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WASHINGTON LETTER.

Post Office Frauds and Scandals—
Hanna and Roosevelt.

Special Correspondence Courier.

Washington, D. C., June 8.—The scandal in the Post-Office Department is still holding the boards as the chief attraction in the nation's capital. It has grown to such proportions that some of the Republican politicians are beginning to gasp and to ask where it will end and who will be the next victim to land in the toils. The outcome of this thing has verified all my predictions as to the rottenness that would come to the surface, if it were pursued to a logical conclusion. Ever since the return of the Postmaster General, who was paralyzed by the revelations that confronted him, he has been doing his level best to cover up the investigation and to suppress it.

The top has only been scratched and the people do not know one-tenth of the corruption that lies beneath.

More and bigger scandals are yet to come out involving officials of high degree, provided they are not suppressed by the administration. It is not likely that the whole truth will ever be known, for even if a congressional investigation were ordered it would be in the hands of the Republicans who are interested in suppressing the facts that could be uncovered. The railway mail service offers a fine field for exploration, and if some of the reports are true that are openly talked in Washington, the worst scandal by far has not yet been developed. The Star Route frauds, of malodorous memory, would never have been unearthed, if a Democratic Congress had not been elected and the whole truth about present conditions will be concealed until the voters conclude to give the Democrats the opportunity to clean out the Augean stables. Fraud and corruption are rarely uncovered by the political friends, those guilty of the crimes. Aside from this there are so many congressmen either directly or indirectly involved that great pressure will be brought on the honest men to let up for "the good of the party." The truth will be brought out only by the intervention of Democratic investigators. The people know how to get them if they want them.

The manner in which clerk Gilmer was reduced in salary and placed in such a position that he could no longer stick his inquisitive nose into the business of some high officials who were interested in a graft, will be a lesson to other government clerks to keep their eyes and ears closed. They must never see or hear anything that is crooked. That is peculiarly a Republican method of teaching honesty in public office.

The Postmaster General "regrets to report" that one of the assistant attorneys in his department has been arrested for bootlegging. It is also said to relate that the prisoner charged with the crime is a good Republican and was vouched for by that good and great man, Senator Fairbanks. The good State of Indiana seems to be furnishing more than her share of these patriots for self discovered in the post-office scandals.

The Republican post-office stew is getting thicker by the addition of new ingredients almost every day. It is now reported that a United States Senator is mixed up in a charge of bootlegging in the interest of one of the get-rich-quick concerns, for which he has not his influence with the department. Evidently this is what the Republicans call "running the government and the country on a business basis."

The manner in which Mark Hanna deftly placed President Roosevelt in a hole the other day is causing amusement here among Democrats and consternation among some of the administration Republicans. The very next day after the President had issued his official statement that he had never asked any man for help to be nominated, Mark Hanna comes out with the statement that the President telegraphed him that he wanted Ohio's endorsement, and thereby causes him to withdraw all further opposition to such a move by the Ohio state convention. Hitherto no President has made such an open bid for votes, but precedent seems to have no charm for Roosevelt and he is not so quick to learn the method of doing things. A citizen of New York, albeit he is President, dictating to the leaders of another state concerning their political action is a new move in politics, and the implied threat that he would consider as enemies those who did not forward his ambition is much below the high plane upon which the President of the United States should stand. What is the meaning of this anxiety to secure delegates so long in advance of the national convention? Public opinion may endorse this open and unseemly fight that Roosevelt is making, but hitherto it has stamped its disapproval of official interference with the free will of the voters. By this action on the part of Roosevelt, all Federal officials are virtually invited, if not ordered, to take an active interest in securing delegates for their chief or to be considered persons non grata and outside the pale of his esteem. If Senator Hanna had called on all the Federal officers who are under obligations to him, to rally to his standard, what a howl would there have been, my countrymen. That would have been called coercion. The President's action is simply the "eccentricity of genius." No wonder Hanna is in a maddened frame of mind over the turn of affairs he has forced the President to throw the scales of Civil Service Reform to the four winds.

And yet, we are told that such diodes are making the President extremely popular. Well, let it go at that.

The Republican programme for the incoming Congress is to avoid any political legislation and adjourn in May. There is to be no tariff or trust legislation, but a financial bill is to be passed. This certainly is not a strenuous programme. Perhaps this do-nothing policy will prevail and then again perhaps it won't. So long as trust prices and starvation wages are the order of the day the Democrats are not going to let up in their endeavors to get at the trust-controlled schedules in the Dingley bill. The Republican majority in the next Congress will be about thirty, and if sixteen recalcitrant Republicans join with the Democrats some of the trust-sheltering schedules will go glimmering so far as the House is concerned, and when the bill strikes the Senate there will be tariff music in the air to which the Republicans will be compelled to dance far into the summer.

The Democrats will have some leadership in the next Congress, and there will be something doing from the very minute the extra session meets in November. Mark the prediction.

CHARLES A. EDWARDS.

State Senator Thayer.

N. M. Thayer was born in Montgomery county in 1845. This makes the Senator from Montgomery fifty-eight years old, and he doesn't look it. For twenty years he has surveyed or his county and for two years a commissioner. He was elected to

the Senate of 1903 from the 23rd district, composed of Randolph and Montgomery counties.

The President of the Senate named him as chairman of the Public Library Committee and as a member of the committees on Insurance, Public Roads, Public Buildings and Grounds and several others. Mr. Thayer advocated the passage of the London Liquor Bill.

Cutting Affray.

Press Covington, a negro, was lodged in jail here Monday, charged with seriously cutting another negro at Star Sunday. It seems that the two had a difficulty over a razor, and it ended as stated above. The wounded negro is said to be seriously cut.—Troy Examiner.

W. D. Siler, Esq.

Representative W. D. Siler in the House of Representatives from Chatham county in 1903, is a lawyer living at Siler City, near the Randolph county line. He was born in Chatham Nov. 25th, 1878, and was the youngest member of the General Assembly of 1903. He was educated at the Thompson School at Siler

City and graduated at the University Law School.

He served on the following committees: Judiciary, Education, Manufacturing and Labor, Counties, Cities and Towns, and Election Laws. He is a Knight of Pythias.

George Washington's Happy Escape.

How a man's whole life may be influenced by a trifling circumstance. Suppose George's father, instead of being a sentimental old cuss, on hearing that his son had been mowing with edged tools, had hastily removed him to the seclusion of the wood-shed, and had then with a shingle or other convenient weapon, proceeded to tan that portion of George's anatomy which the British were never permitted to gaze upon. Instead of growing up to be the father of his country, he might have become morose and sullen, and developed into a life insurance solicitor or an advertising agent or a map peddler, or even fallen to greater depths of depravity. The moral of all this is, that one should ever strive to tell the truth, even at some personal inconvenience, especially when one is likely to be found out anyhow.—Simson Ford in Everybody's Magazine.

Nothing tires one more than to hear others boast of their honesty.

GREAT FLOOD AND CRODDBURST IN SOUTH CAROLINA.

Three Large Cotton Mills and Three Railroad Bridges Washed Away—
60 or More Lives Lost in the Floods—Millions of Property Destroyed.

Owing to the heavy rains last week early on Saturday morning three large mills on the Pacolet river in S. C. were washed away by a destructive flood. The loss amounted to at least \$1,250,000. All the mills were washed away in twenty minutes. The mills are near Spartanburg. The river is 40 feet higher than the usual water level. The mills were swept away like chaff before the wind.

The Pacolet mill had 150,000 spindles; the Clifton mills 112,000 spindles; the new Glendale mills 30,000 spindles. The three mills nearly 8,000 looms.

Four thousand bales of cotton and 3,500 bales of cloth were swept away.

At Pacolet the Presbyterian church, mill office, mill stores, cotton gin, grist mill, black smith shops, and a number of tenant houses were swept away.

The population of Pacolet is near 5,000.

The river has not in many years been more than ten or twelve feet high, this year it was 40 feet.

Three large railroad bridges were washed away. The scene of desolation was a horrible spectacle.

Sixty mill operatives at least were drowned in the flood. At the Clifton mills alone 3,000 people are out of employment and 6,000 people are directly affected.

At Clifton is built numbers 1 and 2 and the main offices of the company. Mill number 3 is at Converse, a mile below.

All the cotton was lost as was also the cloth and products of the mills and 50 houses and a large number of outhouses.

State Senator J. T. Johnson, of Spartanburg county, has gone to Washington to ask aid of the President.

Trains were stopped on the Southern Railway and it will be several days before the trains can pass over the main line of the Southern from Charlotte to Atlanta.

Chas. T. Luther, Esq.

Chas. T. Luther, Esq., was the representative from Montgomery in the House of the General Assembly of 1903. He served as chairman of the Democratic executive committee in Montgomery county in the great campaigns of 1898 and 1900.

Mr. Luther was educated in the

high schools of this state and South Carolina. He read law under J. R. Blair, Esq., of Troy, and afterwards at the State University, and was admitted to the bar in 1898, forming a partnership with J. R. Blair, Esq., under the firm name of Blair & Luther, at Troy, N. C. He was born July 14th, 1874, in Montgomery county. He is a Presbyterian, a Mason, and a member of the Junior Order of American Mechanics.

Mr. Luther served as a member of the committee on Judiciary, Corporations, Education, Appropriations, Expenditures of the House, Insane, Blind Institutions, Justices of the Peace.

He is a good looking bachelor, and the above picture, the ladies say, does him an injustice in personal appearance.

Governor's Reasons for Pardoning Roscoe Morrow.

Governor Aycock has pardoned Roscoe Morrow, who was convicted of criminal knowledge of his cousin, a little girl under 14 years, and was sentenced to 7 years on the public roads.

The Governor assigns the following reasons for his pardon: "The prisoner is pardoned at the request of more than 3,000 citizens of Randolph and Guilford counties, and upon the certificate of physicians that his health has been greatly impaired by imprisonment, and that longer confinement would result in his death. The doctor makes affidavit that the prisoner is a wreck, that he has disease of the heart, which incapacitates him for work, the heart being greatly enlarged. He has been almost entirely blind in one eye, while the vision in the other is greatly impaired. The crime of which he stands convicted is a horrible one and justly deserves the severest punishment, but it is not believed, that other justice or public opinion, requires the death penalty in this case, and it appears certain that longer confinement will lead to this result. It also appears that the offense was committed several years before indictment, and that he was not indicted until after his marriage. His conviction and imprisonment have wrecked his young and innocent wife, who, from a strong, healthy woman has been reduced by suffering to only 80 pounds."

Gold in Montgomery.

The recent discoveries of gold in this county are exciting the miners considerably, and bringing them to this county. Titles of real estate in those sections which gold is known to exist, are constantly changing, and some of the apparently worthless land brings a fancy price. We are glad to see northern capital come this way, and hope it will continue to come, as it does more toward developing a section than anything else. Every investment should be offered that will bring money into this section to be invested.—Troy Examiner.

Robbers Got \$600.00.

The postoffice safe at Thomsville was blown open on last Wednesday night and \$750 in cash and \$450 in stamps were taken. The postmaster, C. M. Hoover, had \$500 insurance on safe and contents.

Rev. D. I. Offman.

Mr. Offman was elected a member of the House of Representatives in 1902. He was born in New Market, Virginia, in 1864. He was educated at the New Market Polytechnic Institute and taught school for four years in Virginia. He entered the ministry in 1888. He has taught one or two years, or probably more, in the public schools since coming to this State.

He lived at Melancthon, in this county, until since the adjournment of the General Assembly, when he moved to China Grove, in Rowan, to accept the pastorate of a Lutheran charge. He is one of four ministers who have been elected to the House

since the war. The first was Rev. H. T. Moffitt, of the Christian church, in 1872; the second Rev. M. L. Fox, of the Lutheran church, who was also a physician of fine ability, in 1876; Rev. A. M. Lowe, a member of the Constitutional Convention in 1870.

Like Mr. Brittain, he was likewise a useful member and made a faithful one.

He was appointed on the Committee on Claims, Education, Enrolled Bills, Libraries, Oyster Interests, Deaf, Dumb and Blind, and Printing. Mr. Offman ran a printing office near Liberty, Randolph county, for about four years.

Representative J. T. Brittain.

Mr. Brittain was born near Oak Ridge in 1862. He was educated in the public schools and at Oak Ridge Institute. In 1886 he married Miss Virginia Lauer, of Guilford. They have five children. He was licensed to practice law in 1888, having studied law in the Dick & Dillard Law School at Greensboro. Mr. Brittain is a member of the Presbyterian church of Asheboro, Mr.

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SAM JONES' LETTER.

Atlanta Journal.

I spent last Sabbath at Villa Rica, Ga., preaching the commencement sermon of the Villa Rica city school. I was interested in the great crowd that gathered there, and preached to them twice, morning and afternoon. Villa Rica is a thriving town of a most splendid citizenship. Respectable, kindly folk they are. I certainly enjoyed the day there, and left Atlanta last Monday morning en route to Mobile.

Our train had twelve coaches and sleepers filled with old soldiers en route to New Orleans. I was charmed with the spirit of the old Confederates. They were jovial, cheerful, happy old fellows, on their way home to their homes, to the last reunion they will ever attend. While it has not been my privilege to attend one of their annual reunions, I have always read with interest the proceedings and reports.

I notice with sorrow the illness of General Gordon. He is the living lion, the greatest Confederate soldier living. A lion in war and as gentle in spirit as a lamb in peace, but after all his great head and heart and noble character make him but a representative of a cause and of comrades of what has been called "the lost cause." But no cause ever fought for by such an army and by such men was ever lost. They lost a point, maybe, but they never lost their cause. The chivalry, the manhood, the courage of Lee and Johnston's armies will shed luster and brightness character to humanity as long as history is read and memory holds its place.

Forty years have passed since the last gun of the war between the States was fired and after 40 years of reflection no Confederate soldier comes to any other soldier or any other army or any other cause a deeper sense of right and more conscientious adherence to convictions than those which belonged to him. When it was suggested at the reunion of the blue and gray in Atlanta by one of the speakers that southern histories ought to teach that the parents of southern children were wrong in the war between the States, General Gordon arose to the occasion and replied by saying: "My dear friends, my children that father was wrong? As soon as I die, I will write a dishonor on my sainted mother's grave. Because a larger brother whipped a smaller brother is that evidence that the big brother was right and the smaller brother was wrong?" said he. And Yankee dodges are beginning to concede some things that they strenuously denied before.

But one by one the heroes fall by the wayside, and scarcely do we pick up a dally paper but we see reported the death of some noble old Confederate. Hurriedly they will pass away in the days to come, for they are all now gray-headed old men, and must soon pay the debt of nature and go to their reward. Thousands of them are God-fearing men, and they will reap the reward of eternal life and happiness. "So mote it be" with all of them. In the sleeper in which I rode the South Carolina delegation was on board. I enjoyed their acquaintanceships and had much fun with them. Four of them got out a deck of cards and began to play whist, and I said, "Hello, what does this mean, members of the church playing cards?" They replied, "Yes, they didn't see any harm in whist, do you? Brother Jones?" "Well," I said, "maybe it is no harm for the Lord's children to play together." I said, "Some Methodist, two Lutherans, and what is the other?" They replied, "He is not a member of any church." Then I said, "stop this game, it is wrong for the Lord's children to play with the devil's children," and very soon they stopped. I told the Methodist brother I did not know how it would be with the Lutherans, but that a Methodist would lose his religion according to his own creed, and I said to all of them, "Gentlemen, my advice to you is not to die away from home, for the average member of the church is a better man at home than he is when he gets away." There was some beer and maybe a little red liquor on board the train that day, but there was no drunkenness or delinquency. It is painful, indeed, to see a young man drink, but it is a calamity to see an old man tanked up on beer or whiskey. It is as unsightly a sight as my eyes behold.

I notice in passing out towards the location of the new union station that the old buildings are coming down. It will be a glad day to the travelling public and to the citizens of Atlanta when the great new union station is finished. The inconveniences of the old and the magnificent conveniences of the new station can not be appreciated until the new station is open for business.

With the wish that it may be completed in the near future, I am one of the travelling public.

SAM P. JONES.

"The postmaster-general has decided that a husband has no right to receive mail addressed to his wife and open her letters against her protest." Now for an "even up" by a decision from some competent authority that a woman has no right to go through her husband's pockets. —E.

It may be true that Senator Hanna does not want the presidency. It may also be true that Mr. Hanna does not want any man to be president who is not bound hand and foot to the Ohio boss. History is apt to repeat itself and the future can only be judged by the past.

BARGAINS

AT WORTHVILLE!

And the people are finding it out from the way

H. A. Moffitt & Co.

are selling the goods since they bought out

THE WORTH STORE CO.

We are well aware of the fact that big prices will not do in these times, when even the wealthy cannot afford to waste their money and the poor require double duty of every dollar and every penny. Who can tell the waste of money when you get your goods of homes that buy and sell on long time? Compare our prices below with those of other houses where you have been laying same goods:

Good Calico, worth 7c, for 5c yd. Colored Lawn, worth 10c for 5c yd. White Lawn worth 10c for 5c yd. Bleaching worth 10c for 8c yd. Ratter & Co's. Oil Cloth worth 25c for 15c yd. Apron Gingham worth 7c for 5c yd. Black Dress Goods from 15c to \$1.00 per yd. Open and Shut Fane worth 5c for 2c. White Shirt Waist Goods from 5c to 15c. Ladies' Parasols from 50 to \$1.00.

We keep in stock all kinds