



THE MIDDLEBURGH POST IS THE SERVANT OF THE PEOPLE AND NOT THE SLAVE OF CORRUPT POLITICIANS. READ IT.

NEWS of LOCAL INTEREST

... would deem it a favor if those having vis-... would notify us by postal or by a notice at this office.

ADDITIONAL LIGHT WANTED.

Additional Researches Reveal Our Representative's True Position.

The Governor's veto axe fell on Herman's Expense bill of \$304 last Thursday. The Governor slaughtered the bills right and left. Friday's Phila. Press says:--

Erie. (3) Dedication of Soldiers' monuments at Chatanooga, Tenn. (4) State Hospital for Injured Prisoners at Ashland. (5) Pennsylvania Nautical schoolship. (6) Penn Asylum for Indigent widows and Single Women. (7) Board of Game Commissioners.

That he should be present when his own bill was in the balance and go out when the Soldiers' and Sailors' Home at Erie was to be cared for is not altogether consistent.

Attorney Fees. Herman voted for Attorneys' fees \$1000, to be divided between two attorneys for services in the Saunders-Roberts contest. He also voted for \$500 for attorney's fees in the Shiffer-Feh contest.

More Explanation. In addition to the four things we asked last week to have explained for the benefit of the tax-payers of Snyder county, the people now want to know (5) how Representative Herman can present and vote for a bill of \$304 for mileage when it is a violation of the constitution as quoted above.

(6) Why he voted for the bills (\$1046.40) in the Shiffer-Leh contest when the members themselves admit they had no expense. (7) His "Absent and not voting" record on so many appropriation bills for charity, yet could be present and vote for his own. (8) His reason for voting for such enormous attorney fees in cases where the state is not liable.

Those Expense Bills.

Governor Hastings says that one member of the Elections reports that his "bill is made up of 8 trips between Harrisburg and Phila. at 20 cents a mile." Well the distance one way is 105 miles or a round trip would be equivalent to 210 miles. Eight trips would make 1680 miles and at 20 cents a mile equals \$336. Sothe Orme of Schuylkill has a bill for \$346; we presume he is the man. Riding on a pass, this would give him a clear profit of \$336 for 8 trips to Phila. Seven trips would make \$294. Four members have bills of \$294. Herman's bill was \$304—just \$10 more. In the absence of an itemized statement from him we presume his bill is made up of 7 trips from Harrisburg to Phila., \$294 and \$10 for carriage hire, etc. If the bill had been paid it would make a profit of about \$300.

Ambrose Aurand of the 'Adamsburg Herald' was in town on Sunday.

Misses Fetzar, Jennie Miller, Mary and Anne Altsain were Middleburgh visitors on Sunday.

Fancy White Dress goods at 5 to 18 cents, reduced from 8 to 25c. at Maurer's, New Berlin.

As yet we have no persons who have the gold fever so severely as to be ready to start for the Yukon.

Frank K. Sheary of Millinburg is running the barber shop for A. E. Soles at campmeeting this year.

Serenus Bowersox and wife of Benfer township on Sunday were the guests of I. H. Bowersox and family.

Miss Jennie Ulrich of Selinsgrove has for several days been the guest of Miss Naomi Sohoch of this place.

H. I. Romig and Mr. Warner of Adamsburg were visitors to the Lutheran Y. P. S. C. E. Sunday evening.

Mrs. W. A. Lutz of Shippensburg nee Carrie Bachman, and her two step children are visiting parents and friends.

HERMAN'S REPLY.

He Fails to Itemize His Bills of Expense and Tries to Justify His Course by Showing the Motive that He Thinks Prompted the Exposition of His Bad Record.

MIDDLEBURGH, PA., Aug. 2, '97. To the Editor of the Post:

It must be very gratifying to the people of Snyder county to learn that a new Champion of their rights and liberties has suddenly risen up among them.

Ever since the time of the Roman and Grecian forum lights of more or less magnitude have hurled their malice and venom against those who may have honestly differed from them in matters of community, state or national, and it is not surprising to find among us a censor who with one mighty sweep of the pen hopes to forever cast a stain upon whatever was commendable in the public life of a fellow citizen.

You, Mr. Editor, are the censor. You invite me to a defense and I accept the challenge.

Your magnanimous offer to give me your columns through which I hope to reach the people who have honored me with their suffrages and whose confidence, I believe, I have always had, I must cheerfully accept.

No man realizes more fully than I do the force of the common saying that public office is a public trust. Every man in whom is vested representative power is responsible to those who confer such power and I have never avoided criticisms of any public acts of my life. I invite such criticism now but I want it without malice or appearance of vengeance. You devoted considerable space, to what you call my record, in the last issue of your paper, and I can't help but feel that you have honored me much beyond my deserts. In the three columns that you devote to me directly and by inference you labor most heroically to tell the people that I betrayed their sacred trusts. You are very charitable in your declarations that my great sins were all committed during the session of the legislature just closed. You admit that the first term I most zealously guarded the interests of the people of the county but that the old satanic spirit had at least seized me and that my course during the last term deserved nothing but the severest condemnation.

You charge me with four great crimes which you think I should explain to the people, because you say that the taxpayers have a right to know what reasons a man has for betraying them. You are very much exercised over the fact that I was a member of the Elections Committee and that in the bill providing for the expenses of the members of the committee in conducting the Roberts-Saunders contest an item of \$304 was appropriated to me. The amount in itself does not stagger you so much as the items that are to make up the amount. You don't appear to know what is meant by extra carfare, boarding, livery hire, postage, telegrams, et cetera. The first terms are easy enough and your Latin will help you out in the et cetera.

You say that the Governor came very near home and demanded an itemized statement from me. If you will accept the reply I sent to Mr. Beiler, the governor's private secretary, who asked for information I think I will have made sufficient explanation. My letter to Mr. Beiler was as follows:

MIDDLEBURGH, PA., July 20, '97. Hon. Lewis Beiler, Dear Sir:

In reply to yours of recent date in relation to the item specifically appropriated to me in House Bill, No. —, I beg to say that the amount includes items for extra carfare, boarding, livery hire, streetcar fare, postage and telegrams (used as secretary of the committee). The bill is based on precedent established at session of '95 and all previous legislatures. If the items are not authorized by law I am willing to be held up as an example so that the present as well as the future protection of the state may be secured.

Very truly, Chas. W. Herman. I am glad that the governor is fair enough to say "It has been the practice for many years to allow mileage etc. to members of committees of the General Assembly, and, in withholding my approval from these items, I deem it proper to state that no reflection upon the character of the members can be fairly implied because of these appropriations." I have no right to question the Governor's motives, but I can't

quite understand that he did not know two years ago that such expenses were unauthorized by law. In the P. L. of 1895 pages 608 and 609 you will find a bill that appropriates \$10,982 to pay the expenses of members of the elections committee of the session of '93. Gov. Pattison vetoed the bill in '93 and Gov. Hastings approved the bill in '95.

Among the items I find \$561 appropriated to P. M. Lytle for extra carfare, sleeping berths, telegrams, etc. Huntingdon county returned Mr. Lytle to the last legislature, notwithstanding. J. J. Coyle of Schuylkill Co. had a bill of \$300. Coyle is now the Senator from that district. E. W. Tool was credited with a bill of \$261 for the same items. \$760 was allowed for the secretary of the committee.

The committee of the last House which you charge with extravagance had no separate bills for services of a secretary, doorkeepers, etc.

I here publicly assert that there has been no contest for many years that didn't cost the state from \$5000 to \$8000 more than the cases that were before the committee of the last House your charge of extravagance to the contrary notwithstanding. I leave this part of your censorious article and take up the second charge which you call the McCook funeral bill.

Funerals are grave matters and I had hoped you could find live subjects in which you could ventilate your spleen. I can see of course that funerals lead to executor's notices, sale bills and other fees that come to printers in the settlement of dead men's estates and in so far as those things are concerned I can see why you want an explanation.

The particular funeral in which you are most interested is the Cook funeral although the bills for the expenses incurred in the burial of representative Phillips of Schuylkill county and Cassin of Phila. would have served the purpose of showing how the people's money would be spent, but I realize that you couldn't accomplish your purpose except to call for another itemized statement of expenditures. You certainly must be jesting when you attempt to make the people of the county believe that I got or am to get \$100 of the \$671.80 appropriated to pay for the expenses of said funeral. It seems to me that any one who can read must admit that you are either jesting or willfully attempting to deceive the people when you say that the expense bill of each member was more than \$100. When you furnish information to the public, common decency should admonish you to be at least reasonably fair.

I suppose I will be liable to your censure if I say to you and the people of the county that I do not know anything about the Cook Funeral Bill except that the Chairman, Mr. Long of York county, presented the bill to Mr. Marshall, chairman of the General Appropriation Committee, for insertion in the General App. Bill.

The bill includes an item, I think, for flowers, coffin, boarding, sargeant-at-arm's fees and carriage-hire. To the last item you will not likely object when I say that that was the only way we could go from Mercersburg to Fulton county. As to the amount of each particular item, I know absolutely nothing. Mr. Long I think can furnish you the information and if you really feel that the people demand the itemized bill it is your business as a watch-dog of their treasury to obtain the information. The Governor, I believe, has approved the bill and if the expenses are not strictly authorized by law your recourse is to write up the governor. In '95 an item of \$1405 was allowed in the Gen. App. Bill to pay the funeral expenses of Mr. Lemon, who died during the session. I wasn't a member of the committee but it might be interesting to have the itemized statement from the members who composed the committee. Hon. W. F. Stewart, the father of the House, was chairman of the committee, who will no doubt be willing to answer any questions you may have to ask him.

(3rd.) Now surely you can't be in earnest when you want to make the people of Snyder county believe that I voted their birthright away when I voted for what you are so kind as to call the "infamous Becker Bill".

The Becker Bill, well, pray, what has that to do with the interests of the people of this county? Do you really believe that the people care? Why you didn't even tell them what the bill provided for and I can't see how you can make it appear infamous unless you show us just where you see the infamy. I must be very much mistaken if the people in the county care anything about whether the Mayor of Phila. has absolute power in making appointments or whether his power is restricted by councils. You know something of course about the functions of the U. S. Senate as well as the senate of

Penna. in reference to appointments made by the President of the U. S. or the Governor of the State.

Under the fundamental law, as you should know if you don't, nominations made by the Pres. and Gov. must be confirmed by the Senate. Can you see any great crime in applying the same principle to the Mayor's appointments in the great city of Phila.? The great majority of the Phila. delegation was in favor of the bill and I saw no particular crime in voting for it. You knew something about the bill before it had passed and if you are so much interested why didn't you give me the benefit of your political judgment and ask me to vote against the bill?

I have but little time left to touch upon your fourth charge. You want to know why I voted against Mr. Coray's motion to go into the committee of the whole for the purpose of amending the Gen. App. Bill?

Mr. Coray is an excellent gentleman and for whom I have a good deal of respect but when he presumed to know more about the amounts required to pay for the expenses of the legislative and senate branch of the government I preferred to support the amounts as furnished by the Chief Clerk of the House and of the Senate.

When Mr. Coray wanted to appropriate no more for the expenses of the legislature than was appropriated in '95 he forgot that the last session was a month longer than the '95 session and that in the item was an amount of \$5000 or more to cover a deficiency. Mr. Coray may have been correct when he said that the pay rolls were padded, but he had no means of knowing that \$35,000 should be stricken off from the item. The governor's explanation proves my position to have been nearer correct than Mr. Coray's.

If you are after itemized statements Mr. Coray may be able to give you some information because I notice that in the session of '91 of which he was a member, \$291 was allowed to him as a member of the appropriation committee. We are all quite human.

In your judgment I have forfeited the confidence of my best friends because you measured me and according to your standard I am found wanting.

You have called me before the bar of public opinion to answer four distinct charges which you prefer against me and for which you think I deserve to be condemned. I rest my case with the honest judgment of a common sense, fairminded, and intelligent constituency.

Before I finally leave you, however, I want to charge you with four little things that have much to do with your unmanly attack upon me.

1st. The motive that prompts you to parade what you call my record is due to the fact that Hon. Mahon didn't appoint your father-in-law postmaster of Middleburgh for which you hold me in a great measure responsible.

2nd. Your candidate threatened to turn your paper on me if I refused to endorse him and now as means to even things up you are induced to assail me.

3rd. You are not infallible if measured by anything near like the moral or spiritual law. You should say to the public that you endeavored to land your father-in-law in the post office by fair and unfair means, because as a last resort did you not purchase my endorsement for him?

4th. You might also state that during the last United States Senatorial fight you accepted \$100 as a price for running your paper in the interest of John Wannamaker.

I dismiss you with the parting advice that a censor should be by all means free from the great sins which ascribes to the object of his criticism, all of which is most respectfully submitted.

CHAS. W. HERMAN.

ANOTHER FATALITY.

Wilson Knouse Fatally Injured Saturday Morning.

Wilson Knouse, of Northumberland, a brakeman in D.Y. yard, was fatally injured while at work about 6 o'clock Saturday morning, death resulting at about 10 minutes before 3 o'clock that afternoon. He was in the act of getting on a moving car when he fell, the wheels crushing his left leg between the ankle and knee and badly bruising and tearing the right. He was taken to the Mary M. Packer hospital but he never rallied sufficiently to have an operation performed. Mr. Knouse was about 35 years of age, a fine specimen of perfect manhood, and leaves a widow and two small children.