

Pike County Press.

Courts Office 11 1 03

VOL. IX.

MILFORD, PIKE COUNTY, PA., FRIDAY, JANUARY 1, 1904.

NO. 9.

THE WASHINGTON LETTER.

Regarding the democratic opposition to the Panama canal treaty, which continues to be the main topic of conversation here, Senator Simmons, a democrat from North Carolina, says "If the democratic party be instrumental in bringing about the defeat of the treaty, the American people will hold the party responsible therefor and might soon forget the conduct of the president." This is but one of many expressions of opinion by democratic senators, which makes the republicans certain that the treaty will be ratified.

In announcing their opposition to the treaty, the minority senators have been described as desiring a sinking ship, and politicians are now asking what will be the effect of Senator Gorman's blunder in starting his party on a course from which they were turned by the instruction of their state legislatures or by the demands of democratic governors and their party press. The Maryland senator has led his party into a mistake and has injured, if not destroyed, his chances of the democratic nomination; at least such is the general opinion here. It is significant that Leader Murphy of Tammany Hall, whose motto is success and who judges men merely by their vote getting ability, has given out a partial endorsement of William Randolph Hearst as the next candidate, although until recently the Tammany leader was very friendly with Senator Gorman. Representative Cooper of Texas, who declared that Gorman is a "slick politician" but that this reputation is not popular with the people, says that Hearst will get the nomination and that Gorman will manage the campaign. It is thought by many that Senator Gorman's mistake on the canal question will rob him even of his title of "slick politician." The next democratic caucus where the canal question will be discussed promises to be a stormy one, and may result in Leader Gorman's practical downfall. Senator Morgan will speak against the canal and it is believed that he will occupy much of the senate's time but little of its attention. If the democrats insist upon delivering campaign speeches in the senate, the republican majority will have the treaty considered in executive session.

Events in the Far East are receiving much attention from the administration. The Chinese Commercial treaty has still to be ratified at Peking by receiving the Imperial Seal, and officers of the state department believe that Russia is secretly opposing such ratification, in order to prevent the opening of the Manchurian ports of Antung and Mukden to American trade. The Russian fear that if America acquires such an interest in Manchuria, it will oppose its permanent occupation by Russia or perhaps get involved in the Russian-Japanese dispute. American Minister Conger has received instructions to urge a prompt ratification of the treaty, and our government is of course determined to prevent Russia from successfully opposing it. War between Russia and Japan is regarded as certain and Admiral Evans has been ordered to proceed at once from Honolulu to Chinese waters with the Asiatic fleet which is under his command. While it is thought that hostilities may be postponed for some time, the administration intends to have a fleet on the scene in order to protect American interests.

Chances of a war with Columbia is much discussed here, and it is thought quite possible that Columbia's determination to attack Panama will involve her in a conflict with the United States. General Royce, who is still in Washington, resigns the danger of this and continues to calm his countrymen to be patient, and not to forget that war with Panama means war with the only world power in the Western hemisphere. He has handed Secretary Hay a note of protest against the United States' recognition of Panama, and is awaiting the reply before returning to Columbia to take command of the army and charge of the government. No doubt the general will try to fight if his countrymen insist, but seeing the uselessness of such a struggle, he intends to do his utmost to prevent it.

To answer the criticism of the democrats that the ratification of the canal treaty by the Panama State was not equivalent to its ac-

LOCAL AND PERSONAL NOTES.

Robert Terwilliger of Lakewood, N. J., was a recent visitor here. Oscar M. Wells of New York was a guest with his mother recently. Harold Thornton of New York enjoyed a brief visit here recently. John Gourlay of Newark spent a few days recently with his family here.

George Clark and wife of Matamoras called on friends here the first of the week.

F. W. Benner and wife of New York passed a few days this week at Brookside Villa.

William A. Huleizer of Honesdale has been reappointed D. D. S. M. for the 14 District.

John Degan, an employee at the Waldorf in New York, visited his family here this week.

Mrs. Mamie K. Peters and daughter of New York are domiciled at the Armstrong cottage.

Frank Rudolph and wife of Port Jervis have been visiting the former mother here a few days.

Miss Helen Ruth Biddis of Washington has been for several days a guest with Mrs. Edward Cahill on Broad street.

Miss Bertha Williamson of Lakewood, N. J., is visiting her mother, Mrs. A. N. Roe, in Branchville for a couple of weeks.

Frank Crisman, proprietor of Hotel La Tourette, Bergen Point, was a guest with his mother here over last Sunday.

Rev. Charles Battis, D. D. of Middletown, N. Y., whose serious illness has been noted in the Press, is reported as slightly improved.

W. D., a brother of Hon. J. C. Price of Branchville, N. J., recently elected state senator, who has been very ill, is said to be improving.

OBITUARY.

Mrs. WILLIAM LYNCH
Anna Bell, wife of William Lynch, died at her home in Port Jervis Saturday, December 26th after a long illness of consumption.

She was born in Milford October 5, 1850, and was a daughter of James and Anna Boster of this place.

About twelve years ago she married Mr. Lynch, a conductor on the Erie, and has since lived in Port Jervis. She was an active member of the M. E. church and will be mourned by a large circle of friends.

Her husband and three children, Ruth A., William R. and Helen M., survive. She is also survived by her father and one sister, Sarah, wife of Thomas M. Brick of Dingman's Ferry, Penna.

The funeral was held Tuesday and interment in Milford cemetery.

Sunday Schools Elect Officers
The Presbyterian Sunday school has elected the following named for the ensuing year:

Superintendent—George Mitchell.
Assistant—J. F. Huntington.
Librarian and Secretary—Louise Kleer.
Organist—Maud Klein.
Assistant—Alice Baker.

The Methodist Sunday school has elected the following:

Superintendent—P. N. Bournique.
Assistant—William Angle.
2nd Assistant—J. A. Myer.
Secretary—Harry Armstrong.
Treasurer—Miss Oimsted.
Librarian—Lewis Gregory.
Organist—Myrtle Ryder.
Assistant—Lola Gregory.

There is a great discussion going on in the papers as to whether congress shall or shall not admit a delegate from Porto Rico. It is contended that the fundamental law of the republic makes no provision for delegates from territories and that the whole question will again be raised whether Porto Rico is a territory similar to Oklahoma, New Mexico or Hawaii. It matters little, in discussing the right of the house of representatives to accept Porto Rico as a delegate, not whether that island is upon the same footing as Hawaii or Oklahoma. Delegates do not constitute a part of congress. They sit in the House only by grace of the House, and have no voting privileges. If the House sees fit to allow a Porto Rican to appear upon its floor to behalf of his island, as it probably will see fit to do so, it will have ample authority for such action.

A glass or two of water taken half an hour before breakfast will usually keep the bowels regular. Harsh cathartics should be avoided. When a purgative is needed, take Chamberlain's Stomach and Liver Tablets. They are mild and gentle in their action. For sale by Welch & Son, Matamoras, all general stores in Pike county.

CHANGES IN GAME LAWS.

Some Very Appropriate Suggestions Made—Deer and Bird Open Seasons Should Be Different.

LOUIS VALLEY, Dec. 18, 1903.

MR. EDITOR—
I notice in your last issue that some parties propose some changes in the game laws. As an old resident, and one who takes some interest in protecting game, I fail to see where the proposed change would do any good. If we are to have a change it should be in the dog law, either let us have dogs in hunting deer or otherwise let us have a law that can be enforced. I think it safe to say that 1 of the deer killed in Pike county the past season were chased by dogs. It should be remembered that nearly all dogs will chase deer to some extent, and when a deer is started and chased 300 or 400 yards by a dog it will continue on a mile or perhaps more before it stops, and with the men properly stationed this is far enough. The men who go with the dogs claim to be hunting birds and rabbits and some of them carry Winchester rifles at the same time. Our officers know these matters exist but they can't help it, even where they are inclined to do their duty they are powerless. I wish to call your attention to one thing more, for instance, Messrs. A. and B. are neighbors and very warm friends. Mr. A. keeps a stopping place for hunters and hunts some himself. Mr. B. does not hunt, he keeps 3 or 4 deer dogs just because he likes to have them around when a party of hunters come from Milford or some other place. Mr. B. is made acquainted with the fact, in the morning Mr. A. stations his men on the brook and other good stands. Mr. B. takes his dog and drives the deer in but does not show himself to the party, and the dog is a total stranger no one knows anything about him, still he lives to come again. There is a great deal more that could be written along this line but I have already said enough. One who has a desire to protect game and hunt as the law directs it has a very discouraging outlook.

It seems to me the deer law should be left as it is and the bird and rabbit season be from the first of September to the first of October. - Allow dogs to be used those two months and no more. Wildcats and foxes should be killed with poison every month in the year except September and October.

OLD RESIDENT.

Our Native Birds

A recent publication of the department of agriculture of this state is devoted to the economic value of our native birds, and treats of kites, hawks, eagles, falcons, etc. The conclusion is that no birds are more beneficial to the interests of the husbandman than are these and none are less fully known and less appreciated for their good effects and, too, that none are more mercilessly slaughtered by nearly all persons at all times.

The worst hawks we have and the ones most destructive to small birds and poultry are the sharp shinned hawk known as the Pigeon hawk which is the smallest of the hawk family but one of the most daring. Of 150 stomachs examined, 6 contained poultry or game birds, 9 contained other birds, representing about 45 different species; 5 mice; 5 insects and 52 were empty. Thus it seems fond of poultry, kills few mice, but destroys too many beneficial small birds.

The other, known as Cooper's hawk, is larger than the other and is often called the "Long tailed small chicken hawk." It eats larger birds and tackles older poultry. Of 133 stomachs examined, 39 were empty; 34 contained poultry or game birds; 53 other birds; 11 mammals; 1, a frog; 3 lizards; and 2 insects. While all hawks take poultry to some extent, yet the number of noxious animals and insects they destroy, more than compensates the farmer for the damage they do his poultry.

* Annual Election

The annual election for Managers of the Milford Cemetery Association will be held at the office of C. W. Ball in the Borough of Milford on Monday, Jan. 4, 1904, between the hours of 2 and 3 p. m.

WILLIAM MITCHELL, Secretary.

Fight Will Be Bitter

Those who will persist in closing their ears against the continual recommendation of Dr. King's New Discovery for consumption, will have a long and bitter fight with their troubles, if not ended earlier by fatal termination. Read what T. B. Beall of Beall, Miss., has to say: "Last fall my wife had every symptom of consumption. She took Dr. King's New Discovery after never being wrong if you take Dr. King's New Life Pills for dyspepsia, dizziness, headache, liver or bowel troubles. They are gentle, yet thorough. \$1 at all druggists."

A Neighboring Hero

Running like mad down the street dousing the occupants of a hundred other coaches, are every day occurrences. It behooves everybody to have a reliable safety remedy and there's none as good as Dickson's Astoria Salve. Burns, cuts, sores, cancer and piles disappear quickly under its soothing effect. 25¢ at all druggists.

INTERESTING NEWS ITEMS

A marriage license has been granted to Harry J. Kramer of Port Jervis and Ella D. Driller of Matamoras.

Letters of administration on the estate of Jesse L. Gunn, late of Lehman, dec'd., have been granted to J. W. Frasier.

Carrie, wife of Henry Clay, died at her home at Anglen saw-mill in Delaware Thursday, Dec. 24, of peritonitis aged about 50 years. The funeral was held last Saturday.

The boiler of an engine on the Erie exploded Tuesday near Long Eddy killing Frank Loren, the fireman, and severely injuring the engineer and three other men.

Squire Ludwig, with his usual generosity, treated the Gazette force Christmas to a large cake. The account does not mention the number of plums it contained.

An accident in which 64 persons lost their lives occurred last week on the B. & O. Railroad near Laurel Run, Pa. Some lumber fell from a passing freight train on the tracks in front of the Duquesne flyer throwing it over an embankment.

Dr. Webb, who owns a large game preserve in the Adirondack regions will, it is said take down the fence and permit the moose, elk, deer and beavers roam at will. He experienced great trouble in keeping up the fence because of trees which had been burned falling on it.

Miss Sallie Brodhead of Tobyhanna, Monroe county, and Prof. W. E. Brown, principal of the Moscow school, were married Dec. 24, and the same day James H. Taylor and Miss Mary J. Reinert, both of East Stroudsburg, were joined in holy wedlock.

Intense cold weather set in last Saturday, which was so far the coldest day of the season and held the record for the past 25 years for the month. During the first part of the week little relief was experienced and the cold which was general caused much suffering and delay in trains on all railroads.

The World's Canals

The Suez Canal was begun in 1859 and was completed in 1869.

The Kaiser Wilhelm Canal, connecting the Baltic and North Seas, was completed in 1896.

Among the big European canals are the Cronstadt and St. Petersburg Canal, Corinth Canal, Manchester Ship Canal, and the Elbs and Trave Canal.

The Corinth Canal connects the Gulf of Corinth with the Gulf of Aegina. The canal reduces the distance from Adriatic ports about 175 miles and from Mediterranean ports about 100 miles. Its length is about four miles and its cost \$5,000,000.

The canal connecting the Bay of Cronstadt with St. Petersburg is a work of great strategic and commercial importance to Russia. The canal and sailing course in the Bay of Cronstadt are about sixteen miles long. The width ranges from 320 to 360 feet.

The Manchester Ship Canal, which connects Manchester, England, with the Mersey River at Liverpool, and the Atlantic Ocean, was opened for traffic January 1, 1894. The length of the canal is thirty-five and one-half miles, the total rise from water level to Manchester being sixty feet, which is divided between four sets of locks, giving an average of each of fifteen feet.

Three ship canals intended to give continuous passage to vessels from the head of Lake Superior to Lake Ontario and the St. Lawrence River are the Welland Canal, originally constructed in 1823 and enlarged in 1871 and 1900; the St. Mary's Falls Canal at Sault Ste. Marie, Mich., opened in 1855 and enlarged in 1881 and 1896; and the Canadian Canal at St. Mary's River, opened in 1896.

The Suez Canal is usually considered the most important example of ship canals, though the number of vessels passing through it annually does not equal that passing through the canals connecting Lake Superior with the chain of great lakes at the south. In length, however, it exceeds any of the other great ship canals, its total length being ninety miles, of which about two-thirds is through shallow lakes.

Two canals connect the Baltic and North Seas through Germany, the first, known as the Kaiser Wilhelm Canal, having been completed in 1896, and constructed largely for military and naval purposes, but proving also of great value to the general mercantile traffic. Work upon the Kaiser Wilhelm Canal was begun in 1887. The length of the canal is sixty-one miles, the terminus in the Baltic Sea being at the harbor of Kiel.

Dingman's is headquarters for Lowrey's confections.

Birds of the Winter Time

Birds of Great Value Which Should be Protected and Cared for During the Winter.

Certain small birds that remain with us during the winter time are of very great value, although their economic effects are not generally known. These birds are very beneficial for their destruction of both weed seeds and insects. Some, like the sparrows and horned larks, feed during the winter upon seeds alone, most of which are the seeds of weeds that are more or less obnoxious; others, like the quail, feed upon both seeds and insects, and some feed upon insects alone, even during the winter, when it is popularly thought that no insects are to be found. It is to these and the necessity of preserving them that we wish to call special attention at this time.

Two very important birds that remain with us all winter and feed entirely upon insects, especially in orchards, are the Downy and Hairy woodpeckers. Members of this family can be known by their dipping flight, their short, sharp notes, their sharp rigid tail feathers pressed against the tree for support, two toes in front and 2 behind insuring a firmer grasp, their hard pecking against wood, their modest white and black colors, and the patch of red on the head of the male. They are found mostly on the trunks and larger limbs of the trees, head upward, searching for grubs, chrysalids, etc. They are erroneously called "sapsuckers," and are killed through ignorance of their own value. They do not suck sap, nor injure the trees. Protect the small woodpeckers of the winter time and thus protect your fruit crops.

Two other valuable winter birds are the two species of nuthatches. These can be known by their drab and grayish colors, no red, the call which is a nasal "puck," and their alighting on the trunks and larger branches of trees, mostly head downward. They do not peck into wood, as do the woodpeckers, but they pry into every crack and crevice and under every possible scale of bark in search of insects of any and all kinds of stages, and will freely eat eggs, such as those of the pear tree Paylla, Appis Aphida, etc., larvae such as hibernates beneath loose bark, pupae or chrysalids of all kinds of insects that are to be found in cracks and under bark, and adults or mature insects that are hibernating. For the extraction of such pests these nuthatches have bills that are especially long, slender, straight and pointed.

Another remarkable valuable bird of the winter time is the common Chickadee. It can be known by its small size, black cap on its head, bluish gray back, and lighter under side, and especially by the fact that it generally alights on the twigs of trees and swings head downward and every way, while clinging with its feet, like a veritable acrobat. It lives altogether upon insects, and eats an immense number of them. Its chief food consisting of the eggs of plant lice, small chrysalids, etc. A study of its stomach contents has proven beyond a doubt that it is one of the most valuable birds known to the farmer and fruit grower.

The brown Creeper also often occurs in our orchards during the winter. It is a small bird, slightly larger than the Chickadee, with a very long, slender, curved bill, with which it extracts insects of all kinds and in all stages from their winter hiding places where none but an expert entomologist would think to find them. It is one of the few kinds of birds with stiff and pointed tail feathers upon which it rests at times, as upon a third leg. All of these birds can be aided by putting fat meat, suet or trimmings from butcherings in trees for them. Place handfuls of tin around the trees and cats and squirrels will not get the food put up for the birds, which are our most useful allies.

For quails it is necessary, while there is prolonged snow, to feed them by setting sheaves of unthreshed grain of any kind in brush piles and scattering straws with grain in the head over brush so the falling snow will not cover it. If this be not done most of the quails in this state are likely to die of starvation.—Prof. H. A. Surface, State College, Penna.

THE RAMBLER'S PICKINGS

Write it with a four.
A Happy New Year to all!
Where is the chap who prophesied an open winter?

Do not miss the oyster supper and dages of the Fire Department this Thursday evening.

The different ice houses around here are filled early this winter and with first rate ice.

Rambler is much obliged for several Christmas presents. Hope the Press "devil" got his stocking full.

Last Saturday we had a young blizzard. Yet the sleighing was poor. Sunday was disagreeable and our streets were deserted.

I understand some of the boys have found out the meaning of the word Katzenjammer, and they also admit knowing something about it.

Poetry is all right, but I saw some composed by a woman some time ago and sent to a friend which clearly was entitled to a medal if it could have been published.

There was a little birthday party held in this town which together with the celebration of Christmas both being on one day made things so lively that a pocket book containing fifteen dollars took wings toward 1904. Who got it?

The annual session of the Milford Fire Department for the election of a chief and first and second assistant will be held in the Borough building on January 5 between the hours of 8 and 9 p. m.

Sunday school attendance will now be on the decrease for awhile until picnic time anyhow. One lady connected with one of our churches remarked to us that there were a few children so religious about X-mas time they would attend Sunday school in two churches.

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