

LT. GOV. LEE'S LURID LETTERS

A Remarkable Contribution to Psychology of Corrupt Politicians.

The latest sensation in the staid work of prosaics of St. Louis is the publication of John A. Lee's letters to D. J. Kelley, the baking powder trust's lobbyist, at present living at Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, Canada. It will be remembered that when the "hust-up" came in Missouri, and rotten fragments form, the lieutenant governor of the state, John A. Lee, surrounded to Prosecutor Folk of St. Louis a \$500 check he had received from Kelley.

Lee had disappeared, of course. There was some hue and cry after him and, for a time, it appeared that Lee had slowly spiraled a bribe after two weeks' consideration—feeble spinning—but soon the pile of filth was raked. Lee was a head center of the legislative holdup gang at Jefferson City and had simply gotten cold feet when the ticklish time came.

MARK TWAIN—BARBER.

The Bald-Headed Man Mistook the Hairdresser for a Politician and Vice Versa.

New York.—Mark Twain began to get ready for the yacht races by having his Panama straw hat of the vintage of '88 brushed up at a hat cleaning booth. It took a long time to clean the hat, and while waiting for the job to be done, Twain idly peered at the hairdresser, whom he mistook for a politician, and he was mistaken for everything from a banker to a jurist within 20 minutes.

"The end of dust that flew from the Panama as it made about 1,000 revolutions a minute on the cleaner's electric wheel choked Clemens, and the ill wind from the wheel made his cigar burn sideways, like a 'three for two,' which it wasn't," he said.

To get out of the draft Mark Twain moved along the corridor to wait in front of the next stall, which happened to be occupied by a jurist, a woman thought he was the proprietor. "If you are sure those defendants were out fresh this morning," said the woman. "I would like a dozen."

DICKENS ON THE STAGE.

Latest Version of "David Copperfield" Delights the Gallery—Paderewski and Other Famous Musicians at Work on Grand Operas—Gossip of European Theaters.

Special Correspondent.

London, Aug. 8.—There was uncommon interest in the latest attempt to put Dickens on the stage. But "Emly" at the Adelphi only proves again the truth that whereas the great novelist's characters and plots are probably immortal, yet the treatment of them—the exaggeration, the burlesque, the ultra-violent, and the ultra-vicious—the tendency of the women to be-

come lay-figures—is not according to modern taste. The sympathetic present-day reader of Dickens shivers over these peculiarities and gets as much pleasure as ever out of what is underneath, reconstructing for himself characters who are not at all like the illustrations drawn by Hablot Browne for the early editions of Dickens.

NEW LIGHTNING BUILDER.



Mr. Caldwell is one of the most remarkable men in the west. He expects to finish the Agricultural building at the World's Fair, St. Louis, within 30 days and the Horticultural building in less time.

NEW MILLION DOLLAR CHRISTIAN SCIENCE CHURCH.



PIROTT CHURCH of CHRISTIAN SCIENCE, 96th St and Central Park West.

"March 15, 1902.—Friend Kelley: If you have lost interest in matters out here and are indifferent, I would like to know your attitude and conclusion at once, so that I can go to the opposition and make overtures to them.

"March 17, 1902.—Dear Friend: I am confident an effort will be made at next session to repeal the law.

"March 19, 1902.—Dear Friend: Stone is working for Orchard, Farris & Morton, and they are going to beat him."

Three cheers had been given for the governor of some great state or other, who had just delivered his oration. When the orator came to the chair and attempted to utter his first words, he made a speech in favor of persons who ought to be governors.

"St. Louis, March 21, 1902.—Dear Sir and Friend: Your letter is at hand. It appears you are better posted about matters out here than I am. I am not afraid of spies nor courts.

"Aug. 10, 1902.—Friend Kelley: I do not intend to do anything rash this season. Nothing in sky rocket or comic orator, but I intend to personally control things and not let Dockery boss the job."

"St. Louis, April 5, 1901.—Just finished hard campaign. Wells, good Democrat, elected mayor. Senator Stone gulped and went out of town. Alford spoke against the ticket. Heyan wrote a letter denouncing Wells, but it was by the guns and hand licks them all."

"July 22, 1901.—Dear Friend: I have no ill-feeling against you, but you know I can't live like a department store girl on \$3 a week. If I had margin money I would buy today. No corn, Decmber wheat will go from 60 cents to \$1.25. If I had money I would buy wheat, wheat, wheat."

How could a man so puerile, so indelicately foolish, so toad-like, be elected lieutenant governor of Missouri? But it is simply true, Kelley, at present staying beyond Folk's reach at Niagara-on-the-Lake, Ontario, Canada, was the agent of the baking powder trust in its efforts to prevent the sale of alum baking powders.

"Nov. 23, 1901.—Dear Friend: I had money yesterday to take my own advice. I will be \$2,000 ahead this morning. Corn crop is destroyed. Fine crop of wheat in years. J. A. L."

But how on earth could a man of Lee's character become lieutenant governor of Missouri? My idea of it is this: Lee, the politician, was the same as the cashier who steals money to cut a dash. A young man is a half-fellow well met; he is bright; he rises steadily in the bank—and he becomes cashier. Perhaps it is only \$2,500 a year.

At the sitting of the International Chemical congress today, Dr. Frank of Charlottenburg, spoke on the utilization of the free nitrogen of the air for agricultural and industrial purposes.

"Nov. 14, 1901.—Send me five dollars, as I need \$4 to \$5 every time I go out."

"Nov. 20, 1901.—I beat Bryan 534. Dockery 2,458 votes. Man against me was ex-grandmaster of Masons and grand potentate of Shriners. Pretty good work for a scrub, wasn't it?"

He regarded himself as in the political game with the great men of the state—and tried to play the part of hoodlum and rain to recognize his object in life, in that line—a political hold-up, a man with shaking hand holding the pistol of crime.

AIR AS A FERTILIZER.

At the sitting of the International Chemical congress today, Dr. Frank of Charlottenburg, spoke on the utilization of the free nitrogen of the air for agricultural and industrial purposes.



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