The Columbian.

COLUMBIA DEMOCRAT, STAR OF THE NORTH, and COLUMBIAN, Consolidated.]

Issued Weekly, every Friday Morning, at BLOOMSBURG, COLUMBIA CO., Pa.

AT $1.50 per year. To subscribers out of the county the terms are strictly in advance.

☞ No paper discontinued except at the option of the publishers, until all arrearages are paid, but long continued credits will not be given.

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The Columbian.

S. E. ELWELL, J. K. BITTENBENDER, } Proprietors.

BLOOMSBURG, PA., FRIDAY, DECEMBER 17, 1886.

THE COLUMBIAN, VOL. XX, NO 50
COLUMBIA DEMOCRAT, VOL. L. NO 49

RATES OF ADVERTISING.

	1 W	2 W	1 M	2 M	3 M	6 M	1 Y
1 inch	$ 75	1 25	1 50	2 50	3 50	4 50	7 00
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A. L. FRITZ, Attorney-at-Law. Office Front room over Post Office,

DR. J. C. RUTTER,
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Office, North Market street, Bloomsburg, Pa

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oct. 24, 1

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Phœnix, of London	5,386,370
London & Lancashire, of England	1,709,976
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All styles of work done in a superior manner, work warranted as represented. TEETH EXTRACTED WITHOUT PAIN by the use of Gas, and free of charge when artificial teeth are inserted.
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Manufacturers of
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First-class work always on hand.
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The undersigned having put his Planing Mill on Railroad street, in first-class condition, is prepared to do all kinds of work in his line.
FRAMES, SASH, DOORS, BLINDS, MOULDINGS, FLOORING, Etc.
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Suitable for
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The following shows the Picket Gothic, one of the several beautiful styles of Fence manufactured by the undersigned.

For Beauty and Durability they are unsurpassed. Set up by experienced hands and warranted to give satisfaction.
Prices and specimens of other designs sent to any address.
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PLUMBING,
GAS FITTING & STEAM HEATING
DEALER IN
STOVES & TINWARE.
All kinds of work in Sheet Iron, Roofing and Spouting promptly attended to.
☞ Strict attention given to heating by steam.
Corner of Main & East Sts.,
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SWITHIN C. SHORTLIDGE'S ACADEMY,
FOR YOUNG MEN AND BOYS, MEDIA, PA.
12 miles from Philadelphia. Fixed price covers every expense, even books, &c. No extra charges. No incidental expenses.—No examination for admission. Twelve experienced teachers, all men, and all graduates. Special opportunities for apt students to advance rapidly. Special drill for dull and backward boys. Patrons of students may select any studies or choose the regular English, Scientific, Business, Classical or Civil Engineering course. Students fitted at Media Academy are now in Harvard, Yale, Princeton and ten other Colleges and Polytechnic schools. 10 students sent to college in 1883, 15 in 1884, 10 in 1885, 10 in 1886. A graduating class every year in the commercial department. A Physical and Chemical Laboratory, Gymnasium and Ball Ground. 1500 vols. added to library in 1885. Physical apparatus doubled in 1884. Media has seven churches and a temperance charter which prohibits the sale of all intoxicating drinks. For new illustrated circular address the Principal and Proprietor, SWITHIN C. SHORTLIDGE, A. M., (Harvard Graduate,) Media, Penn's. [Aug-5,86,1y*.

BAUGH'S $25 PHOSPHATE
TRADE MARK
Contains the Life and Essence of Animal Bones. CHEAP, RELIABLE, LASTING
BAUGH & SONS,
Manufacturers.
PHILADELPHIA, PA.
For Sale by C. W. LOW, Orangeville, Pa.
ESTABLISHED 1848.

THE GIANT OF MEDICINES.

The Most Effective and Popular Remedy Ever Discovered.

WHY IS IT SO EFFECTIVE IN SO MANY DIFFERENT DISEASES?

WHY one remedy can affect so many cases is this: The diseases have a common cause, and a remedy that can affect the cause, permanently cures all the diseases. Unlike any other organ in the body, the kidney when diseased, may itself be free from pain, and the very fact that it is not painful leads many people to deny that it is diseased. But Medical Authorities agree that it can be far gone with disease and yet give forth no pain, because it has few if any nerves of sensation, and these are the only means of conveying the sense of pain; thus unconsciously diseased it affects the entire system. We do not open a watch to see if it is going or is in good order. We look at the hands, or note the accuracy of its time. So we need not open the kidney to see if it is diseased. We study the condition of the system. Now then, KIDNEY DISEASE produces Any of the following Common and Unsuspected

Symptoms: Back ache; Unusual desire to urinate at night; Fluttering and pain in the heart; Tired Feelings; Unusual amount of Greasy Froth in water; Irritated, hot and dry skin; Fickle Appetite; Scalding sensations; Acid bitter taste, with furred tongue in the Morning; Headache and Neuralgia; Abundance of pale, or scanty flow of dark-colored water; Sour Stomach; Heartburn with Dyspepsia; Intense pain, upon sudden excitement, in the Small of the Back; Deposit of mucous some time after urination; Loss of Memory; Rheumatism, chills and fever and Pneumonia; Dropsical Swellings; Red or white brick dust, albumen and tube casts in the water; Constipation, alternating with Looseness; Short breath, Pleurisy and Bronchial affections; Yellowish pale skin, etc.

These are only the chief disorders or symptoms caused by a diseased condition of the kidneys. Now then, isn't it clear to you that the kidneys, being the cause of all these derangements, if they are restored to health by the great specific "Warner's SAFE Cure," the majority of the above ailments will disappear? There is NO MYSTERY ABOUT IT. It does cure many bad states of the system precisely as we have indicated. Now when the kidneys are diseased, the albumen, the life property of the blood, escapes through their walls and passes away in the water, while the urea, the kidney poison, remains, and it is this kidney poison in the blood, that, circulating through the entire body, affects every organ, and produces all of the above symptoms.

Therefore, we say confidently that "Warner's SAFE Cure" is THE MOST EFFECTIVE MEDICINE EVER DISCOVERED for the human race. It is the common remedy which, overcoming the common cause, removes the greatest possible number of evil effects from the system. Let us note a few of these diseases and how they are affected by kidney poison, and cured by

"WARNER'S SAFE CURE."

Consumption: In a great many cases Consumption is only the effect of a diseased condition of the system and not an original disease; it the kidneys are inactive and there is any natural weakness in the lungs, the kidney poison attacks their substance and eventually they waste away and are destroyed. Dip your finger in acid and it is burned Wash the finger every day in acid and it soon becomes a festering sore and is eventually destroyed. The kidney poison acid in the blood has the same destructive effect upon the lungs: For this reason a person whose kidneys are ailing will have grave attacks of Pneumonia in the Spring of the year, Lung fevers, Coughs, Colds, Bronchitis, Pleurisy, etc., at all seasons of the year. Rectify the action of the kidneys by "Warner's SAFE Cure," as many hundreds of thousands have done, and you will be surprised at the improvement in the condition of the lungs.

Impaired Eye-Sight: Kidney acid with some persons has an especial affinity for the optic nerve, and though we have never urged it as a cure for disordered eye-sight, many person's have written us expressing surprise that after a thorough course of treatment with "Warner's SAFE Cure," their eye-sight has been vastly improved. In fact, one of the best oculists in the country says that half the patients that come to him with bad eyes, upon examination he discovers are victims of kidney disorder. We have no doubt that the reason why so many people complain of failing eye-sight early in life, is that, all unconscious to themselves, their kidneys have been out of order for years, and the kidney poison is gradually ruining the system.

Opium Habits: It is a well known fact, recently shown anew, that opium, morphine, cocaine, whisky, tobacco and other enslaving habits capture their victims by their paralyzing effects upon the kidneys and liver. In these organs the appetite is developed and sustained, and the best authorities state that the habits cannot be gotten rid of until the kidneys and liver are restored to perfect health. For this purpose, leading medical authorities, after a thorough examination of all claimants for the honor of being the only specific for those organs, have awarded the prize to "Warner's SAFE Cure."

Rheumatism: Every reputable physician will tell you that rhematism is caused by an acid condition of the system. With some it is uric acid, or kidney poison; in others, it is lithic acid, or liver poison. This acid condition is caused by inactivity of the kidneys and liver, and a breaking down of the food assimilating organs. It affects old people more than young people because the acid has been collecting in the system for years and finally the system becomes entirely acidified. These acids produce all the various forms of rheumatism "Warner's SAFE Cure" acting upon the kidneys and liver, neutralizing the acid and correcting their false action, cures many cases of rheumatism. "Warner's SAFE Rheumatic Cure," alternating with the use of "Warner's SAFE Cure" completes the work.

Bladder Disorders: Gross and other high medical authorities say that most of the bladder disorders originate with false action of the kidneys, and urinary tract. Uric acid constantly coursing through these organs inflames and eventually destroys the inner membrane, producing the intense suffering. Sometimes this kidney acid solidifies in the kidneys in the form of Gravel, which in its descent to the bladder produces kidney colic. Sometimes the acid solidifies in the Bladder, producing calculous or Stone. "Warner's SAFE Cure" has restored thousands of cases of inflammation and catarrh of the bladder and has effectively corrected the tendency to the formation of gravel and stone. It challenges comparison with all other remedies in this work. Buy to-day.

"WARNER'S SAFE CURE."

Congestion. Congestion is a collecting together of blood in any one place. If there is loss of nervous action in any organ the blood vessels do not allow the blood to circulate and it stagnates. If this condition exists very long the collecting blood clots and eventually destroys the organ. Many persons are unconscious victims of this very common condition. The heart, determined as it is to force blood into every part of the system, has to work harder to get it through the clogged organ, and eventually the Heart breaks down and palpitation, excessive action, rush of blood to the head, distressing head aches, indicate that the Congestion has become chronic and is doing damage to the entire system. Congestion of the kidneys is one of the commonest of complaints and is the beginning of much chronic misery. "Warner's SAFE Cure" will remove it.

Female Complaints. What we have said about Congestion applies with particular force to the above complaints. They are as common as can be, and as every doctor can tell you, most of them begin in this congestive condition of the system, which, not being regularly corrected, grows into disease and produces these countless sufferings which can be alluded to but not described in public print. Thousands have been permanently cured.

Blood Disorders. It is not strange that so many, many people write us that since they have given themselves thorough treatment with "Warner's SAFE Cure" their thick and turgid blood, their heavy, blotched, irritable skin have disappeared under its potent influence. The kidney poison in the blood thickens it. It is not readily purified in the lungs, and the result is the impurities come out of the surface of the body, and if there is any local disease all the badness in the blood seems to collect there. Our experience justifies us in the statement that "Warner's SAFE Cure" is "the greatest blood purifier known." The treatment must be very thorough.

Stomach Disorders. Many people complain more or less throughout the year with stomach disorders: Dyspepsia, Indigestion, Waterbrash, heat and distress in the stomach, sharp pains, frequent aches, want of appetite, lack of energy. Now, these are exactly the conditions that will be produced in the stomach when the blood is filled with kidney poison: People dose themselves with all sorts of stomach reliefs, but get no better: They never will get better until they give their attention to a thorough reviving of kidney and liver action by means of the only specific—"Warner's SAFE Cure."

Constipation, Piles. These distressing ailments, more common among one class than the other, are not original disorders, but are secondary to imperfect action of the kidneys and liver. The natural cathartic is bile, which is taken from the blood by the liver. If the liver fails the bile is not forthcoming and the person gets into a constipated habit. This, eventually followed by piles, is almost always an indication of congested liver, and a breaking down of the system. Remove the congestion, revive the liver and restore the kidneys by the use of "Warner's SAFE Cure," and these constitutional secondary diseases disappear.

Headaches. Many people suffer untold agonies all their lives with headache. They try every remedy in vain, for they have not struck the cause. With some temperaments, kidney acid in the blood, in spite of all that can be done, will irritate and inflame the brain and produce intense suffering. Those obstinate headaches which do not yield readily to local treatment, may be regarded quite certainly as of kidney origin.

These are Scientific Facts, and from the way we have set them forth, it will plainly be seen, that the statement we make, that "Warner's SAFE Cure" is the "most effective remedy ever discovered for the greatest number of human diseases," is justified. It is not a remedy without a reputation. Its sales for the past year have been greater than ever, and the advertising thereof less than ever, showing incontestibly that the merit of the medicine has given it a permanent place and value.

People have a dreadful fear of Bright's disease, but we can tell them from our experience that it is the ordinary kidney disease that produces no pain that is to-day the greatest enemy of the human race: great and all powerful, because in nine cases out of ten, its presence is not suspected by either the physicians or the victim! The prudent man who finds himself year after year troubled with little odd aches and ailments that perplex him, ought not to hesitate a moment as to the real cause of his disease. If he will give himself thorough constitutional treatment with "Warner's SAFE Cure" and "Warners SAFE Pills," he will get a new lease of life and justify in his own experience, as hundreds of thousands have done, that 92 per cent. of human diseases are really attributable to a deranged condition of the kidneys, and that they will disappear when those organs are restored to health.

ASK YOUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS WHAT THEY THINK OF

"WARNER'S SAFE CURE."

SELECT POETRY.

LIVING AND DYING.

Finding to-day a hard task done—
Finding a moral conflict won;
An answering glow the setting sun
One's warm heart giving—
Companionship of those we prize,
Or even one glance of love-lit eyes—
And this is living!

Stealing away in unshared grief,
While naught but weeds compose the sheaf.
Unsightly blots upon the leaf
Our care belying:
The sky o'ercast when day begins,
Loving the one another wins—
Ah! this is dying!

But death itself to life must yield,
And lo! Heaven's portals are revealed:
The King's great register unsealed—
Oh, joy supernal!
Shows us as what we strove to be,
And Love has turned for us the key
To life eternal!

SELECT STORY.

A FISHERMAN'S STORY.

The part of the country from which I hail was about as wild as this.

No ships ever put in there, for Pengethlyn was but a fishing hamlet. Nevertheless, many a storm tossed vessel had made for the coast, hoping to find a safe haven, but finding shipwreck instead.

It had been there many years when I, a youngster, first started in partnership with Owen Penly as fishers. We had begun life as it were together, for we were about the same age. Together as lads we had helped the fishers to land their fish and dry their nets; together we had gone out in our father's boats to fish ourselves, and together we made a plan to save all the money we could and buy a boat of our own.

Both of us believed there wasn't a secret the other didn't share, yet each had one close locked in his own breast—a secret that incited us to toil night and day to purchase the boat, which would make us somebodies with the rest

But the truth was, we only desired to be of consequence to one, and, unfortunately, it was the same one—Jessie Redburn, the only child of old Jack Redburn, the most well to-do fisherman in all Pengethlyn.

Did'nt Owen and I work! A rough sea didn't scare us. We were the earliest out and the soonest home, always with a good supply; and, finally, as proud as if we were Captains of a three decker, we became the owners of a right-and-tight smack of our own.

We'd had the boat about a month, when one morning, coming down to the beach, I found Jessie seeing her father off in his smack. He wanted fresh sails, also new rigging, and was going to a shipwright's at the seaport, three miles along the coast.

"Shall I lend you a hand, Mr. Redburn?" I asked.

"No, lad; no, thank ye," he answered. "You'd a hard night's work of it, I hear."

"Pretty stiff," I rejoined; "but we made good hauls."

"If you stay gossiping here, daddy, you'll never be home to dinner," said Jessie.

He waved his hand, and she stood using her hand as a shade from the sunlight, watching him round the headland.

Never had I thought her so pretty. Clearing my throat nervously, I said: "I wish I was your father, Jessie."

"What! wrinkles, gray hair, and all?" she laughed. "Gracious!—why?"

"Because it must be so pleasant when starting fishing to have some one to see you off, and to know somebody's waiting for you at home, and keeping the fire bright for your return."

"Then," she replied, "why don't you get some one?"

"Because," I rejoined, aware that my voice trembled, "the one I want, the only one I'd ever have, wouldn't have me. I'd be like your father, Jessie, wrinkles, gray hair and all, if she'd be my wife."

"I don't think that would make her like you any better," she laughed, but nervously.

"You should know better than any one. I asked her this very moment. O, Jessie!"—and I slipped my arm round her waist—"don't you know that I mean yourself?"

"Won't you answer me, Jessie?" I whispered. Think how painful is my suspense!"

She turned, then looked up a moment, then down again, as she murmured, "I thought, Amos, you knew all along that I loved you."

In my joy I can't recollect what I answered, but I caught her in my arms and kissed her. I could have sung and danced, I was so happy. I was aroused by my partner's voice.

"I'm off, Amos, to the town," he called, "to add more grist to the mill. Ha! ha! Shall be back in time to start to-night."

"All right," I answered; "I will wait."

Owen Penley in build would have made two of me. He was broadly set and with the strength of a bull. He could with ease hold a tiller steady in a rough sea, when another man had to strain every nerve. He was dark, good looking, with a square forehead, crowned by a mass of black hair. His eyes were black and piercing, his brows almost met—they say that indicates a violent temper. It was right in Owen's case. He kept it wisely under control; but I had seen one or two terrible outbursts when some fishers had by accident fouled our nets with their boat.

It wanted rather over half an hour to our starting that night when Owen knocked at my door.

"I've come back," he said, looking in "I'll be down on the beach in time. You see to the boat, Amos, old fellow."

I noticed he appeared in remarkably high spirits, and the thought came into my head that he had been taking an extra glass.

Taking my hat I quitted the cottage. As I did so I heard Owen's voice trolling out a song.

"I never saw him so merry," I said to myself. "I fear that extra glass has excited him."

Owen's high spirits had not lessened when he joined me; and when we were flying over the swelling billows I jestingly told him his mirth would frighten the fish away.

But, indeed, my mirth was little less than his, and we were more like two school boys than practical fishermen when we cast our nets. As we did so the moon sailed from behind a cloud, spreading over the waters a silvery light.

"If I'm mad, Amos, your insane," said Owen, after we'd been laughing. "I never saw you in such spirits before. What's come over you? What's making you so happy?"

"Secret for secret; that's but fair," I answered. "Well, mine first. I've no objection, Owen, for to day has made me the happiest man in the world. Jesse Redburn has consented to be my wife."

"What?"

The word echoed loud across the waters as Owen Penley leaped to his feet. I have never forgotten how he looked at that moment. The change on his countenance was as though the moon had suddenly vanished behind a cloud, so dark and lowering was its expression. His black brows were brought together; his eyes flashed upon me as if fire was in them; his lips were compressed, his hands clenched. All mirth had gone. He towered over me like a giant, or madman that he really was.

"What's the matter, Owen?" I inquired amazed.

"Unsay those words, Amos!" he said, hoarsely, between his teeth. "As you value your life, unsay them!"

"What words?" I asked. "That Jessie has promised to be my wife? I cannot! Why should I?"

"Why?" he almost shouted. "Because I love her! Because I have worked, toiled, saved only for one purpose—to make her my wife! How dare you, Amos, come sneaking in between? How dare you interfere with my happiness?"

"You love Jessie Redburn, too?" I ejaculated, distressed. "I am sorry, Owen; I never guessed it."

"Then now you know," he broke in; "you must give her up."

"If You talk folly, Owen! Besides surely it is for Jessie to decide, and she has decided."

"Only because you asked her first," he exclaimed, so strange an expression on his features that as I glanced round at the waste of water I was frightened. "I meant to ask her to morrow. See, I bought this for her only to-day!" Taking out a white box he plucked from it a pretty silver brooch. "You wondered at my high spirits. They were because I felt rich enough to ask Jessie to be my wife; and—now——" He paused, then added, with startling calmness and intensity, "Amos, give her up, for I swear you shall neved wed her!"

Do you take me for a coward, Owen? As you have toiled and worked, so have I for the the same purpose. I would rather surrender my life than Jessie."

With a howl of rage he leaped at me, but suspecting him, I seized a broken oar and stood on the defensive.

Owen looked round for a weapon. To my horror he espied an adze close to his feet, and caught it up

I felt that my fate was sealed. He was a giant to me, and we were alone at night at sea, the moon the sole witness.

But reason had not entirely forsaken him.

"No," he exclaimed, "I'll not strike you down, as I could. Your body might be washed ashore, and I accused of having killed you. Then Jessie wouldn't marry me. But you shall die for all that, and it shall bethought an accident."

Whereupon, raising the adze with a giant's strength, he commenced chopping away at the bottom planks of the boat.

He intended to swamp it. He was an excellent swimmer, I a poor one.

Seeing the rapidly flying chips, I sprang forward, striking with all my might at the madman, for so I considered him.

With a mocking laugh he parried the blow.

Again I struck at him. As I did so my feet splashed in water.

He had succeeded in making the leak.

The smack was filling fast.

I know we were too far from the land for me ever to reach it by swimming though he might. I saw death was certain; despair made me furious. I thought of Jessie—my betrothed but for a few hours.

Taking the oar in both hands, my teeth set, I dashed at my would-be-destroyer.

He skillfully avoided the blow, rushed at me, seized me in his arms, and lifted me into the air like a child.

Was he going to fling me into the sea? No. Even as the thought passed through my brain, like a wrestler he hurled me down with fearful violence to the bottom of the boat.

I was conscious of a sadden pain in my hip, and of deadly sickness. Then my heart terobbed with a great throb as I heard a boat. Raising my voice I called aloud for help.

My enemy stood a moment undecided; then, the foam on his lips, strove again to lift me; but, despite the agony I suffered, I clung to the mast, made strong by hearing the voices coming closer.

Owen heard them too. He ground his teeth as he hissed in my ear, "If you've escaped me now, Amos, it is only for a time! We two will meet again, when there shall be no chance of others parting us."

So saying he left me, and, as I saw him spring into the sea, I became insensible.

When I came to I found myself in my own bed suffering agony in my hip.

A doctor had been sent for, and when he came he said it had been dislocated.

It was a long illness, and only Jessie's love kept me from despair, for not only was my boat gone, but I was told I should be lame all my life.

I groaned when I heard it, and thought "Surely Jessie will not be to blame if she refuses me now!"

But such an idea never entered her mind, nor old Redburn's. She was fondness, he kindness itself.

When finally I could limp out, with a stick, in the sunshine, it was Jessie's arm on which I leaned.

Of Owen, no one heard anything. It was said, strong swimmer though he was, he could never have reached land, for the tide was running out. The surmise was that he had sunk, and his body had been carried out to sea.

It is understood that as usual Kris Kringle this year refuses to adopt tight pants, toothpick shoes and swallow-tail coat while making his calls.

New Legislation.

The Philadelphia *Times* says as follows in reference to the probable work at Harrisburg this Winter:

The large number of new members sent to each Legislature as a result of the principle of rotation in office generally brings with it a corresponding flood of new legislation, and the approaching session promises to furnish an excellent example of this. The liquor laws, the tax laws, the railroad laws, the game laws and the laws governing county and city officers are liable to be tinkered with from every possible direction, and the usual number of private jobs is confidently expected by those who have closely scrutinized the personnel of both branches of the new Legislature.

It is about as certain as any future event can be that a bill will be introduced at an early date in the session looking to the submission of a liquor prohibitory constitutional amendment to the popular vote. The Republicans have such an overwhelming majority in both branches that some of them confess that they see no way to avoid at least the appearance of an effort to keep their platform pledge on this question. Some of the leaders do not disguise their belief that this plank saved enough prohibition votes to the Republican party to elect Beaver and they anticipate that if the loyal members of the party who want prohibition fail to get united party action in its favor they will leave the party never to return. The high license advocates will go to Harrisburg armed with an arsenal of facts and figures to show that prohibition does not prohibit, while a high license will be either prohibitory or will handsomely compensate in revenue for the failure to get prohibition. The whole liquor question is likely to be exhaustively discussed, with Providence on the side of the heaviest artillery in the shape of brains and tact.

The enforcement of the railroad sections of the Constitution will doubtless be taken up at early date, but it is likely that nothing will be done with it till after the adjournment of Congress in March. There is a general disposition to wait and see what comes of Senator Cullom's bill for the national regulation of interstate commerce. If Mr. Reagan accepts it as good enough for his school of statesmanship until it can get something more radical enacted the local Legislature may do nothing. On the other hand, if Congress leaves the subject open at its adjournment a vigorous attempt may be made through an anti-discrimination bill at Harrisburg.

The new law enforcing the tax on personal property has not entirely won the good opinion of the tax-dodgers on whom it has drawn the halter, and probably an attempt will be made to repeal it. Its friends, however, will doubtless defend the provisions which have made the collection of such taxes easier than it was before last year, and if any modification is made they will try to see that such features as are objectionable to honest taxpayers are done away with and the burdens of taxation made lighter by more even distribution. It is possible that the capital stock tax on corporations may be repealed so as to afford an excuse for taxing their enormous amounts of money at interest, which the Supreme Court lately decided to be untaxable under the circumstances.

The committee appointed by the late County Commissioners' Convention to revise and suggest modification of the laws relating to their office will probably propose some amendments to the personal tax law and other statutes relating to the collection of public revenues. In particular they will try to secure an alteration of the law governing the election of assessors, so as to provide that the triennial assessment shall be held not immediately after the election of Assessors, but towards the expiration of their terms, when they have acquired the experience needed for an intelligent reassessment of property. The Commissioners' committee is unanimous for the repeal of the act of June 23, 1885, fixing a bounty on the destruction of hawks, owls, minks, weasels, wild-cats, foxes and wolves. These bounties have been a serious drain on the Treasuries of some counties.

The members from Pittsburg will urge the passage of a revised charter for cities of the second class, something like the Bullitt charter for cities of the first class, which goes into full force in Philadelphia next spring. Senator Aull's bill which was before the Legislature last year, may be revived and amended as needed to secure its passage. Cities of the third, fourth and fifth classes will hold another convention early in January for the purpose of agreeing on the charter reform legislation for which they will ask. They will probably seek to have the appointing power concentrated in the hands of the Mayor, and will at least ask for the removal of the clause in the acts passed for them last year, which made the acceptance of those acts optional, and caused their nullification by the Supreme Court this year as unconstitutional.

A great deal of legislation in the supposed interest of labor will be brought forward. An attempt will certainly be made to abolish the company store system by some legal method that will not impair the validity of contracts, and there will also be bills for the establishment of co-operative concerns under such legislative restrictions that the liability of an insolvent firm can be definitely fixed on some or all the members of the corporation, and for the abolition or regulation of the employment of convict labor.

The loss by fire in this country during November amounted to $10,000,000, an increase of one-third over the corresponding month last year. For eleven months of the year the destruction of property by fire aggregated the enormous amount of $105,000,000, or almost one-tenth of the national debt. If the insurers and the insured cannot do more to prevent this total destruction of property, the States, through stricter building, supervision and inspection laws, should do something to check the dreadful waste.

A Madhouse Mikado.

THE COMIC OPERA GIVEN AT THE DANVILLE ASYLUM.

In the top story of the State Lunatic Asylum at Danville there has been built a beautiful recreation hall. It has a neatly fitted stage, a decorated ceiling and comfortable seats. A gallery projects over the rear portion, and just as in regular theatres it is patronized by the bad boys or worst cases in this colony of disorganized brains. There has been several concerts, lectures and magic lantern exhibitions given to amuse the inmates; but it remained for the Starr Opera Company to give the first legitimate performance to the insane in Danville.

The Mikado was the opera selected and its effect upon diseased minds was observed with interest by the physicians and attendants. Of course the members of the company were nervous. When Signor Carlo Torriarri looked out and saw the piano surrounded by over six hundred crazy people he turned pale and his color only returned when one of the doctors and Manager Starr assured him they would sit along side of him. Curiosity kept the patients quiet until the curtain rose. Only a few bars of the opening chorus had been sung when half the audience was swaying in time with the music. When Mr. Harvey entered as "Nankipoo," several of the females appeared struck with his beauty, when he noticed three or four began throwing kisses to him he was himself nearly thrown off his lines. Mr. Kyles' entrance as "Poo-Bah" had a quieting effect, except upon one lady who insisted on standing up and pulling an imaginary long mustache, such as the giant baritone wears. No sooner had Frank Deshon sang his first song than a burst of laughter followed. It was interrupted by the shout from an excited female, who evidently up to this point imagined the company was singing hymns.

"The curse of God be on ye," she cried, "He will curse you if you laugh at that little man." Attendants quieted her just in time for another to say: "He has pretty hands, so small, baby hands." The entrance of the female chorus, the bright dresses and odd costumes seemed to please. Miss May Duryea, Miss May Douglass and Zazel the three little maids, were received with marked approval. Several gentlemen at once began to convince them by signs that they were just too pretty for anything. They were encored. When "Ko-Ko" said of "Yum-Yum," "This is my bride that is to be." A deep voice rang out from the audience, "Don't jump in the fire, if you marry you'll be in the fire, don't do it." When the kiss duett between "Nanki-Poo" and "Yum-Yum" was in progress it delighted all but those who had fallen in love with "Yum-Yum" and "Nanki-Poo." One man sang out, "That ain't right, she is my girl," while two of the lady patients were almost ready to make their way to the stage to stop the kissing business so jealous were they of "Nanki-Poo"—Harvey. The stirring chorus of the finale started several. In one spot a man stood up keeping time with his mouth and dancing. Another was playing an imaginary fiddle, a second was beating a phantom drum, while a third was directing with as much vim as if he was Theodore Thomas conducting the National Opera with three or four principals kicking so as to make him good humored with the instrumentalists.

The second act went well, the quieter portions of the music aroused the religious