

# Pike County Press.

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## THE WASHINGTON LETTER

Not within this generation has there been witnessed such a scene of excitement and confusion in the House of Representatives as that which transpired on Wednesday and Thursday of this week. As with a whirlwind party lines went down before the withering lines of the Bristow report upon the alleged connection of congressmen with the post office frauds. Not an hour's delay was tolerated to enable the committee on post offices which gave the report to the public, to lay it upon the table. Mr. Overstreet, chairman of the committee tried to extract the sting from the document, but failed, and the whole question was thrown open for discussion. Members proceeded with alacrity to take the bull by the horns. He had got into a political china shop and must be hustled out. The public pressed into the galleries until they were overflowing, and great crowds at the doors.

During the debate it was with difficulty, and much pounding of the desk that Speaker Cannon could maintain sufficient order for the transaction of business. Congressmen who have been in the House ten and twenty years, white with anger, denounced the charges and insinuations as exaggerated, uncalled for, garbled, and improperly included as a part of the document. It suppressed the truth and suggested that which was false. The best that can be said is that many congressmen on both sides of the house, since the government was organized, have been in the habit of making recommendations and suggestions to the post office department, regarding the identical matters charged up against them in the report. This is not what they were elected for and the practice should be reformed altogether.

All departments of the government shared in the excitement, and nothing else was talked of among politicians. In brief the Bristow report contained the names of about one hundred and fifty members of congress out of a total membership of four hundred and eighty. These have been held up to public scorn and their integrity impeached. The discussion would have been continued on the 10th inst., but for an adjournment of the house for the day occasioned by the death of a member, Hon. George W. Croft, of South Carolina. The specific charges were that the members named had gone to the department asking for an increase in the salaries of certain postmasters, requesting more clerks for certain post offices, and desiring an increased allowance for the rent of buildings. It was charged that a few were owners of the buildings which were to be leased by the government. While there was not a technical violation of law, it appears that certain regulations of the department were violated by Beavers, who had these matters in charge and who is under indictment. During the two days discussion congressmen tried to purge themselves of all wrong doing, but the report has gone broadest and many a political career is nipped. At the conclusion of the debate, the House voted to appoint a select committee to investigate the charges made against members of congress. There will be no further general investigation of the post office department.

The indignation of congress caused some anxiety at the White House and the president on the 10th, summoned Speaker Cannon, Mr. Overstreet, and Mr. Bristow for consultation. The postmaster general is suffering from an attack of gout. The president has called to see him. On the 10th inst., the president issued an executive order to all the employees of the government, enjoining them to refrain from expressing opinions about the war which might irritate the nations of Europe. Representative Babcock of Wisconsin assures the president that his state will give him 100,000 majority at the coming elections. The president has been entertaining ex-Gov. Crane of Massachusetts, and it is understood he can have the naval portfolio when Secretary Moody resigns.

There has been little legislation in congress the past week, owing to the excitement caused by the Bristow report. The army bill has passed the senate. What is known as the Alaska bill has also passed. It provides for good roads, schools, etc. The senate has prohibited cattle grazing on the Bell Box forest preserve in Oregon. Considerable opposition is manifested in congress to the creation of a statue of Frederick

the Great in Washington. The house committee on Ways and Means has agreed to the proposition to prohibit absolutely the killing of seals of the Pribilof island. The herd has diminished from four and a half millions to one hundred and twenty thousand head.

The matter of the confirmation of General Wood was before the senate committee on military affairs a few days ago, when a brief prepared by the late Senator Hanna was read. It went over the whole ground of charges against General Wood and declared that it was impossible to accept the mere statements of Gen. Wood, as against the sworn testimony of men in the naval and military service. The brief wishes General Wood to prove his statements under oath. Senator Forsaker will take up the case at the earliest opportunity. It is conceded that General Wood will be confirmed.

The secrets of Mormonism and the organization of that peculiar church, continue to be dragged into the light. There is much curiosity to know all about plural marriages, revelations, the legal status of children, and why the law is set at defiance. The investigation may drag for a long time. Apostle Smith admits that he keeps up five different domestic establishments, and that he and the officers of the church are very sensitive on the subject of plural marriages.

Secretary Cortelyou is developing as a great speech maker. From Providence, R. I., he has skipped to Chicago to tell the public what his department intends to do. Secretary Taft thinks both the Filipinos and the Americans in our insular possessions need rational amusements. The climate is too hot and wet for baseball, and the canteen is positively dangerous. Admiral Walker thinks it will be necessary to import 30,000 coolies to dig the Panama canal.

## Brief Sayings

It is now stated that the oil trust has succeeded in absorbing the lec trust. What next for the octopus?

The Japanese seem to be determined upon a programme of wood sawing and letting the other fellows do the talking.

Some authorities are thoroughly convinced that the vapors of the Hearst boom are really thickening into mud.

There is one thing can be said in favor of the Parker boom. It is conducting itself in a very gentlemanly manner and is not trying to run over anybody.

The Parker-Bally-Hearst-Cleveland-Gorman, et cetera, boom and booms are moving along in fine fettle. All that is needed now is an issue and the votes.

The Washington Post says that the Parker boom is apparently beset on the rocks and sands in the harbor at Wolfert's roost, the perching place of the Honorable D. B. Hill.

Mr. Brigham Roberts of Utah who was rather unceremoniously fired out of the House of Representatives is stated to be audibly chuckling over the Reed Smoot situation in the senate.

Since the Japs have sailed in and occupied the principal part of Russia's attention, it will doubtless be impossible for that country to carry out its pledge of evacuating Manchuria on October 8th last.

The American Federation of Labor urges its members and the general public in sympathy with union labor to eschew "non-union whiskey." Good advice so far as it goes but it might be further amended to strike out the words "non-union."

The New York physician who claims that athletics are being overdone probably himself has a strong right arm with a diameter of about two and one-half inches. The medical kickers against athletics and beautiful and spirited outdoor exercises and sports are usually men who can be bowled over by a good strong breath of wind.

Senator Quay has introduced a bill appropriating \$40,000 to investigate the "so-called hammer blow, centrifugal lift and tangential blow of the counterbalance in locomotive driving wheels." The New York World says the "preparation and habits of the driving wheel have long held public interest at a fad, but that some questions will arise as to whether the policy was sound or not, and asks if the Senator has not some constituent who could say more.

## LOCAL AND PERSONAL NOTES

J. E. Terwilliger is on a trip to New York.

H. T. Labar of Stroudsburg was in town Wednesday.

Richard C. Loesch of New York spent last Sunday here.

P. N. Bourlique spent several days in New York this week.

Ex-County Commissioner James M. Bentsley was in town Tuesday.

Harry Armstrong was in New York a couple of days last week.

Miss Alice Ryanan, after a visit with friends in Newark, has returned home.

Mrs. C. W. Bull is somewhat indisposed and has been confined to her room for several days.

County Superintendent Lucian Westbrook and Isiah Hornbeck of Delaware were in town Tuesday.

George Armstrong of Montague, N. J., fell from a load of logs a day this week and fractured two of his ribs.

Miss McCormick, operator for the Western Union here, spent the week in New York. Her place was taken by Sallie Malnes.

Mrs. B. D. Hush and sister, Miss Carrie Motts of Stroudsburg, are enjoying this week with relatives and friends in Sandyston, N. J.

Joseph Purcell and wife of Brooklyn, who came up with the funeral party accompanying the remains of Mrs. L. W. Armstrong last week, remained several days visiting friends.

Mrs. Cornelia L. Cooke of New York, well known to many here, who she formerly resided for several years, has been very ill with grippe but is now slowly progressing toward recovery.

Miss Sarah Finger is suffering with an attack of pleurisy. Her mother is also in a feeble condition. Miss Finger, a daughter of Samuel W., of Lambertville, N. J., who had been visiting with the family for some time, left for her home last Saturday.

## Patrons of Husbandry

Lecturer of the State Grange Patrons of Husbandry A. M. Cornell of Austerville, Pa., contemplates a trip to this county some time in the future with a view to interest farmers in establishing granges. The objects of these organizations are to advance the material, educational and social lines, and in some counties they are becoming a decided factor. Any one interested may address the state lecturer and will receive literature giving an idea of the principles and objects of the order. Almost every line of business has a combination for mutual interest and protection and farmers would do well to investigate any thing which promises to secure for them advantages in their profession.

## Real Estate Transfers

John B. Eagan to George Wehinger, lot 403, Matamoras, \$900.

Harry P. Nye to Henry Walker, 18 acres, Lehman, on Toms creek, \$1200.

Henry Walker to Egypt Mills Club, same land as above, \$250.

Frank Babcock to Walter H. Warner, 100 acres, Dingman, part of Luke Broadhead and Josiah Galbraith, \$100.

Laura Sprenger to Frank Carl, 100 acres, Lackawanna, adjoining Robert Paterson, warrant, \$1600.

Walter H. Warner to Mary Bosler, 100 acres, Dingman, parts of Luke Broadhead and Galbraith, \$150.

## A Popular Book

The History of Education by Dr. E. L. Kemp, principal of the East Stroudsburg State Normal School, is a very popular work and has a wide sale. It is used by many of the leading universities, colleges and normal schools in the United States and their adoption of it is a just recognition of the scholarship and ability of the author as a writer and instructor. Some forty colleges, normal schools and other institutions of learning in a number of states have it in use. It is published by the J. B. Lippincott Co., Philadelphia.

After thirty years of toll the tunnel under the North river at New York was so far completed last Friday that men walked through. The two sections met exactly in line both as to level and direction without any variation, showing the accuracy of construction. The cast iron casing plates were riveted in place, joining the two ends, but it will take some months before the tunnel is completed so as to allow cars to run. It is said the Erie will use it for passengers.

## JAGGER SENTENCED

He Receives It with Composure—The Law Regarding Writs of Error

(Reported for "Pike County Press") Court opened Saturday, March 14, at 11 o'clock a. m., with Judges Garretson and Hunt on the bench. Court Crier Gouse pronounced the usual formula, after which the state moved for sentence on George Jagger.

Judge Garretson said: George Jagger, you may stand up.

Have you any thing to say why the court ought not to proceed to pass judgment against you?

Yes sir, I am not guilty of the charge I am here for.

George Jagers, you were indicted before a grand jury of this county for the crime of murder, and upon trial, a petit jury found you guilty of murder and fixed the crime as murder of the first degree.

The judgment of the law and the sentence of this court is that you be taken from here to the county jail, and that there you be kept by the sheriff of this county until the 22nd day of April next, and on that day, between the hours of 8 and 11 in the morning, that you be taken to the place of execution, to be provided by the sheriff in accordance with the statute, and then and there, between those hours, you be hanged by the neck until you are dead.

Jagers received his sentence with great composure, only drooping his head slightly at the closing words of the sentence.

The court room was crowded to its full capacity.

The prisoners counsel may sue out a writ of error to be tried before the court of appeals, as provided for in the Laws of 1895, Page 914, section 11; which in part says "Writs of error in criminal cases shall be writs of right, and issue of course. The bill of exceptions shall be returned to the court of errors and appeals with only so much of the evidence as may be necessary to present the question of law upon which exceptions were taken at the trial."

If the court of appeals sustains the exceptions a new trial may be granted. If not the move will only operate to delay the execution of Jagers until some time next summer. Previous to execution the court approves of 12 persons to be admitted and present at the hanging. The sheriff has the appointing of 12 more, all of which are specifically provided for by statute and the list is already filed.

## Real Estate a Drug

At the adjourned sale of the real estate of the late P. A. L. Quick held Tuesday the Williams place in Dingman township was offered at an upset price of \$1000, and no one offering more it was withdrawn.

The Schoeppe lands in Milford township were sold to Walter H. Warner for \$405.

The Manor Hall farm in Delaware of 70 acres with the buildings was offered for \$2000, but there were no bidders and it was passed.

The 180 acres along Adams creek were placed at \$1400 but no one bid more and they were withdrawn.

The W. W. Brown place of 74 acres was valued at \$600 with no higher offer and it was retained.

Stock in Milford Bridge was offered at any bid over \$25 a share, but no one appeared to desire it and it was also withdrawn.

The sale was then adjourned to the further order of the court.

## Vandormark Hose No. 1

At an election held Monday evening the following were elected officers for the ensuing year:

Foreman—G. R. Quick.  
1st Assistant—J. F. Terwilliger.  
2nd Assistant—W. F. Chol.  
Secretary—Harry Armstrong.  
Treasurer—W. F. Beck.  
Steward—John Showers.  
Fire Police—Geo. Smith and P. F. Steele.

The membership was increased by the addition of Samuel Fuller, Charles Brink, Thos. Steele, Andy Middaugh, Geo. Lattimore and Herbert Palmer, and Frank Dewitt elected to fill a vacancy. The company now numbers 21.

Judge Truxter at Allegheny granted only one liquor license out of the 22 new applications. He told hotel keepers that the penalty for a violation of the laws would be a loss of the license and that any drinking place frequented by disreputable women would not be dealt with leniently. This may be an echo of the Bechtel trial held there recently but should also apply with equal emphasis to every other town in the state.

## INTERESTING NEWS ITEMS

Yesterday was St. Patrick's day in the morning.

A two months old girl of Joseph Jagger of Sandyston died yesterday.

The town council at a meeting held Saturday evening elected Harry Armstrong secretary.

Madame Patti, after what is asserted to be her last farewell tour of America, sailed for home last week.

The Y. P. S. C. E. of the Presbyterian church enjoyed a social evening Monday at the home of Clara Krob.

The president has annulled the treaty with the Sultan of Sulu because the Moros had violated its terms.

Andrew Carnegie has promised to give \$1000 to aid in buying an organ for the Stroudsburg M. E. church.

Philadelphia hospitals are crowded to the limit of their capacity with cases of pneumonia and typhoid fever.

The County Commissioners, with their clerk, have been holding courts of appeal in Blooming Grove, Gosene and Palmyra townships.

The Misses Kant elsewhere announce a spring opening of millinery which will awaken a lively interest in many feminine minds.

Work has commenced on the bridge at Tri-States which was pushed off its foundations by the ice and it is said it will be replaced by April first.

There are no civil cases on the trial list for next week and the court can devote its whole time to a general jail delivery and criminal business.

A number of farmers in this section have had their potatoes, stored in the cellars, frozen and some have lost apples in the same way.

Governor Pennypacker has designated April 8th and 22nd as Arbor days. Unless the weather changes a month later will be more suitable.

Eliakim Custard, a former resident of this county, now of Easton, has recently bought a dwelling in that city for the consideration of \$2,800.

E. C. Wood is busy papering Hotel Schanno. The proprietor, Louis Budell, contemplates making many improvements to the place when the weather permits.

A blizzard struck some parts of the west the first of the week with a heavy snow fall. Traffic was considerably delayed. The tail end of it just brushed here Monday.

Judge Bechtel in the Schuylkill county court lately decided that spanking in the public schools is legal. He said teachers could administer reasonable corporal punishment.

Plans are being made to open the Rapid Transit subway in New York, which will cost the city forty million dollars, for traffic in June. There will likely be a grand celebration of the event.

The Philadelphia Press says that ninety per cent of the lawyers of the state who have expressed themselves are opposed to the candidacy of Governor Pennypacker for the Supreme Court bench.

The will of Mrs. Mary Armstrong, lately deceased, has been admitted to probate. All her estate is devised to her seven children. Carrie, Lancelotti W. and William are named as executors and co-executors.

Isiah Hornbeck of Delaware township, intending to relinquish farming this spring, will have a sale of stock, farming utensils and other personal property at his place Saturday, March 20th, commencing at 11 o'clock.

The Presbytery of the United Presbyterian church in Allegheny protests against the singing of hymns at union revival services held in churches of that denomination. It approved the singing of Psalms only.

From reports it would seem advisable for the county commissioners to have the seats of their inexpressibles half-soled before going into some townships to hold courts of appeal. Many say they have a large kick to administer.

The Port Jervis Gazette says it has information from a reliable source that the probabilities are the Matamoras railroad bridge will never be replaced by the present company. We cannot see why not, for the company evidently has money in waste.

George Jagger was sentenced by Judge Garretson at Newton last Saturday to be hanged April 22. He took the matter coolly and did not seem disturbed, afterwards calling for a cigar. When asked the usual question if he had anything to say he replied that he was not guilty of the murder of Mrs. Hevan.

## THE GREAT MERGER CASE

A Blow at the Formation of Trusts. Several Affected

The Supreme Court of the United States in an opinion delivered by Justice Harlan Monday declared the Northern Securities Company to be a trust formed to restrain trade and create illegal monopoly. Some of the points made are: "Congress has supreme authority and control of commerce among the states.

The Northern Securities Company tended to operate in restraint of trade and as a monopoly.

Laws passed by Congress which are in accord with the Constitution cannot be set aside by any device or combination created under the laws of a state.

The natural effect of the Merger agreement was to prevent competition and therefore subject to the Sherman act which embraces not only monopolies which have been consummated, but attempts to monopolize as well.

Ownership of a majority of its stock constitutes the control of a corporation.

The securities company clearly intended to establish a monopoly by acquiring control of the stock of the competing railroads.

By transferring a majority of their stock to a common trustee the two railway companies have combined to violate of the act.

Chief Justice Fuller and Justices Holmes, Peckham and White dissented, while Justices Brown, Brewer, McKenna and Day concurred.

## The State Grange

At a meeting of the officers of the State Grange held in Harrisburg to confer on the work for the coming year.

In matters of legislation it was resolved to support the National Grange in its demands for a Parcel Post, Postal Savings Banks, and such legislation as will prevent the manufacturer from selling his products cheaper to the foreigner than to the consumer at home.

All candidates for Congress will be interrogated as to their position on these questions.

In State affairs we propose to make an aggressive effort for the relief of real estate from unjust taxation by demanding that the personal property taxes and licenses now paid to the State by the counties shall be retained by the counties and that a special tax shall be laid on corporate property for road purposes. The money thus raised shall be so used as to put into operation the law of 1897 known as the Hamilton road law. The law of 1902 the Sprad bill is regarded as unsatisfactory and we shall work for its repeal.

No effort will be spared to educate the people on the possibilities of the Initiative and Referendum and we shall seek to have the Legislative submit an amendment to the constitution incorporating it into our organic law. Trolley companies should have the right to carry freight and the grange will do what it can to have that right legalized. All candidates for the legislature will be asked to state their position on these matters.

Alfred Henry Lewis on Bryan "Enter some blacksmith shop, seize a bar of cold iron and lay it across the anvil. Take a hammer and smite it with what force you will. Your return is a clangorous uproar. Heat the bar white hot. Throw it across the anvil and with the selfsame hammer strike the selfsame blow. The shop is filled with a starry shower that leaps the dark interior like a swarm of fire flies. The bar of iron is the audience, the hammer is the speech. Mr. Bryan found the bar white hot. He laid it across the anvil of Opportunity and with his hammer of Oratory beat it into what we know.

"And he is still hammering it, though as cold and sparkless as the frozen mountain slopes from which it was dug in the long ago."

## Millinery Display

We have just returned from New York with a new lot of summer millinery. A cordial invitation is extended to those who are interested in millinery to visit us and examine our goods. Prices reasonable. The opening will be March 18 and 19 in the Wallace building on Fourth St.

B. & F. KAUL.

The use of dynamite to break the gorges in the Susquehanna was not successful. Large masses of ice were dislodged but the gorge did not start. Had they gone to the lower end of it, if there is one, so that the ice as broken up could have floated away the result might have been different.

## THE RAMBLER'S PICKINGS

Flour was scarce in town the fore part of the week.

At present there is more sickness in the community than at any time during the winter.

It is reported that counsel for George Jagger will carry his case to the Court of Errors and Appeals.

Considering the prices offered for the property of the late P. A. L. Quick, people do not seem anxious to buy either stocks or real estate. Times have changed.

William Clark, Jr., the new owner of the Matamoras ferry, has by considerable labor been able to start the ferry much to the gratification of those who depend on Port Jervis for supplies.

The revival meetings in the M. E. church are well attended, and are very interesting. Mr. Arpe delivered a forcible lecture last Sunday evening, assailing intemperance, dancing, stylish dressing, etc., but he failed to say anything against euchre or poker.

Considerable surprise was manifested when it became known who was selected secretary of the town council. It is rumored there were four applicants, one of whom offered to do the work for a trifle over one half of the salary now paid. Last year the selection was made on account of economy. But perhaps the council knew its own business best.

The Russian and Japanese War seems to be progressing finely. So far the Japs are having the best of the bear who seems considerably worried. But his troubles are not over. Suppose the Nihilists take it into their heads to wake up? Poland is far from satisfied. Altogether the great Czar, Autocrat and Ruler of all the Russians may have more troubles of his own.

Our sister town, Matamoras, looked pretty rough last week. There were ice cakes and rubbish, but what would catch a stranger's eye the quickest were the piles of coal ashes piled everywhere, even in the middle of the street. Incorporation would be a help to Matamoras in one way, but a detriment as far as taxes are concerned in another.

The Pennsylvania railroad tunnel under New York will vary in depth. At Second avenue it will be fifty feet below ground and at First avenue seventy feet. It will cross the East river at a depth of thirty-five feet below the bottom. Already men are being employed for the work under the East river and from two to three thousand experienced workmen will be engaged.

The Monroe County Agricultural Society in response to the protest of the Athletic Association has decided not to permit the sale of beer on the fair grounds during the coming baseball season. The base ballists claimed that the public demanded a clean game and they refused to play on the grounds if beer was sold. This must almost give the directors of the society nervous prostration.

The recent proclamation by President Roosevelt regarding the observance of neutrality by all officials and the abstention from action or speech which might cause irritation to either Japan or Russia has produced a very favorable impression in the latter country and its substance and spirit are spoken of in the highest terms.

In January, 1904, horses to the number of 1,216 and valued at \$112,557, or about \$92.56 each, were exported from this country. In the same month 66,893 sheep, valued at \$241,159 were exported, valued about \$3.53 each. This was nearly double the number exported during the same month last year.

The Scientific American is authority for the statement that a yield of 5 cubic feet of acetylene gas from every pound of calcium carbide is guaranteed by manufacturers in the United States. In Germany acetylene gas is mixed with a gas of lower candle power, containing about 25 per cent acetylene, and used in railway cars.

Thousands of dead carp have been found on the fields along the Susquehanna which were submerged during the recent ice gorges. As this is spawning season for these fish it is possible they have been nearly exterminated.

The United States last year produced over seven hundred and eighty four million bushels of oats. The world production was about three and a half billion bushels. A little less than the preceding year but more than for any other since 1892.