Democratic Watchman.

BY P. GRAY MEEK.

Ink Slings.

-It is one thing very sure, That the people must endure A term of JOHNNY ELKINS, as Poo-bah of the State. Or they must be up and doin' Every scheme and trick pursuin' That'll lick the gang of bosses, who have nut him on their slate

-They have a few pledge signers in Pittsburg too and their names are not THOMPSON either.

-And now the wasp has parasites. We are glad to know that there is something that can hang onto this insect without fear of its hot business end.

-They've got the cholera in the Philippines and they have a thousand or more of our soldier boys over there. Let us hope that they don't get together.

-Had the Cincinnati hotel waiter who assaulted the actor RICHARD MANSFIELD used a ham bone instead of a pork chop there might not have been so much ado about it.

-CECIL RHODES is all right about the peace of the world, but his practice of taking as large a piece of it as he could get is likely to counteract the provisions of his will for many years to come.

-There is to be a ten per cent cut in the salary list of most of the city officials in New York. It remains to be seen whether there is enough real reform in this regime to prevent a "holler," when it comes to touching their pocket books.

-Mrs. CORNELIUS VANDERBILT is reported to have applied to the librarian of Congress to have her name copyrighted. If she su cceeds and should want to marry again there might be serious legal complications for the man who attempts to change that lady's name.

-The New York woman who is suing her divorced husband for a receipt for horse liniment, in lieu of five dollars per week alimony, which he has defaulted in the payment of, must be determined to make the mare go, even if she can't get money enough to do it with.

-It is strange that Governor STONE should think the prompt signing of the death warrant of the murderer LANE should not be done with unseemly haste when the mind of man still carries a memory of the dispatch with which he hustled through certain franchise and ripper legislation not long ago.

--Scientists are very much exorcised over a tale, just published by one of their troduction to WHITE and arranged for the authorities, showing that at the present rate of increase the entire population of the world will be insane within one hundred for an interview between Mr. WHITE and years. And judging from election returns a member of the Danish government." in Pennsylvania since 1890 there is a mighty small percentage of inhabitants of ant services, according to the records, and this State who can lay claim to sanity HAY protests that he promised him notheven now. ing. But the fact remains that the gov-



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It is not so certain, after all, that the

India islands recently was altogether a fai- those irreconcilables of the North who are ry tale. There was an atmosphere of improbability, not to say absurdity, about the story when it was first made public. But stitutional legislation curtailing the repreas the taking of testimony progresses, there give it the color of probability. For example it has been proved that CHRISTMAS was in communication with ABNER Mc-State HAY admits that he gave a letter of they will re-appear promptly. introduction to CHRISTMAS, presenting him to HENRY WHITE, Secretary of Legation at London, and that WHITE and CHRIST-

Not Altogether a Fairy Tale.

MAS met at Copenhagen and conducted the egotiations. Where there is much smoke there is

of intrigue and bribery is enveloped. Everybody knows that during the administration of his brother, ABNER MCKINLEY was in every job that disgraced the capitol. When KEENE and other bears of Wall street had acquired a corner on the market who went to Washington and secured what

was called relief from the treasury. What he secured was a vast quantity of money out of the treasury by the medium of the purchase at a high premium of immatured bonds which enabled the bulls to renew bankrupting the bears by the operation. What ABNER McKINLEY's share of the is known that within four years he was raised from poverty to the influence of a multi-millionaire.

circumstantial but corroborative evidence. CHRISTMAS came to him, he says, a stranger, but told so plausible a story that he invited him to a full revelation of his scheme. After that he gave him the letter of inmeeting of the two men at Copenhagen 'where Captain CHRISTMAS had arranged CHRISTMAS got nothing for these import-

Ought to Teach a Lesson. The enthusiasm with which President story which Captain CHRISTMAS told con- ROOSEVELT has been received in the South cerning bribery and corruption in connec- during his trip to the Charleston exposition with the purchase of the Dauish West | tion ought to serve as a stinging rebuke to endeavoring to reopen the wounds of sectionalism through the passage of unconsentation of that section in Congress. eration of sectional lines. But if the

When the North and the South joined sectionalism has disappeared forever and prising. gratefully thanked Heaven that such was quired it there were men in the North so it to inflame the passions of men to the

was a traitorous impulse. It is to be hoped that the visit of Presi-

ed him en route to and back from his destimen to their dangerous experiment. The one side, the solid North on the other and hatred and bitterness on both. Such conditions would guarantee the continuance of The story which HAY tells is likewise the Republican party in power for a few to be Senator which he might have enteryears longer but at a cost so great that the world would be appalled.

More Ripping in Pittsburg.

There is to be another "ripping up" of the government of Pittsburg, according to current reports. Recorder J. O. BROWN, who succeeded Recorder A. M. BROWN, when the last ripping operation was performed, is now to be ripped out and a Mr. ROGERS, who is theauthor of the bill, is to be put in his place. Meantime the Republicau party of the city has been ripped into

We can well believe this last report of

Their Opposition Don't Count.

The Olivers and Quay. The announcement in an authoritative way that HARRY OLIVER is not a candidate for United States Senator puts a new phase on the political conditions in the State. Ever since GEORGE OLIVER withdrew from the contest for Congressman-at-Large, four years ago, there has been an understanding that HARRY was to go to the Senate at the earliest convenient season. are incidents coming forward that at least Everywhere that he went the President Of course there was no intention to bowl witnessed evidences of the complete oblit- QUAY out and probably it was understood that PENROSE was to have his second term. wavers of the bloody shirt succeed in get- But QUAY couldn't ask for another elec-KINLEY at the time and now Secretary of ting the Crumpacker legislation in shape tion and Mr. OLIVER had a right to expect to be his successor. In fact it may be

assumed that QUAY was willing to have it hands and with equal promptness marched that way and the positive announcement against a foreign foe, four years ago, right of Mr. OLIVER the other day that he would minded men of both sections imagined that not be candidate is, therefore, the more sur-

One theory upon which the change in his necessarily some fire and this curious story the case. But when partisan exigencies re- purposes may be accounted for is that Mr. OLIVER has lost faith in the ability of lost to every principle of justice and patriot. QUAY to keep his bargain. That is to say ism that they were willing to resurrect the he understands that Governor STONE is a horrid ghost of blood and carnage and use candidate for Senator and will be supported, in the nature of things, by ELKIN murderous frenzy that existed for a few and DURHAM. Recent incidents indicate on a memorable occasion, it was ABNER years after the close of the civil war. It that ELKIN and DUBHAM can wheedle QUAY whenever they are so disposed and

even if QUAY were inclined to keep faith dent ROOSEVELT to Charleston and the with OLIVER the others would control the many evidences of fraternity which greet- machine and defeat his purpose. Under such circumstances the promise of the nation will have the effect of checking the Senatorship at some future time is very their fight and break the corner, alpost evil impulses which have influenced those much in the nature of a barren ideality. In other words the expectation is likely to manifest purpose is to restore the political be disappointed, not because QUAY is disprofits was has never been revealed but it divisions which made the solid South on posed to disregard his pledge but for the reason that he can't "make good."

The result of Mr. OLIVER'S determina tion to drive out of his mind any ambitions tained is easy of conjecture. It leaves the OLIVERS, with all their newspaper and personal influence, free to fight the machine at the general election next fall. They were a part of the reform movement which rev-

olutionized the politics of Pittsburg at the February election and if they would bend their energies in the same direction next fall the entire legislative and local tickets of the fusion party would be successful in that city. In that event the machine might be compelled to take OLIVER for Senator, not four years hence when QUAY's term expires but next winter when the successor

Take the Tariff Off Meats.

From the New York Herald. In view of the rise in the price of meat as fixed by the Chicago Packers' Trust. Congress should repeal the tariff tax of two cents a pound imposed by the Dingley law on beef, pork and mutton

This country, as everybody knows, is an exporter of breadstuffs and meats on an enormous scale, and this tariff of two cents a pound. like the 25 per cent. ad valorem duty on wheat, was put on merely to fool the American farmer-make him think that he was sharing in the blessings of "Protection" and reconcile him to an increase of daughter. nearly one half in the price of his clothing

and manufactured articles. Now that the meat industry is in the grasp of the Chicago packers' combination, which makes its own price to the farmer or ranchman for his ox and at the same time makes its own terms with the consumer. that fool tariff of two cents a pound has be come mischievous. It should be repealed, so that cattle and meats may be brought in from Canada or elsewhere to cheapen the

cost of this necessary of life. If, as is claimed, the rise is due to scarci ty of feed and diminished number of cattle in the country there is all the more reason for a prompt repeal of this ridiculous tariff, which is of no use to the farmer and simply helps the Chicago combine to squeeze the

Two Men.

Professor Felix Adler's View of Cecil Rhodes and Booker Washington.

He was big, large, vast, but not great Greatness depends upon quality and not upon quantity. His startling and remark-able will following his vast ideas of uniting all the English-speaking races deserves the attention of all. On the other hand, the scheme for the union of all English-speaking people for world domination is as immoral as impossible, and a delusion. In the mind of Cecil Rhodes, as I see it, there was too close connection between civilization and commercialism. Civilization,

with him meant increased trade. He has taught them no dream of con quest, no theory of perfect equality with the whites. He found the two chief faults of his race to be a desire for social equality and indolence. He has taught them that and has shown them how to deserve it. To my own knowledge, he declined an engagement to lecture fifty nights at \$1,000 a night because he could not spare the time from his work. And his work is the welfare of his race.

After Many Years. From the Johnstown Tribune.

The Pittsburg Gazette this morning anterval of over a year, that Henry W. Oliver, the principal owner of that paper, is not a the Doombalt farm, states that young Grafius

Spawls from the Keystone.

-The Democratic standing committee of Lycoming county recently instructed their eight delegates to vote for Robert E. Pattison. -The Presbyterian committee on creed revision assembled in Washington Wednesday. Its final report may not be made for a week.

-The M. E. revival at Grampian, Clearfield county, still continues with amazing success. All day meetings were held Sunday with ten seekers at the altar. All told the professed conversions number 294.

-At Rock Run, on the Beech Creek road, Saturday, a rear end collision between freights occurred. One engine was damaged and a caboose and one car were burned. Traffic was delayed three hours. No one was injured.

-A seven year old son of G. W. Bell, in Greenwood township, Clearfield county. caught with a hook and line, on Saturday last, a sucker that measured 22 inches in length and girthed 11 inches. It exhausted the boy in getting it from the stream.

-Worrying over debts which he incurred by bailing other parties, Clinton G. Hughes, a prominent business man of Watsontown, committed suicide in his home Saturday by shooting himself in the head. He was 60 years old and is survived by his wife and

-Andrew Carnegie, the steel king, has remembered another former railroad man who was under his direction when he was superintendent of the Pittsburg division of the Pennsylvania railroad, and this time the lucky man is a Johnstowner, named Jacob Frankhouser, who will get \$20 a month the remainder of his life

-At Cross Forks Saturday night John O'Hara became involved in a quarrel with two drunken companions, during which O'Hara was kuocked down and kicked behind the ear. He died soon after, his skull having been fractured at the base of the brain. O'Hara's home was near Binghampton, N. Y. His companions fled after the fight, but have not been found.

-After bequeathing to his wife \$50,000 and their beautiful home in Clearfield, the will of the late Captain David McGaughey provides that \$2,000 be given to each of the Clearfield. Presbyterian, Methodist and Lutheran churches, and the Osceola Presbyterian church; also \$2,000 apiece to the Clearfield school district and the Clearfield cemetery association. In addition to this, sums ranging in amounts from \$500 to \$2,000 are given to certain nieces, nephews and other relatives.

-About 8 o'clock Tuesday morning Pearl Morgan, the step daughter of William Smith, who lives near Vail, was crossing a track in the Tyrone yard near the scales when the pilot of an engine caught and dragged her a distance of about 160 feet. Engineer Bing saw her umbrella projecting from the front of his engine and stopping the iron recognition would come if they deserved it, horse discovered the young lady in her helpless condition. Her injuries consist of contusion of the right hip and left leg. She is aged about 16 years.

-J. Carl Grafius, who is the son of Martin Grafius, of Martinsburg, ex-treasurer of Blair county, and one of the candidates for commissioner at the recent Republican primary election, some time ago enlisted in the English army for British Columbia and joined nonnees for the second time, after in inaccounts of the battle on the 31st of March at

-Governor HOGG, of Texas, declared at he wouldn't "swap two hours under the shade of a dogwood bush catching sunfish for all the show of royalty in the world." In other words royalty on the Thames ain't in it with "Royalty on the Mississippi." For we infer that Governor Hogg's time is spent in Texas very like the kind MARK TWAIN writes of.

-The declination of Senator O. B. CARTWRIGHT, of Waterloo, Ia., to be a candidate for Congress against speaker HENDERSON of the House has plucked the last bubble that his party had inflated with the hope that he could be gotten rid of. They are tired of him and had looked upon his probable defeat for renomination as a means of release, but it is not to be so and the gentlemen who made the bed will have to lie in it until some other means of getting rid of it turns up.

-The Philadelphia North American com ments on the mayor ASHBRIDGE's declaration that the consumption of water in that city has decreased twenty-million gallons a day since 1899. While the mayor intended his statement as an evidence of the economic operation of the water burean the North American ascribes the cause to the fact that the water is fit only for purposes of fertilization. Such being the case it is little wonder that such mammoth breweries have been built up in the Quaker city.

-The Altoona Tribune censures mayor HOYER of that city for removing the chief of the fire department, but its censure is negatived by its admission that the same mayor was the man who signed the paid fire department bill and appointed the officer who is now removed. The Tribune praises the department, which is to say it praises mayor HOYER, for he appears to be the man who has had most to do with it and it is only reasonable to infer that he knows farmer, has won his position by hard labor. more about what he is doing now than his censor.

----- The staff correspondent of the Buffa-to Courier exhibits "neck," indeed worthy dacy for this great office looks very good." of a buffalo, when he intimates that the trade exentsion, recently sent out from the the various points visited. And what for, pray? If they expected the merchants of towns in their route to hand up their trade on a silver tray, have hands of music to drown the rattle of the trays and cases of had better do what the other Buffaloes did. Buffalo is a good city, hustling and active,

fragments and the proernment of the United States paid \$5,000, a banquet in London a few nights ago that 000 for the property, when Denmark only asked \$4,000,000, and the difference is precomplete annihilation. cisely the amount that CHRISTMAS states was used as bribe money.

Elkin Has the Foreign Papers.

ration he has had the community in a state ELKIN has a corner on the foreign press, of terror. Running from pillar to post, according to an esteemed Philadelphia conbegging first this man and then that to save temporary. That is to say for the considhim from the deluge of popular indignaeration of about \$200 a piece the Attorney General probably has purchased the suption he hasn't been in his office more than two days at a time since he first entered port of every Polish, Scandinavian, Rusupon his duties. But all his dallying has sian and all the other foreign newspapers. been inadequate to save him. He can't rec-These papers, which are numerous in the oncile the public to his absurd pretensions coal regions, have no settled political conof governing the second city in the State, victions. As a matter of fact they make and must give way at last in disgrace. no pretense of indulging in the luxury of principles at all. They publish a few columns of news, mainly of the country which they pretend to represent, and in the lanrevolutionary processes they sowed to the guage of that country and are said to exerwind and are now reaping the whirlwind. cise considerable influence on the minds of the people who read them. It was a desperate and unpatriotic move-

ment and has fitly brought disaster. After This year, however, they are all politicthe death of Senator MAGEE, FLINN'S powal and whatever their nationality are er would have been taken away by legitienamored of JOHN P. ELKIN. The reason mate means if the machine hadn't been so of this is that he has bought them up. impatient to share in the plunder. But Heretofore the publication of political matthey couldn't wait and have brought upon ter in one of each kind of foreign newspapers themselves a succession of political mishas been common where a candidate was fortunes and the end is not yet. able to afford a considerable expense. But ELKIN evidently hasn't stopped at that. He has apparently not only purchased space for himself in all of them but

made it a condition that nothing shall be published for the other side at any price. A two column portrait of him appears in each every week and the same interesting natter is repeated in every issue. Liberally translated it is this : "This picture rep-WATRES for Governor, while but four exresents JOHN P. ELKIN, who is one of the pressed a preference for ELKINS for that great men of the State of Pennsylvania. position. Since the preference of the He is now candidate for Governor of the Grangers was shown on this subject, the State. Mr. JOHN ELKIN, the son of a poor Republican primaries have been held in 17 of the 66 counties of the State, and but two of these have voted for WATRES' delegates, He comes from the poor people, and every time is the friend of those in the factories

three of them have left their delegates unand helps the laboring people. His candi- instructed, and the other twelve have gone for ELKINS, showing that the sentiment of Thus an emissary of the trusts and the machine Republicans is just about as over obedient servant of the corporations imwhelming for as that of the Grangers is Pan-American city, expected receptions at poses on the ignorance and credulity of the against him. The bosses of the job, who foreign element in the coal regions. The purpose making the present Attorney Gen-Huns, Slavs, Scandinavians, Poles, Ital- eral the next Republican candidate for ians, huddled together in squalor and filth Governor, don't seem to care a bobee what about the coal pits, are deluded by the price the farmer element of the State may think paid to their mercenary leaders, the pub- about it. And we don't wonder. As a champague to wash it all down with they lishers of their papers, into voting for a man usual thing the Republican farmer forgets who would join in a movement to crush the wrongs the state machine is doing him then. It is shameful that a man who as- and turns in for whoever the bosses may but if her merchants want trade they must pires to the great office of Chief Magistrate declare for, and these same bosses expect go after it and not expect other places to of Pennsylvania should resort to such des- this to be done again. Possibly it will throw conniption fits just because they are picable methods of getting votes. We Under any circumstances ELKINS is to be from Buffalo and traveling in three straight shall watch the result of this investment of the nominee, the opposition of the Grang-backs with a diner. machine money with much interest. leis notwithstanding.

osed ripping is for to PENROSE is to be elected. There are all the purpose of trying to get the tatters tosorts of possibilities in the revolt. gether to save the party of the State from

Roosevelt and the Senate.

an impending ripping operation for J. O. President ROOSEVELT is gradually lead-BROWN has certainly been a clown in the ing himself up to an encounter with the office. Almost from the day of his inaugu-Senate which will test his nerve more than anything which has thus far happened since his accidental elevation to the office in which he is cutting so strange a figure. Some days ago he nominated Captain WIL-LIAM CROZIER to be chief of ordnance in the army with the rank of Brigadier General, jumping him over the heads of all the Colouels, Lieutenant Colonels and Majors in the service, every one of whom was willing to accept the promotion with the social and pecuniary advantages thereunto apper-When the Republican managers of the taining. The only reason he has given for Legislature trampled down the constituhis action is that Captain CROZIER is an tion in order to change the government by expert on ordnance and was especially fit for the place. If that is true there can be no doubt of the wisd om of his choice.

> But the Senators object to the action of the President for the reason that it breaks all precedents and disappoints the friends of Senators who are in the ranks of the Colonels and Majors. That of course would not be a valid objection of itself. but it is added that the President is not influenced by the high impulses to which he refers. In other words it is alleged that

the ordnance manufacturers made the selection of CROZIER in return for favors re-

Evidently the Grangers and the manipuceived from him in the past and that their ators of the Republican machine are not of choice was supported so forcefully by politthe same way of thinking when it comes to ical influences that the President was unpicking state candidates. A recent poll of able to resist it. If that he true the Senate the local Granges shows that out of 440 of has not only the right but it is its bounden them, 420 favored the nomination of duty to reject the nomination. The confirmation of the nominee under such circumstances would be a crime against the country.

Captain CROZIER is an expert on ordnance and has written much that is regarded as valuable on the subject. But that is not sufficient, of itself, to justify his promotion from the rank of Captain to that of Brigadier General over the heads and to the prejudice of all the Colonels and Majors in the service. Admiral CROWINSHIELD has been an authority on naval tactics for many years and has written volumes of matter which has commanded the admiration of the whole world. But during the Spanish war as head of the strategy board he made a nuisance of himself and every fighting man in the service held him in terror for the reason that he tied them up and rendered them useless. If CROZIER is like him the service will be the better if he be kept in a subordinate place.

-There are more than a few clouds gathering on the local political horizon.

candidate for election to the United States was dangerously wounded in the fight. The Senate, and never will be. He admits he young man had been a resident of British once had such aspirations, but says he has Columbia for several years. -William Koley Gilbert, the 17 year old

put them aside, and that the effect was more like laying down a burden than making a sacrifice. He doesn't propose to re-tire from politics, however, and we gather son of Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Gilbert, of Johnstown, was suddenly striken with blindness from the tone of his renunciation of his shortly after noon Monday. After dinner chance for the senatorial toga that he the young man laid down on a couch to take hopes to cut a considerable figure in the a nap, and when called by a member of the nunicipal affairs of the Smoky city. family an hour or so later he was unable to

Subsidy not Needed. From the Pittsburg Post.

The shipyards of New England have not waited for subsidies to make them busy places. Last year Maine turned out 106 ressels and Massachusetts 85. Connecticut yards were correspondingly active. This year Maine's out-put is fifty-three large and many small vessels. In that section under construction 175 vessels, there are aggregating a tonnage of 105,000. In addition to these the New England builders have contracts amounting to \$17,000,000. The lack of a subsidy will not reduce the shipyards to idleness.

And It's Still Going On.

From the Pennsboro, W. Va., News, \$300,000,000 already and by the end of this year another hundred millions . will have been added This is more than onethird of the sum that the napoleonic wars cost France in thirteen years and is about one tenth the cost of the civil war.

Stone May Bargain With His Critics

HARRISBURG, April 8.-It is reported here to-day that Governor Stone is ready to remove Recorder Brown, of Pittsburg, and appoint a man to be selected by the Oliver-Bigelow interests as his successor, if the latter will agree to support Attorney General Elkin, after he is nominated for Governor. This, it is said, is one of the propositions made by Senator Quay to the Oliver brothers at Washington on Saturday

Governor Stone is understood to have the approval of Senator Flinn and Recorder Brown to the making of such a deal, all three being of the opinion that they have nothing to lose by such a move, but hold-ing that it will place the Oliver-Bigelow interests outside the breastworks of the independent army in Allegheny and leave them with no better political standing than Stone, Flinn and Brown.

is further stated that the Governor and Recorder Brown are most auxious to have their Pittsburg critics put in the position of accepting favors from Governor

pacify the Oliver-Bigelow interests Governor Stone can remove his successor after the November election and re-appoint Brown to run Pittsburg until the next February election, at which a Recorder will be elected for a full term.

This Accounts for Tuesday's Storm PLAINFIELD, Wis., April 7 .- A terrific

April blizzard prevails furiously over Central Wisconsin. Snow has been falling nearly all day and a high wind is prevailstorm of the winter.

summoned and found the young man sufferering from hemmorrhage of the brain, which affected the eyes. It is believed his affliction may yield to treatment in time. -Three members of the famous "Traingang," so named because of its connection with the audacious robbery of Pennsylvaniarailroad freight trains between Altooua and Three Culverts, two miles west of that city, on January 25th, when a car was broken open in broad daylight, while the train was at full speed, the merchandise being tossed

open his eyelids, and when the lids were

opened he was unable to see. A doctor was

off and secured by confederates, was run to earth Monday. Those arrested are William Plowden, Emma Plowden and Laura Crane, Leaving aside the matter of "manifest all colored. They were found living in a destiny" the Philippine fiasco has cost us dilapidated old planing mill building in the northern part of Altoona. A quantity of the stolen goods including linen, hats and trousers were found concealed in the mill.

> -Jacob Smithover, of Altoona, who is aged 60 years, has been missing from his home for more than two weeks. On March 18th his wife died. On his way to notify his son Jacob, who resides on a farm belonging to the father in Antis township, the elder man was bitten in the hand by a vicious dog which gave him a very sore hand and arm. More recently the father went to the home of his son Jacob again, and it is said a quarrel ensued, when the old man handed his daughter in-law \$35, and remarked : "I can't stand this no longer; I am going away and you won't see me again." He has not been seen since. Agent McGraw is conducting an investigation and endeavoring to locate the missing man.

-James McNerney, of Lock Haven, made a narrow escape from being burned alive Friday night in the Central hotel, Lock Haven. After he had retired, Alex Agar. an attache of the hotel, went upstairs about 12 o'clock. Smelling smoke he proceeded to the room occupied by McNerney and going in he saw the mattress in a blaze. The flames were leaning towards the ceiling and McNerney was sound asleep. Agar grabbed McNerney and If Recorder Brown is removed now to pulled him out, which movement awakened the sleeping man. Agar without making any noise or giving an alarm, grabbed the burning mattress and flung it out of the window into the gutter on Grove street. He afterwards flung the bed clothing out and ran down and extinguished the flames with water Had Agar not made the discovery when he did, McNerney would undoubtedly have met his death and the flames would probably have gained such headway as to have destroyed the building. It is believed the mattress ing and it is very cold. It is the worst caught fire from a cigar which McNerney had been smoking.