The Centre Reporter.

FRED. KURTZ.....EDITOR.

CENTRE HALL, Pa., Dec. 20, 1877.

Petitions for women suffrage are again before congress.

Senator Patterson thinks he is trump now. He was very happy the other day over the nomination of Cyrus H. Baldwin to be Collector of the port of Charleston. He said that he had recommended Baldwin four months ago, but that the President paid no attention to his request until he made a savage attack upon the Administration in the Senate. This, he says, seems to have brought the President to his senses. Senator Patterson is reported to believe that he holds the balance of power in the Senate, and that both the President and Republican Senators will treat him with respect and consult his wishes on political matters, in order to prevent him from playing into the hands of the Democrats.

Conkling tripped up Hayes on his New York appointments on 12. A report of the executive session says: The senate was in executive session to-day nearly six hours, adjourning only at eight o'clock this evening. The entire session was devoted to the New York custom house nominations, two of which, namely those of Theo. Roosevelt, to be collector in place of Arthur, to be removed, and L. Bradford Prince, as naval officer, vice Cornell, to be removed, were reported from the committee on commerce unfavorably. The third name, that of E. A. Merritt, to be surveyor of customs in place of Sharp, whose commission has expired, was reported with a favorable recommendation. No opposition was manifested to the latter, but the contest in regard to the proposed removals was extremely animated and took a very wide range, covering a discussion of the rights, powers and duties of Mr. Hayes in regard to removals from office and the subject of civil service policy in general.

Mr. Conkling opened and closed the debate. Mr. Teller and others spoke against their confirmation, and Messrs. Bayard, Kernan, Gordon, Hoar and Matthews spoke in favor thereof. The confirmations were acted upon separately by yeas and nays, but resulted the same. Messrs. Eaton, Dennis, White and Maxey, democrats, voted with the republican majority against, and Messrs. Burnside, Christiancy, Conover, Dawes, Hoar and Matthews, republicans, sided with the great body of democrats in favor of the confirmations. The yeas were 25 and the nays 32. Merritt was confirmed without a division.

The Washington Capital states that the wife of a New York banker appeared the other evening at a party representing Capital. The dress was covered on the skirt, so as to make it appear one piece, with one-hundred and five hundred-dollar bills. The waist and sleeves were $1,000 bonds sewed in, and her fingers and ears blazed with diamonds. The tiara was said to have been worth $8,000, and the total value of the notes and diamonds on her person was $260,000. Two pages carried her train, and watched lest the jewels and greenbacks should fall to the floor.

What an insulting mockery in times like these when the country is filled with thousands out of employ, poorly clad wives, and hungry babes. The impudence of capital and the revelry of wealth are all too apparent already making it needless to show itself with stalking insult. "The wife of a New York banker" may see the day when instead of being covered with greenbacks and bonds and diamonds for a show, she may fall to a character in the opposite direction representing real poverty and clad in misery and gnawed by hunger. Stranger things have happened. There is a forcible German saying "Irret euch nicht, Gott laesst sich nicht spotten."

The have a two tailed rabbit at Phoenixville, says an exchange. We will bet a year's copy of the Reporter, that a majority of the republican senators would vote for a resolution to dub it "Hayes."

In 1868 Judge Gamble, of Williamsport, took out a policy of insurance for $10,000 with the Charter Oak life insurance company on the "with profits" plan which fixed the annual premium at $650, less thirty per cent. annually and less sixty per cent. triennially. In 1873 the company demanded $650, the entire amount of the premiums, which the judge paid under protest and all subsequent payments were made under similar conditions. Up to this time $7,407,28 have been paid the company. Judge Gamble prays that the contract or policy shall be rescinded; that the company shall repay the sums paid, with interest; that the company shall be restrained by an injunction from claiming or collecting any sums of money under such contract, or from declaring it void. He recites that he believes the company bankrupt; that it has not kept its agreement and does not intend to do so. Judge Mayer, who is trying the case, has granted a preliminary injunction and fixed on Saturday, December 29, for hearing the arguments.

Conkling has Hayes down now, and with raised arms ready to give the prostrate President an eye-bunger. The flooring of Hayes' New York appointments leaves the President no-where. His party in the senate has snubbed him the republicans in the lower house think the subbing was right, and Conkling just now is cock-o-the-walk.

The feeling against Chinamen in California is still bitter, and the Celestials are becoming alarmed. On 13 a telegram was received by President Hayes from the San Francisco "Six Companies," representing that a gang of roughs attacked a party of one hundred and fifty Chinaman, who had just reached the city from Sacramento, robbing and cruelly beating them, and seriously injuring more than fifty of the number. There was no interposition by the police for their protection, and no arrests were made. The Companies also call the attention of the President to the intimation of the Governor of California in his address to the Legislature that the mob may become too strong for control. They represent the helplessness of their people without diplomatic protection, and remind the President of the obligations of the United States Government for their security under the provisions of the treaty. The President said he would give the matter his immediate attention.

The Alleghany county democrats have pronounced in favor of Hon. James H. Hopkins for governor.

The Pope is getting better.

MacMahon has "come down" and for the present the French republic is safe.

The weather last week was fair enough for Conkling to make his first crop of Hay.

U. S. troops at El Paso are surrounded and will be cut to pieces by the Mexicans unless aid can reach them at once.

RAILROAD SECRETS.

A statement from one who ought to know, revealing a crookedness in the financial management of the Reading Railroad company, has created quite a sensation and just as much surprise. The Reading was always considered sound and least of all suspected of having any hidden things that would cause consternation if brought to light. A former President of that company has within a few days made a startling disclosure, which is thus briefly summed up in one of our dailies:

The President of the Reading Railroad from 1861 to 1869, Mr. Charles E. Smith of Philadelphia, has published a report of an investigation by him into the affairs of that company made in 1876, which makes a remarkable exhibit, and one that will put Mr. Gowen on the defense. The Reading Railroad and the Coal and Iron company—one and the same thing—has stock, bonds and a floating debt of $118,000,000. The profits of the two companies in the five years since 1871, Mr. Smith shows to be $2,347,680, while the dividends declared by the Railroad company in that time aggregate $18,040,264, leaving a defect between net earnings and dividend of $15,692,583, of which two and a quarter millions is discount on bonds sold, presumably to realize the wherewithal to pay the dividends. Mr. Smith also antagonizes Mr. Gowen's hobby that it is the best policy for the Company to work its own collieries, by showing that in the five years indicated the loss on collieries worked by the company was $2,020,635, while the gain on these leased—that is the amount of royalty received—was $1,731,191.

Mr. Smith says the report of the Committee embodying these facts was not allowed to be entered on the minutes of the Company by Mr. Gowen and Mr. Borie. He then sent a copy of it to the London stock and bondholders, with a demand that Mr. Gowen be dismissed and the company stop mining coal. Both demands being refused, he makes public the report, which is creating something of a sensation in Eastern financial circles. Watering stock and sacrificing millions in discounts on bonds sold to raise money to pay dividends on the stock, may be accepted as the climax of modern railroading.

The Star and Herald of Panama, says the revolution in Ecuador collapsed after eighteen hours hard fighting in Quito, where it is estimated 400 persons were killed and a large number wounded.

The Senate debated the Stanley Matthews silver resolutions on 11, and among the speakers in favor of remonetization was Senator Wallace, who made a characteristically clear and incisive argument.

The Thirteen life insurance companies in New York which have collapsed since that sort of thing began are still in the hands of receivers. There is not the least probability that any of the bakers dozen will ever get a fresh start. Each proved so utterly rotten when daylight was let into it, that it could never again get business, even though the insurance department gave permission to go ahead. The whole thirteen companies are managed, or manipulated, by respectable men—men of good social standing—who attend fashionable churches and think it would be a good thing to take the ballots away from the working classes. Not having the figures at hand just now, we cannot say exactly how many millions these respectable, religious suffrage restriction gentlemen have stolen, or permitted to be stolen, from the confiding policy-holders, who were credulous enough to trust them. But the gross amount is no trifle. The liabilities of the Continental foot up $5,300,000, and the receiver thinks that if the policy-holders live long enough they may ultimately get thirty-five cents on the dollar. The liabilities of the Security amount to something over $4,000,000 and it is doubtful if over twenty cents on the dollar will ever be paid. It would not be much out of the way to put down the aggregate stealings, or misappropriations, or whatever they may be called, at $15,000,000. A large part of this sum was unquestionably squandered in loose management, but another large part was certainly spent by the officers in extravagant living.

Popes must be just like other folks—for they get sick too like others. Here is an account of the Pope's condition on 13 as telegraphed from Rome:

An improvement in the Pope's appetite is for the moment the most notable point in his condition. Near midnight on Monday he had a paroxysm of convulsive coughing which continued for two hours, and seemed to imply grave derangement of the chest and to threaten serious disturbances, but it passed off without any apparent aggravation of his great debility. Another attempt was made to remove his Holiness from his bed to his arm chair, in consequence of the increasing gravity of the bed sores, that have been induced by the recumbent position. It was hoped that this change would prevent extension of the sources of inconvenience and danger, but the attempt has again failed.

M. MACMAHON TALKS OF RESIGNING.

Paris, December 13.—Marshal MacMahon has arrived at an understanding with the Left. Last night a deputation of the members of the Right waited upon him to say that it was utterly impossible to form a Ministry from their ranks, and that all further attempts in that direction would be useless. Members of the delegation, while expressing the strongest wish to support the Marshal, were most emphatic in their expressions of the necessity of coming to terms with moderate Republicans, and ending the crisis. The Marshal was deeply moved, and after some conversation with the deputation, among whom were some of his staunchest friends, for whose opinion he has great respect, said there was no other course left open to him but to resign. His friends were appalled at the prospect, and besought him not to take this step. On condition of his retaining the Presidency, they authorized him to do whatever he pleased, in order to terminate the crises. The Marshal still hesitated, and reiterated his unwillingness to retain office under the circumstances; but the delegation urged their views with great force, and pointed out the danger to Conservative interests of plunging the country into an uncertain future, by resigning at the present time. Finally the Marshal yielded and promised to summon a Ministry from the moderate Left. Marshal MacMahon, with his usual promptitude, at once put his resolution into effect by communicating with M. Eufaure, giving him a carte blanche to form a ministry. It is thought in well informed circles that M. Dufaure will undertake the task, and that the long and trying crises which has afflicted France for months is at last practically ended. Recent indications leave little room to doubt that the Conservative coalition which brought about this trouble is fast disintegrating. The Bonapartists are assuming a bolder tone, and Legitimists, as well as Orleanists, are beginning at last to realize the fact that the Bonapartists alone are likely to profit by a prolongation of the crisis.

DUFAURE AND MACMAHON AT WORK.

Paris, December 13, 2 p. m.—President MacMahon has yielded and the political crisis is regarded as ended. Conciliation is dominant. MacMahon and M. Dufaure are negotiating, and the formation of an acceptible ministry is now believed possible.

In Philadelphia, last week, a woman undertook to walk 150 miles inside 50 hours. The 146th mile was done in 15.07, the 148th in 15.54, the 149th in 14.49 and the 150th in 15.15. The entire time occupied was 49 hours, 49 minutes, 10 seconds, and of this 10 hours, 43 minutes and 52 seconds were devoted to rest and refreshment, leaving the actual walking time 39 hours, 3 minutes and 19 seconds.

Blank Books—a great variety, at Welch's Book store, Bellefonte.

This woman we pronounce as big a nuisance as the tramping, flag-carrying Bates. There are always fools too who will encourage fools in their foolishness by their presence and applause.

China Cups and Saucers for Holiday presents, at Welch's, Bellefonte.

THE TWEED FRAUDS.

INGERSOLL, THE FURNITURE MAN, TELLS WHAT HE KNOWS OF THE ROBBERIES.

New York, November 22.—The investigation by the aldermanic committee into the Tweed ring frauds was resumed to-day. The first witness was James Ingersoll, who said that in 1867 he was engaged in the furniture and chair business under the firm name of Ingersoll, Watson & Co.; the name was changed to Ingersoll & Co.; there was really no company.

The change was made because his partners would not consent to do work for the city when additions were made to bills for the benefit of city officials; but witness was willing to do so.

The agreement was made with Tweed through Woodward. In 1868 witness began to pay Tweed thirty-five per cent. on the face of all bills; the percentage varied in subsequent years.

From September, 1868, until January, 1871, the percentage of 55 was added. Witness did not manufacture any furniture himself, but had it done for him; could not tell the equitable value of the goods furnished the city during the three years; paid out at least $1,000,000 for furniture supplied to the city; did very little in supplying furniture to suitable houses for which the city paid; the gross amount of claims paid witness by the city was $3,349,329.18; all vouchers were in the name of C. D. Boller & Co., Gray & Co. and A. G. Miller; all bills paid in these names were paid to witness; the arrangement to add 55 per cent. was made with Watson, who represented himself and Connolly; had no intimate connection with Connolly until 1871, when Watson's death made it necessary; he (Connolly) received from 10 to 20 per cent. on witnesses' bills.

Tweed, Connolly, Sweeney, Watson and Woodward were all interested in the percentage added to witness' bill. Witness then described how claims against the city for his work was distributed. He got 35 per cent. of the face of the bill, Tweed got 25 per cent. for himself, Watson got 35 per cent., of which 10 per cent. was for Connolly, 10 for Sweeney, and 15 for himself. Woodward got the other 5 per cent. When a warrant was drawn for payment of a bill Woodward and witness would figure out the shares of each. Witness would then get the money, divide it up, and place it in envelopes. Witness personally gave the envelope containing the percentage to Connolly, Watson, Woodward and James M. Sweeney.

In the autumn of 1871 witness said he destroyed all his books by the advice of Tweed, who said that was Peter B. Sweeney's idea. In the fall of 1871 he sold all his property. He stated he never held any office under the city government except that of court house commissioner; had not made up his mind when he should desist in helping to rob the city; there was always work to be done, and he was ready to do it.

Upon being asked if he was the means of defrauding the city out of some $5,000,000, replied, after a long pause, "Well, yes, innocently;" said he was now worth $100,000 if let alone, and was not willing to turn that amount over to the city, as he has made restitution. He considered himself worth at the time of the ring exposure about $600,000 or $700,000. Witness was then asked how this amount had shrunk to $700,000. He answered, in various ways. Had sold some $300,000 worth of stock in the Heath & Smith manufacturing company; had lost $60,000 in the Chicago life insurance company, $60,000 in carrying 12,000 shares of Hannibal and St. Joseph railroad stock; also owed a large amount to the Tenth national bank which he had paid.

The committee adjourned until Saturday when Woodward will be examined.

TWO TYPES OF LIFE IN NEVADA.

[From the Virginia City Enterprise.]

In the Carson Tribune of last evening we find this little item:

Judge F. K. Bechtel arrived on the stage this afternoon from Bodie. He is en route to the scene of his boyhood days in Pennsylvania. The Judge has resided in Sodie since 1862. His implicit faith in the mines has been finally rewarded, and he returns to his Eastern home a wealthy man.

On Friday last a man named Carrolton, here in Virginia City, fifty years of age, blew his brains out. A day or two previous he remarked to a friend that he had a daughter, eighteen years of age to educate whom he had sent money East; that his daughter had recently married a gentleman there; that they were coming here to see him, and that he would rather die than have his daughter come here and find him poor. He was discharged a few days since from one of the mines; he had drank heavily for two or three days, and on Friday borrowed a pistol from a friend and, bidding him good-by, turned around and blew his brains out. The cases of Bechtel and of the suicide make between them a pretty good history of this country. In the Consolidated Virginia office yesterday we saw half a million dollars worth of silver bricks, and outside sat a begger. Both were types of Nevada—the latter the more common type.

Now is the Time to Subscribe to Frank Leslie's Sunday Magazine.—The January copy, a most brilliant Holiday Number is now ready. It contains some exceedingly pretty illustrations and accounts of "Christmas on the Alps," "Christmas in Norway," "Christmas in Jerusalem." A large number of highly interesting articles, paragraphs, etc., on welcome and timely subjects Music, Poetry, Fun, Science, Art and Fiction, all embraced in 128 pages. It has in all 100 beautiful illustrations, including a fine steel plate engraving of Rev. C. F. Deems, editor of the Magazine. We do not know of any monthly journal, published either on this continent or elsewhere, better entitled to the large share of public favor bestowed on this valuable publication. It is of decided interest to everybody; old or young, grave or gay, and it is a marvel of cheapness. Present your families with a subscription for 1878. The annual subscription price is $3; single copies, 25 cents, post-paid. Address orders to Frank Leslie, 537 Pearl Street, New York.

THE HOLIDAYS AT OAK HALL.

With an experience of seventeen years in providing the public with clothes, Wanamaker & Brown are far beyond the possibility of mistake in preparing exactly what is wanted. Their popular resort has now over a million dollars' worth of well-made and well assorted clothing and furnishing goods, and as the prices are all marked down from ten to thirty per cent., there is a tremendous rush of buyers.

The great Forty Days' Sale now going on at Oak Hall is not the closing out of a broken lot of winter goods. Instead of waiting till after New Year to put prices down, Wanamaker & Brown reduced everything in their fresh and unbroken stock shortly after the middle of November, thus affording the public ample opportunity for selection from the largest and most varied stock offered in Philadelphia. The people have shown their appreciation of this enterprise by coming in seven greater throngs than ever before, and availing themselves of the rare opportunities for bargains which the present great sale affords.

In addition to the immense business carried on at Oak Hall in selling to people who come in person to buy, a large force is kept busy in attending to the "mail order" department. This is specially worthy the attention of those of our readers who cannot make it convenient to go to Philadelphia. They may write for samples of goods and directions for self measurement, with the certainty that their orders will be as accurately filled, and their interests as carefully guarded, as if they were personally present.

The well-established reputation of Oak Hall is such that people know they will get the worth of their money in dealing there. Oak Hall clothes make capital Christmas presents.

The Harrisburg "Morning Patriot" is one of the spiciest democratic dailies in the state, besides furnishing all current news. The Weekly Patriot is equal to any city weekly. Prospectus in our next.

—The "Nursery" for January, will suit the little folks on the holidays. The nicest magazine out for little ones—$1.60 per year, published in Boston.

Good Envelopes for 5c per pack, at Welch's, Bellefonte.

At Boyers you can buy the finest Fur Hats in the market for $2. Latest style. 6dec 4t.

PLEVNA TAKEN.

ANOTHER GRAND RUSSIAN VICTORY.

Osman Pasha Tries to Fight his way Out to Widdin—A Long Struggle—Osman Badly Wounded—An Unconditional Surrender — The Turks Starving.

London, December 10.—Reuter's Telegram Company has received the following dispatch, dated Bucharest, Monday Dec 10: "After a severe engagement yesterday before Plevna, Osman Pasha, who was wounded, surrendered unconditionally. The Turks in Plevna were dying of hunger and cold. There is great joy here. Bucharest is covered with flags."

Reuter's Telegram Company has also received the following, dated Bucharest, December 10, 9.40 p. m.: Plevna is now in the hands of the Russo-Roumanian armies.

The Agence Russe makes the following announcement: Osman Pasha attempted to break through in the direction of Widdin. He was attacked in front and rear and was compelled to lay down his arms after a glorious struggle, in which he was seriously wounded. All, with one voice, praise his conduct.

The News in Constantinople.

Constantinople, Dec. 11.—Reouf Pasha has been appointed War Minister in the place of Mustapha Pasha, who has been transferred to the command of the Civic Guard. There is great depression here over the fall of Plevna.

Prisoners Taken Before Plevna.

Bucharest, December 11.—In the surrender of Plevna forty thousand Turks were taken prisoners, and 400 guns fell into the hands of the Russians. The inhabitants of Plevna were found to be in a starving condition. The hospitals are crowded and there is scarcely any surgeons in the city. The condition of affairs in the captured city are described as pitiable. There is great rejoicing in this city over the capture of Plevna, and feasting is the order of the day.

The Czar to Return to St. Petersburg.

London, Dec. 11.—A dispatch from Bucharest says that the main object of the Russian campaign in the Balkans having been accomplished and the complete success of the Russians assured, the Czar has determined to return immediately to St. Petersburg.

Losses of the Turks Before Plevna.

The Turks in the battle before Plevna lost ten thousand men in killed and wounded. The Russian loss is unknown.

Rejoicing at the Russian Capital.

St. Petersburg, December 11.—There is great enthusiasm in this city over the Russian victory at Plevna.

Osman Pasha's Wounds Dangerous.

Bucharest, December 11.—Osman Pasha's wounds are dangerous, and it is thought may prove fatal.

London, December 11.—A special dispatch from Bucharest says, regarding the capture of Plevna, that the critical condition of Osman Pasha's army was certainly known in Constantinople. Hence the recent effort of Suleiman Pasha to create a diversion to enable him to break out of Plevna and the attempt of Mehemet Ali to assist him.

The attack was make with desperate energy, and a portion of the Turkish troops did in fact penetrate the line of intrenchments and batteries, but all attempts to break through the positions of the Grenadiers were ineffectual.

After five hours' severe fighting the Turks were defeated. Osman Pasha was surrounded on all sides, and was compelled to surrender with his whole army. Up to the present time it is impossible to estimate the number of Turkish prisoners or the quantity of war material taken. We only know that everything in Plevna has fallen into our hands. The Russian losses are inconsiderable compared with the results obtained.

London, December 12.—The Russian official account of the capture of Plevna confirms details already telegraphed. It says: "The Turks fought like lions. Seven Pasha's were captured. The counting of prisoners and trophies is not yet complete. The Emperor was present to-day at a thanksgiving service held on the site of former headquarters of Osman Pasha."

The following is the first connected narrative of the engagement which has come to hand: Osman Pasha crossed the River Vid, and at half-past seven o'clock in the morning assaulted and carried the outer lines of Fort Dolny Etropolje, a minor work defending the road to Widdin. It was not very strongly garrisoned, the supports being massed some distance in the rear of the fort and the attack being made in such a dashing way that reinforcements could not be got up before the first line was taken.

Face to Face.

The grenadiers of the Imperial Guard were promptly on hand, however, and the redoubtable Osman hurled his troops against the best men in the Russian army. The Russian grenadier corps was holding the line of investment on the left bank of the river Vid.

The attack was made with desperate energy, and a portion of the Turkish troops did, in fact, again penetrate the line of entrenchments and batteries, but all attempts to break through the positions of the grenadiers were ineffectual. After five hours' severe fighting the Turks were defeated. The Russians and Roumanians were hurried up from Susaria and Bukova. After terrible carnage Osman attempted to re-enter Plevna, but it had meanwhile been occupied by Roumanians and Russians from Gravitza.

Courtesies of the Czar.

The Czar, after the surrender of Plevna, placed his own carriage and escort at the disposal of Osman Pasha.

A telegram from Verbitza states that the Czar will start for St. Petersburg on Saturday. He has visited Osman Pasha and returned him his sword in recognition of his bravery.

On to Adrianople.

It is impossible to exaggerate the probable consequences. Sofia will certainly be captured by the Russians before long, after which no obstacle worthy of serious consideration to the rapid advance upon Adrianople exists.

When once the Russians are there the Porte must accept any terms the Czar proposes or stake the very existence of the Ottoman Empire on the defense of Constantinople.

It is the duty of our Minister, Mr. Layard, to impress upon the Sultan the urgent expediency of giving the full weight of his influence in all counsels in favor of immediate peace before the resources of the Turkish Empire are utterly exhausted.

Will Fight to the Bitter End.

Constantinople, December 12.—A Grand Council was held to-day at the war office. It is said it was resolved to carry on the war to the last extremity.

A Vienna correspondent says that the Porte is astounded at the fall of Plevna, as it was hoped to the last that Suleiman Pasha would be able to relieve the place. The fact that Edhem and Mehemed Pasha still retain power is evidence of a disposition to negotiate. At Berlin special says that the policy of Germany seems to be that the Porte must make the first overtures for peace. It is thought very doubtful whether Russia would accept any offers of mediation till then.

THE LOSSES AT PLEVNA.

An Official Estimate—Another great Russian Victory at Elena.

London, December 13.—A Bucharest dispatch says: "According to official returns the Russian losses in the fighting preceding the surrender of Plevna were ten officers and 182 men killed and 45 officers and 1,207 men wounded. The Turks lost 4,000 killed and wounded, and the prisoners include ten Pashas, 128 staff officers, 2,000 officers, 30,000 infantry and 1,200 cavalry. Seventy-seven cannon were also captured. The first batch of prisoners, numbering 10,000, have already started for Bucharest."

The correspondent of the Daily News telegraphs: A report is current here that the Russians have gained a great victory near Elena, taking 12,000 prisoners.

Despatches have been received confirming a report that Osman Pasha committed suicide by poison. He was wounded in the leg, and the Mohammedan horror of amputation led him to commit the deed.

THE TRUE REFORMATION.

What Dr. John Hall Had to say About the Entrance to the Strait Gate.

Rev. Dr. John Hall preached from Matthew, vii., 13: "Enter ye in at the strait gate; for wide is the gate and broad is the way that leadeth to destruction, and many there be which go in thereat."

"These," began Dr. Hall, "are the words of our blessed Lord, who 'spake as man never spake'—who preached as no man preaches. But, though we cannot speak as he spake, yet we can declare the same truth and can have the promised presence of his spirit to impress that truth upon the hearts of those who hear it.

"Our text contains an exhortation and a reason therefor. But we shall, for our present purpose, reverse that order and consider first a few of the characteristics of the way which is to be avoided.

"This way is an old way—almost as old as our race. It was first opened and trodden by our first parents. They could not clearly see beforehand a tithe of the fearful results of their entry upon that way; and when some of them were manifest it was too late for them to retrace their steps. The feelings, experiences and hopes which led them upon that way are revealed in the Bible. One cause was preference of self to God. They well know how much they owed to God; they know his will; and yet they preferred their own will to that of God. All who now travel in that way are like these first parents in this respect. One internal test of which road we are travelling is whether we prefer to do what pleases us as such, or have a desire to do what God commands. The sinner prefers to please himself and to do his own will, whether it pleases God or no. Another cause of the fall was pride. The first-born of pride is discontent, and this has brought more misery into the world than anything else.

"A third cause was the power of appetite, which came in the wake of the other two and increased the power of the temptation to sin besides leading to sophistry and blindness. So now, selfishness and pride are joined by appetite of some kind, especially in the physical nature; and tampering with the appetites brings their blinding effect upon the intellect. The evil which we do from preference we find it hard even to believe to be wrong. This leads to neglect and dislike of the word of God. Men do not like what tells them of the sin of their evil habits, when once self and pride and desire have asserted themselves in their nature. Is it not true that it is an old way?

"And then this way is an unchanged way. The same hopes and feeling actuate men in it now as when Adam and Eve trod it. They did not look for such speedy retribution. But it came right away, when the avenging angel drove them from the garden. And now men walk in this way as carelessly as if there were no such thing as retribution. Adam and Eve practically acquitted themselves of any blame in the matter. Adam rolled the blame upon Eve; Eve on the serpent. Nothing seems more astounding than this their want of repentance and sorrow in the very presence of the God whom they had offended. There was only insult lurking in their words. But men are the same now. When they yield to the dictates of their animal passions, they excuse themselves by casting the blame upon God. They speak of their appetites as God-given, and thus palliate their abuse of them by saying they but obey what has been implanted in them by God. And yet they will sometimes blame themselves for these things as they never do for feeling the sensations of cold and heat which have no moral color. They often tremble before the prospect of meeting the God whom they offended by transgressing his will, and thus they show that their boasted excuse is only a pretext.

"Again this way is a broad way. By this was meant that there are many people walking upon it; that they have plenty of room there, and those who do not walk there in a minority. There have been times when this has been fearfully emphasized, as when Noah and his family alone were the blessed minority, and all the rest of the world were on the broad way—the doomed majority. Little attention did they care to pay to the man of God and his family while they made preparations for safety from the impending ruin. They were not appalled until after the door of the ark had been closed upon Noah and his family, they saw black clouds travelling towards them like messengers of wrath and the earth trembled and the floods came to swallow them up. How like that the case now! The atheist, the infidel, the scoffer, the impure can walk at their ease. You can be on this broad way and at your ease, and be almost anything. You may frequent dens of impurity or respectable circles; you may be a millionaire, a tramp, miser or a spendthrift: no one will molest you. It is a broad way.

"But, finally, it is a way that leads to destruction. This is not doctrine peculiar to Protestants versus Romanists, or peculiar to any one sect or preacher among Protestants. It is in the very words of Christ. And it is abundantly illustrated and enforced in Bible history. How our walking in this way affect those prominent persons who walked in it? How Adam and Eve? How Cain? His wail of woe is still ringing in the ears of the world: 'My punishment is greater than I can bear.' How did it affect the cotemporaries of Noah and many others? We can to be sure, follow these only to the confines of the next world. But the presumption is that what has worked such unmixed evil here, cannot work anything else beyond the grave. However, we need not this presumptive argument. We have Christ's own words for it: 'These shall go away into everlasting punishment.

"Now, a few words as to the exhortation of our text: "Enter ye in at the strait gate.' There is some difficulty in obeying, as is elsewhere indicated in this same connection by the expressions, 'Strive to enter.' The gate is narrow; and men, absorbed by cares and pleasures, do not easily see it. But God has illuminated the gate. He has set a light over it, even his word of truth; and he has also set servants there to urge the passers by to enter it. Ministers are such servants. As such a one I now earnestly exhort you to enter in. There are first the gate and then the way. Many systems are based upon a reversal of this order. Men say: 'Let us try first to reform and do good; and thus we shall be fitted to enter at the gate.' But we humbly believe that that is not the right plan. The true way is to come to the gate in the spirit of the hymn:

'Just as I am, without one plea,
But that thy blood was shed for me,
And that thou bid'st me come to thee,
O, Lamb of God, I come.'

After that can come the only true reformation. The gate is strait. It is difficult to enter into. God knows that and acknowledges it. He says, "Strive!" But it is worth the effort. And the difficulties will surely be overcome. There will be things to give up. But the recompense will be Jesus walking with you. And then beyond, at the other end, is the gate of glory, which you cannot reach except by the narrow way. Beyond that there shall be no more sin and sorrow. O, strive to enter in! And let Christians console themselves for their loneliness in feeling that they are in the minority, by remembering that the majority are on the broad way which leadeth to destruction. The prospect of what is in store for you beyond this sombre path, and the presence of Christ walking with you, should fill you with joy and comfort."

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On and after SUNDAY, May 13, 1877, the trains on the Philadelphia & Erie Railroad Division will run as follows:

WESTWARD.

ERIE MAIL	leaves Philadelphia	11 55 p m
"	" Harrisburg	4 25 a m
"	" Montandon	6 57 a m
"	" Williamsport	8 30 a m
"	" Lock Haven	9 40 a m
"	" Renova	10 55 a m
"	arr at Erie	1 35 p m
NIAGARA EX.	leaves Phila	7 20 a m
"	" Harrisburg	10 50 a m
"	" Montandon	1 03 p m
"	arr at Williamsport	2 30 p m
"	" Lock Haven	3 25 p m
"	" Renova	4 40 p m
FAST LINE	leaves Philadelphia	11 20 a m
"	" Harrisburg	3 20 p m
"	" Montandon	6 15 p m
"	arr at Williamsport	7 50 p m
"	" Lock Haven	8 40 p m

EASTWARD.

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