A Big Capture.

The most expert and dangerous gang of burglars that has ever figured in Philadelphia's criminal annals has been caged by Chief of Detectives Kelly and his assistants. The members, four in number, had established temporacy headquarters in the city and had made preparations for beginning work on an extensive scale. During October and November last numerous robberies occurred in the Tenth and Eighteenth police districts in the north-eastern section of the city. They were managed so adroitly that the police were completely baffled. On the night of December 6 Lee Brothers & Co.'s silk importing offices, on the second floor of 608 and 610 Chestnut street, were entered by means of a false key and thousands of dollars worth of silk stolen On the following day Detectives Tate and Miller arrested William Brooks, alias Ben Stevens, an English ex convict, who is known as the most expert key fitter in the country. He was committed for trial, pleaded guilty in court and was remanded for sentence.

The detectives had several interviews with him and succeeded in extracting from him the names of his companions in crime and the headquarters of the gang. On the following day the boarding house of Mrs. Peacock, at No. 8 Harrison street, was visited and the stolen goods recovered. Mrs. Peacock was arrested for receiving stolen goods and Frederick Sells, one of the boarders and a member of the gang, was captured. They were both indicted by the grand jury. Last week Detectives Bond and Donaghy went to New York and caused the arrest of George Cavanaugh, a noted burglar with a host of aliases. His pal, Frank McCoy, alias Big Frank Burns, eluded the officers and went to Philadelphia. He was located in a house at Front and Norris streets and Detectives Donaghy, Bond, Miller and Tate surrounded the premises. Tate saw him approach the house and slip up a side alley, and he walked up to him and laid his hand on his shoulder. The burglar resisted and drew a pistol, and would have shot the detective had it not been for the timely interference of the others.

Brooks, McCoy and Cavanaugh are three of the most expert, daring and desperate burglars known to the police. McCoy was captain and leader of the gang, and planned all the robberies. Brooks was his right-hand man because of his skill in lock-fitting. Both McCoy and Cavanaugh have served three terms of imprisonment in Philadelphia and in 1884 robbed a jewelry store in West Philadelphia. They were surprised by the police and McCoy escaped, after firing several shots at his pursuers. Cavanaugh was not so fortunate and was captured with a bullet in his ankle. He was sentenced to eighteen months in the Eastern Penitentiary. Both are known in New York as dangerous thieves. When the gang began operating in the city McCoy passed as a Catholic priest. This disguise enabled him to "pipe off" places which the gang intended robbing without danger of detection.

One of their first jobs was the robbery of Mrs Kate Lodge's boarding house, at 532 Master street, on October 21, where they secured $500 worth of jewelry and clothing. The robbery of David Hetzel's shoe store, at 3020 Frankford road; John Daizely's cigar store, at Frankford road and Belgrad street, and numerous other smaller jobs have been fastened upon the gang. The detectives have secured a lot of keys which Brooks had fitted to secure entrance into a number of big business houses. Chief Kelly has also received information from Inspector Byrne, of New York, stating that the place where the stolen goods were disposed of has been located.

A Man Who Defies Rules and is Healthy and Happy.

Prof. George Cromwell is probably one of the busiest men in the busy hive of New York, writes a Brooklyn correspondent. He is a professor of music in the intervals between his exhibitions on the stage, and has other various avocations, artistic and literary. With all this arduous occupation of his body and mind, in which "rest" seems to be actually only "change of work," he eats but one meal—one so called square meal—a day. Yet his health is good beyond the average. There was a time, he says, when he was the abject slave, however, of a case of chronic dyspepsia.

"And how did you get rid of it?" he was asked, in the interest of thousands of suffering fellow-mortals.

"I came across an old crank of a physician who told me never to eat unless when I was hungry, and always then, wherever I might be, and at any time, day or night."

The professor, as he spoke, was at Fulton Market ensconced at one of Dorion's tables, behind a series of dishes.

"This is other people's lunch hour. I felt like dinner. I have ordered one and shall eat it. It is my last meal today. I have no doubt it will suffice until midnight. Should I feel hungry I will eat then, but not otherwise. I follow the old physician's advice. I have eaten at midnight, at 2 and 3 o'clock in the morning; in fact, at any and every hour in the twenty-four when appetite demanded. You see the rule agrees with me."

His appearance did not contradict his words. What he said started train of thought as to the curious exceptions which some people are to the ordinary laws of health and nature. But are these laws what we believe them to be? Where is the physician who would prescribe anything but regularity of meals and a schedule of diet for the professor's quondam ailment? But what do the fowls of the air or the animals of the forest know of such a system? The wild horse of Tartary, feeding as he lists or can, outlives in a handsomer body the docile creature which man has domesticated to his service and to his three meals a day.

Water for Stock in Winter.

A large proportion of the food of our animals is used to keep up the temperature of the body to about one hundred degrees. Cold weather, damp barnyards, cracks in the barn or sheds, want of bedding and exposure to storms, greatly increase the consumption of food to no good purpose. Much more regard is now paid to the comfort of our stock in these respects than formerly. We think, however, many fail to realize the loss of food sustained by compelling animals to drink ice cold water. Water as it comes fresh from the well has a temperature of about fifty five degrees. When allowed to stand until frozen over and the ice then broken, and pieces of ice suffered to remain in the water, the temperature speedily falls to thirty-five degrees. Experiments are reported which seem to show that it pays to artificially warm the drinking water for milch cows. Be this as it may, no one can doubt that water at fifty-five degrees is cold enough for health. The water that an animal drinks has to be raised to the temperature of its body, say one hundred degrees. And, of course, it requires much more fuel in food to raise a pailful of water from thirty-five degrees to one hundred degrees than a pailful of fresh water from fifty-five degrees to one hundred degrees. If the heat required to warm the pailful of water twenty degrees was derived from hay, or straw, or grain, the loss would not in many cases be severely felt. But, as a matter of fact, this heat is obtained from the consumption of fat and flesh, or butter and cheese. This is expensive fuel We are well aware that it is not always easy to furnish animals water free from ice. We fill the trough with water, and the cows and sheep, and horses do not drink as much as we expected, and the next morning there is a thick layer of ice upon the water. In such a case, break the ice in as large pieces as possible and pull them out with a potato hook or rake. Do not leave them to melt in the water Pump plenty of fresh water for the animals.

With horses there is little trouble because they are accustomed to drink at once if they need water. But cows and sheep may be very thirsty, and you may fill the trough with water and yet they will require considerable time before they will all drink. Sheep especially seem to be very fond of running water as it comes fresh from the spring or pump. In cases where a small trough conducts the water from the pump to the tubs or troughs, while you are pumping you will see the sheep drinking with avidity from the running water in the small trough, while they will scarcely touch that which has been standing for some hours in the watering trough. There is a great difference in water, and sheep know it just as well as we do.—*American Agriculturist.*

One Kind of Reading.

And how few persons who can devote but an hour or half an hour a day to reading and study take due thought as to how they can make the most of their little leisure. They read in a desultory way whatever comes to hand, and think that if they had more time for books they would soon become much better informed. But the half hour a day, if used in the wisest manner, would make a vast difference in one's mental growth as the months and years glide by.

An incident occurs to me that well illustrates this. A pretty maiden hair fern growing in a flower pot was given to a young girl hopelessly ill with spinal disease. It proved a thing of beauty and of inexhaustible interest, as the delicate, graceful fronds came up one by one and slowly uncurled. There was a little pot beside the fern and under its spreading fronds in which grew an aloe. By and by the sick girl noticed in the little pot some tiny ferns scarce an inch high quite unlike the maiden hair. Whence came they? Her interest was aroused. She was no botanist, but she wanted to learn something about ferns. She could use her eyes for reading but five minutes at a time and not more than twice a day. A book on ferns came to her, and another and another. Friends, knowing her interest in ferns, brought them to her fresh and green from the woods or sent her pressed specimens of rare varieties gathered in distant lands. Sometimes a visitor would read to her from one of her precious books, but only for four or five minutes. "I cannot remember more at a time," she would say, "and you have read enough for me to think about for a long time."

It is now some years since the maiden hair fern was given to her, and she has become an authority as to the species and culture of ferns and is an enthusiast in regard to them. It is true that she has become educated in one direction only, and is not particularly well informed in other respects. But is it not a great gain that she should talk about her ferns and their wonderful method of reproduction, awakening her listeners' interest and teaching them many things worth remembering rather than to dwell chiefly on her pains and privations? It is many years since she was able to step out of doors, but when you are with her you do not think of her as an invalid so interested and interesting is she.

RUSHING TO DEATH

in the attempt to swim the Niagara Whirlpool Rapids is no more reckless or dangerous than to trifle with disease which each day secures a stronger hold and hastens the end of life. This is specially true of rheumatism, neuralgia, sciatica, and nervous headache, which though perhaps slight at first are extremely dangerous, and steadily secure a firmer grip mail at last the agony is unendurable and sudden death brings relief.

These diseases can be cured by the use of Athlophoros which, in connection with Athlophoros Pills, never fails when properly used. Read the following from those who have tested it.

C. A. Steward, Nelson, Pa., says: "Athlophoros has saved my mother's life. Last spring, two of the best physicians in the county, said she could not live two months. She had been helpless for a year, had to be lifted off and on the bed, limbs all drawn out of shape, cords contracted, flesh sore to the touch, could not be lifted or touched without screaming aloud. The soreness is all gone, the cords relaxed, appetite good and gaining every day, and I think a few more bottles will cure her."

New Haven, Conn.

I had the neuralgia for three months in my face. Went to the doctor; he gave me some medicine to take internally and a preparation of chloroform to put on the outside, but it did not do any good. Could not sleep night or day. Had suffered so much and so long that I was afraid it would drive me crazy. Was told to try Athlophoros by a party it had cured of the rheumatism. After taking part of a bottle the pain all left as by magic, and now I am well, with not a sign of neuralgia about me.

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LITTLE MAC AND HIS GENERALS.

Gen. McClellan's Opinion of His Lieutenants as Expressed in His Book.

Phil Kearney received a brigade; but though he stood high as a remarkably daring man and good cavalry captain in the Mexican war, I had not sufficient confidence in his brains to give him one of the first divisions. I have since sometimes thought that I would have done well had I given him command of the cavalry.

Sumner was in California when I assumed command; he returned not long before we took the field and at once received a division. He was an old and tried officer, perfectly honest, as brave a man as could be, conscientious and laborious. In many respects he was a model soldier. He was a man for whom I had a very high regard, and for his memory I have the greatest respect. He was a very valuable man, and his soldierly example was of the highest value in a new army. A nation is fortunate that possesses many such soldiers as was Edwin V. Sumner.

Franklin was one of the best officers I had; very powerful. He was a man not only of excellent judgment, but of a remarkably high order of intellectual ability. He was often badly treated, and seldom received the credit he deserved. His moral character was of the highest, and he was in all respects an admirable corps commander; more than that, he would have commanded an army well. The only reason why I did not send him to relieve Sherman instead of Buell was that I could not spare such a man from the Army of the Potomac.

Fitz John Porter was on duty with Gen. Patterson as adjutant general when I assumed command. As soon as possible I had him made brigadier general, and gave him the command vacated by W. T. Sherman. Take him for all in all, he was probably the best general officer I had under me. He had excellent ability, sound judgment and all the instincts of a soldier. He was perfectly familiar with all the details of his duty, an excellent organizer and administrative officer, and one of the most conscientious and laborious men I ever knew. I never found it necessary to do more than give him general instructions, for it was certain that all details would be cared for and nothing neglected. I always knew that an order given to him would be fully carried out were it morally and physically possible. He was one of the coolest and most imperturbable men in danger I ever knew—like all his race. I shall have occasion to revert to him hereafter, and will now only add that he was treated with the grossest injustice, chiefly, I fear, because of his devotion to me.

To Sedgwick I gave a brigade. Not knowing him well I did not at first appreciate his high qualities, but soon discovered them and gave him the first vacant division—that originally commanded by Stone. He was one of the best and most modest soldiers we had. Possessing excellent ability and judgment, the highest bravery, great skill in handling troops, wonderful powers in instructing and disciplining men as well as in gaining their love, respect and confidence, he was withal so modest and unobtrusive that it was necessary to be thrown closely in contact with him to appreciate him. He was thoroughly unselfish, honest and true as steel. His conduct during the battle of Chancellorsville in storming the works on Marie's Heights, and afterward holding his own against tremendous odds, was remarkble and most brilliant feat of arms.

Hancock received a brigade early in the formation of the Army of the Potomac. He was a man of the most chivalrous courage and of a superb presence, especially in action; he had a wonderfully quick and correct eye for ground and for handling troops; his judgment was good, and it would be difficult to find a better corps commander.

John Reynolds was commandant of the corps of cadets when the war broke out. He gained a high reputation in the Mexican war as an officer of light artillery, and was among the first whom I caused to be appointed brigadier general. He was a splendid soldier and performed admirably every duty assigned to him. Constantly improving, he was, when killed at Gettysburg with Meade and Sedgwick, the best officer then with the Army of the Potomac. He was remarkably brave and intelligent, an honest, true gentleman.

Meade was also one of my early appointments as brigadier general. He was an excellent officer; cool, brave and intelligent; he always did his duty admirably and was an honest man. As commander of an army he was far superior to either Hooker or Burnside.—Gen. George B. McClellan's Book.

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RAILROAD TIME TABLE.

DELAWARE, LACKAWANNA AND WESTERN RAILROAD.

BLOOMSBURG DIVISION.

NORTH. p.m.	NORTH. p.m.	NORTH. a.m	STATIONS.	SOUTH. a.m.	SOUTH. a.m.	SOUTH. p.m.
9 00	12 30	8 30	....Scranton....	6 10	9 15	2 05
8 54	12 26	8 26	....Bellevue....	6 15	9 20	2 10
8 44	12 22	8 22	..Taylorville..	6 20	9 26	2 15
8 40	12 15	8 16	..Lackawanna..	6 27	9 34	2 22
8 33	12 08	8 10	....Pittston....	6 34	9 41	2 30
8 27	12 03	8 03	..West Pittston.	6 40	9 47	2 36
8 22	11 58	7 58	....Wyoming....	6 45	9 52	2 41
8 17	11 54	7 54	....Maltby.....	6 49	9 56	2 44
8 12	11 50	7 50	....Bennett....	6 53	10 00	2 47
8 08	11 47	7 47	....Kingston....	6 58	10 05	2 50
8 03	11 42	7 42	....Plymouth Junc	7 02	10 10	2 55
7 59	11 38	7 38	....Plymouth....	7 07	10 15	3 00
7 54	11 34	7 34	....Avondale....	7 12	10 20	3 05
7 50	11 30	7 30	....Nanticoke...	7 15	10 25	3 10
7 43	11 23	7 23	Hunlock's Creek	7 23	10 32	3 27
7 30	11 12	7 12	..Shickshinny..	7 37	10 44	3 39
7 18	11 03	7 00	..Rick's Ferry..	7 50	11 11	3 52
7 10	10 54	6 54	..Beach Haven..	7 57	11 06	3 58
7 05	10 47	6 47	....Berwick....	8 04	11 13	4 05
6 58	10 41	6 41	..Briar Creek..	8 10	11 20	4 12
6 54	10 38	6 38	..Willow Grove..	8 14	11 25	4 16
6 50	10 34	6 34	....Lime Ridge..	8 18	11 29	4 20
6 42	10 27	6 27	....Espy.....	8 25	11 36	4 27
6 36	10 21	6 21	....Bloomsburg..	8 30	11 44	4 34
6 30	10 16	6 16	....Rupert....	8 36	11 50	4 40
6 25	10 11	6 11	Catawissa Bridge	8 41	11 55	4 46
6 08	9 56	5 56	....Danville....	8 58	12 13	5 04
6 00	9 49	5 49	....Chulasky....	9 05	12 20	5 12
5 55	9 45	5 45	....Cameron....	9 08	12 25	5 17
5 40	9 32	5 32	Northumberland	9 25	12 40	5 35
p.m.	a.m.	a.m.		a.m.	a.m.	p.m.

Superintendent's office, Scranton, Feb. 1st, 1886. W. F. HALSTEAD, Supt.

NARCOTIC SLEEP.

The dim Narcissus flickers in his dreams,
And fulsome lilies cast a veined shade
Across his lids; a murmurous magic braid
Of lights and sounds and yellow purple gleams
Of pansies rains about him; and meseems
The rich-lipped poppies have him all the while,
A Hermes-wand doth touch his lips to smile,
And angle in his soul's sweet water streams.

His brow's a sleep-fraught seashore where a sea
Of dreams breaks, lulling, on a land of smiles,
The violet candelabra of wan Dis
Lilac illumine all the magic isles
Of slumber in him; and in troops they flee—
The shadowless dreams—and as they flee, they kiss.
—The Critic.

Clerical After Dinner Talkers.

Many entertaining after dinner talkers are found among the clergy. There is but one Beecher, to be sure, but there are several other ministers in New York and Brooklyn who enjoy the creature comforts of a public banquet and who can supplement their feast of the body with a flow of soul that is oftentimes rich in thought and anecdote. There is Robert Collyer, for instance. He is an enthusiastic banqueter. His broad, benignant countenance beams with pleasure from the time he dips his spoon into the soup until he dons his overcoat and hat to go home. He is an interesting talker and is always eagerly listened to. His favorite theme is the nobility of honest labor, and he seems never to tire of recalling his own early struggles with poverty when he was an illiterate blacksmith.

The courtly Assistant Bishop Henry C. Potter and the scholarly Dr. Storrs, of Brooklyn, are occasional participants in public dinners. The energetic De Witt Talmage is as original and amusing at the dinner table as he is in his own pulpit. The Rev. John R. Paxton, the Rev. R. Heber Newton and the Rev. Charles S. Eaton—all young men—are always welcome guests at a banquet, and their post prandial efforts will, as a rule, stand comparison with those of the secular speaker for liberality of thought and vivacity of language. Dr. Paxton is a particularly vivacious speaker.—New York Times.

The French Prizes for Virtue.

The annual sitting of the French Academy for awarding the prizes for virtue and literary merit was held Nov. 25. M. Caro read the report on the virtue prizes, the chief of which (3,000 francs) was to the Abbe Lemoine, who has brought up 750 Alsatian orphans and tended 326 hospital patients. Mlle. Antoinette Lafont of Lectoure has 2,000 francs. She has for fifty years dvoted herself to the distressed family to which she was originally servant. Pierre Nicolle, a peasant, has 1,500 francs for having made his cottage a permanent infirmary for eight persons visited with terrible maladies, and Sister St. Gauthier a like sum for thirty years of unbroken night nursing in a Vendean hospital.

Of the fourteen medals of 1,000 francs one is assigned to parents named Rabaud, who on their child being so horribly burned in the stomach that only epidermic grafting could save him, immediately offered themselves. Five large grafts were taken from the father and twenty two smaller ones from the mother, the child recovering after fourteen months. M. Caro also dwelt on the exceptional award of 5,000 francs to the Pasteur Institute, which, though resolved on some months ago, was not officially announced till the other day. He pronounced a glowing panegyric on M. Pasteur, and quoted his reply to his family on their pressing him to take a rest: "When I am not working I seem to myself to be committing a theft."—Pall Mall Gazette.

The Doctors' Great Mistake.

The bill appropriating $75,000 for the medical and burial expenses of President Garfield was not passed without opposition. Senator Vest was especially severe on the surgeons, who did not know the structure of the human body, and who had treated one part while the wound was in another, like the carpenter who cannot tell garret from cellar, or the shipwright who knows not mast from hull. For eighty days James A. Garfield lay and sweltered, and agonized and suffered. Bulletin after bulletin went to the anxious hearts and ears of the American people: "We have probed the wound; we have found the bullet; the electric machinery responds under the great laws of nature until we have located the bullet to a hair's breadth!" And he died with the far off look in his eyes across the dim and distant ocean, and the autopsy showed that they never came within a foot of the bullet, and that they doctored and probed and lanced the pus cavity for eighty long days; a curious exemplification of scientific skill.—Ben: Perley Poore.

Women Who Wear Tight Shoes.

"Women who pose as models have, as a rule, poorly shaped feet," said an artist to a reporter. "If their feet are not poorly shaped they are apt to be out of proportion by being too small. The reason is obvious. Women are ambitious to have small feet and hands and at an early age they begin to wear tight shoes. The result is that their feet are cramped and do not grow with the other members of the body. Of course there are some professional models who began early in life and never cramped their feet with tight shoes. They have correct proportions. I speak generally of the mass of women who become models after they are 18 years old. Women imagine if they have small feet and hands they have all that is necessary to give them a shapely appearance. A worse mistake was never made. Women who are large should naturally have large feet in proportion; from an artistic point of view they look better. But you cannot make them think so."—New York Mail and Express.

Baggage in England.

The American baggage car and the system of checks are not generally used in England. Every passenger must needs look after his own baggage. The small stuff is placed in the car with the passenger, and trunks (which are in England called boxes) are stored in a compartment in passenger cars. To be sure porters abound in English railway stations, and every person with any considerable baggage puts it in their charge. So far as I could see, they were very intelligent, faithful and prompt. It is customary, however, to pay them for such service. Arrangements may be made by which express companies will deliver your baggage at hotels or private houses, but we saw none. Indeed, the express business as it exists in America is not widely if at all known in Great Britain; the roads do the express business for themselves. Whether this is