

The Centre Reporter.

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NO. 47.

THE CENTRE REPORTER.

FRED KURTZ, Editor and Proprietor.

Williamsport which so long had a trade in boards now wants a board of trade besides.

Whiskey caused a fire at Dubois which resulted in the cremation of two men. Hope they won't go through the same painful ordeal in the next world.

Charles Tucker, of St. Clair, and John Barkley, of Huntingdon, "didn't know their revolvers were loaded." The former shot his mother but fortunately didn't kill her. The latter shot himself, and unfortunately the wound in his case proved fatal.

John Sherman declines to give any opinion as to the causes that produced the Democratic victory in New York and Virginia. The probabilities are that General Lee's saddle struck John Sherman and he hasn't recovered from the effect of the blow.

There is a diversity of opinion among the country newspapers as to whether the last Legislature passed an act providing for the election of tax-collectors by the people. Such a bill was passed, signed by the Governor, and is printed in the Pamphlet Laws.

The Baltimore & Ohio R. R. Co. seems to have stolen a march on the Pennsylvania R. R. Co. The latter was endeavoring to prevent the B. & O. from getting a line in New York city. But the B. & O. secured all the rights of the Rapid Transit Railroad Company, which controls the entire shore line of Staten Island, and gives a splendid opening into the city. The B. & O. will at once proceed to build a railroad from Bonnd Brook to Elizabethport, at which point connection will be made with the Staten Island Rapid Transit Co.

The Philad. Times says there can be no surer indication of the upward turn of the business tide in all parts of the country than the fact that the volume of bank clearings at twenty-two cities out of twenty-seven heard from shows an increase over the corresponding period of last year. The business done in bank clearing houses is yearly becoming more reliable as a representative of the general drift of trade, because the tendency is constitutionally towards an increased settlement of business transactions by the payment of checks and drafts instead of currency.

The death of Vice President Hendricks has caused a profound sensation all over the country. He was a statesman in the full sense of the term—not a political trimmer or a blatant demagogue. He was one of America's model statesmen who advocated what he thought was right, and goes to his grave without a stain upon his political record. It is a pity that many of our prominent men do not tread the same path of honesty, integrity and purity trodden by Thomas A. Hendricks. We may the nation mourn the loss of such a man, and may her mourning be coupled with prayers that his life be followed as a model by all in high places.

We think Mr. Tilden was right. On 28th he sent a telegraphic letter to the President telling him that he ought not to go to Indianapolis. Mr. Tilden dwelt upon the fact that the President was the only person authorized to hold the Presidential office until the meeting of Congress, and that any accident which might happen to him would lead to great public excitement, and consequent injury to business. He could pay his respects to the memory of Mr. Hendricks as completely by sending some personal representative as by going, and he owed a higher duty to his country to remain in Washington and guard himself against the possibility of any harm or accident.

Mr. Randall and the Justices of the Supreme Court also advised the President not to go to Indianapolis.

Huntingdon county is excited on a coal discovery which strikes Jack's mountain and might run into Centre county. At all events the Huntingdon county discovery will waken up the coal prospectors over here, no doubt. A Huntingdon telegram makes this announcement: Jacob Zillins, a geologist of this city, has been prospecting for several months in various sections of this county for valuable materials, and at last succeeded in striking it rich. On the land of Amos Smoeker, a wealthy and retired farmer, of Brady twp., Mr. Zillins has found an apparently inexhaustible vein of coal strongly resembling anthracite, and possessing apparently all its component parts. Its heating qualities are excellent and it burns with great freedom. A quantity of coal has already been taken out and is being used by many of the farmers in the neighborhood for heating and cooking purposes. The vein is located on a small spur of Jack's mountain. An effort is being made to organize a stock company to develop the rich treasure.

THE PRESIDENTIAL SUCCESSION.

The death of Vice President Hendricks, says the World, leaves President Cleveland without any successor if he should die before the date of the meeting of Congress, on the 7th inst. Under the constitutional provision Congress has interposed two lives between those of the President and Vice President and an unfilled vacancy. The statute provides:

In case of removal, death, resignation or inability of both, the President and Vice President of the United States, the President of the Senate, or, if there is none, then the Speaker of the House of Representatives for the time being, shall act as President until the disability is removed or a President elected.

In such a contingency, if the vacancy occurs two months before the first Wednesday in December, the election is held within thirty-four days preceding such first Wednesday in December, and the Electoral College meets on such first Wednesday. If two months do not intervene between the vacancy and the stated date, the election is held the next following year, provided the regular Presidential term does not expire the preceding 4th of March.

At present there is no President of the Senate and no Speaker, and those officers will not be elected until Congress meets, on 7th.

Should a vacancy occur meanwhile, the machinery of the Government would be carried on by the Cabinet until the President of the Senate or Speaker was elected, as it was during President Garfield's inability.

It will be seen from Washington that the Republicans, in view of the present situation, talk of discarding Senator Edmunds as President of the Senate and electing John Sherman. They are probably more likely to elect John A. Logan, who is already re-elected Senator.

Under the law the President of the Senate or the Speaker might possibly hold the Presidency for a year and a little less than two months. In case of a vacancy occurring on, say, the 10th of October in one year, the election of the President by the College would not take place until the first Wednesday in December of the following year.

The following short and decisive description of the Beech Creek, Clearfield and Southwestern railroad is taken from the New York Coal Trade Journal: The Beech Creek, Clearfield and Southwestern Railroad runs from Jersey Shore, Lycoming county, Pa., to Philipsburg, Gatzam and Clearfield. At Jersey Shore it unites with the Pine Creek Railroad and uses its tracks to Williamsport. Crossing the river on a handsome iron bridge above Pine, it passes the old camp ground at Wayne, runs along the North side of Bald Eagle mountain at Castanea, opposite Lock Haven, touches Mill Hall, then crosses Beech Creek and reaches the borough by the same name. At this point it leaves the valley of the Bald Eagle and descends the Beech Creek up a sharp grade. After crossing this stream numerous times on iron bridges it descends through a tunnel at the Hog Back and finally reaches the Snow Shoe coal regions at an elevation of 1,500 or more feet above the level of the sea. Another tunnel is entered opposite the new mine-tunnel of Peale, and the Moshannon Creek is crossed on a splendid iron viaduct 115 feet high and 770 feet long. From here it continues on to Philipsburg, which it enters by crossing the tracks of the Tyrone and Clearfield branch of the Pennsylvania Railroad at grade. At Munson's saw mill, seven miles this side of Philipsburg, another track bears off to the Northwest, which passes through Morrisdale Mines, Wallaceton, Bigler, Woodland, New Millport and Kermmoor to Gatzam. Its branch is 36 miles long from Munson's, and another starting near Woodland is being built into the town of Clearfield three miles.

SUDDEN DEATH OF REV. DR. MURRAY

Huntingdon, Nov. 29.—Friday evening Rev. Dr. J. S. McMurray, Presiding Elder of the Juniata district, preached in Lillsville, Mifflin Co. Immediately after the sermon he was seized with a terrible fit of coughing, and burst a blood vessel. He died in a few minutes, and last evening his remains were brought to his home in this city. He was one of the best known preachers in the M. E. Central Penn'a Conference and was very popular in the church. On Wednesday morning his remains will be taken to Bellfonte, where his wife is buried, for interment. His house is a scene of mourning to-day in which all the members of the church participate.

HAVE STOPPED FIGHTING.

London, Nov. 29.—A dispatch from Belgrade says that an armistice between Serbia and Bulgaria was concluded yesterday afternoon. Advice from Sofia state that the armistice was only concluded after the Austro-Hungarian Minister to Serbia had notified Prince Alexander that if the Bulgarians advanced another kilometer Austrian troops would cross the frontier and fight the Bulgarians. The minister added that the capture of Pirot had saved Prince Alexander's military honor and assured his reputation. Fifteen thousand Serbian troops are disabled. The army is suffering

Death of Vice President Thos. A. Hendricks.

A Fatal Termination not Anticipated to Appear Slight an Illness.

Indianapolis, Ind., Nov. 25.—Thomas A. Hendricks, Vice President of the United States, died very suddenly at his residence in this city at 4:45 o'clock this evening. He returned from Chicago on Saturday last and since then had been complaining somewhat of a pain in his head and breast, but nothing serious was thought of it. Last night he and Mrs. Hendricks attended a reception given at the residence of Hon. John Coover, Treasurer of the State, returning home in their carriage about midnight. Mr. Hendricks had taken off heavy clothing, which he usually wore, and put on a dress suit of lighter material, and before he got home he complained of chilliness and a certain degree of exhaustion, but attributed it to material influence. He sat by the fire for an hour or more before retiring, but declined to send for a physician although urged to do so. He slept restlessly until about eight o'clock this morning, when he arose, dressed himself and ate quite a hearty breakfast, saying that he felt much better and would attend to considerable delayed business during the day. He and Mrs. Hendricks walked out for nearly half an hour, and he had apparently regained his physical vigor and cheerfulness. An hour later, however, he began to be troubled with pains in the region of the stomach, and Mrs. Hendricks sent for the family physician, Dr. W. C. Thompson, the lifelong confidential friend of the Vice-President. As the pains of the stomach continued to increase he was given an emetic and afterwards an injection and relief came in a natural way. He arose from his bed in which he had lain only a few minutes, and read the morning paper, talking cheerfully with his wife and old house-servant. Just before noon he had a relapse, however, and the physician was again summoned and administered the usual remedies besides bleeding the patient, and Mr. Hendricks again expressed himself as being greatly relieved. He remained in his room all afternoon, occasionally rising from his bed, to which he was compelled to return by a recurrence of abdominal pains. To all callers who came, and they were numerous, he sent word that he was indisposed, but would be glad to see them to-morrow afternoon, about 4:30 o'clock. Mrs. Hendricks, who had been at his bedside all day, went down to the parlor to see a caller who had come to consult with her regarding the affairs of a reformatory institution, which she was one of the managers, and she remained with him about twenty minutes. Tom, a colored servant, and Harry M. Hendricks, a nephew and page in Washington, remained with him. Hendricks went out and Harry stayed. Mr. Hendricks used uneasily in his bed and complained of great pain, but suddenly seemed to ease and he said to his nephew: "I am free at last. Send for Eliza," meaning his wife, and these were his last words, for the young man not realizing the urgency of the message did not deliver it an ounce. Just before 5 o'clock Mrs. Hendricks came into the room and found that her husband was dead. The end of a long and eventful life came peacefully and quietly. He lay in bed outside of the covering, only partially disrobed, with his eyes half closed as if he were in a gentle sleep. On his face there were no traces of pain or suffering, but the pallor had come over it that indicated only too plainly that he had passed away. It needed no close examination to tell that he was dead, and Mrs. Hendricks screamed and ran down stairs. A servant was dispatched to the residence of the wife, and she, as they were, and she began weeping, and she had reached his bedside the times of the distinguished dead man were becoming cold and rigid, and to Mrs. Hendricks' pathetic appeal, "Oh, doctor, can't you do something," he was obliged to answer, "It is too late."

Mrs. Hendricks became almost distracted with grief and it was an hour or more before she became sufficiently composed to give any information about her husband's last moments.

Dr. Thompson says that in his opinion Mr. Hendricks died of paralysis of the brain.

ABOUT THE BIER.

One Hundred Thousand People View the Dead Face.

Indianapolis, Ind., Nov. 30.—Probably 50,000 people yesterday and 50,000 to-day viewed the remains of the late Vice-President as they lay in state in the Court House.

Mrs. Hendricks having expressed a desire to visit the Court House, where the body of her husband was lying in state, General Kneller last evening sent her a message, asking her to designate the time she would come, so that the building might be cleared. She named 9 o'clock, and at that hour the doors were closed and everybody, musicians, guards and officers retired from the corridor.

Mrs. Hendricks, Judge and Mrs. Holman, Hon. James H. Rice, and Mrs. V. K. Hendricks came in a carriage and were admitted by a private entrance. She wore deep mourning and a heavy cape veil. Her face showed evidences of weeping, but she bore herself with much composure.

After 11:30 o'clock the pressure of the crowd to view the remains became greater. In a quarter of an hour the Marshal and his assistants and the representatives of the various committees marched to the Court House. The caquet was borne to street where it was placed on the hearse, and escorted by four Indianapolis military companies it was returned to the parlor of the house. The martial music announced its movement, and

ple flocked to see the sad spectacle. Until it is removed to the church to-morrow the body will lie at rest beneath the roof where its last living hours were spent, and will be surrounded by tokens of affection and sympathy placed there by friends to-day.

The Chinese residents of the city sent to the Hendricks residence to-day a very large and handsome floral design in the shape of two pillars four feet high, connected at the top by an arch. From these pillars hang beautiful floral gates half ajar, the whole being made of white roses, smilax and calla lilies. The words "Gates Ajar" and Mr. Hendricks' initials in blue violets are the only inscriptions on it.

Excursion trains loaded down began coming into the city last evening, and all the railroads centering here are preparing to run extra trains. All the rooms at the leading hotels are engaged by telegraph, and it is estimated that 30,000 strangers will be in Indianapolis by to-morrow morning.

HORSE AND CATTLE TAXES.

Hardly a week passes but some new cause of confusion is discovered in the revenue law passed last spring by the Legislature. The Lancaster *Intelligencer* is moved by the numerous complaints heard in the most prosperous country districts to observe that it is a great mistake to attribute the unpopularity of the law solely to the fact that its provisions for securing a sworn statement of each tax-payer's assessable property cannot be evaded. Doubtless this feature of the law is decidedly objectionable to people who have been in the habit of dodging their taxes, but a great many thorough conscientious tax-payers are puzzled to know how to comply with certain obscurely worded clauses of the act. In short, evidences multiply that it was carelessly drawn.

It now turns out that the blanks furnished by County Commissioners by the Auditor General's office for distribution through the assessors are not what is required by the law and must be recalled. These blanks have been printed to contain, in addition to clauses relating to taxables for State purposes, a clause reading "I own the following property that is subject to local taxation," followed by the three items of horses, mules and cattle over the age of four years. As the new law does not undertake to regulate local taxation, and as the State tax on live stock was repealed some years ago, a good many of the thousands of farmers in this great agricultural State are denying the right of the assessors to apply the provisions of this inequitable statute to their holdings of live stock, and make the owner swear to their value under penalty of having fifty per cent. added by the County Commissioners to the amount guessed at by the assessors.

In some counties these blanks are being called in, and in others there are prospects of litigation against the enforcement of the law, or, at any rate, against the enforcement of the blanks. It is quite likely that an exhaustive interpretation of the whole act by the Supreme Court, if not a repeal and a more carefully drawn re-enactment of the wiser provisions by the Legislature, will be necessary before the machinery for collecting State taxes on personal property works smoothly.

ONE WHITE MAN AND EIGHT INDIANS HANGED IN CANADA.

Battleford, N. W. T., Nov. 27.—The execution of the eight Indians found guilty at Frog Lake and Battleford occurred at 8:27 o'clock this morning. The gallows were erected on the north side of the jail yard here in the presence of about one hundred persons this morning. His father and brother witnessed the execution from the rear of the crowd.

London, Ont., Nov. 27.—Benjamin Simmons, who was sentenced to death for the murder of Mary Ann Stokes, his paramour, on the 6th of June, was hanged in the jail yard here in the presence of about one hundred persons this morning. His father and brother witnessed the execution from the rear of the crowd.

The prospectus of the *Pittsburg Post* appears in another column. The *Post*, daily and weekly, is a journal that we can recommend to all. It is one of the leading Democratic papers in the State, and edited by the veteran Jas. P. Barr, who wields a terse, clear and logical pen upon all topics of the times.

THE TOMATO.

In almost any condition, simple cookery alone is admissible for the tomato, writes Sir Henry Thompson. Doubtless, if ripe and fresh, it is best of all when eaten raw; but if served hot, only plain boiling, baking or broiling will cook this delicious half-fruit, half-vegetable, so as least to alter or diminish its natural flavor. But it is excellent also boiled, peeled when hot, and served cold, adding salt and pepper, with cold meat, or with savory rice or, indeed, in many ways. But to serve hot tomato by stuffing it with onion, parsley and eschalon is mischievous meddling carried to its highest pitch.

We never regret the kind words we have spoken, nor the reports we have left unspoken.

ELEPHANTS IN UNDRESS.

In his "Leaves from the Life of a Special Correspondent," Mr. O'Shea, a correspondent for English newspapers, gives the following anecdote of an adventure with a herd of elephants: "A young friend asked me to show him some elephants in undress, and I took him along with me, having first borrowed an apron and filled it with oranges. This he was to carry while accompanying me in the stable, but the moment we reached the door the herd set up such a trumpeting—he had scented the fruit—that he dropped the apron and its contents, and scuttled off like a scared rabbit. There were eight elephants, and when I picked up the oranges I found I had five-and-twenty. I walked deliberately along the line, giving one to each; when I got to the extremity of the narrow stable I turned, and was about to begin the distribution again, when I suddenly reflected that if elephant No. 7 in the row saw me give two oranges in succession to No. 8, he might imagine he was being cheated, and give me a smack with his proboscis—that is where the elephant falls short of the human being—so I went to the door and began *de novo* as before. Thrice I went along the line, and then I was in a fix. I had one orange left, and I had to get back to the door. Every elephant in the herd had his greedy gaze focused on that one orange. It was as much as my life was worth to give it to any one of them. What was I to do? I held it up conspicuously, coolly peeled it and sucked it myself. It was most amusing to notice the way those elephants nudged each other and shook their ponderous sides. They thoroughly entered into the humor of the thing."

MOUNT SHASTA.

In strong contrast with the Arctic condition of Mount Shasta (Cal.) to-day, are the circumstances attending its up-building, when it was an active volcano belching forth streams of fiery lava that flowed down the slopes now occupied by ice. It is a battlefield of the elements within the earth against those above it. In its early days the forces beneath it were victorious, and built up the mountain in the face of wind and weather, but gradually the volcanic energy died away, and the low temperature called into play those destructive agents which are now reversing the process and gradually reducing the mountain toward a general level. A microscopic examination of the rocks of Mount Shasta reveals the fact that it is composed chiefly, if not wholly, of three kinds of lava. Several small areas of metamorphic rocks occur within its borders, but there is no evidence to show that they form any considerable portion of the mountain.

From the fact that there are three kinds of lava in the structure of Mount Shasta, it must not be concluded that all issued from the same volcanic vent, nor that they were effused from three separate and distinct openings. In reality, contributions to the upbuilding of Mount Shasta have been made by over twenty volcanic openings, of which two have been principal and far more prolific than all the parasitic vents combined. This enumeration does not include those large fissures in the side of the cone, which are evidently attributable to the hydrostatic pressure of the molten mass within. The small number of parasitic cones on the slopes of Mount Shasta is somewhat remarkable; especially when we compare it with the largest volcano in Europe. Although it is much higher than *Etna*, its base is less expansive, and its size is about half that of the mighty monarch of the Mediterranean. Upon the irregular slopes of *Etna*, there are 200 prominent subsidiary cones, besides over 400 of smaller size. On the contrary, Mount Shasta has but a score of such accessories, and the remarkable regularity of its acute form forcibly expresses the highly concentrated type of volcanic energy which it represents.

REMEDY FOR EARACHE.

A Spanish physician recommends for earache a liniment composed of camphorated oil, two and a half parts; and oil of sweet almonds, ten parts. This is to be well mixed and preserved in a well-corked bottle. A pledget of very soft cotton is to be soaked in the liniment and then introduced as far as possible into the affected ear, two applications being made daily. Frictions may also be made each day, with the preparation, behind the ear. It is to be claimed that the pain is almost immediately relieved, and in many cases even the inflammation is subdued.

THE HAIR OF THE PRESIDENTS.

Here is a curiosity. It is a case containing the hair of all the Presidents, from the fine gray lock of George Washington down to the semi-blond one of Garfield. This case shows that the color of a man's hair is no sign as to his presidential success. Jefferson had red hair, and we are told that he was freckled. John Adams wore a wig, and his son John Quincy Adams had the bald head which ever rested on the pillows of the White House.

Martin Van Buren was also slightly bald, but his baldness came more to the front of his head than Cleveland's. Van Buren's hair was beautifully wavy, and he combed it well back from the sides of his face. While he was President he wore it short, and it had become quite gray. Some of Jefferson's portraits represent him with his hair banged in front and coming down over his forehead in the style of the duke of today. Every one knows how Jackson's hair stood up all over his head as straight and stiff as the quills of a porcupine, but all are not aware that he was as gray as a badger during his Presidential term, and that his hair was as fine as the thinnest strands of spun silver. John Tyler was also fine haired, and he was a very fine looking man. William Henry Harrison combed his hair well to the front of his ears, and he was gray at the time he was elected. Frank Pierce had thick curly hair which fell down upon his forehead, and James Buchanan kept his gray head well trimmed, combed his hair so as to show to the full his high brow.

Polk patterned after Jackson in combing his hair back with hardly a part, and both Fillmore and Taylor parted their hair on the left side of the head, while Frank Pierce parted his boldly on the right. President Arthur had dark hair, which was growing gray when he left the White House. He kept it well combed back from his face, and wore it short. President Lincoln did not pay much attention to his hair, and most of his pictures represent it as rather long. It was dark and straight. President Cleveland's hair is brown and thin. He wears it short and combs it up from his forehead as though he wished to increase the size of that part of his face. His head is bald at the crown, and the baldness is daily increasing, though he plasters his hair over it in a vain attempt to hide it.

PICKPOCKET'S METHODS.

When a mob of pickpockets start out to "work a crowd" on a train, they break into two. The operator on leather fans his intended victim. This, in plain English, means that he ascertains the location of his victim's money. He gets alongside of the man whose pocket is to be picked, and with rapid movement he dexterously passes his fingers lightly over every pocket. His touch is so delicate that it enables him to locate the boodle, and to ascertain its character, whether a roll, a purse, or a pocketbook. The surging of the crowd, especially on a crowded railway train, accounts to the suspicious traveller for the occasional jesting which he receives. It is found that the most common receptacle for the pocketbook is the left trousers pocket front. When the victim is selected, one of the brace of thieves plants himself squarely in front of him, while the other crowds up behind him on the right side. The operator in front, under cover of a newspaper or a coat thrown over the arm, feels the pocket, and, if the victim is a stiff-necked or a straight-backed man in a standing position, he finds the lips of the pocket drawn close together. In this case it is dangerous to attempt the insertion of the hand. A very low-toned clearing of the throat, followed by a guttural rouse, is the signal for his pal to exert a gentle pressure upon the victim's right shoulder. This is so gradually extended that the traveller yields to the pressure without knowing it, and without changing the position of his feet. This throws the lips of the pocket open for the operator in front, who does not insert his hand and attempt to draw the book out, but works on the lining. He draws it out an eighth of an inch at a time without inserting his fingers more than half way.

Should this process of drawing the contents of the pocket to its mouth be felt by the victim, another low clearing of the throat gives the sign to the confederate, and the game is dropped. If the victim's suspicions are not aroused, the pickpocket continues at his work of drawing the lining out until the roll of bills, the purse, or the pocketbook is within reach of the deft fingers. It is then grasped between the index and middle finger and gently drawn out. The successful completion of the job is indicated by a gentle chirrup, like the chirp of a canary, and the precious pair separate from their victim to play the same tricks on the next one.

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Here is a curiosity. It is a case containing the hair of all the Presidents, from the fine gray lock of George Washington down to the semi-blond one of Garfield. This case shows that the color of a man's hair is no sign as to his presidential success. Jefferson had red hair, and we are told that he was freckled. John Adams wore a wig, and his son John Quincy Adams had the bald head which ever rested on the pillows of the White House.

Martin Van Buren was also slightly bald, but his baldness came more to the front of his head than Cleveland's. Van Buren's hair was beautifully wavy, and he combed it well back from the sides of his face. While he was President he wore it short, and it had become quite gray. Some of Jefferson's portraits represent him with his hair banged in front and coming down over his forehead in the style of the duke of today. Every one knows how Jackson's hair stood up all over his head as straight and stiff as the quills of a porcupine, but all are not aware that he was as gray as a badger during his Presidential term, and that his hair was as fine as the thinnest strands of spun silver. John Tyler was also fine haired, and he was a very fine looking man. William Henry Harrison combed his hair well to the front of his ears, and he was gray at the time he was elected. Frank Pierce had thick curly hair which fell down upon his forehead, and James Buchanan kept his gray head well trimmed, combed his hair so as to show to the full his high brow.

Polk patterned after Jackson in combing his hair back with hardly a part, and both Fillmore and Taylor parted their hair on the left side of the head, while Frank Pierce parted his boldly on the right. President Arthur had dark hair, which was growing gray when he left the White House. He kept it well combed back from his face, and wore it short. President Lincoln did not pay much attention to his hair, and most of his pictures represent it as rather long. It was dark and straight. President Cleveland's hair is brown and thin. He wears it short and combs it up from his forehead as though he wished to increase the size of that part of his face. His head is bald at the crown, and the baldness is daily increasing, though he plasters his hair over it in a vain attempt to hide it.

PICKPOCKET'S METHODS.

When a mob of pickpockets start out to "work a crowd" on a train, they break into two. The operator on leather fans his intended victim. This, in plain English, means that he ascertains the location of his victim's money. He gets alongside of the man whose pocket is to be picked, and with rapid movement he dexterously passes his fingers lightly over every pocket. His touch is so delicate that it enables him to locate the boodle, and to ascertain its character, whether a roll, a purse, or a pocketbook. The surging of the crowd, especially on a crowded railway train, accounts to the suspicious traveller for the occasional jesting which he receives. It is found that the most common receptacle for the pocketbook is the left trousers pocket front. When the victim is selected, one of the brace of thieves plants himself squarely in front of him, while the other crowds up behind him on the right side. The operator in front, under cover of a newspaper or a coat thrown over the arm, feels the pocket, and, if the victim is a stiff-necked or a straight-backed man in a standing position, he finds the lips of the pocket drawn close together. In this case it is dangerous to attempt the insertion of the hand. A very low-toned clearing of the throat, followed by a guttural rouse, is the signal for his pal to exert a gentle pressure upon the victim's right shoulder. This is so gradually extended that the traveller yields to the pressure without knowing it, and without changing the position of his feet. This throws the lips of the pocket open for the operator in front, who does not insert his hand and attempt to draw the book out, but works on the lining. He draws it out an eighth of an inch at a time without inserting his fingers more than half way.

Should this process of drawing the contents of the pocket to its mouth be felt by the victim, another low clearing of the throat gives the sign to the confederate, and the game is dropped. If the victim's suspicions are not aroused, the pickpocket continues at his work of drawing the lining out until the roll of bills, the purse, or the pocketbook is within reach of the deft fingers. It is then grasped between the index and middle finger and gently drawn out. The successful completion of the job is indicated by a gentle chirrup, like the chirp of a canary, and the precious pair separate from their victim to play the same tricks on the next one.

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