

Bellefonte, Pa., May 25, 1906.

THE CRY OF THE CHILDREN.

The somewhat imposing name of Pell City has been given to a cluster of house lodged in the valley between Attalla and Birmingham. On its outskirts a mantle of smoke veils the heavens and indicates, without doubt, the locality of the cotton mills. It was thither that I made my

Having waited for the 12:30 bell to sound, I got into conversation with one of the older "hands" and joined once more the slow procession which moved toward the factory gates. Thus, without difficulty, I entered the weave room, whence I could make my way as I pleased to other parts

I paused a moment to watch a boy of twelve: his shoulders were bowed; his brows drawn together; his hauds were like claws. With lightning rapidity he snatched the old quills from the pins and dropped the new ones in their places, and when the spindles stuck he drove them down with a nervous stroke that plainly "You must go on!" Yet, when I talked with him, his face lighted up.

"How long have you been at work?"
"In a cotton mill?" His tone implied that he had always been working some-

"Yes," I said, "in a cotton mill."

"Four years." "Don't you get tired?"

"A little," he nodded, passing on along the frame out of hearing, like some sombr mechanical spring which had been wound up and which could do nothing but "go" until its time came for running down.

Three little sweepers followed me out into the yard with an evident desire to talk. It was with kindly good humor that they put the usual question: "Ever worked in a mill?" And, having received an affirmative answer, they stuffed their hands in their pockets and leaned up comfortably against the doorstep where we stood, ready to make friends, presenting all the appear ance of three diminutive men who knew just about what to expect in life.

One was from Georgia, one from Alabama and one from Kentucky, and, though the oldest was but thirteen, they had all worked in balf a dozen different places.

"Why do you move around as mysely?"

'Why do you move around so much?" I asked, impressed here, as I had been everywhere, by the nomadic propensities of the operatives.

The Alabamian explained in an indulgent way: "Why. that's how mill folks more in the next place.'

And the Kentuckian added; "Money's the thing they're all after. You spend it all when you crave travelin,' but you sure do make out to have a good time.''

I followed this by a question which I expected to be met with a burst of enthusiasm on the subject of football or some other sport.

"What do you like best of all?" There was a moment's pause, and then one said:

"Weavin'." "At what age can you come in here?" The Alabamian glinned, showing a row of strong, white teeth, and lines of wrinkles on his freckled nose.

"Oh, any age from one to forty!" And the Kentuckian, more poetic, took up the refrain:

"Any age from knee-high to a grass hopper until you can touch the moon.

Don't you have to show a certificate?" "You do in some places," the Georgian

At Pell City proper, there were, I found, fifty children attending school. In the mill town, out of the fifteen hundred hands who formed the inhabitants (three hundred and fifty of whom were of the school age) there were but eighty or ninety scholars under the direction of the two faithful teachers who confessed themselves discouraged at the frequent absences among their pupils, and the nomadic disposition of the mill "folk" which drives them on about

every six months from one town to an other, attracted by new possibilities-above all, tired of the old ones-who need, in their very weariness, the stimulation of Seeking always a chance to make friends with some of the little laborers, I went into the grove of trees which, because, perhaps, of a few benches and an occasional

dilapidated swing, was known by the name It is not long before a little brown eved

girl in a blue cotton dress, with a woolen hood over her head, came along. "Have you ever worked in the mill?" I

"Yes, meann. I worked there most year, makin' forty a day, but, when the new 'super' came, he cut me deown to twenty-eight, and I sure did quit."

She passed on, and presently my meditations were interrupted by a little being with short hair, a pink gingham frock, a bruise over one eye, and a hag of groceries under either arm. I had already noticed her when I visited the primary class, so I said "Do you like school?"

The angry bruise over her forehead held her little brow rigid, but there was a smile in her eyes, and she said; "I sure do love school!"

As she spoke she tugged at one of the grocery bags, opened it, and offered me some candy. Then, having lodged a pi at the back of her mouth, she went on: Then, having lodged a piece 'I've worked in the mill, but I don't

love that. I'm the only one up home that ain't workin' neow. Jeff and Music and Loona and Doshie is all't work." She took a place beside me on the

"park" bench, and deposited her bun-"I was right smart sick the other day," she continued. "A little boy hit me with a rock," she touched the wound on her forehead, "but I kep' on't school 'cause forehead, "but I kep' on't school 'cause I'm so afraid if I once stay sout my step-mother'd make me go back t' the mill. I the village where his "plant" is situated. wouldn't miss school for anything."

smiled wisely, and plunged her hand in the paper bag for another candy. bes your father work?" Ia-ked. The emile faded, and the little face grew very

"He died," she said, "the week after we come here. He had the asthma. His job was awful hard; he worked nights in the dve room. He used to have to keep the windows open so's he could get air

She hurried on with a rapid description of his sufferings, and then, more slowly,

deown. The men had to tote him home. His head was like this-and his arms were arms hung lifeless. Then she added:

"Death struck him when he fell." After a moment she began again:
"Are you a good dressmaker?"
"Not very. Are you?"
She laughed. "Good enough to make my own clothes."

"Did you make that dress?" "I make them all except Sunday ones." In her family there were, I found, five grown members earning pay at the mill sufficient to support them comfortably. Yet, because the youngest was already eleven—that is to say, because she represented a daily stipend of fifty cents—there was a determination to make her a breadwinner—a determination so strong that only her own courage and valiance had so far been able to ward off the evil day when she should move from the school-bench

into the spinning-room. It is natural that the first impulse of these people who have deserted their farms for the factories should be to embrace every opportunity for gain which presents itself, and it is all the more necessary, therefore, that they should be made to see the ultimate profit of giving their children some

For this end nothing could be more promptly effective than a compulsory school law.

The question of reaching Huntsville w a serious one. "We can't rightly say what the route is," the Gadsden Hotel clerk explained. "Lots o' folks goes there, but none ever comes back."

Huntsville, it was true, partly because of the gloominess of the town itself, partly because of its indirect approach—by water—suggested the village of Eden which Dickens has described in his Martin Chuzzlewit. A bulky, dingy steamer it was that conveyed us from one landing to another on the Tennesse River. For three hours the double side-stacks sent forth whirling columns of feathery black smoke; the rear paddle-wheel beat a snowy path in its watery way; a chilly mist enveloped the ample bushes, the rounded sides of which, overhauling the banks, swept the swift surface of the stream. Within the cabin of the Chattahoochee' the dreary assengers talked in undertones, deluged the ship's utensils with copious expectora-tions, and waited with that air of resignation which characterizes animals in trans-

Huntsville was reached at last. The clouds of soot, which in the small towns had indicated at once the locality of the mill, were here spread in a sombre veil over the entire city. Determined always to "go" until I was stopped, and to see all I could before I was "put out" I started at once for the mills, about a mile or so from the Huntsville City Hall. It was too late to join the hands in their noon return, are, always thinkin' they can make a little and a forbidding wall with padlocked gates drove me as a last resource to the superintendent's office.

"I haven't got any one to send with you," he said, "but I guess you can find your way through all right."
Straight I made all speed to the spin-

ning-room, and as I entered this vast domain I thought, at a first glauce, that it was empty. Then, having passed along one end, I perceived, toiling laboriously, quantities of children so small that their heads did not appear over the low frames! Fourteen of these tiny spinners I questioned: three of them only "claimed" to be twelve, and these had all been several years at work.

"Have you ever worked in a cotton mill?" one small girl asked me, in her shrill little voice. 'No." I answered.

"I tell you," she answered, "it's real hard work.' "Well," she smiled, "it is for us little

kids, anyway "Did you ever go to school?" I asked. "No, but I'd just love to." Here she threw out her little hands with a sorrowful gesture, and added: "I'm only twealve. I've been workin' most four years, and I haven't got enough education to read and

write. The heat in this great hall was intense. In order to maintain the proper pliability of the cotton thread the atmosphere of the spinning-rooms must be kept at a very steam pipes which encircle the walls there are, at intervals, open valves which pour forth diminutive clouds of vapor, taking

from the air every breath of its vitality. It was not long before one of the overspers, noticing how freely I was talking with the little, toil-worn, ghastly waifs who plied their way up and down before the whirling spindles, came over and began to make several maudlin exouses: "We don't care about havin' the 'help'

talk much," he said. "Ah9" "No. You see they don't allow no children under twelve to work in the mills. Of course ," he added, our children all is

twelve." 'Do you think so?'' I asked.

"My, yes! All our help has certificates. We keep a notary busy the whole time.' I continued my round. The next child I questioned, having noticed perhaps that the "boss" had spoken to me, answered in this way when I asked her age: "I'm teaun. No - I mean - I'm twealve,"

Nobody could pass through such spinning-rooms as I have described and not cry out lustily against child labor. No moderate friend of the manufacturers, no partisan of the rapid industrial development in the South could find a single argument with which to meet the unspoken plea of this army of little toilers. They bear no resemblance to healthy children. They look like the pale, insipid flowers that straggle up in the furrows of the wheat field when the harvest has been

An incident at another of the mills, which I subsequently visited at Huntsville, confirmed the remarks made by the little spinning hand at Alabama City: "When the gentleman that owns the mills comes around to visit, we hide the littlest hands so he won't see 'em."

There was, in consequence, some reluctance to let me visit the spinning-rooms. dye-rooms, the weaving rooms and enginehouses were shown with a free conscience, since no "little help" can be employed in these localities. But my guide from the office explained to me they were "cleaning the machinery" in the spinning-room and "most of the hands" were "loafing," so there wasn't "anything much" to see.

Let us hope that this sort of deception keeps the mill-owner from knowing really what wraiths of childhood are doing his work for him. Otherwise he would too easily appear in the guise of a modern "That night he went over to get a drink, monster crushing human life in order to replied her hostess, "it's a lion. But I and just's he come to the pump he dropped get the fall price of his greed. And the told Josiah when he brought it home that snowy threads in the spinning room, as it looked a good deal more like one of them they whirl about the spindles like an im- things you mention .- Chicago Record like this." Her own little head fell for maculate, diaphanous cloud, might seem Herald.

to this same mill-owner to be drenched in the scarlet that speeds outward from little fingers, whose forces, as their life's blood, ebb from them while they toil!

Over the rolling country outside of the town, in the direction of West Huntsville, there is a succession of mills: one with its rows of wooden houses, its schools, its stores, its ct apel, and others of minor im portance, made indeed, to look insignifcant by comparison with the giant plant which flings its human debris, when work is done, into a surrounding group of yellow frame two-story houses, each of which is inhabited by two families, and surrounded by a yard, sprinkled over, as were the side walks in this desolate town, with slag from the furnaces. An occasional attempt to grow flowers in these paupers' areas had been thwarted by an old-time habit of sweeping on to the incipient flower-beds such rubbish as came daily from within the house: ashes, old rage, barrel hoops, chicken feathers, paper bags, tin cans. The result was an uninviting accumulation.

As all attempts to trespass within the well-guarded inclosure of this mill were unavailing, I resorted to a post of observa-tion opposite the gates through which the operatives filed out at noon, and in again when the clock's hands had sped onward to 12:45, having left them this only too brief three quarters of an hour in which to cook and eat their dinner. In the multitude that came drifting, scurrging, whirling past me there were scores of children under welve years old. Their clothes were fleeked with cotton lint, gray and dusky like their ashen faces; they were bowed and drooping with a strange pervous animation that became them as pitifully as friskiness becomes an unconscious old age.
What could they be expected to look like?
Save on Saturdays, they work twelve hours and five minutes a day, these little "hands."

Having been peremptorily stopped by th janitor when I attempted to follow with the procession into the mill, I repaired to the school, and there found, out of a population of six hundred possible scholars, about one hundred children enrolled on the lists. "Where are the rest?" I asked the

teacher. "In the mill," she answered solemnly Even the littlest boys and girls from the primary classes are constantly taken out and made to work as long as their mothers or fathers see fit."

"We have to switch the children," teacher volunteered, when I questioned her about a birch rod which lay across ber desk. "Without switching them we couldn't keep any sort of order here."

And again, perceiving a crippled boy, I asked how he had lost his arm, and received from the teacher this amazing answer. "Oh, he lost it in the mill! We get lots of them maimed, with one finger, or a hand, or an arm gone. They go in so young to work that they don't know what machinery is, and they try 'just for fun' to see how near they can come to it without 'touching.' It's rather a dangerous game sometimes."-By Mrs. John Van Vorst, in the Saturday Evening Post.

Boys and Tobacco.

In Germany, the use of tobacco by boys under eighteen is prohibited by laws which are rigidly enforced.

In the Ecloe Polytechnique of France it was found that nonsmokers took the high-est rank in every grade, and that smokers continually lost grade. Hence, the use of tobacco was prohibited in the public

It is also prohibited in our government chools of Annapolis and West Point. Hundreds of boys apply for admission to the Naval Academy, and one-fifth of all who are examined are rejected on account of heart disease, which the surgeons say is caused by smoking eigarettes

Dr. A. L. Gilson, of the United States Navy, gives the following testimony as to the effects of smoking tobacco upon the sindents : 1. It leads to impaired nutrition of the

nerve centres. 2. It is a fertile cause of neuralgia, ver

tigo and indigestion.

3. It irritates the month and throat, and thus destroys the purity of the voice. 4. By excitation of the optic nerve, it provokes amaurosis and other defects of

cision. 5. It causes a tremulous hand and ar intermittent palse. 6. One of its corspicuous effects is to

develop irritability of the heart. It retards the cell change on which the development of the adolescence depend. -Ex.

Wise and Otherwise.

A good story of a recent conversation be ween Mr. Howells and Mark Twain is going the rounds. Mark Twain was relating some of his experiences before he became "My difficulties taught me some thrift," he observed." "But I never knew whether it was wiser to spend my last nickel for a cigar to smoke or for an apple to devour.'

"I am astounded," returned Mr. Howells, "that a person of so little decision should meet with so much worldly suc-

Mark Twain nodded very gravely. decision about spending money," he re-marked, "is worthy of cultivation. When couldn't decide what to buy with my last nickel I kept it, and so became rich."

An Englishman was once talking to a grizzled old woman, when he chanced to refer to the Queen.
"O, 'ow I would like to be the Queen!"

said the ancient lady. "O, it isn't because of her 'orses, because

if I were Oneen I would 'ave a donkey-cart with red wheels; and it isn't because of her hand of musicians on horseback which goes ahead of the 'orse guards, for I much rather 'ave a Hitalian with a 'and-organ, but just think, if she wakes up at three o'clock in the morning and wants a bite to eat, she can just touch a hell and 'ave heef and boiled cabbage right away."

The minister's wife had an unwelcome visitor in a very talkative scandalmonger so the minister went out for a stroll. urning half an hour later he called out : "That old cat gone. I suppose ?"

"Yes," said his wife, who had still her gnest talking to her, "I sent it home in a asket, my dear, this morning." What do you think of that for preof mind and absence of cat?-Christian Life.

"Isn't that a Bouguereau?" asked Mrs. Oldcastle, as they stopped for a moment to look at the new pictures. "O, my, no," replied her hostess, "it's a lion. But I

DISAGREE ON RATE BILL

House Committee Decides to Send

Measure to Conference. Washington, May 22.-The railroad rate bill was considered for three hours by the house committee on interstate and foreign commerce, and the decision was reached to recommend disagreement to all of the senate amendments and to send the measure to conference. The committee will not ask that instructions of any character be given to the house conferees.

There was no disposition to criticise the amendment conferring jurisdiction on the courts to review orders made by the interstate commerce commission, for in the house committee as well as in the senate, many members contended that the bill as it was passed by the house gave that authority to the courts. This amendment and others, which collectively are known as the Allison compromise, undoubtedly will be agreed to by the

house conferees. The amendment which gave the house committee the greatest concern was that making pipe lines common carriers, which the committee thought inconsistent with the amendment prohibiting common carriers from pro ducing commodities carried by it. Formal action was not had on any of the amendments, and therefore the house conferees likely will be left free to exercise their best judgment.

U. S. VICE CONSUL KILLED

W. H. Stuart Shot to Death By Assas

sin at Batoum, Russia. Batoum, May 22 .- W. H. Stuart, the killed at his country place. The assassin escaped. Mr. Stuart was a British subject and one of the largest ship brokers and exporters of Batoum.

Mr. Stuart, having dined at the house of a friend, was returning to his country place at Manziadiani, five miles from Batoum. He was fired on twice from a clump of trees half a mile from his home, one bullet pierc ing his leg and another his breast. Mr. Stearne, the British vice consul at Novo Rossiisk, who was a guest at Mr. Stuart's house, hearing the shooting, hurried out with the servants and found Mr. Stuart lying on the ground bleeding from his wounds. He was still conscious, but said he would not be able to recognize his assassin owing to the darkness. Mr. Stuart was conveyed to a military barracks in the vicinity, where he expired two hours later. The body was transported to the consulate at Batoum.

ADDICKS DROPS LONG FIGHT

Says Colonel duPont Will Be Elected

U. S. Senator From Delaware. Philadelphia, May 19.-J. Edward Addicks, who has been for years a candidate for a seat in the United States senate from Delaware, arrived here from Washington and announced that he was for Colonel Henry A. du-Pont, of Wilmington, for the vacant seat in the senate. Mr. Addicks said there was no longer any doubt that there will be a call for a special session of the Delaware legislature within a few days; that a senator will be promptly elected and that Colonel duPont will be the man. To give strength to the announcement of his tretirement from the long fight, he produced letters that he had just written to his lieutenants in which he urged them to sign the call for a special session and to affix their signatures to the petition agreeing to abide by the decision of the caucus.

PISTOL FIGHT WITH THIEVES

Burglars Blew Open Safe at Glassboro N. J., But Were Driven Off. Pitman, N. J., May 22. - Burglars

blew open and wrecked the safe in the Glassboro postoffice, but before they could re-enter the building George Benneger, night watchman of the bank opposite the postoffice, who was aroused by the explosion, opened fire on the robbers, and for a time the air was filled with bullets. The robbers made a hasty retreat, delivering a rapid running fire on Benneger.

Several bullets from the watchman's revolver struck the postoffice near where he saw the thieves and others fired in return struck the stone wall of the bank only a few inches from where he was standing. Another shot crashed through a pane of glass near his head. It is not known whether any of Benneger's shots took effect.

He Fired On Stonewall Jackson. Findlay, O., May 19 .- Peter E. Miller, one of the guards who fired on Stonewall Jackson, died at his home near Brenton Ridge, aged 66 years. Miller often told the story of the circumstances. He said that they were on picket duty and mistook Jackson and his staff for federals when they were returning from looking over the Union lines. "Seeing them approach, we fired," as he said, "and Jackson fell." Miller left the Confederate army and worked his way to Hancock county, O., where he lived till his death.

Shot and Killed By Jealous Man. Altoona, Pa., May 22.-William Conway, aged 27, colored, shot in the head and killed Silas Cooper, aged 48, also colored, and made his escape. Conway found Cooper on the streets in company with Mrs. Conway and, crazed by jealousy, shot Cooper down without a word. Conway had been working in Youngstown, Ohio, and returned home only Sunday.

Dr. Atherton Dangerously III. Bellefonte, Pa., May 22 .- Dr. George W. Atherton, president of the Pennsylvania State College, is dangerously ill at his home here. His physicians say that he cannot live 24 hours. Dr. Atherton is suffering from Bright's QUAINT PRESENTS.

Odd Wedding Gifts That Have Been Received by Celebrities.

Celebrities are often the recipients of quaint presents. For instance, on the marriage of Queen Victoria the farmers of East and West Pennard, Somersetshire, wishing to show their loyalty, manufactured from the milk of 750 cows an immense cheese nine feet in circumference. The gift was graciously accepted and was stored at Buckingham palace, where it would undoubtedly have found its war to the royal table had not its donors wished to exhibit it as an advertisement. Their request was granted, but after it had been exhibited and the makers would have returned it her majesty signified that owing to the altered conditions she could not accept it as a gift.

An equally homely gift was made to the late King Charles of Wurttemburg on the morning of his marriage to Princess Olga of Russia. A peasant woman sent him a pair of trousers of her own design, with a note expressing the hope that they might be found a better cut and fit than those which she had last had the honor of seeing his majesty wear.

The Italian singer, Signor Mario, inspired a hopeless passion in the hearts of so many women that at the time of his wedding some of this affection found expression in various strange gifts. One was in the shape of a cushion stuffed with tresses from the heads of many of his hopeless admirers. Another was from a lady in Munich who had had one of her teeth set American vice consul, was shot and in a scarfpin surrounded with pearls and emeralds. In an accompanying note she expressed the hope that by sometimes wearing the gift he might be reminded of his unknown worshiper.-New York Herald.

THE FIRST SPECTACLES.

They Were Made In Italy In the

Thirteenth Century. Spectacles were invented late in the thirteenth century. The use of glass to aid the sight of defective eyes is, however, much older. Nero looked through a concave glass in watching the gladiatorial games, and many other historical men of his day were dependent on similar devices for lengthening their sight.

Till the latter part of the thirteenth century only the single glass was in use. In 1290 the double glass was invented, and in the fourteenth century spectacles were used quite frequently by the very wealthy and high born, although they were still so scarce that they were bequeathed in will with all the elaborate care that marked the disposition of a feudal estate. The first spectacles were made in Italy.

Somewhat later the manufacture of cheaper glasses sprang up in Holland. and it spread late in the fourteenth century to Germany, Nuremberg and Rathenow acquired fame for their

glasses between 1490 and 1500. For many years glasses were used only as a means of aiding bad eyes, until the fashion of wearing merely for the sake of wearing them sprang up in Spain. It spread rapidly to the rest of the continent and brought about the transformation of the old thirteenth century spectacles into eyegiasses and eventually into the monocle.

Quicksilver.

Quicksilver is found in veins of rocks, like gold, silver and other metals. Sometimes the tiny globules of the mercury appear in the interstices of the rock, but usually it is found in the form of cinnabar, a chemical compound containing 13.8 per cent of sulphur and 86.2 per cent mercury. When pure and reduced to a powder it is a bright red color.

The principal uses of quicksilver are for removing free gold and silver in placer and quartz mining, for manufacturing vermillion paints and dyes, for backing mirrors, for making thermometers and many other scientific instruments.

What Water Did.

A certain liquor dealer, a hard headed old Scot, grew rich in the trade. After he had grown rich the old man built himself a fine house, a limestone mansion on the hill, with a park around it, with conservatories, stables and outbuildings-in a word, a palace. One day the old Scot rode in the omnibus past his fine house. A temperance man pointed up at the grand edifice and said, with a sneer, "It was the whisky built that, wasn't it?" "Na, na, man; the water," the Scot answered .-London Mail.

The First Sapphire.

There is an Indian legend that Brahma, the creator, once committed a sin that he might know the torments of remorse and thus be able to sympathize with mortals. But the moment he had committed it he began repeating the mantras, or prayers of purification, and in his grief dropped on the earth a tear, the hottest that ever fell from an eye, and from it was formed the first sapphire.

Happy Thought.

Doctor-Your throat affection is one of the rarest in the world and is of the deepest interest to the medical profession. Patient-Then remember, doctor, when you make out your bill that I haven't charged anything for letting you look down my throat.

The Strong Point. He-Really, I never loved anybody before. She-That isn't the point. Are you sure you'll never love anybody by and by?

In so far as you approach temptation to a man, you do him an injury, and if he is overcome you share his guilt .disease and an affection of the heart, i Johnson.

IT PAID TO BE A N. Y. SENATOR

Representative Goulden Says It Was Worth Thousands Yearly In Graft. Washington, May 22. - Additional inside light was thrown on insurance methods in New York by Representa-

tive James A. Goulden, of that state, before the house committee on the judiciary, considering the Ames bill for the regulation of insurance in the District of Columbia. Mr. Goulden is general agent of the Penn Mutual Life Insurance company in New York. "Why," he said, "it was a well-con-

ceded fact that to be a senator at Albany was worth anywhere from \$50,000 to \$100,000 a year, and that the money came largely from insurance companies. This is no secret. Every New York man knows it. I know it. I know it well."

Touching on the subject of campaign contributions, Mr. Goulden said that his company had been coerced into giving \$10,000 to a national campaign committee in 1896. He did not say which campaign committee got the money, but remarked that the same thing was tried in 1900 and 1904 but without success, owing to the firm stand taken by Mr. Plimpton, of Massachusetts, one of the directors, who declared that every director who voted for such contribution would be held personally liable for the amount.

PREDICTS OUTBREAK IN CUBA American From Isle of Pines Says

Revolt Will Occur Soon. Washington, May 22.-According to a statement by S. H. Pearcy, a large land owner in the Isle of Pines, a revolt against Cuban authority in that island will occur in the near future unless the United States resumes control over it. Mr. Pearcy and his brother, J. L. Pearcy, called at the White House, but the president declined to see them, and they were referred to Secretary Root. Mr. Pearcy declared that he did not come to Washington to threaten the president with a revolution in which hundreds of American lives would be endangered, but simply to tell him the facts. He said that Americans now own ninetenths of the property in the island, which they purchased solely on the assurances of President McKinley and the war department that the island was American soil. Conditions, he says, have reached a critical stage, and the majority of the Americans have stated they will stand their oppression no longer. Mr. Pearcy said that these American citizens have received many offers of aid from the

United States in case of a revolt. CARS THROWN INTO CANAL

Five Killed and Fifteen Injured In Pe culiar Railroad Accident.

Hagerstown, Md., May 21. - Five men were killed and 15 others were more or less injured as the result of the wreck of a work train near the andigo tunnel, 43 miles west of this place, on the Cherry Run extension of the Western Maryland railroad. The dead are: J. W. and Charles Henry, brothers; Charles Clengerman, Robert

Barton and Charle Swope. The men, most of whom were track hands, were being taken to their homes in the vicinity of Hancock and Pearre. They occupied two closed cars, which were being pushed ahead of an engine. This made it impossible for the engineer to see a rock which had rolled down upon the track from the side of a cut, and the obstruction threw the two cars and their occupants into the Chesapeake & Ohio canal, beside which the railroad runs.

JUDGE MAYER DEAD

President Judge of 25th Pennsylvania

District Dies In Hospital. Philadelphia, May 19 .-- Judge Charles A. Mayer, of Lock Haven, president judge of the 25th judicial district, which is comprised of Cameron, Elk and Clinton counties, died in the Germantown hospital here following an operation performed several weeks ago. Judge Mayer was 75 years of age and was a native of York county. He was graduated from Franklin and Marshall College in 1848 and was admitted to the bar of Clinton county six years later. He served two terms as district attorney, and in 1868 he was elected president judge of the 25th district, which was then composed of Centre. Clearfield and Clinton counties, and reelected in 1878, 1888 and 1898, Judge Mayer left two daughters, one the wife of Colonel James B. Coryell, of this city, and the other Miss Helen E. Mayer, who lives at Lock Haven.

Murderer Hid Girl's Body In Haymow. Akron, O., May 21.-The finding of the dead body of Minnie Brendt, a young woman of this city, led to the arrest of Leo Diebel, aged about 26 years. According to the police, Diebel has confessed that he killed the girl. Miss Brendt had been missing since last Thursday, and her body was found hidden away in a haymow. Diebel, the police say, told them that he kept the girl secreted in the haymow for days endeavoring to hit upon some plan to avoid disgrace to both she and himselg, and that he wanted to marry her, but his mother opposed it.

Captured a Live Okapi.

London, May 21 .- Captain Boyd Alexander, of the Alexander-Gosling expedition, reports from the Augu district, on the River Welle, Congo Free State, that he has secured a specimen of the okapi, which the expedition saw alive. No white man ever before has seen a living okapi. The announcement greatly interests zoologists.

Crops Damaged By Frost. Cumberland, Md., May 22 .- Reports from points in this part of Maryland tell of further crop damage by frost, especially in the stades of Garrett