

Pike County Press.

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Some of the...

THE WASHINGTON LETTER

The week has been a very interesting one in Washington, politically, socially and sorrowfully. Many interesting speeches have been made in both houses of Congress, concerning important questions. Senators and Representatives who talk largely for political effect have had ample opportunity for doing so by presenting amendments to pending bills, denouncing the bills, and then voting for them with abolishing unanimity. This is very satisfactory to the republicans, who have but to contain themselves with patience, remain good natured, and see the opposition discreetly, come to terms. Just now a favorite form of democratic diversion is to keep hailing Grover Cleveland for all the misfortunes which have come to the democratic party. He is denounced as the noblest republican of them all. There must be a seneschal, and the revived ex-President is as good as any. Perhaps all this irritation is but natural, since, as Congressman Hamilton of Michigan says: "Protection makes good times." And the happy and prosperous people are turning, almost to a man, to President Roosevelt as their leader for four more years. All the political news from the states which comes to the White House is reassuring and the President can well consider himself relieved of anxiety regarding his nomination and election. This gives him and his advisers time for the consideration of important and pressing questions.

The explosion on the Missouri with the appalling resulting loss of life, caused great sorrow and perplexity among the officials of the government. It was very unfortunate in all of its aspects, especially so for Capt. Cowley who has just been severely criticised for the collision of his ship with the Illinois. While the navy department was profoundly impressed with the news of the Russian war ship horror, and congratulating itself that such terrible accidents never occur in the American navy, there came upon the heels of this news the account of the Missouri explosion. The effect was stunning. The President at once started a subscription "to be used for the dependent kinsfolk of the enlisted men" who perished. The exact cause of the disaster may never be known. It is thought the affair was an unavoidable accident. There are those who suggest that the use of smokeless powder may have had something to do with the explosion. Its nature is not yet very well understood.

The Chinese question looms large and yellow on the international horizon, and Secretary Hay and Attorney General Knox are giving it careful attention. The Chinese minister has plucked up courage enough to inform the President that if the present harsh laws against the Chinese are continued and enforced, reprisals upon the part of the least favored nation may be expected. So long as this state of things continues it is foolish to expect any considerable trade relations with China, and the open door will be closed. On the other hand Congressman Livermore of California, who represents labor, wants the exclusion act maintained, and so does the Federation of Labor. It is difficult to toe the one's cake and keep it too. The government cannot please everybody, but in the last analysis must do justly and await the evolution of events.

Senator Morgan has again begun to discuss the whole Panama canal question, and at this writing is in the midst of the third day of his speech making. The opportunity was afforded by the consideration of the Canal Zone Government Bill. The proposition is to give the zone a civil government and confer upon the Commission the pardoning power. Mr. Morgan argues that a military government would be much better and more in harmony with the eternal fitness of things. He takes the ground that the zone is a military reservation, policed by United States soldiers, and that the Commissioners should devote their best energies to the construction of the canal, relieved of all collateral matters. There is much good sense in this view of the matter. But will men be willing to work under military law? Can civilians be compelled to do this? Why not get enlisted men to work upon the canal.

The proposal to investigate the Post Office is still under consideration. Senator Aldrich is in favor of the scheme as he thinks the result would be favorable to the republican party. The Senate leaders are carefully discussing the whole matter. The fact appears that Messrs. Conrad and Bonaparte are still pushing their investigations, and that the Post Office in New York is being overhauled. Whether a new investigation will be ordered by a Senate committee is now largely a question of policy. Probably not.

The Sundry Civil Appropriation bill is before the House. It carries the sum of \$50,102,400. One of the new provisions is for a new office building for the Senate, to correspond to the building in course of erection for the House. The structure is to cost \$2,250,000 and the site will cost \$750,000. The new building is to stand at the northern end of Capitol park, between B and C streets, N. E. It will be a great addition to the beauty and dignity of Capitol hill, and will balance the new building at the southern end of the Capitol. The bill is strenuously advocated by Senator Fairbanks, for a new state department at the west side of Lafayette square, goes over until next December. In the matter of the extension of the Capitol the architects of the country have won their point, and to the committee of Congress (having the matter in charge, three eminent architects will be asked, and all plans and specifications are to be submitted to Congress at its next session. A much needed waiting room is to be fitted up inside the Washington monument. An addition to the Government Printing Office is provided for.

It is estimated that the recent decision of the Supreme Court that books transmitted through the mails must pay postage as third class matter will save the government \$8,000,000 annually. The trial of Watson, the District of Columbia embezzler, has gone over until fall, owing to the fact that one of the jurors got drunk and had to be sent up for two months for contempt of court. The Senate will attend the opening of the St. Louis Fair. The Jamestown, Va., Fair fails to get an appropriation at this session of Congress. A Senate committee has reported that Senator Dietrich of Nebraska is free from guilt. Hoar, Platt of Conn., and Spooner, say the charges cannot be sustained.

Real Estate Transfers

Catharine A. Quick, widow, to Lena M. Talmage, executrix, release of dower right in lands of late P. A. L. Quick, \$500.

Theodore Schmidt to Herman Dilling, 401 acres, Blooming Grove, part of John Crosby, No. 125, \$1.

Theodore Schmidt to John W. Bloss, 200 acres, Blooming Grove, part of John Crosby, No. 125, \$1.

Lena A. Talmage, executrix, to Frederick W. Hammett, 136 acres, Lehman, Casard farm, \$415.

Rouben Lancaster to James B. Field, 108 acres, Grosse, part of lot 533, warrants, Andrew Nelson, \$800.

Lena A. Talmage, executrix, to Michael Deh, 100 acres, Westfall, Van Horn farm, \$550.

Fraternity Notes

Under the above head the Washington Star of last Saturday has this very complimentary notice of our townsman which is accompanied with an excellent life like cut. "John D. Biddis, the new regent of the Grand Council of the Royal Arcanum for the District of Columbia, resigned a second term as state senator in the Senate of Pennsylvania, and left his law practice in that state to fill a position in the Treasury Department in 1886 and from there was transferred to the Navy Department, where he has since remained. He has been identified with the energetic work of the Royal Arcanum which has made that order prosperous in this District during the past three or four years." The installation ceremony was followed by a largely attended banquet.

An Old Question Answered

"How come all de angels in de picture books is women?" asked the lay member. "Don't 'pear ter be so men at all in heaven." "Hit may be," replied Brother Dickey, "dat men goes de yinter way ter get peace."

LOCAL AND PERSONAL NOTES

George Wheeler spent part of the week in New York. P. N. Bourneque and wife spent part of the week in New York. Mrs. W. C. Adams of Hunting Towers was in town yesterday. H. W. Richardson of New York, owner of Shohola Glen was in town Tuesday.

John L. Gourlay, employed in a watch case factory at Newark, visited his family here for a few days. James W. Pinchot, who has been spending several days in town, returned to New York this week.

Miss Frankie Ratcliffe, who has passed the winter in New York, arrived in town a few days ago.

T. B. Morse of New York visited here over last Sunday, and was a guest of Dr. W. B. Kenworthy.

Mrs. Arthur R. Pearson has recently returned from a weeks visit with her brother, A. L. Crawford, Esq., in Jersey City.

Mrs. C. W. Bull, who has been and is yet seriously ill, does not rapidly gain strength, though her general condition is thought to be somewhat improved.

Charles Schanno, who went to New York several days ago for treatment of his eyes and was attacked with pneumonia while absent, returned home last Friday in rather indifferent health.

Mrs. Jennie Shearer will leave next week to accompany Dr. C. S. Ryan and Mrs. Ludy on a trip to California. They will visit the Yellowstone Park, Yosemite Valley and other points of interest.

Report says that Roswell Palmer has enlisted and passed the physical examination for the army and that he left this week to enter the service. William Dilger of Matamoras will also become one of Uncle Sam's boys.

Samuel Cole, who formerly resided on a farm in Delaware, recently suffered a paralytic stroke at Danmors, his abode for a number of years, and is critically ill. His son, Percy, who lives at Honesdale, is with him.

Seven Sentences Sermons

Keep faith with all men; keep faith with thyself; this wins all battles, even the greatest and last.—Carligan.

The riddle of the world is understood. Only by him who feels that God is good.—Whittier.

We can reason down a man's theology; but we cannot reason down the life of a Christian man.—Alexander McKenzie.

The man who finds not God in his own heart will find him nowhere, and he who finds Him there will find Him everywhere.—David Swing.

Give us what Thou seem fit, only fit us for what Thou givest.—Rowland Williams.

If you've tried and have not won, Never stop for crying; All that's great and good is done Just by patient trying.—Phoebe Cary.

We can hardly learn humility and tenderness enough except by suffering.—George Eliot.

Some Indians Are Masons

Grand Secretary W. W. Perry of the Wisconsin Grand Lodge said that Masonry exists among the Indians. "They have no lodges that I know of," said he, "and I don't know where they got their Masonry, but some of the Indians are good Masons. I remember having heard stories of narrow escapes from death and disaster by white men making themselves known as Masons. Many years ago they brought a shipment of slaves to New Orleans, and when one of them was put out on the block to be auctioned off he made the Masonic hailing sign. He was taken down from the block, examined and found to be a Mason. He was not sold into slavery, but a purse was raised by New Orleans Masons to purchase his freedom, and he was sent back to Africa." Orange county sportsmen have released several thousand quail this spring and expect the shooting will be good next fall. The birds came from south and west, and the question is will not those not killed migrate to their former homes. English quail are migratory and though ours are a different breed those imported may have retained some of the instincts of their ancestors.

THE BARRET BRIDGE

Work is Progressing Rapidly on the New Structure—New York Pier Already Completed.

Work on the new Barret bridge is being pushed as rapidly as possible during this spring weather. The New York pier was finished Tuesday noon.

The work of increasing the height of the middle pier was commenced and will probably be finished this week.

At the opening of next week, work on the Pennsylvania pier will be commenced; also the iron work over the New York channel. It will not take long to complete this work and by the time the Pennsylvania pier is finished, the "iron men" will be ready to put up the Pennsylvania span of the bridge.

If the present rate of speed is kept up, it would be a fair proposition to say the bridge will be in use within a few weeks.

The approaches to the bridge will be extended so as to have a grade beginning at about the farther ends of the former anchorages, and the work will be completed, the waste material and dirt cleaned up and made ship shape, by about July first.

OBITUARY

MRS. JEREMIAH WALTER

We take from the Monroe Democrat of last week the following obituary of Mrs. Walter, who until quite a recent period was a resident of Lehman in this county. For some unexplained reason the notice appears to have been unaccountably delayed.

Sarah Ellen, wife of Jeremiah Walter, died at her home at Tannersville, Pocono township, Monroe county, February 22, 1904, aged 54 years. She was buried at Shafer's grave yard, in Hamilton, February 25, 1904. She was converted at that church 20 years ago, and always lived and died a Christian mother. She was a daughter of James and Mary M. Alleger and was born in Lehman township, Pike county, in 1850. Her husband, nine children and three brothers mourn her loss, namely: Mrs. Eugene White, Bushkill; Frank Walter, Stroudsburg; Elmer Walter, Stroudsburg; Mrs. Arlington Hank, Stroudsburg; Mrs. Frederick Messers, Bushkill; Misses Grace, Carrie and Jennie Walter, Tannersville; her brothers: Thomas Alleger, Washington, D. C.; Joseph Alleger, Bushkill; Charles Alleger, Luzerne.

She was a loving mother and a kind friend; but now this loving one has gone to a better home where there will be no more sickness, pain, sorrow nor death. Revs. Hummer and Ellis, both of Tannersville, conducted the funeral services. The text was found St. Mark 14th chapter, 8 verse.

A Former Pike Countian

Following in the footsteps of his father, Wm. C. Crawford, who for many years held the office and was also a well known surveyor, Alanson L. Crawford, his son, better known perhaps to older residents as "Coon," is a justice of the peace and in the fire insurance brokerage business in Jersey City. He sends us two copies of the Sussex Register, one bearing date February 19th and the other February 20, 1843, published by John H. Hall. They are yellow with age and do not contain much of local news, but many names familiar to Jersey people appear in their columns. Among the advertisers one item which now seems quaint reads as follows: "Cut nails. The Pennsylvanians, or, as they call themselves in the interior, Pennsylvania, are now making cut nails largely from their own pig iron. A method has been contrived for rolling the plates so that the grain of the metal runs lengthwise of the nails, and they can be clenched like wrought nails. Shades of a modern wire mill."

Andrew Carnegie has given five million dollars the interest of which, about \$250,000, will be devoted to the aid of disabled workmen, their widows and orphans. It is estimated that the total amount of beneficiaries of Mr. Carnegie for various purposes reach the enormous sum of one hundred million dollars. He is truly exemplifying the virtues "the greatest of which is charity."

The head of Liberty which adorns the silver dollar of the United States reproduces the features of a young school teacher of Philadelphia. A century ago the Rothschilds adorned their bank note with the benevolent face of Baroness de Rothschild.

INTERESTING NEWS ITEMS

Born to William Yennie and wife, Saturday, April 16th, a son.

Mr. Constans of New York has rented of Col. Lewis the Glenside Cottage on Harford street.

There will be no more flower beds along the Erie, an order having been issued to discontinue them.

The New York democratic convention adopted the unit rule and instructed the delegates for Judge Parker for President.

The Monroe County Agricultural Society will hold its annual fair at Stroudsburg earlier this year than usual, the dates are Aug. 30, 31 and Sept. 1, 2 and 3.

It is in contemplation by Mr. Pinchot to open the reading room in the Homestead Free Library building for use of the students of the Forestry school this summer.

George, the sixteen year old son of George Armstrong, of Montague, N. J., was operated on for appendicitis, with favorable results, at the Fort Jervis Hospital Tuesday.

Elmer E. Steele has removed from the Sykes house on High street to Seventh street. It is understood that a family from the city will soon occupy the vacated premises.

Fierce northwest gales accompanied with snow prevailed in Ohio Tuesday. Winter here too is not only lingering in the lap of gentle spring, but is sitting on and all over the unhappy dame.

Dr. Alfred Costello and Dr. Cortland Raymond of New York have leased the brick house near Centre Square and expect to open dental parlors. One of them it is reported will remain here permanently.

'Squire Ludwig had a genuine opportunity Tuesday to exercise his judicial talents in presiding over a suit brought by Van Etten Brothers against Alfred Gaylor to adjust and settle some quite disputed matters, growing out of a lumber deal.

Trout fishing throughout the state generally was poor the opening of the season. The waters were cold and there was considerable snow and ice remaining along the streams. In the northern and western sections the season should not commence before May first.

The Lehigh district in Pennsylvania now produces about 60 per cent of the total United States production of Portland cement. Virginia and Alabama have large deposits of cement rock which when developed will become important centers of production.

The beef trust has raised the price of meat and the receipts of cattle in January and February, 1904, at the five western markets, Chicago, Kansas City, Omaha, St. Louis and St. Joseph were 1,200,886 head, or 83,620 more than in the corresponding months a year ago.

F. F. White on Fourth street has the distinction of being the first in town to place on the sidewalk a neat bench for public use. It is an example worthy of emulation, and such seats distributed around the town would be duly appreciated by the summer sojourners here. They are quite inexpensive.

The Milford Choral Society in kind remembrance of the efficient services of Miss Maud Klein as accompanist during the past few weeks and at the concert, which position she filled with skill and satisfaction, presented her with a beautiful piece of solid silver ware. The gift was a well merited recognition.

The Wayne County Herald says much trade is diverted from Honesdale, from along the Delaware river in the eastern part of the county, because of no morning train over the Hawley branch to that town. The citizens, through the Board of Trade, have taken the matter in hand and the Erie will be asked to correct the present inconvenience.

Shriff Gregory will have the distinction of making a sale under one of the largest judgments ever entered in this county. He will sell at public sale, May 5, at the Court House, the franchises and rights of the Peoples Railway Company on a claim of over \$175,000. Those having a little spare change to invest will now have an opportunity for which they may have been seeking.

Japan has about the same area as Montana, with more than half as many people as there are in the whole United States. It raises sufficient agricultural products to feed its own people and leave a good quantity for export.

ASSIGNMENT OF COUNSEL

Is the Public Entitled to the Services of Attorney Without Rendering Compensation

The April number of Law Notes contains an excellent article on the above topic. It says "There are today many existing fictions of law which the spark of public opinion has not reduced to exploded theories. And not one among them is more deserving of utter annihilation than the idea that there rests upon an attorney, as such, the duty of defending without pay, upon assignment by the court, 'one who has the double misfortune to be stricken by poverty and accused of crime.'" The popular notion prevails that there is a duty which the lawyer owes to his profession. It may be almost heretical to deny that any such duty exists, but we venture to assert that it neither exists nor is founded upon any basis of law or common sense. It is not meant to be implied that there might not be occasions when an attorney's refusal to volunteer his services or to accept an assignment at the hands of the court would amount to infamy. But we do most earnestly contend that the practice of commanding the gratuitous services of the legal practitioner is vitally wrong.

This practice exists in this state and it not infrequently happens that a lawyer is assigned to defend a man charged with murder, whose trial may occupy several days and require for a proper defense his utmost care, thought and study.

The attorney has professional pride and as he becomes more conversant with the facts his interest deepens and he enters on the defense with all his heart. He is conscientious in the matter and though he knows that his labor will be without fee or reward or gain or the hope thereof he gives his best skill and knowledge to the conduct of the case. He may too have public opinion arrayed against his unfortunate client and the popular mind condemning his best efforts. We speak from experience, having heard hisses when a point was made in favor of the accused. The article cites arguments and reasons to show why a lawyer's legal knowledge, his capital stock, gained by years of study and application, should no more be complicated without pay than the goods and chattels or lands and tenements of any other person which may be desired for public use or by a corporation for its convenience.

There is no reason why this public burden should rest on lawyers alone or why their professional services should be at the mercy of the public without remuneration than the goods of the merchant, the crops of the farmer or the wares of the mechanic. Lawyers are entitled to the same rewards for their labor, skill and care as are men in any profession and there is no more reason why he should defend an impudacious individual charged with crime than there is why a merchant should furnish him with goods or a dentist or a doctor with his services, given or rendered at the request of a court. The legislature should remedy this matter by an act authorizing the court to allow and the county to pay a fair and reasonable fee to an attorney when he is assigned to defend a person without means charged with crime.

Why He Raised Corn

A farmer in the west, who planted every year a few more acres of corn, was asked by a neighbor why he worked so hard to increase the crop. His reply was: I raise more corn, to fat more hogs, to buy more land, to raise more corn, to fat more hogs, to buy more land. Something of this same endless reptition seems to pervade the minds of those who from year to year have charge of our streets. Nearly every year they spread more gravel on more hard road to make more dirt and mud to hire more men to sprinkle and scrape the streets. This appears to be the almost unvarying round with the result that the condition of our highways is never materially improved. No permanent work is done lest some energetic laborers might be out of the job of spending time on the streets, and consuming, without lasting benefit, the money annually expended.

Oldest Tree in the World

It is said that the oldest tree in the world is a box tree planted at Adurudhapur, Ceylon, which was planted close to a Buddhist shrine in 248 B. C., and is therefore 2,148 years old. Legend has it that this tree sprang from a branch which severed itself by miraculous power from the sacred tree under which Gautama became Buddha, the enlightened one.

THE RAMBLER'S PICKINGS

George Horton was in town over Sunday and Monday and sold a horse to J. E. Boyd.

Last Saturday evening there was considerable noise at a certain corner in town. Some one said it was the opening of spring.

Louis Ragot of New York spent Sunday at his home, the Hermitage.

W. T. Struble has nearly enough railroad ties to lay the track from here to Matamoras.

Will Yennie is passing around the cigars. A boy came to gladden his home Saturday evening.

Some of our residents have been feasting on carp the past week. A number of those critters have been picked up out of the river.

Uncle Joseph Chamberlain, who has been confined to the house for some time with rheumatism, is able to be out again. Mrs. Chamberlain, who has also been ill, is much improved.

John Wolf, a former resident of Milford, but now of New York, was in town this week.

This past week has been a regular March season as far as the weather was concerned. Sunshine, showers, squalls and little snow flurries thrown in. There is no use of going elsewhere for a change of climate. It changes here four times in twenty-four hours.

There is more demand for summer cottages here than ever. Why don't some enterprising builder erect more nest dwellings? It would be no trouble to find desirable tenants.

Port Jervis is making preparations to celebrate the ever glorious Fourth of July. They have not celebrated in a number of years up there so you can expect a whooper of a time. It is not likely this town will have any excitement outside or a horse trot, so our people can go to Port Jervis, if the new bridge is done.

The New York Herald says that "Joseph Folk is sweeping Missouri." It needs it.

The Honorable Adlai Stevenson continues to refrain from "prancing to the front."

It is now stated that there are but two remaining undamaged Russian battleships at Port Arthur.

Suppose, says the Kansas City Journal, that Mr. Bryan had not done any talking—What's the use? General Miles as a prohibition candidate is not so popular in Milwaukee as was General Miles, commander of the army.

The Supreme Court has decided that books are not second class matter. It really depends largely upon the authors.

The democrats in Congress are somewhat impartial of their criticism of President Roosevelt and ex-President Cleveland.

The warm endorsement of the President by the New York convention makes a few more democratic prophecies incentive.

The tone of Mr. Cleveland's endorsement of Judge Parker indicates that there are others in the mind of the Princeton sage.

The Treasury Department reports a shortage in one and two dollar bills. Here is an issue for the democracy. Turn the rascals out.

General Kurapatkin has arrived in Manchuria and is now taking a few days' breath before crowding the inhabitants of Japan off into the sea.

While the war experts agree that "Russia aims at delay" it is suggested that she may be more expert in this method of marksmanship than in certain others.

Virginia has ignored the advice of one Bryan and the Parker boom appears to be sweeping the state. In Virginia the Herald boom has crang on the end of it.

When Mr. Bryan finishes framing his Democratic platform and sends it on to the St. Louis convention it is a question whether it will be turned to the wall or draped in rags.

The Indianapolis Telegram announcing that Horst had given up the fight looks as though the other fellows were getting scared and were adopting the Heast methods.

Mr. Bryan can never be known as "William the Conqueror," nor is it believed from present indications that he will pass down into the annals of history as "William the Silent."

The past winter was severe on bees, and many keepers suffered severe loss. One man in Wayne county lost 110 skeps.