

THE BRIBERY PROBERS.

Charges Made by Mr. Brown Denied by Ex-Congressman Kulp.

WAS ALL ABOUT A HORSE TRADE.

The Investigation Thus Far Has Resulted in a Number of Specific Charges, Which Are Met by Flat Denials on the Part of Persons Accused.

Harrisburg, April 5.—The bribery committee resumed its investigation yesterday afternoon into the charges of alleged bribery in connection with the United States senatorship and the McCarrall jury bill in the house. Representatives Kayler, Lloyd, Jefferis and Milliken were called and answered in the negative the formal questions. Mr. Foster, of Montour, testified that he had been told by a friend that certain parties at Kingston could probably get him a place on the appropriation committee if he would vote for Senator Quay. No direct offer had been made. Mr. Foster said that Charles B. Harter, an applicant for the Danville postoffice, told him that Senator Quay had said he would appoint Harter postmaster if he (Foster) would go into the Republican caucus and vote for Mr. Quay. Mr. Foster declined to go into the caucus. Harter was two weeks ago appointed assistant postmaster at Danville.

Ex-Congressman Monroe H. Kulp, of Shamokin, was called to explain the charge of Representative Francis E. Brown, of Union, that he was offered \$300 by Kulp to absent himself from the first session of the joint convention and that if he would vote for Quay the price would be different. Mr. Kulp said Brown wanted to sell him some horses, and he asked the member to go to Philadelphia and get them. Kulp told Brown that there would not be an election for several days, and that Brown's vote would not be needed. He advised Brown that he could make a few hundred dollars, possibly \$350, by making the horse trade at that time.

Mr. Kulp was asked if he wanted Brown to visit Philadelphia for the purpose of absenting himself from the joint convention, and said he did not. He denied having said to Brown that if he would vote for Quay the price would be different.

J. Newton Peck, of Condersport, a witness referred to by Representative Crittenden, of Potter, as having gone to the Commonwealth hotel with him to visit E. A. Van Valkenberg, was then called. He said he had no recollection of hearing Mr. Van Valkenberg say to Mr. Crittenden that if he stayed out of the Quay caucus he (Van Valkenberg) would assist Crittenden in certain Potter county legislation.

Ex-Sheriff Louis E. Miller, of Lebanon, denied the story of Representative Zerbe, of Lebanon, that he told Zerbe that it had been discussed by some of the anti-Quay leaders in Lebanon county whether it would be advisable to raise a fund to be used to persuade Zerbe to change his vote from Quay.

William H. Cavode, of Lionport, a son of the famous John Cavode, denied Representative Youngson's statement that he and Editor David D. Berry, of the Latrobe Clipper, said to the member: "You are a poor man with wife and children. If you will go to the Commonwealth hotel it might be worth while." Mr. Cavode said he had not visited Harrisburg in nearly ten years.

Mr. Berry testified that he worked for Youngson during the campaign in the belief that he was an anti-Quay Republican. When he found that Youngson was voting for Quay he went to Youngson's Harrisburg home with Harry Boyard, of Greensburg, very late at night, and said to him that he was a poor man with a family and that his political future depended on what he promised when he was elected.

Dr. Howard H. Laubach, of Philadelphia, a brother of Representative Laubach, of Philadelphia, testified that Frank Jones told him that if his brother would vote for Quay he would get him a position in the custom house or the mint, guaranteed for five years.

Representative Wilson, of Westmoreland, who refused at a previous meeting to disclose the name of the person who is alleged to have offered him \$5,000 to vote for Mr. Quay, was excused until today on account of the illness of his wife and son.

L. Parker Titus, of Easton, was called to give his version of the story of Representative Heil, of Northampton, that he and one of his colleagues were offered "two apiece" to vote for Senator Quay. He testified that he went to Heil's home on a Sunday and asked him to vote for Mr. Quay, but he made him no offer. Mr. Quay was instrumental in securing the passage by the last legislature of the Weiler bill, and Titus being a railroad man he was interested in the senator's re-election.

E. A. Thompson, of New Vernon, testified that he was an applicant for a position in the house, and that in a conversation with Representative Caldwell he made the remark if Caldwell could see his way clear to go into the senatorial caucus he thought he could get the place, and at the same time remarking: "I don't ask you to do so." No one had ever asked Thompson to get Caldwell to vote for Quay, but it was his conviction that if the Mercer county members did not attend the caucus he would not be appointed.

ITEMS OF STATE NEWS.

Chester, Pa., April 2.—Mayor-elect Jenneris has appointed Thomas H. Berry chief of police, and removed five of the present police force.

Huntingdon, April 1.—John G. Boyer, a well known citizen of this borough, and a member of the house of representatives of 1885, died today of paralysis, aged 65 years.

Pittsburg, April 4.—The strike of the unskilled window glass workers is practically at an end. A majority of the laborers and above boys have agreed to go back to work at the old wages in two large factories, and this break will probably end in a general resumption.

Wilkesbarre, Pa., April 4.—At 4 o'clock in the morning fire broke out in the large barn owned by Mrs. J. C. Harold at Buttonwood. The structure, with all its contents, including 27 cows, wagons, farming implements, grain and hay were destroyed. Loss, \$8,000.

Harrisburg, April 4.—State Treasurer Beacom yesterday appointed T. S. Pierce, of Saltsburg, present assistant cashier in the state treasurer's office, as cashier, to succeed the late Benjamin Haywood, and Lisle W. Orr, of Mercer county, as assistant.

Pittsburg, April 1.—Last Tuesday the wife of Peter Zewe, a teamster, gave birth to triplets, at their residence on Howard street, Allegheny. Two of the triplets are girls, and their arrival gives the Zewe family nine children. The mother and children are doing well. The mother is 34 years old.

Pittsburg, April 5.—The Carnegie Steel company has posted in all of its plants a notice of an increase of wages to its unskilled, or common laborers, the advance to date from April 1. The order will affect 10,000 workers. Under the advance common labor will receive \$1.40 per day, and other labor in proportion.

Oil City, April 1.—Mrs. Hannah Daily, claimed to be the oldest resident of northwestern Pennsylvania, died at the county home at the age of 102 years. Considerable mystery surrounds the life of Mrs. Daily. She has been an inmate of the county home for 25 years. No one claiming the body, it will be forwarded to a Philadelphia college.

Seranton, Pa., April 4.—Samuel A. Lackey, a veteran newspaper man, was found dead in his room at the Hotel Jermyn yesterday afternoon. Death was due to heart disease. He was connected with The Republican for 27 years, most of the time holding the position of night editor. He was 60 years of age, and had been in the newspaper business since boyhood.

Carbonade, April 1.—The large schoolhouse at Vandling, north of this place, was burned to the ground this morning, and the facts connected with the misfortune indicate that the fire was of incendiary origin. This is the fourth school building burned on this site within three years, and the authorities are making a vigorous investigation as to the cause. The loss is \$6,500, partially insured.

Wilkesbarre, Pa., April 4.—Wilkesbarre became a city of the third class yesterday, and Mayor Nichols and select council looked horns at once. The mayor deposed Chief of Police Briggs and 13 policemen, appointing new men in their places. The council refused to confirm the appointments, and the old men will continue to hold their places for the present. The deadlock is not due to politics, as the mayor's appointees were equally divided between the two political parties.

Tamaqua, April 2.—The body of Rough Rider James Boyle arrived at Lansford from New York yesterday morning and was buried with military honors today at Summit Hill. Boyle enlisted in Troop A, of which "Bucky" O'Neil was captain. He met his death in the charge up San Juan hill. The battle was practically over when he was struck by two stray bullets, one going through his neck and the other the body. He was buried at the foot of the hill, up which he had so gallantly charged.

Lebanon, April 2.—At their home on West Chestnut street William Mills and his wife were preparing for church this morning, when, without warning, Mills shot himself through the forehead, causing instantaneous death. Mills was employed by the Cornwall Railroad company, and was a good, honest and sober workman. No reason for his suicide is known, unless it be that religious matters preyed upon his mind. He became deeply interested in church affairs this winter and the supposition is that this produced insanity. His wife and four children survive.

Pittsburg, April 5.—Pittsburg presbytery yesterday, for the first time in its history, elected a colored man for moderator. He is Rev. M. B. Lanier, pastor of Grace Memorial church, of this city. After an exceedingly lively debate the presbytery declined, by a vote of 44 to 6, to adopt an overture to the next general assembly asking that body to follow up its action of last year in the case of Dr. C. A. McGiffert, professor in Union seminary, New York, with such additional action as it might think necessary to preserve the church from the effect of his criticism of the New Testament.

Wilkesbarre, Pa., April 3.—Two victims of the American-Spanish war were buried in Luzerne county yesterday. They were John McBride, of this city, and Julius B. Weil, of Plymouth. The bodies were brought to this country from Cuba on the transport Crook, and arrived here early yesterday morning. McBride was the only Wilkesbarre man killed in the war. I remains were followed to the grave by the local G. A. R. post and several companies of the National Guard, also a number of civic societies. The people of Plymouth turned out in great numbers at Weil's funeral. The Jewish ritual was observed at the grave.

Harrisburg, April 1.—The March statement of State Treasurer Beacom shows a balance in the general fund of \$512,552.43, the smallest balance in the state treasury since the close of the civil war. Mr. Beacom says the claims now due and payable aggregate at least four times this amount, and that it will be impossible to accumulate enough money by June 5, when the school appropriation of \$5,500,000 for the fiscal year becomes due, to pay any part of the appropriation during that month. He also says it will be fortunate if the receipts are sufficient to pay the expenses of the legislature, make the quarterly payments to the charitable institutions and return the personal property tax yet due to Philadelphia and Allegheny counties.

THE GAME TARPON

HOOKING A BIG FELLOW AN EXPERIENCE NOT EASILY FORGOTTEN.

The Proper Outfit That Is Required—The Fish Is Wily and Nature Has Equipped Him for a Struggle—His Mouth Fayed With Bone Plates.

Provided the aspiring tarpon slayer is prepared to expend anywhere from \$20 to \$50 or more, he may supply himself with an excellent outfit through any respectable dealer. It goes without saying that no really conscientious disciple of Isak Walton will be content to order his outfit offhand, leaving everything to the dealer, thereby sacrificing the exquisite satisfaction of making his own selections. Yet such is the spirit of the age that not a few of our glided youth are prone to order their fishing tackle as they do their trousers—they will probably catch no tarpon.

The approved rod for this sport is seven to nine feet long, fitted with a large multiplying click reel that will hold some two hundred yards of fifteen to twenty-one thread linen line. Tastes differ regarding the hooks, but the best authorities favor something not far from 10-0 in size, forged and ringed. The Dublin bend Limerick is a favorite with some successful fishers.

The snell, the connecting link between the hook and the line, offers the most difficult problem. The tarpon jaws are so constructed that the snell must be built to order to circumvent them. These jaws, be it known, have overlapping side plates which are in effect quite efficient shears. They will cut anything not made of metal that has body enough to offer resistance. Naturally a chain of wire is the best material to use, but the minute Sir Tarpon closed upon a chain he knew it, and ejected it forthwith, bait and all, for his mouth is conveniently paved throughout with bone plates upon which no hook has the least hold.

At last the ingenious device was hit upon of using a snell made of several strands of rather soft-laid cotton line, dyed some dark color so as to be inconspicuous when wet. When the jaw shears close upon this it spreads apart into separate strands and becomes too thin to cut. Sir Tarpon perceived nothing wrong, so the portion of mulllet covering the hook continues its downward course, taking up the slack of the long snell as it goes (the snell should be twenty-four to twenty-eight inches long) and pursues its way rejoicing until a sudden wrench at an inward level tells him that he is hooked, and then the fun begins.

His first act is to throw himself headly out of water, with his huge jaws wide open, and jerk his head violently from side to side. If the bait is not completely gorged he will often force it out. But if the hook secures a hold the effort is vain, and the struggle of skill against energy goes on.

Again and again, sometimes a score of times, the fish leaps from the water to shake himself free. Miles upon miles he swims, doubling upon his course, circling, sulking until he often tires out his would-be captor, who is glad to hand the rod over to his boatman for a rest. Such a confession of weakness is, however, so humiliating to a true fisherman that if he has any "sand" in his composition he will fight it out to a victorious finish or an honorable defeat.

Such an experience is not easily forgotten, and the fastidious connoisseur of the tarpon in the matter of taking bait renders it nearly certain that to the average fisherman killing a tarpon will not become tedious through frequent repetitions. Far more likely is it that his patience will give out after a few days under a tropical sun upon a breathless sea, and he will never experience the thrill of the Silver King's break for liberty.

The tarpon sea in Florida waters begins in March and improves throughout the summer, the best of it coming long after most visitors have fled northward to escape the heat with its attendant pests.

As a table fish the tarpon is not a great success, though with such sauces as a French chef knows how to prepare it is not altogether to be despised when nothing better can be had. As a staple article of food, however, it has its uses along the Florida beaches, for there the native fisherman spears the magnificent fellows, scrape off their silver scales with a hoe, cut their persons up in long strips and dry them in the sun for provision when other "hog and omny" fail.

A Whitewash Train. Some of the new labor-saving devices are of the unexpected order. Here, for instance, says London Titbits, is the Grand Trunk Railway, among other devices for reducing its working expenses, doing its whitewashing by steam. It has a regular whitewash train—or rather two trains, one for each division. The apparatus consists essentially of an old engine in which the boiler does duty as a receiver. Into this the whitewash is sucked from barrels as required, and there it is kept in agitation by a Westinghouse pump. From this it is ejected by another brake pump as a fine spray, so that a man can lay the color on as if he were watering a garden with a hose. In this way he can whitewash two or three stations a day.

By the Emperor's Horses. Emperor William, always eager to lead the way, likes a good piece of horseflesh. His horses are usually of English breed, although on rare occasions he buys them in Germany. The training of all horses belonging to the Emperor and his suite is entrusted to the Master of the Horse, and it is this high official who himself rides all those which are ultimately intended for His Majesty's personal use. This post of Master of the Horse must be an extremely responsible one.

German Insurance. A peculiar law in regard to life insurance prevails in Germany. If a man whose life is insured loses both hands he can at once claim the full amount of insurance, on the ground that he has been deprived of the means of support.

TOMCAT AGAINST COYOTE.

How an Undaunted Feline Won a Battle for His Life.

A Boise man passing over the sagebrush plains near Meridian was treated to an exhibition that was as strange as it was interesting. It was a battle between a cat and a coyote.

Plainly the night's prowling over the prairie had netted the coyote nothing in the way of a good square feed. When first seen he was steadily gliding about, his nose to the ground, searching, as they always are, for something to appease his insatiable appetite. He was surveying the surroundings from a slight knoll, when there appeared on the scene a great tomcat—a burly fellow, who also seemed on a quest for breakfast, some toothsome morsel, as a cottontail or a young grouse.

When tom dove in sight the coyote smiled a satisfied smile. Tom had not at first seen the coyote; in fact was not aware that a foe was near until the first charge, when the coyote sprang at him. But, quick as a flash, he parried the first thrust and then squared for action.

The coyote plunged into the battle, intent on bearing down his antagonist with brute force alone, and this probably saved the day for Tom. This time Tom got in a left swinging blow on the coyote's jaw, letting first blood; then jabbed with his right, bringing the coyote to a stand. The coyote went to his corner under a sagebrush, bleeding.

In the second round the coyote sprang into the fight much as in the first and with about the same result to him. The cat uppercut him as he rushed in, then, swinging, mauled him with left and right until the air was full of brown-gray hair. The round was furious throughout, with honors clearly for Tom.

The coyote might have been counted out if the gophers that watched the fight had been counting. He deliberated long before coming in for the third round, but his belly ruled his mind, and to the scratch he came slowly this time.

Tom was ready, and rushed the fight. He crowded the coyote and backed him over the knoll, planting a left or right whenever or wherever he pleased.

Finally, after much sparring Tom got in the deadly knockout blow. The fight was his but he took no mean advantage. When the coyote was down he stood over him, giving him more than the limit of time for him to come up, but canis latrans had enough.

He slunk away to his sagebrush, and fells domestica, his back still up, with his head over his shoulder to see that he was not made the victim of treachery, sidled on to continue his hunt for a nice young cottontail.

Hard Luck.

"Talk about hard-luck stories," said a reformed Western gambler, "I think I can discount anything you ever heard in that line. It was in the early days of Leadville, just about this time of year, and I tell you it does get cold up in the hills about now.

"Well, I was broke, didn't have a copper, and had strolled into a gambling house to get a warm-up. There were several games going on, and when I had thinned out a little, I walked over to the face layout, where I went broke the night before. As I said, it was a very cold night, and, feeling a great draught at my feet, I happened to glance down at the floor to see where it came from, and there by the side of my right foot was lying what I thought to be a quarter.

"I had been watching the game closely, making imaginary plays. I'd play 25 cents open on the ace. I said to the dealer, and in a moment more it won.

"The dealer handed me two white chips. I played again, and again won, and before the end of the deal I had a nice stack of chips. It seemed to me I couldn't lose a deal, and in half an hour I had a couple of hundred dollars' worth of chips before me.

"I concluded to cash in, and stacked my chips, pushing them toward the dealer. He counted them, and looking up at me, said: 'where's that quarter you made your first bet on?' I had forgotten all about it. I looked on the floor; the quarter was gone. Then I lit a match, and saw that what I supposed to be a quarter was simply a wet spot. It was originally a bit of ice, but the heat from my boot melted it. Of course, the dealer promptly refused to cash the chips."

Soaring Birds.

Very few people realize at what tremendous heights birds sometimes traverse the air. Of course, most of the common British songsters, the thrushes and warblers, do not as a rule rise higher than the tree-tops except when migrating; then they fly at an average height of 200 feet or 300 feet—higher or lower, according to the prevailing currents. Herons and wild ducks, geese and swans when traveling long distances fly at greater heights, often as much as 2,000 feet. But it is the hawk, and more particularly the vulture tribe, that constantly wing the air at far greater limits than these. The common buzzard spies for carrion suspended a mile above the earth, and the great condor of the Andes has been watched through a powerful telescope floating at the amazing height of 27,000 feet over five miles, above the sea level.

Paid for Doing Good Work.

The Swedes have a custom which might profitably be copied by other nations. In the mines of that country the workmen have their tools sharpened by a special blacksmith and he is paid, not by the number of tools sharpened, but by the number of yards earned by the miners whose implements he has sharpened during the month. Thus, when the smith is skilful and does his best he makes more money than he does when his work is not well done and there is a decided gain all around.

She Had Not Been Disappointed. "Hetty, you and that young man were up entirely too late last night." "We sat up to see the meteors, ma'am." "There were no meteors to be seen, child. The sky was densely overcast with clouds the whole night." "Was it? Why, I—"

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Mrs. T. W. Lee, Montgomery, Ala., writes: "Some years ago I was inoculated with poison by a nurse who infected my babe with blood taint. I was covered with sores and ulcers from head to foot, and in my great extremity I prayed to die. Several prominent physicians treated me, but all to no purpose. The mercury and potash which they gave me seemed to add fuel to the awful flame which was devouring me. I was advised by friends who had seen wonderful cures made by it, to try Swift's Specific. I improved from the start, as the medicine seemed to go direct to the cause of the trouble and force the poison out. Twenty bottles cured me completely." Swift's Specific—

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1899 APRIL 1899. Table with columns Su, Mo, Tu, We, Th, Fr, Sa. Includes MOON'S PHASES and a small table for the month.