

**The Centre Democrat.**

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**EDITORIAL.**

CONGRESSMAN Arnold stirred up a hornet's nest when he selected a new postmaster at Milesburg. Everybody is dissatisfied over the appointment.

CONGRESS has adjourned, the Pennsylvania legislators have gone home to itemize their expense accounts and everybody is resting much easier.

THE Hebrew Bible is for bimetalism, straight and simple. It is written: "When silver and gold increases, then everything thou possessest will be multiplied."

SENATOR Teller, of Colorado, who has been a life-long protectionist sums up the new tariff bill in the following style: "It is the meanest tariff ever enacted." About correct.

DR. SWALLOW thinks he can show Gov. Hastings a few bad items in the appropriation for furnishing Grace church. At least he will try. The Dr. seems to be irrepresable.

THE country appears to be going gold crazy. Excitement increases everywhere. By next summer Alaska will be overrun with adventurers in search of fortunes. In almost every town expeditions are being organized to start for the Alaska gold fields.

THE outlook for an increased price in grain continues favorable. That interests our farmers more than Dingley's Trust Tariff or Alaska's gold fields. There is a probability of prosperity from this source and McKinley can't appropriate all the credit.

ALARMING reports from Washington state that President McKinley's eyesight is suddenly failing and expert opinion are alarmed lest he may lose his sight. The cause of the ailment is the smoke and cinders from industries rising over the country are continually filling his eyes. Very sad indeed. How he must suffer.

POWDERLY'S nomination for commissioner of immigration did not go through. His recommendation was simply a reward for political chicanery. He turned a complete somersault on the currency question last year, to get an office. Powderly has been repudiated by the labor organizations for his crookedness. He is a sample of inconsistency and corrupt practices. Such men should be turned down.

GOV. HASTINGS accompanied his veto of the Becker bill with a strong denunciation. It was a pure political measure to allow a few political heilers to retain control of offices in Philadelphia. It was one of Boss Quay's methods to keep control of city politics. Gov. Hastings seems to be on the right track and doing good work. Hastings is watching Quay, while Dr. Swallow keeps close on the heels of the Governor to remind him of short comings, all of which is for the public good.

THERE is little use now in commenting on the bad features of the Dingley tariff. The best plan is to get down to business immediately and make the best of it. About four years from now the merits and demerits of the measure can be more accurately judged. One thing is evident that the trusts received special favors as was indicated by the rapid rise in the value of their stocks. The bill is now known as the "Trust Tariff."

**SOME OF OUR TARIFF LAWS.**

The conference tariff is the twenty-fifth tariff bill that has passed congress. The first was enacted July 4, 1789, two months after Washington was inaugurated president. This was a temporary law to provide revenues for the new government, and was followed by the more extended general laws of 1790 and 1791. The preamble of the first tariff law has been made much of as sustaining the constitutionality of a protective tariff. In addition to raising revenue the preamble recited as one of its objects "the encouragement and protection of manufacturers." This first tariff bill, as all others have been, was both specific and ad valorem in its way of levying duties, but the average of the duties laid under it was only eight and a half per cent, as against 49 of the McKinley law, 53 of the conference law and 39 of the Wilson law. From 1789 to 1816 seventeen tariff laws were enacted. In the latter year the first distinctively protective tariff law was made. The embargo and the war of 1812 had diverted large amounts of capital and enterprise to manufacturing from the carrying trade. It is singular that this first protective tariff was favored by the south and opposed by the north. Webster opposed and Calhoun advocated the protective policy in those times, but afterward changed sides. Next came the tariff of 1824, more decidedly protective, followed by "the tariff of abominations" in 1828, which was so high as to create a great popular revolt

against protection, very much like that following the McKinley act of 1890. It was reduced in 1832, but still kept so high that the South Carolina nullification movement was precipitated, which was settled by Henry Clay's compromise tariff, providing for a general scaling down of duties until none should exceed 20 per cent. Then came the protective tariff of 1842, followed by a reaction and the Walker revenue tariff of 1846, still further reduced by the tariff of 1857. It looked for a time as if the tariff question was permanently adjusted in the direction of low rates, as Mr. Blaine says in his "Twenty Years," by these two laws, and that the question would be removed from politics, but the civil war came, with its high tariffs needed for revenue purposes in 1861 and later. After the war, just as after the war of 1812, the manufacturers had command of the field and ordained high protective taxes. The Wilson law was the first revolt, but it was passed at an unpropitious time and had no fair test. The average duration of our tariff laws is only about four years, and it is safe to assume there will be urgent demands for the modification of the existing law before that period has elapsed.

**Death of Mrs. G. W. Bouse.**

Mrs. Virginia Miles Bouse, widow of the late Rev. George W. Bouse, died at 5:30 o'clock Saturday morning at the home of her son, William A. Bouse, at Tyrone, Pa., of a complication of ailments incident to advanced age.

Virginia Miles Bouse was born at Newmarket, Virginia, July 14, 1832. Her age at death was 65 years and 10 days. In 1851 she was united in marriage to Rev. George W. Bouse who was then stationed at Springfield, Virginia, in the Baltimore conference of the Methodist Episcopal church. Since that time she had resided in the numerous places to which her husband's long service in the itinerant ministry had called him. They lived at West Clearfield, Penn's Valley, Half Moon, Green Village, Warriors-mark, and from 1837 to 1891 at Milesburg. In 1892 Rev. Mr. Bouse died at Woodland. Mrs. Bouse after her husband's death made her home with her sons in Tyrone. She is survived by four sons: Dr. John A. Bouse, of Chambersburg; William A., George M. and Harry Izer, of Tyrone. Interment in Tyrone cemetery.

**Dr. Swallow Accepts.**

Dr. S. C. Swallow has accepted the challenge of Governor Hastings, in which he called on any one having knowledge of irregularities in the bill for fitting up Grace church for the use of the late legislature to furnish him the information within ten days.

In the challenge the governor declared he would "smite it like every other steal" if any one could "show a single dishonest dollar in it."

Dr. Swallow sent a letter to the governor of which the following is a copy: Harrisburg, July 23, 1897.

Governor D. H. Hastings,

My Dear Sir: On the 20th of July you gave objections to Grace church expense ten days in which to present their objections.

We expect to perform the unpleasant task you invite by the middle of next week.

Yours Respectfully,  
S. C. Swallow.

From this it will appear that Dr. Swallow is not annoyed by prosecutions and libel suits, and is still in the fight for honest government.

**Bounties on Noxious Animals.**

The new act of assembly, which was approved by Governor Hastings July 9, 1897, and which provides for the destruction of wildcats, foxes and minks in this commonwealth, contains the following provisions: That upon the presentation of the body or pelt of any of the animals mentioned before a magistrate, alderman or justice of the peace by the person who has killed such animal, he shall receive from such officer a certificate setting forth the kind of animal, when and by whom killed, etc., which certificate, when handed to the county commissioners will warrant the commissioners to give to the holder of the same an order on the county treasurer for premiums as follows: For every wildcat, two dollars; for every fox, red or gray, one dollar; for every mink, fifty cents.

An attempt at a fraudulent collection of these premiums subjects the guilty person to a fine not exceeding \$500, or an imprisonment in county jail not exceeding one year.

**The Alien Tax Law.**

The county commissioners have received blanks for the making of reports of employers of aliens under the new tax law, and will supply all persons making requisition for them. All persons firms, and corporations employing two or more foreign born male persons 21 years of age are requested to keep a record of the number of days such persons are employed and to make a quarterly report to the commissioners office. A fine of not less than \$500, or not more than \$1,000 will be imposed upon all not complying with the act.

**In a Few Words.**

Dr. Swallow was sentenced to pay a fine of \$500 for telling the truth about stealings at Harrisburg which he was unable to prove. He has taken an appeal to the superior court.—Reporter.

—Straw hats at any price, [at] Lewins.

**HARRISBURG LETTER.**

**Designs of Competing Architects Submitted For New Capitol.**

**CRUSADE ON PADDED ACCOUNTS.**

Veto of the Becker Confirmation Bill. Appropriation For State Normal Schools Reduced—Collection of Bonus on Charters.

(Special Correspondence.)

Harrisburg, July 27.—About the middle of August the capitol building commission will be ready to invite proposals for the erection of the new capitol. On Saturday the designs of the competing architects were submitted, and they are now in the hands of the board of three experts, consisting of Professor Warren P. Laird, of Philadelphia; John M. Carrere, of New York, and Walter Cook, of New York. These experts will go over and carefully consider the 30 plans submitted and recommend those eight designs which in their judgment are best, giving to each a rank in accordance with its merit. Saturday, Aug. 7, the three experts will make their report to the commission, which will announce its decision a week later. The first prize in this competition will be the designating of the winner as the architect of the legislative or main building, the only structure at present provided for, albeit the drawing are to include a general group of buildings with the legislative as the central building. The winners of the second and third prizes in the competition will get handsome bronze medals. If by reason of youth or inexperience, or for any other reason, the architect chosen shall, in the judgment of the commissioners, be an unsuitable person to be placed in charge of this work he shall, at the request of the commissioners, associate with himself in the performance of his duties an architect who shall be acceptable to the commissioners. Six of the architects were especially invited to submit drawings and were allowed \$1,000 each for expenses in order to make sure that first class architectural skill would be represented in the competition. On Saturday the drawings were all numbered and a small opaque envelope in each package containing the name of the designer was also numbered. These numbers were given to Judge Simonton, of this city, and will be kept by him until the commissioners have made their selection. They will then call upon him for the envelope number corresponding with the number on the design selected, and then for the first time the name of the successful architect will be known.

**Crusade on Committees' Accounts.**  
The remarkable crusade of Governor Hastings against the extraordinary accounts of legislative investigating committees has been the talk of the past week. From one end of the state to the other he has received nothing but commendation, and it is believed that never again will the governor of Pennsylvania be troubled with such excessive charges. It is generally predicted that future legislatures will go very slow in appointing committees to investigate all sorts of charges. The recent session was an unusual one in this respect, all kinds of scandal and every suggestion of misery in the coal regions or elsewhere being a sufficient excuse for the creation of an investigating committee. This became so frequent that Governor Hastings, in a message to the lawmakers, toward the latter part of the session, took occasion to remind them that such committees were an expensive luxury, intimating that they should go slow in this direction. The hint, however, did not seem to have any appreciable effect upon the legislature, for when it came to making up the expense accounts of these committees the padding was something that astonished even experienced legislators. For several years election contests in the legislature have been growing more and more scandalous. It was expected after a contest two years ago that these contests would cease, unless very strong grounds were presented for unseating a sitting member, but notwithstanding what occurred at the session of 1895, there were two contests at the late session. It remains to be seen what the governor will do with the bills. He wants to know what was paid to lawyers in these cases, and how much each member of a committee spent, and in what way he spent the money. In other words, he is desirous of knowing whether there is any reason for the very large bills which have been sent to him.

There were several investigating committees, and some of the members have submitted to the governor in writing, and others verbally, their items of expense. In most cases these statements have been marked confidential, and of course the governor will respect their wishes. It is believed, however, that he will veto most of these bills. One stenographer, in whose favor a charge of \$1,500 was made, he written to the governor that he never authorized such a bill, and that his charges were far below the figures quoted. Senator Vaughan, of Lackawanna, repudiated his bill entirely, and said he never intended to accept the money. Representative Campbell, of Westmoreland, called on the governor and explained that the item of \$177 in his favor represented mileage if it represented anything, and that he did not want a cent unless mileage is granted by the governor as a proper item of expense.

**Becker Bill Vetoed.**  
The latter part of the past week a swinging veto of the Becker confirmation bill was filed with the secretary of the commonwealth. This is the political measure designed by the Quay leaders of Philadelphia to unhorse the anti-Quay city administration by requiring all appointments to be confirmed by three-fifths of the members of select council. In his message the governor says: "There never has been submitted to me for my consideration a bill so utterly destitute of merit. It is so bad that no argument can be made in favor of any of its provisions. The bill itself furnishes a better argument against its approval than can any language of mine. To say nothing of the impracticability of such a measure it would be certain, in my judgment, to open the door to corruption that would permeate the entire city and ultimately

be likely to affect every city official. It would open a new mart for the political trader and would make the select council of the city of Philadelphia an oligarchy that would ultimately control the city with that tyranny which always comes where power is restrained." This is the bill which was the subject of a rather animated interview between the governor and Senators Quay and Penrose recently.

**Work on the New Capitol.**  
Owing to the fact that the ruins of the burned state house were removed while the architects were at work it will be possible to begin work on the new structure without delay. Governor Hastings is confident of being able to finish the new building in time for the next session of the legislature, but there are doubts as to whether he will get through in the short time that remains to complete the work. However, the governor has great executive force, and the facilities for transporting material and constructing large buildings are such that it is possible for him to make good his pledge to the legislature. Nobody believes, however, that the capitol will be finished in its entirety before the lawmakers come back to Harrisburg.

After much search the corner stone of the old capitol was found. It was located at the southeast corner of the burned building, and the contents were found intact. They were enclosed in a glass jar, within a wooden box, and consisted of a list of the state officers, architects, chief masons and certain interesting historical documents relating to the origin of the state. These relics have been carefully preserved, and will be placed in the new corner stone.

**The State Normal Schools.**  
All the principals of the state normal schools were here and had a conference with the governor regarding appropriations for these institutions. They have been accustomed to receiving \$40,000 for two years, and the governor wanted to know whether they could not do with less. With one voice they said they couldn't. Then the governor told them they would take less or nothing, whereupon they hurriedly conferred and then informed the governor that they could probably get along with \$25,000 per school. This was agreed to, with the further proviso that they shall not draw any money before next May. Twice the normal schools have been compelled to accept a cut in their appropriations, and it means that they will eventually be cut off entirely from state aid.

Several bills were lost in the shuffle of the late session, and the record of the journal clerks showing that they had been passed by both bodies the bills were received at the state department upon the affidavits of the several clerks being attached. The Garrett School for the Deaf and Dumb, in Philadelphia, the Hamot hospital, at Erie, and one or two other appropriation bills were thus resurrected.

There is talk here of a reorganization of the department of agriculture, but Secretary Edge, who has just returned from a long tour for the benefit of his health, says he knows nothing about it. Frank N. Moore, of Bradford county, a special agent of the pure food department at Pittsburg, was here last week. He will not continue in the department unless he gets more help at Pittsburg, and this has probably given rise to the story that he also contemplates retiring Aug. 1. There is no doubt that there has been considerable friction in the various bureaus of the department of agriculture, but it is hard to get at the real situation. Secretary Edge has always been popular as the head of the agricultural affairs of the state, and he has a firm hold on the affections of the farming element.

**Bonus on Charters.**  
One of the new revenue bills which is likely to exceed the expectations of the state officials is that changing the method of collecting the bonus on charters at the state department. It is conservatively estimated that it will produce about \$200,000 a year. Under the old law the tax on charters was one-fourth of 1 per cent., and applicants were required to pay one-half the bonus down, the other half being paid practically at the convenience of the corporation and frequently never. All increases were certified to the auditor general, and there was little revenue from this source. Now the entire bonus of one-third of 1 per cent. must be paid when the charter is granted, and also the same amount on increases of capital stock. In less than a month after the bill was signed by the governor the receipts from this source were \$50,000.

An important meeting of the state central committee of the Prohibition party was held here a day or two ago, and it was decided to open headquarters for the campaign in this city about the middle of August. The friends of Dr. Swallow, the Prohibition candidate for state treasurer, hope that he will be endorsed by the Democrats, who are now considering the matter. It is certain that Swallow will get the votes of many disgruntled Republicans. The cold-water people will make the results of the last legislature the principal campaign issue.

Gov. Hastings has issued a bold challenge to all his critics in the matter of the furnishing of Grace church for the use of the legislature to produce evidence of a single dishonest dollar in the bill of expense, with the promise that he will smite it like every other steal. Dr. Swallow has accepted the challenge, as has also the Pittsburg Leader.

**Two Nice Appointments.**  
Under the new law creating a state bureau of mines and mining in the department of internal affairs the governor will have two nice appointments.

The chief of the new department will get \$3,375 and the assistant \$1,342. The Orme bill taxing store orders 10 per cent on their face value has been vetoed by the governor on the ground that it would have utterly failed to accomplish the purpose of the promoters of the bill; that the tax would have inevitably fallen upon the miners instead of the operators. The bill providing for the appointment of local managers of farmers' institutes and further defining the duties of superintendents of institutes was laid low by the governor. He didn't think it was necessary. The governor has given the Kunkel fire alarm bill its quietus in a short, but businesslike veto message. He thinks that municipalities can arrange these affairs themselves.

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