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## ADJOURNMENT OF CONGRESS

### Interesting Features of the Recent Session.

## EXTRAVAGANCE PREVAILED

### Roosevelt Receives Some Attention—Important Business Neglected For Political Effect—The Mormon Issue Unsettled.

With the adjournment of Congress last week that body established a record. It is the earliest adjournment of a long session since 1818. There is also another record broken in the amount of work that Congress did not do. Yet during the time that the National legislature has been in session two important matters have been disposed of. The commercial relations between this country and Cuba have been put on an equitable basis, and the United States has acquired the Panama canal property and the right to complete the ditch. The formal transfer of the plant of the French company was completed this week with the passing of the check for \$40,000,000. After a struggle lasting half a century, this Nation is irrevocably committed to the construction of a waterway between the two oceans.

During the session of Congress closed 1,100 bills became laws. Yet fewer than 150 of these were public bills. The others were in the interest of individuals or private concerns. They were largely private pension bills. The House passed an omnibus statehood bill admitting New Mexico and Arizona under the name of the latter, and Oklahoma and Indian Territory under the title of the former. This, however was only a formality, as it was generally understood that it would be acceptable to the Senate.

In the Senate Mr. Gorman declared that the total appropriations and obligations of this session amounted to more than \$800,000,000 not including the Panama Canal, and Mr. Culberson announced that the expenditures of the Roosevelt administration had been \$211,000,000 greater than the four years of the McKinley administration and \$83,000,000 greater than in the four years of the Cleveland administration.

The sensation of the session was Kitchin's sensational attack on the President. There are two young brothers Kitchin from North Carolina, and the younger, Claude, has distinguished his first session by making very damaging extracts from one of Grosvener's letters to Hearst's Journal in June, 1900, and from Roosevelt's books. Grosvener declared that Roosevelt as Vice President was very objectionable to McKinley and that McKinley was humiliated by the contact. He made fun of Roosevelt's military strutting before the convention in his soldierly clothes, and spoke of him as a "curious, erratic sort of man; without judgment or a will of his own. Kitchin quoted from Roosevelt that the Confederate soldier was an anarchist and that "through the Southern character there runs a streak of course and brutal barbarism." He quoted from "Rauch Life" and "Hunting Trail" (pages 14 and 93) in which Roosevelt approved of lynching for horse stealing "for the stealing of a \$10 rat tailed Texas pony," as Kitchin stated it. He then quoted Roosevelt's disparagement of former Presidents and his denunciation of Congress in his Syracuse address as a herd of cattle! The speech has made a great sensation here.

### SMOOT CASE AGAIN

Among the things left unfinished by Congress are the postoffice inquiry, the Beef trust inquiry, the Swayne impeachment proceedings, and the Smoot case. The latter has more general interest now than any of the others. The resumption of the hearings before the Senate committee last week brought out some spicy testimony. Among the witnesses called were Brigham Roberts who was once elected to Congress and expelled, because it is against the ethics of the House for a man to acknowledge his plural wives. The most interesting bit of Roberts' testimony was that he married his third wife in 1890, just a few months before the "manifesto." He did it knowing that he was breaking the law, and he kept this marriage a secret from his other two wives for several years. Another interesting witness was Angus M. Cannon, a patriarch of the Mormon church. Cannon once served six months in jail for maintaining polygamous relations. He told the Committee that he was first married in 1858. He married two sisters by the same ceremony. He has been married three times since. There has been much interesting testimony about the relations of the Mormon church with business and politics in Utah and other states where it is strong.

### MARRIED THE HATED GIRLS.

Light was shed on the question of how

Mormon husbands of moderate wealth support plural families.

The ingenious home economics of Apostle John W. Taylor, which incidentally, appear to have settled the servant question, were disclosed by L. E. Abbott, a neighbor of two of Apostle Taylor's households in Farmington, Utah.

Apostle Taylor, he said, is reputed to have five wives. Two are known as Nettie Woolley, who has five children, and Nellie Todd, who has six children. All of these children are recognized as those of the apostle.

Two other reputed wives, said Mr. Abbott, are Rhodney and Roxey Welling, who are about 23 or 24 years of age. One was working for Nettie Woolley and the other for Nellie Todd, both as domestics.

There seems to be a strong belief now that Smoot may be unseated. This will not be due to any personal disqualification, for nothing has been adduced against the character of the Senator, but there is a growing conviction that the sentiment against Mormonism is so great as to compel the shutting of the doors of Congress to any member of the church, until the Mormons have unequivocally abandoned polygamy, and until the church is taken out of politics. The finishing touches will not be put in Smoot's case until the next session of Congress.

### A GREAT COAL MERGER.

Pennsylvania and Beech Creek Companies May Combine.

It is stated on reliable authority that negotiations are pending to merge the Pennsylvania Coal and Coke Company with the Beech Creek Coal and Coke Company into a gigantic concern, which will be the largest producer of bituminous coal in the world.

The combined output of the two companies yearly now is over 2,500,000 tons, and they employ 20,000 men at their forty or more mines in the Central Pennsylvania field. The Pennsylvania Company desires more railroad facilities, which it will have if the merger goes through, from the New York Central Company. Abstracts of the Beech Creek's titles to 12,000 acres of coal land are now being made for the Pennsylvania Company at Ebensburg.

### A Forged Check.

Checked on a forged check was a boy at noon yesterday in the First National Bank of this place. When the boy presented the check, signed "J. H. Keeser," who is the well-known butcher at Snow Shoe, Clerk Montgomery on eyeing the paper at once told the boy that the check was not signed by Mr. Keeser. The boy declared it was signed by Mr. Keeser and that he had only got it that morning. On being more closely questioned by Mr. Montgomery the boy suddenly juked from the window and ran away. The amount the forged check was drawn for was \$22.78. Search was immediately made, but he made his escape, minus the check and the money. The check was drawn payable to W. A. Benner, which it soon after was ascertained, was not the name of the boy. The boy, it appears, is from Saxon, Pa., and had been a visitor at Reeser's some ten days.

### Important Case.

A life insurance case is before the Williamsport courts this week, the outcome of which will be of interest to the public as well as insurance companies. Geo. H. Small, of Smullton, several years ago was agent for the New York Life Ins. Co. and had charge of the Williamsport District. An applicant refused to make settlement when his application was made. In due time a policy was issued and forwarded to Mr. Small for delivery, who found the applicant at point of death, and he refused to surrender it. The policy was returned to the home office for cancellation and the applicant died a few days later. The beneficiaries are now suing the company to recover amount of policy. Mr. Small is the leading witness in the case.

### Young Man in Trouble.

Oscar H. Osman, of Bellefonte, was arrested, and Saturday he was given a hearing before Alderman J. J. Irvin in Altoona, on a charge preferred by A. J. Holtzinger, of the Askin & Marine Clothing house, of Altoona, charging Osman with embezzlement of \$122.75 together with a number of credits due the firm by secretly cancelling collections with intent to defraud. The defendant was committed to jail in default of \$500 bail. The young man had a brief career in Tyrone a couple of years ago and has a penchant for getting into trouble.—Tyrone Herald.

### EVERYTHING LOVELY.

Col. Reeder will remain chairman of the Republican County Committee of Centre county. Col. E. R. Chambers, Clement Dale and Henry Quigly have all withdrawn. That means that Reeder rules the roost and his scalp remains intact.

## CONCLUSION OF APRIL COURT

### The Second Week Closed Wednesday Afternoon

## FEW CASES WERE ON TRIAL

### A Verdict Against Boggs Township for Neglecting a Railing—Other Cases Tried, Continued or Settled—Reported by S. D. Gettig.

The following is the conclusion of last week's session:

In the case of William Witmer versus Dora Witmer and James Witmer which was tried at November term of Court 1903, with verdict for defendants, the court refused a new trial.

The following appointments were made by the court: For County Bridge over the Race, near P. R. R. depot in Bellefonte, Pa., A. A. Dale, Esq., surveyor, Potter Tate and Benjamin Genzel viewers.

Rush Township for the vacation of Public road, John A. Way, surveyor, Christ Sharrer and S. R. Pringle, viewers. For County Bridge in Spring Township, near Coleville, E. R. Chambers, Esq., surveyor, Samuel Decker and Daniel Heckman viewers.

For public road in Curtin and Howard Townships, Clement Dale, Esq., surveyor and John B. Harris and Samuel Aley viewers.

Petition for public road in Spring Township; J. H. Wetzel, Esq., appointed surveyor and B. W. Way and George Hastings viewers.

For the vacation of a public road leading from Morrison Watkins to Stone Hollow in Howard and Curtin townships D. W. Pletcher, surveyor, Randolph Pletcher and Harry McDowell viewers. At last Argument Court the Court handed down an opinion in which the proceedings to have this same road vacated were set aside.

Second week of April court convened on Monday morning at nine o'clock, and after hearing a number of motions and petitions W. O. Robison convicted, at January term of court for violating the pure food laws of the Commonwealth, was sentenced to pay costs of prosecution and fifty dollars fine. List of jurors called and absentees noted, and after calling over the trial list the following cases were disposed of.

Sadie A. Rothrock vs Joseph Rothrock, Ida Rothrock, Charles Rothrock and Ambrose Rothrock, heirs and legal representatives of Elizabeth F. J. Rothrock summoned in dower, plea non assumpsit. Continued.

James A. Davidson, guardian of Julia A. Shope vs James N. Shope, summoned in trespass, plea not guilty. Continued. This case was tried once before and subsequently a new trial granted by the court.

Martin Daley, Sr. vs The German American Insurance Company of New York, summoned in assumpsit, plea non assumpsit. Continued on account of the illness of William B. Rankin.

W. H. Johnsonbaugh and Nora Sheldon, Julia Curtin, Jane R. Peirpont, Roland Irvin, Dr. Geo. F. Harris, trustee of Jennie R. Breeze, Mary Harris, Catharine C. Burnette, Martha C. Breeze, W. W. Curtin, H. R. Curtin, Belle Curtin, Sara Larimer, John G. Curtin, Larimer Curtin, Frederick Curtin and Harry Curtin by their next friend and mother Virginia B. Curtin, complainants vs E. M. Hoyett, A. R. McNitt and D. T. McNitt, summoned in trespass, plea not guilty. Continued.

L. O. Meek and D. G. Meek, trading and doing business under the firm name of College Hardware Company vs T. D. Boal summoned in assumpsit, plea non assumpsit. Continued.

Bellefonte, Aaronsburg and Youngmans-town Turnpike Road Company vs Centre county. Continued.

James P. Odenkirk use of J. T. Taylor vs Mrs. Nancy Benner summoned in assumpsit, plea non assumpsit. Settled.

Leo J. Teirney vs The Snow Shoe Mining Company, summoned in assumpsit, plea non assumpsit. Continued.

Marilla Dawson vs Cornelius Bland, administrator of etc., of Eliza Bland, deceased and Cornelius Bland who survivor Eliza Bland, co-obligor, summoned facies sur mortgage, plea non assumpsit. Verdict in favor of the plaintiff for \$328.80.

W. C. Tamer, D. J. Tressler and S. M. Swartz, trustees for the Centre Hall congregation of the Evangelical Association, vs Joseph Alters, J. D. Dauberman, J. H. Krumbine and J. F. Smith, trustees of the United Evangelical church of Centre Hall, summoned in ejectment, plea not guilty. This is the Centre Hall church case and was recently settled on the terms originally agreed upon in 1898, with the understanding that a verdict would be taken in favor of the defendants in addition to the quit claim deed given by the Conference to which the plaintiffs adhere.

Philip B. Iddings and Philip B. Iddings administrator of etc., of Hannah M. Iddings, deceased, vs Boggs township, summoned in trespass, plea not guilty. This action

is brought to recover damages for injuries sustained by the plaintiff and his wife, Hannah M. Iddings, now deceased, and the facts in the case are about as follows: The plaintiff lives in Union township and on the afternoon of February 21, 1901, he and his wife came to Bellefonte with farm produce, etc., and in the evening started for home after having disposed of their load, and when beyond the chain works on the road leading from Bellefonte to Milesburg, his horses shied and commenced to back. When he got them stopped the left hind wheel was down over the bank and he gave the horses a cut to pull the wagon out when the pin in double tree broke and the wagon went down over the bank with Mrs. Iddings, and Mr. Iddings was pulled out of the wagon onto the road. Mrs. Iddings was pretty badly injured and help was secured. She was carried to the house of a Mrs. Sullivan and the doctor called and subsequently removed to her home in Union township. There was no guard rail at the point where the accident occurred as there was a dispute between Boggs and Spring townships as to where the division line was, and the accident occurring somewhere near where the line was. Verdict on Tuesday morning in favor of Philip B. Iddings individually in the sum of \$474.33 and as administrator of Hannah M. Iddings in the sum of \$332.08.

John T. Baylets vs J. J. Kelley and William Nyman, Jr., summoned in trespass, plea not guilty. This case brought to recover for the cutting and removing trees reduced to posts off of the lands of the plaintiff by the defendants. The defendants allege that the land where the cutting was done does not belong to the plaintiff but to J. J. Kelley, one of the defendants, and the plaintiff alleges that he bought this land along with his farm. Verdict in favor of the plaintiff for \$5.20.

George W. Zimmerman of the Montgomery County Bar was admitted to the Bar of Centre county.

Court adjourned on Wednesday afternoon.

## FATHER ZAREK RELEASED.

### There was no Evidence Warranting His Arrest.

Last Thursday at 1 o'clock, noon, the court house was thronged with people from all parts of the county to attend the hearing of Father Victor Zarek, the Polish priest, of Clarence, who was arrested on the charge of beating and kicking Andrew Sofka, a 16 year old boy causing his death. In our last issue, which went to press before the hearing, we predicted his release and it was borne out. When the case was called for a hearing District Attorney N. B. Spangler addressed the court and said that, in view of the decision of the physicians who performed the autopsy on the body of the dead boy and the verdict of the coroner's inquest, he felt that there was no cause for action against Father Zarek, and he was willing to have him discharged at once.

Through his attorney, ex-Judge Austin O. Furst, Father Zarek made a brief statement to the court, the first he has made since his arrest. Father Zarek did whip him with a switch, hitting him some half dozen times, but the boy made no complaint, instead thanked the priest for his interest in him and promised to do better. Young Safko worked two days afterwards and was taken suddenly ill on Sunday morning, dying in the afternoon. But the autopsy revealed that his death was from peritonitis, superinduced by appendicitis, and there were no marks of violence whatever upon his person. When Father Zarek was discharged he was given quite an ovation in the court room and was much affected by the kindly interest and sympathy shown him by the public.

## Got Into the Parsonage.

It is stated that the officials of the Beaver Memorial Methodist church, at Lewisburg, have now taken possession of the parsonage which was being held by the Rev. Mr. Colburn, pending the disposition of a claim for unpaid salary. Entrance was effected while Mr. Colburn was preaching at Mill Hill. What Mr. Colburn will do about it is not known.

## Death On Bees.

Last winter was severe on bees. Lewis Aikley, living near this place, informs the Democrat that he had thirty hives of bees, large colonies, and he finds that the intense cold of last winter killed all but two colonies. Mr. Aikley has been a successful apiarist and feels this loss very sensibly. He thinks the honey of the bees killed would be upwards of three barrels of honey combs.

## Preparing for Centennial.

Clearfield county is 100 years old this year and the anniversary is to be properly celebrated. The plans contemplated include a whole week's celebration, including special days for the firemen, old soldiers, civic societies, young people, etc.

## SOME LIVELY FIGHTING

### The Japanese Score First Victory on Land.

## RUSSIAN PUT TO FLIGHT

### Heavy Losses On Both Sides—Failure to Close Entrance to Port Arthur—Eight Vessels and Two Torpedo Boats Go Down.

The Russians were forced to abandon Antung on Sunday. They burned the town and retreated and the Japanese now control the estuary of the Yalu. After five days of fighting first Japanese army, under General Kuroki, has forced a crossing of the Yalu river, and with a gallant infantry charge, covering a frontage of four miles, it drove the Russians from Chin Tien Cheng in route. The Japanese turned the left flank of the Russian position, and in the battle Sunday they swept away the new front interposed by the Russians to check their onward movement. The Japanese losses were about 700 killed and wounded. The Russians lost over 600 men. The Japanese captured 28 quick-fire guns, 20 officers and many men. The Russians made two stands.

The result of this victory is important to the Japanese as it gives them many advantages. It also has aroused much enthusiasm as it is the first important conflict of the land forces.

### FAILED TO BLOCK PORT ARTHUR.

One of the interesting points in the war is Port Arthur, where the Russian fleet is quartered in the harbor and under the protection of immense fortifications. The Russians have filled the entrance with torpedoes and mines which would annihilate the superior Japanese navy should they attempt to gain an entrance. Since then the Japs have been trying the Hobson game, sinking vessels in the entrance to prevent the Russian fleet from getting out, bottling them up as it were. Monday another attempt to blockade the entrance was made, but proved a failure. In all eight ships accompanied by torpedo boats were sent in by the Japs, but the Russians were on the alert. A furious fire came from the forts and war vessels in the harbor. A number of vessels for blockading ran against mines and were blown up, others were sunk, and two Japanese torpedo boats also were sent to the bottom.

The crews of these ships tried to save themselves by boats, in which they put out to sea. A majority of them were killed by the Russian machine guns and rifles. Some of the survivors were picked up. At daybreak a number of Japanese were seen clinging to the masts and funnels of the sunken vessels, and these were secured by the Russians. The eight vessels intended to blockade the channel were sunk before they reached the entrance and two Japanese torpedo boats went down. The plan was completely frustrated and many lives lost.

### OVER 3000 DEAD IN BATTLE.

In a report received from General Karopatin, it is stated that at least from 3000 to 4000 Russians were killed in the Yalu River fight.

After having defeated General Zassalitch on Sunday, at the Yalu, General Kuroki, with the Japanese army, pursued the Russians on Monday between Antung and Fengwangcheng, resulting in the loss of 300 men on the Japanese side and the surrender of two batteries of Russian artillery, after the Russians had sustained heavy losses. Three hundred and thirty Russians were made prisoners.

The Japanese army is advancing on Fengwangcheng is believed to consist of 80,000 men, and it is much stronger in artillery than the Russian force.

## VETERAN ODD FELLOWS.

In last week's issue mention was made of Orrin T. Noble, of Lock Haven, belonging to the Old Fellows order since the summer of 1849. Centre Lodge No. 153, of Bellefonte can produce several veteran members of their lodge who beat that record: Henry H. T. Witmeyer, now at Pittsburgh; Wm. Kerlin, of Iowa; and H. H. Benner are living who joined the local lodge in March 1849, and have been in good standing continually since then.

## Smallpox at Lock Haven.

George Merritt, aged 24 years, of Lock Haven was taken to the smallpox hospital in Castanea township, Tuesday, ill with a mild attack of smallpox. The young man had been ill for several days. The patient is the son of D. G. Merritt, proprietor of the Central hotel.

The death of Mrs. Elizabeth, wife of State Treasurer Frank G. Harris, of Clearfield, occurred in the Medico-Chirurgical hospital, Philadelphia, Sunday.

## FACT, FUN AND FANCY.

### Bright Sparkling Paragraphs—Selected and Original.

IN 1894.

With fumigated coat and hat,  
And chlorinated cane,  
I stand before the portal that  
Protects my pretty Jane.  
Her worthy father lets me in—  
Unlocks the sturdy hasp—  
And gives my disinfected fin  
A hygienic clasp.

Papa with wisdom rarely ripe,  
Departs with scant delay,  
And with his Pasteurized pipe,  
Betakes himself away;  
While I to Jane do quickly go—  
Upon the sofa snug—  
And on that maiden fair bestow  
An antiseptic hug.

Before the evening wholly flies,  
Upstairs the coyly trips,  
And perfumed germeicides applies  
Unto her dainty lips.  
Then cometh gladness—ecstasy—  
Just undiluted bliss!—  
When lovely Jenny gives to me  
A sanitary kiss.

There was a young lady at Bingham,  
Who knew many songs, and could sing 'em;  
But she couldn't mend hose,  
And she wouldn't wash clothes,  
Or help her old mother to wring 'em.

## INTERESTING LAND CASE.

An ejection case of some importance is attracting attention among our attorneys and others. It is known as "J. L. Kreamer, vs. William Vonada, Wm. Close and Wm. Fees, No. 96, Nov. Term, 1900."

Suit was originally brought by the plaintiff J. L. Kreamer, of Woodward, to prevent William Vonada from cutting the timber on a certain tract of land in Haines twp., purchased in 1880 by Kreamer from the estate of Henry Hess dec'd. Henry Hess, in his lifetime, had owned and used this piece of timber-land in connection with his farm, situated nearby, and had in 1819 obtained a patent from the Commonwealth for the piece of timberland containing about 103 acres. In 1794 the Commonwealth had issued to Aaron Levy a patent for a large tract of timber land known by the warranty name of "Joseph Henry." The lines of the "Henry Hess" patent are within the lines of the "Joseph Henry." But never since 1794 did Aaron Levy nor his heirs, if he had any, exercise any rights of ownership over the lands, while since 1819 Henry Hess and his successors in title had these 103 acres assessed on the seated list and paid the taxes thereon regularly. In 1895, Vonada seeing this tract advertised for sale by the Treasurer of Centre county for the taxes of 1894 and 1895, purchased the tract at Treasurer's sale, but the taxes having been paid for those years on the seated list he (Vonada) obtained no valid tax title. Notwithstanding his insufficient title Vonada went to cutting the timber on the Henry Hess tract and was therefore stopped by Kreamer who brought suit in ejectment and had issued a writ of Estrepement. At the trial Vonada claimed that the title known as the "Joseph Henry" warrant, survey and patent being older was still an outstanding, subsisting title and superior to the "Henry Hess" patent.

The court directed a verdict for Kreamer, reserving the question, of law as to whether the "Joseph Henry" was still a valid, subsisting outstanding title and subsequently handed down an opinion in favor of the plaintiff (Kreamer) deciding that Kreamer and his predecessor Henry Hess having used the land since 1819 in connection with their farms as farmers ordinarily use woodland, and no one claiming or exercising any title under the "Joseph Henry" patent for a period of over 100 years the "Joseph Henry" title had become derelict and could not prevail against the "Henry Hess" patent, although the latter was a junior survey. Vonada appealed to the Superior Court which reversed Judge Love, but counsel for Kreamer, J. C. Meyer and A. O. Furst, promptly made application to the Supreme Court for an appeal to that court from the judgment of the Superior Court, which appeal was last week granted by the Supreme Court, and will be later argued in that court. Blanchard & Blanchard, of Bellefonte and A. Lesser, of Lewisburg represent the appellants.

## Hi Henry's Minstrel.

Hi Henry's Minstrel Sensation, entirely new, will appear at Garman's opera house on Friday, May 6. This organization claims to be the oldest and largest in the world, the present season constituting its 30th annual tour. It has appeared in all the leading cities East and West, from coast to coast, and the present season the management has exerted every effort to present an entertainment that will be classed among the leaders of minstrelry. Cut prices 25, 35 and 50c. Don't fail to see the grand automobile parade at 3 pm, on date of performance.