again as long as I live," hissed Dolly. "Just try to hiss it. A roar of silence followed."

"Her feet were swollen from standing in wet, salty water."

"Like Adela, he had dark brown hair, with enormous black eyebrows, a mustache and a short beard."

"Davidson stood wiping his wet neck on the piazza."

"What therefore was our surprise to find Tish sitting by the fire in her bathrobe and slippers, with a cup of tea in her lap and her feet in a tub of water."

We are reminded of those horrible examples cited in the Rhetoric textbook—like "The unfortunate woman was killed while cooking her husband's breakfast in a horrible manner."

YES, THE GANG'S BEHIND THE GOVERNOR



MEN OF THE MAYORALTY CAMPAIGN

John M. Walton, City Controller for Twenty Years—He Combines the Useful Distinctions of Being "Practical" and "Efficient." His Unique Reforms in City Accounting and His Big Savings.

By HERBERT S. WEBER

THE series of personal sketches of men who will figure prominently in the Mayoralty campaign does not seek to determine the fitness of candidates, but only to present the personalities behind the names.

THERE are two words which, ordinarily, mean pretty much the same thing, but just now, in their application to political affairs in Philadelphia, seem to have nearly opposite meanings—"practical" and "efficient."

It is possible to hear men who are perfectly willing to succeed Mr. Blankenbush as Mayor say with emphasis: "I do not believe in efficiency; I am a practical man."

The explanation of this astounding remark is simple: "practical" has come to mean what is done for the good of the organization; "efficient" what is done for the good of the city.

So far as it is possible to do both, John M. Walton seems to have had great success. He is "practical" enough to have been City Controller for the last 20 years; and yet his staunchest supporter in the organization cannot deny that his work is "efficient."

Counting Up the City's Dollars

So it is of great significance that he is considered in the running for the Mayoralty and that within the last few days his chances are believed to have improved.

It would seem that the five or six "practical" men, who, on breezy porches at Atlantic City, are about to name as "practical" a candidate as they dare, are afraid they may have to inject a little efficiency into the candidate's make-up after all, to stand him in good stead against a strong independent opponent.

And they would find more than a little efficiency in Walton's record if they hit upon the idea of adapting him to the mayoral harness. That record rests upon his establishment of a remarkable system of municipal business procedure, which has attracted the attention of experts in many cities in this country and abroad.

Upon a system of inventory which has been the wonder of visitors who have made pilgrimages here to study it; upon a method of accounting and a system of daily balances (something absolutely unknown before his time in municipal affairs), so that he can tell exactly how much money is on hand and how much has been spent every afternoon when he closes his desk for the day.

In addition to all this, he has revolutionized the sinking fund system, so that nearly \$1,000,000 a year is saved the city for use in improvements; and to cap the climax of this "efficient" though "impractical" career, he is unrivaled for assiduity in his duties and, though at times in the past he has not been in the best of health, enjoys the amazing record of having missed not more than five working days in 20 years.

He never takes a vacation; and it is in rather striking contrast to read of Senator McNichol and Congressman Vard playing the delightful game of political chess at the shore while the veteran Controller is hard at work in City Hall on the hottest day in summer, with military fidelity to the appointed task.

He has much of the steady bearing and disciplined habit of dress and manner that is characteristic of a retired army officer; and that he is—a captain by brevet after service in the Civil and Indian wars. There is never any question of finding him in; if he's out a clerk in his department will say with precision at what time he will return.

And presently in walks the Captain, military, but modest, and rather jaunty, for all his 78 years, with Panama hat (turned up in front and down in back), immaculate in light summer garb of youthful cut. He has a most quiet and natural courtesy and an air of taking everything easily. He was asked to verify the statements in a long list of reforms that he had inaugurated, and it was murmured that he was a mayoral possibility. He raised a forbidding hand: "Ab, I'm not a candidate for Mayor."

"Would you refuse to run if the call for such a candidacy?" "That is putting it in a very difficult way," he replied gravely. "There are

owns and owes has been one of the prime factors, the Controller believes, in being able to negotiate 4 per cent. bonds at par when other cities in the last two or three years have been obliged to increase the interest rate to 4 1/2 and 5 per cent.

Saving a Million a Year

The signing of the consolidated loan bill by Governor Brumbaugh a fortnight ago completes a series of economies for which Captain Walton has striven for years. It fills out a scheme of savings which total nearly \$1,000,000 a year.

Two years ago he set about a reclassification of the city's sinking fund and the reserves required to meet the funded debt at maturity. As a result of this study he has been able to effect an annual saving of \$533,226.87, by reducing the payments from the general fund to the sinking fund by that amount.

He found as a result of the much higher returns upon the sinking fund's investments in city loans over those of some years ago that a large surplus had been accumulated in the sinking fund and was lying idle there. Another large saving has been in the slowing up of the sale of loans and the consequent reduction of the very large cash balances carried in the city treasury.

The act of Assembly of June 24, 1913, made it lawful for appropriations to be made, contracts entered into and work to be done on loans without awaiting the issue of the loans. This made it possible to inaugurate the practice of deferring the actual sale of loans until near the time that the money was needed.

Walton was thus enabled to effect an annual saving of \$190,000. The act approved this month creates a consolidated loan fund and permits the temporary use of loan moneys in the treasury belonging to one loan for paying warrants drawn against another loan. This act will effect a further saving of at least \$200,000, making a total saving of \$380,000 by these changes in the method of administering treasury balances of loan moneys. Adding this to the \$533,226.87 we have a total annual saving of \$913,226.87.

In some future years these changes will effect savings much greater than this sum, as when an important piece of public work requiring large loans is contemplated, such as the work covered by the \$16,000,000 loan of 1904 and the \$13,500,000 loan of 1907, the procedure described can be followed, while under the old method the whole amount of the loan would have to be sold before work could be begun. In the future, portions of loans need only be sold as money is required to make payments.

Capitalizing the annual savings effected under the present Controller at 4 per cent, they represent a sum amounting to about \$25,000,000.

Yet an Organization Man

Yet Captain Walton is an organization man. In the "hands" of "cards" which McNichol and the Vares are holding, where the Atlantic sends cool breezes to enhance the sport, the Controller is understood to be one of the "cards" in McNichol's "hand," to be "played" against a Vace man, in the intensely difficult game of finding a candidate who will be acceptable at the same time to McNichol, to Vace, and to the people of Philadelphia.

HAWAII

There's a path of gold on the ocean's breast When the lamp of the day swings low. And it leads the way to a land of rest Where the palm and olive grow. No strife is there, nor want, nor care, Nor taint of a human ill; And it backs away in a blue-girt day, With a night that is deep and still.

There's a velvet stir in the darkening gloam, And a heave of the drowsy sea, And a white-lipped wave from her coral home With a whisper of mystery. And the realm of the deep is hushed in sleep. Save a dreaming seabird's cry; While overhead, with a silent tread, The stony worlds move by.

—W. F. Burns, in Leslie's.

AMUSEMENTS

B. F. KEITH'S THEATRE CHESTNUT AND TWELFTH STREETS Elizabeth Brice and Charles King Walter C. Kelly PRINCES RADJAH; TIGHE & BARRETT; MILO GALETTI'S BARONS; OTHERS

GLOBE MARKET AND JUNIPER PHOTO-PLAYS 11 TO 11 1/2 MARY MILES MINTERS IN "ALWAYS IN THE WAY" 10, 12, 20 Thers. Fr., Sat., Viola Allen, "White Star"

NIXON'S ROBERTS' INVENTION; 4 MEL-LODY MONARCHS AND MAID; KATHLEEN; A BOUTON; MCCONNELL; WALKER & WALLACE; LEON & DANIEL; WILFRED DONOHUE PICTURES

Woodside Park THEATRE—Eggs 5/15 Mat. Wed. & Sat. "A KNIGHT FOR A DAY" Treaders Frank Baird's Recitals Special Variety Waite