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CHAS. R. KURTZ, Ed. and Prop.

BELLEVILLE, PA., THURSDAY, OCTOBER 14, 1897.

VOL. 19, NO. 40.

PETER MENDIS RELEASED

The Habeas Corpus Hearing on
Monday

THE TESTIMONY VERY WEAK

There Was Nothing Offered to Incriminate the Prisoner—No Evidence of Poison Shown—Mendis Very Grateful Upon his Release—The Corneily Case Still in the Hands of the Court.

On Monday afternoon Peter Mendis was given a habeas corpus hearing. He was indicted for poisoning James Maria, who died Jan. 6, '96, at this place. The evidence was insufficient, very weak, and the court soon put an end to the proceedings. Peter Mendis now is free and he is mighty glad of it too.

The hearing was before Judge Love, at 2 p. m. Monday. District Attorney Singer and J. W. Alexander, Esq., appeared for the commonwealth. H. S. Taylor and J. K. Johnston for the prisoner. Only six witnesses testified.

Joshua Folk told of the man's death and preparation of the body by him for burial.

Hard P. Harris, undertaker, testified to the interment, also Sexton Howley told substantially the same.

Dr. M. J. Locke, who made the post-mortem said, he found the body partly decomposed, the heart and lungs very much so, while the stomach, intestines and kidneys were well preserved which he considered an unusual occurrence.

Mrs. Anna Spierly testified to taking care of the deceased during the last days of his illness. She gave him medicine once, from a bottle, but did not know what it was. Peter Mendis lived with Maria at the same time and also gave Maria medicine in her presence but she did not know what it was. She gave much other evidence of little significance. Druggist Parrish was called but did not remember of having furnished any medicine for the sick man.

Mr. Singer then stated that they had no further testimony and that the analysis of the parts sent to Philadelphia had not yet been made.

The court then promptly dismissed the case.

The District Attorney states that the parties who furnished the first information, when placed upon the stand, told different stories under oath.

Peter Mendis was in jail since September 22nd, during which time he was apparently unconcerned as to the result and always insisted that he never committed such a deed. He declares that his partner never had any money saved as he was extravagant. Mendis also claims that he has very little himself.

When he was informed that the court dismissed his case, his face brightened up and he began shaking hands with numerous friends about him and even wanted to shake hands with the judge for the release, and would have attempted to do so had he not been restrained by his counsel.

Since the hearing, the District Attorney received a report from the preliminary analysis, in Philadelphia. In substance it was that no traces of the principal poisons were found, but there was evidence of some metallic substance, to which they attribute the preservation of the stomach and alimentary canal. It would take several months to make the absolute test.

As the discharge of Mr. Mendis is final, and he can not be indicted again, it is not likely that this investigation will be carried any further.

CORNELLY'S CASE.

Since the argument for a new trial in the James Cornelly case, who was convicted of arson, there have been no new developments. The court took the additional testimony and other documents for careful consideration and will deliver its decree later.

Says That He Helped to Murder Wilson.

A man by the name of William Harris gave himself up to the police authorities in Philadelphia, Monday night, stating that he was one of three men who were responsible for the death of William C. Wilson, the aged librarian, who was killed in his store in that city on the evening of July 16th, 1897. He has informed the police authorities that he, with two other men, went into the book store for the purpose of robbery, and that when they unexpectedly met Wilson in the place they beat him to death and then made their escape. The police are investigating the story and are making an effort to locate the man's alleged accomplices.

Another Man Provided For.

J. G. Harris, of Lock Haven, on Friday received notice of his appointment to a position in the pasting and folding department at Washington.

AFTER OLD DEBTS.

State Authorities Taking Action That Will Interest Many.

Thousands of farm proprietors and owners of timber and mountain land will find themselves very shortly vitally concerned in the act passed by the recent legislature, "providing for the collection of the amounts due the commonwealth for purchase money, interest and fees due on unpatented lands." The act affects lands in about every county in Pennsylvania, and the claims range from \$12 to well on to \$1,000. All the available force in the internal affairs department has been put to work gathering data, and they have unearthed some interesting facts from musty records. So little has been published about this matter for the last 30 years that comparatively few people are aware of the large number of claims the state holds against land owners, and it is estimated that if they all are collected the aggregate will be over \$600,000. These claims are, of course, liens against the lands, and the attorney general is empowered to enforce their collection.

An examination of the old lien dockets show that there are quite a number of unpaid claims in Allegheny county. They are nearly all of small amounts, none reaching over \$50, aggregating \$3,000. An erroneous impression prevails that these claims are only against lands sold to the commonwealth by the heirs of William Penn. Many claims are recorded against these portions of the soil of the state, but in Western Pennsylvania there are liens against many holdings from the state, of the great stretches of land it purchased from the Indians, the famous Six Nations, in 1784, which embraced all the territory from Lake Erie down to Pittsburg and from Lake Erie to Towanda and down to Lock Haven.

A GOLD STORY.

The story, first published in this paper, about the gold find in Greensvalley, has traveled far and wide over the country. It is true in substance, but not in fact—if that expression will cover the case. Since our last issue there has been considerable comment over this gold find and it is well that the exact story be told, and especially so for the benefit of Mr. Kline Zimmerman, who was the first to discover the gold quartz in the Hecla stream.

When a man gets the Klondike fever, gold is on his brain continually. While the men were at work building fish dams in the stream above Hecla, they noticed that Kline Zimmerman had the ailment. He was continually on the alert for the presence of gold in almost every spadeful of earth that was turned up. His entire conversation was gold.

One of the practical jokers in the crowd happened to have a large piece of gold quartz at home, that he brought from a western mine. This he pulverized at home one evening and the next day he threw it in the bed of the creek where Zimmerman would be certain to work. Sure enough, the glittering specks of gold in the quartz did not escape his eagle eye. When he gathered together his particles, here and there, he grew wild with delight and informed the other workmen of his precious find. Of course, they pretended much amazement and helped to keep up the joke.

What elaborate plans Zimmerman had for the further search for gold we cannot say, and it is not likely that he is aware yet that some of his fellow workmen have been having an immense lot of sport out of this gold find, at the expense of Mr. Zimmerman, who actually found gold, but it was dropped in his way to cure his Klondike fever.

Coons Plenty.

Penns valley appears to be full of coon this year. Colonel Benham, who was stopping at the Musser hotel in Millheim for a few days, went coon hunting one night last week and the first night captured eleven and the second night seven coons. The young men who accompanied him were Squire Tobias, ex-Sheriff Condo, Mr. Walter, cashier of the bank, and Mr. Zerby, assistant cashier, along with Squire Musser, of bay window fame, Billy Musser, hotelier, and ex-Constable George Mensch, Millheim's liverman, and others. When the dogs put a coon up a tree the party took turns in climbing it and shaking the animal off. When it came Squire Musser's turn to do the climbing act he refused on account of his rotundity, and for refusing he did not get his share of the game, consequently a lawsuit is pending.—Crit.

Death at Hecla.

Mrs. Nancy A. Guiple, an aged widow lady, died at the home of Mr. J. J. Johnsonbaugh, Monday morning at 3 o'clock. She was born April 4th 1804 and was 93 years and six months old. The funeral took place Wednesday at 9 a. m. from the Union church at Hecla.

EXTRAVAGANCE AT HARRISBURG

Facts For the Consideration of
Taxpayers.

INCREASE OF EXPENDITURES

What it Cost Under Gov. Pattison—State Expenditures Largely Increased Under Hastings—Quay Politics Corrupts State Officials—A Change is Needed.

Under the spur of the profligacy and speculations of the republicans the cost to the taxpayers of officially running this state grows with a rapidity and unceasingness that baffle the performances of Jack's famous bear stalk. The process is a veritable rape of the treasury, the crime being no less inexcusable, deliberate and determined than those ravishments of the person that make lynch law comparatively respectable, if not a practical necessity.

The enormous majorities that the machine has for some years past been able to insure for anything or anybody that was labeled Republican have encouraged its representatives in the legislature to act what Vanderbilt proclaimed: "This public be d—."

The time for a check to this odious and dangerous rule has arrived. The opportunity is afforded in the nominations made by the democratic party for state treasurer and auditor general. The election of these gentlemen is "the way out of the woods." Their defeat means not only a continuance of the fraud and debauchery heretofore practiced, but such an increase of it as must appal and ruin.

Here are some figures that without going into confusing detail will convey to the taxpayer an approximate idea of the manner in which he has been and is being robbed.

Robert Emory Pattison was governor from 1883 to 1887. The appropriations for the legislative, executive and judicial departments made in 1883 to cover the years 1883-84 less the sums vetoed, aggregated \$1,817,088.97.

For the year 1889-90 of Beaver's administration the amount was \$2,154,118.01.

For the years 1897-98 under Hastings, not including the items Hastings vetoed, the total was \$3,126,495.74, or very nearly double the sum consumed under Pattison from 1883 to 1887.

But Pattison was again governor from 1891 to 1895. The appropriations "for salaries of state officers, clerks and incidental expenses" and without reference to legislative and judicial expenses, during these four years, as compared with the appropriations under Hastings, were as follows:

For Pattison.	\$59,450 00
1891-92.....	559,450 00
1893-94.....	552,659 26
For Hastings.	1,359,816 48
1895-96.....	1,233,502 93
1897-98.....	1,233,502 93

Here is considerably more than 100 per cent. increase for which not the shadow of an excuse can be offered, and increase at a time when general trade conditions were and are such as to compel the taxpayers from whom these moneys were relentlessly dragged to the exercises of a most rigid economy. As to the superiority and greater safety of democratic administration as compared with the present administration, the figures above given are ample testimony. But as further proof that the looters have refused to give ear to the complaints of the people and will decline to be halted in their wrongdoing by anything short of a democratic victory, the following comparisons of items in the first general appropriation bill under Hastings, with the second bill passed by the legislature just adjourned are given:

Increase in auditor general's department.....	\$9,700 00
Treasury department.....	2,000 00
Internal affairs department.....	16,525 00
State librarian.....	14,000 00
Philadelphia harbor master.....	10,000 00
Judiciary.....	23,564 00
Public grounds and buildings.....	107,154 50
Department of agriculture.....	14,820 00
Department of public printing.....	700 00
Factory inspector's department.....	6,000 00
Legislature.....	49,746 86
Total.....	\$237,510 36

And in the last general appropriation bill there were \$250,000 less awarded the charities of the state than in the bill of 1895.

The figures in the case, as here given, are as few and simple as could be made to cover it. They will be easily comprehended. They show the present cost of running the state departments at Harrisburg as compared with the cost under the democratic government of 1883-85, the democratic government of 1891-95 and the first two years of the present administration. The legislature of 1895, which provided the latter, was universally recognized as the most corrupt and

reckless that had up to that time assembled, but these figures show that it was innocuous almost as compared with the body so recently adjourned. And the new capitol scheme, and Custodian John Delaney's scheme for making an Aladdin's palace out of the gubernatorial residence, and a thousand and one others now incubating indicate as clearly as the sun at high noon that 1899 is looked forward to for furnishing still more luxurious pickings and proportionately increased imposition upon the people. Balking the figures for all purposes, the gross cost of the three administrations respectively, as covered by the general appropriations bills passed under each, sums up as follows:

Pattison's.....	\$30,069,155.47
Beaver's.....	31,109,338.73
Hastings'.....	48,000,000.00

The average citizen may well stand aghast at the revelations these figures contain. But standing aghast will not bring the remedy. For that end your vote should be cast for Walter E. Ritter and Michael E. Brown, the democratic candidates for auditor general and state treasurer, whose election would be the beginning of the end of treasury ring rule, and would inaugurate a new order of things under which the citizen and taxpayer would get honest equivalent for the moneys he contributes to the state's coffers, and the state itself would be placed in a fair way of recovering the good name she has lost under the iniquitous guidance of Quay and his army of conscienceless bootlickers.

A Peculiar Doctrine.

Rev. Morris advertised as one of the "greatest of living preachers" has just concluded a series of meetings in what is known as the old Disciple church at Howard.

Rev. Morris preached a very peculiar doctrine, being opposed to Christian Endeavor societies, Sunday Schools, Y. M. C. A., Ladies Aid societies and the use of organs or instrumental music in the church. Several hundred tracts were distributed attacking the various denominations. In speaking of the relation of the Y. P. S. C. E. to the church these tracts say—"it is like a sucking calf, sucking all the good substance from the cow."

Fortunately however for the community, Rev. Morris has but few followers in this section of the country.

An Old Official.

Ellis Irwin, postmaster at Lick Run Mills, Clearfield county, Pa., is one of the oldest officials in the service of the national government, having been born June 17, 1805, near Belleville, Pa. He was educated at the academy at that place, and engaged in the shoe business. On January 10, 1827, he was married, and on April 29, 1839, removed to Clearfield county. Six years later he was commissioned by Gov. Joseph Ritner as prothonotary, register and recorder of the county. In 1840 he was appointed postmaster at Clearfield, and in 1853 was elected sheriff. In 1856 Mr. Irwin moved to Lick Run Mills and engaged in the lumber business. In 1872 he was appointed postmaster, a position which he has ever since retained.

A Hardy Old Gentleman.

On Wednesday, of last week, John Stover, now 87 years of age, took the train here for Lamar, from which place he walked four miles to the place where some of his friends are prospecting out in the gap. Arriving at the scene of operation the vigor of younger days seemed to resume and the old gentleman took hold of a pick and kept up his share of the digging for the remainder of the day. He returned home on Saturday feeling "as young as he used to be."—Mill Hall Times.

Death at Curwensville.

Jacob Way, another of Curwensville's oldest and most highly esteemed citizens, and who was postmaster of that place under the Harrison administration, died Saturday morning, the result of a general breaking down of his health, incident to old age. He was a native of Centre county, but for many years has resided in Curwensville. He leaves a wife and two sons and three daughters.

\$4,000 for an Injured Knee.

Hon. Jere Crouse, of Middleburg, one of the associate justices of Snyder county, was given a verdict of \$4,000 against the Pennsylvania Railroad company at Middleburg Friday evening. In October, 1891, Mr. Crouse was crossing the railroad at Selingsgrove and fell off a high plank walk, injuring his knee. A motion was made for a new trial. The verdict is considered excessive.

A Reunion.

"The fourteenth annual reunion of the survivors of the one hundred and tenth regiment, Pennsylvania Volunteers, will be held, Thursday and Friday, October 14th and 15, at Philipsburg, Centre county.

GALLANTRY REWARDED

How Gen. Beaver Was Rescued
From Death

GIVEN A MEDAL OF HONOR

Awarded to Fred F. Rohm, Who Saved Gen. Beaver's Life at Ream's Station, August 16th, 1864—An Interesting Episode Remembered by Some of the Veterans in this Place.

The following is from the Philadelphia Public Ledger of Friday:

Frederick F. Rohm, of Harrisburg, who was yesterday awarded a Congressional medal of honor for distinguished gallantry at the battle of Ream's Station, is a watchman in Capitol Park, and did not learn of his good fortune until he read it in the newspapers. He received a letter from Secretary of War Alger, on Thursday. Rohm's gallantry consisted in saving the life of General James A. Beaver, of Bellefonte, at the great risk of his own. Judge Beaver has never forgotten his rescuer, and when he became governor he appointed Rohm to a position at the State Arsenal, and subsequently secured for him the place he now fills. Judge Beaver did much toward securing the medal for the brave watchman, and has telegraphed his congratulations.

The story of the loss of Beaver's leg and his rescue by Rohm is part of the history of the battle of Ream's Station, August 16th, 1864. Beaver was at the time Colonel of the 148th Regiment and Rohm was chief bugler of the Sixteenth Pennsylvania Cavalry. Just after the Sixteenth had passed a small piece of woods about 100 yards from the Union line of intrenchments, Rohm noticed a field officer lying on his back in the dust in the middle of the road waving his hand toward the cavalry. His attention was attracted to him by the fine new dress uniform and the shoulder straps of a Colonel which he wore.

Rohm jumped off his horse and taking his blanket, placed the officer upon it and with the aid of three other men, dragged him back to the intrenchments under a heavy fire. While he was being placed in an ambulance, Rohm asked the wounded officer his name. "Beaver," was the faint response. The spot on which Beaver lay when rescued by Rohm soon after became the fighting ground between Hancock's corps and Hill's men, and had the wounded officer not been carried away he would have been trampled to death in the awful charge which followed. As the result of the wound Beaver lost his leg, a hip joint operation being performed.

Future Politics.

Some one recently sent a communication from Bellefonte to the Lock Haven Express. In it we find the following interesting paragraph: "Politicians of this home of the Governor's have already laid their plans for next year's campaign. The Republicans will not claim the Governor until after the next Governor's term expires. Next year they will nominate Col. W. F. Reeder, at present deputy attorney general of the state, for congress; W. E. Chambers, Esq., for state senator; John A. Daly, of Curtin township, and C. P. Long, of Gregg township, for assemblymen, and Henry C. Quigley, Esq., for district attorney."

A Sad Errand.

Hon. P. E. Wolmelsdorff and wife, of Philipsburg, went to Philadelphia Wednesday last week on a very sad errand. Mrs. Wolmelsdorff has been a great sufferer for several years and there seems to be but little hope of her recovery unless she submits to an operation, and all her friends greatly fear may not be successful. In the hope of prolonging her life she has mustered up courage to submit to the ordeal.

Will Serve at Half Price.

Believing that \$500 is too much to pay the State Treasurer, J. B. Corey, a Braddock coal operator, will be a candidate, and this is the way he has planned his campaign: "I will get me a ten cent rubber stamp with 'J. B. Corey for State Treasurer' cut on it, get some hand bills printed, J. B. Corey for State Treasurer at a salary of \$2500— or one-half present salary—and stick them up at the polls."

Game Plenty.

According to the Philipsburg Journal over the mountain, game is plentiful in Tyrone. Pheasants says the Globe down in Huntingdon, are knocking men's hats off, and we suppose that squirrels and rabbits are destroying the vegetation in the streets.

Appointed Bank Examiner.

Alva S. Grow, present register and recorder of Clinton county, has been appointed State Bank Examiner. Mr. Grow was formerly connected with the Bellefonte Republican and is well and favorably known here.

OPEN THE BOOKS.

The state of Pennsylvania is in the anomalous condition of practical bankruptcy as to the current needs of its schools and other lawful dependencies, while at the same time the owner of millions of money which is being held by and manipulated for the aggrandizement of favored banks in the several leading cities. There has never been, is not now, and never need be any lack of funds with which to promptly meet every demand that may legitimately be made upon the resources of the state. Whatever injury or inconvenience may accrue from tardy payments proceed from the downright dishonesty and reckless profligacy of Republican rule.

Flagrant as were the steals that have been already exposed, and that have become known of all within the state, the whole disgraceful truth will never be revealed so long as the state treasurer and auditor general's offices are allowed to remain in control of the Republican party. The bookkeeping methods in these departments are so devised as to cover up and conceal many of the disreputable transactions by which the taxpayers have been and are being fleeced to reward the horde of hangers-on of the party to whom the dirty work of its campaigns is assigned. There is a crying necessity that the records of these offices should pass under the control and be open to the supervision of men not of the Republican party, but solemnly pledged to retrenchment and reform.

The distribution of the treasury balances to particular banks without the exaction of any interest; the maintenance of scores of unnecessary and useless offices on and around Capitol Hill and through the state; the reckless extravagance indulged in the fitting of the departments and the legislative chambers; the numerous costly and useless so-called investigations; enormous waste in the item of public printing; the leakage between the treasury and the statutory beneficiaries of the unwarranted payments—these and kindred divergences of the people's moneys from the purposes for which they are constitutionally intended, have probably made up from twenty-five to fifty per cent., if not more, of the \$12,000,000 or \$13,000,000 of the state's annual expenditures. Each adds to the astounding total of the steals, the awful magnitude of these wrongs. And each ensuing year will continue to add to them, so long as the people remain indifferent to such golden opportunities as the Democratic party has this year, in the nomination of Messrs. Brown and Ritter, afforded them for such a change as will mean a definite return to honest and economical government.

There will be no opening up of the full extent of the outrages that the Republican looters have perpetrated upon the people until the books of the state treasurer and auditor general are brought to light and rigorously and intelligently analyzed. And this result can be attained through the election of Messrs. Brown and Ritter and not otherwise. Both these gentlemen stand solemnly obligated to the people to relentless search of the records for the revelation of these past misdoings and for such changes or modification of procedure as will insure the taxpayers against their repetition. Mr. Brown says to the people: "I believe the treasury ring can be made to surrender; it should be and the people treated to the contents of the books that have been sealed and yet belong to them."

Mr. Ritter says: "It seems to me impossible that such a state of affairs can longer continue. There should be the same careful and honest management of the fiscal affairs of the state as would characterize private business."

Held by these pledges, being so situated that it will be their interest as well as pleasure to rigidly adhere to and conscientiously execute them, and starting with a force of nearly 430,000 Democratic voters behind them, the situation would seem to afford cheering prospect of the election of these gentlemen, if only the seriousness of the situation and the extraordinarily important contingencies involved shall find proper appreciation with the taxpayers.

Resigned the Mayership.

On receiving his commission as postmaster last Friday morning, B. D. Brisban at once resigned as Burgess of Centre Hall. The two offices conflict, with all honor on the side of the one, and the the salary on the other, our town is now without an official head. The court will be asked to fill the vacancy by appointment.—Reporter.

Since then Samuel Shoop has been appointed Chief Burgess to fill the vacancy.

Can't Make Both Ends Meet.

Men with college-bred heads and football feet will never be able to make both ends meet.—Storms and Signs.

New Postmaster at Blanchard.

H. A. Snyder has been appointed postmaster at Blanchard, Centre county.