

# A BOILER EXPLOSION.

## SIX PERSONS KILLED AND FOUR BADLY INJURED.

The boiler old and defective.—The Coroner's Jury Find that The Engineer Was Inexperienced.

READING, Nov. 2.—The citizens of Lower Heidelberg township, this county, were disturbed this morning for miles around by a terrific explosion, which shook the houses and rattled windows. The cause was the explosion of a boiler attached to a steam threshing machine on the farm of Jonas D. Spayd. The boiler exploded with terrible results, six men being killed and half a dozen injured. George Hinnershitz, Sr., is the owner of the threshing machine. It was set up last night to commence work this morning. A number of young men, residing in the neighborhood, had been hired to assist in the threshing. The boiler was about half full of water. Just as the machine was started into motion the boiler went up with a force that seemed to shake the surrounding hills. Those killed outright were:

Adam Marburger, aged 30, resided at Hietrichville, unmarried, Joseph Machemer, aged 19, unmarried.

William Reber, aged 37, married and residing in the neighborhood.

Irvin Dunkleberger, aged 27, unmarried.

Joseph Spayd, aged 15, son of Reuben Spayd.

The injured were: Jonas D. Spayd, injured about the head and scalded.

John Riegel, hurt about the head and body.

George Hinnershitz, scalded and injured internally; picked up unconscious.

Minnie Baer, aged 10, jaw shattered and injured about the body; may recover.

The cause was the condition of the boiler, which had long ago been worn out. The sight which greeted the first persons on the scene was a sickening one. Five mangled bodies were lying near the barn. Three others were inside, and on the side of a steep hill, 100 feet away was the body of Hinnershitz, the owner of the boiler. He was standing close to the boiler when the explosion occurred, and was carried through the air to where he was found. All of the dead were crushed about the head. Dunkleberger had his left arm blown off. The boiler went through the roof of the barn, and lay 300 feet away. Pieces of timber from the building were scattered in every direction. The child, Minnie Baer, was standing near the barn, watching the threshing, when the explosion occurred. A fragment of boiler iron struck the child on the chin, shattered and splintered the jaw and knocked all her teeth out and probably destroyed her eyesight.

The killed were all poor farm laborers. The Coroner's inquest showed that the boiler was purchased at second hand, and had been in use for an indefinite number of years. The jury decided that from "the evidence it appears that the boiler was not in the hands of an experienced man at the time. From an examination of portions of the boiler, the jury believes that it was defective."

An examination of the boiler shows that it was very thin in many places. The location of the boiler was down in a hollow, or the result of the explosion might have been more disastrous. Hinnershitz died this evening, thus making six victims of the disaster.

## THE YELLOW FEVER.

### ANOTHER INCREASE IN NEW CASES AT JACKSONVILLE.

JACKSONVILLE, Fla., Nov. 1.—The day was the coolest for a week past, but the fever record took another jump despite it. One year ago yesterday the mercury went down to 40. To-day it reached the lowest point, nearly 29 degrees above that. The season appears unusually warm compared with other years, but the impatience for frost has much to do with this, no doubt. There is still a long drag of nearly six weeks ahead before the city will be in condition at all approaching normal. Many people are getting tired out and leaving for recuperation until the embargo on refugees shall be withdrawn.

Dr. Porter announced to the Executive Committee that government guards will be placed at all junctions and transfer points on railroads leading to Jacksonville, at Baldwin, Live Oak, Way Cross, Jessup, etc., and that detectives will be employed to spot any refugees intending to reach the city under false pretences. The railroad companies have agreed not to sell tickets to Jacksonville for the present. As no one can foretell the end of the epidemic, the prospect is not a little discouraging.

Dr. Neal Mitchell reports 56 new cases to-day, 16 whites; two deaths, Mrs. George Westmore, of Springfield, and James Harris, on the Middleburg road. Total cases 4212; total deaths 356.

ENTERPRISE ASKS AID. CHICAGO, Nov. 1.—Mayor Roche received the following telegram this morning.

ENTERPRISE, Fla.—Mayor Roche, Chicago:—Twenty-two cases and four deaths from yellow fever to date. Five hundred people in distress. Am compelled to ask for aid. Can Chicago help us? GEORGE T. CARLISLE, Secretary Board of Health.

—A boiler attached to a steam threshing machine on the farm of Jonas D. Spayd, in Lower Heidelberg township, Berks county, Pa., exploded on the morning of the 2d, killing six persons and badly injuring four others. The Coroner's jury found that the boiler was defective, and, at the time of the explosion, was not in the hands of an experienced man.

Prof. Pickering of the Harvard College Observatory makes the rather broad guess that the so-called "canals" of Mars are areas of vegetation, possibly of the same nature as the vegetation of our planet.

## GREAT BRITAIN.

### THE SACKVILLE AFFAIR.—WHY HE WAS NOT RECALLED.—HIS SUCCESSOR NOT LIKELY TO BE A COLONIAL SUBJECT.

LONDON, Oct. 30.—From the outset Sackville's friends here have urged Lord Salisbury to take no action for his recall, but let the initiative come from Washington. They argued that recall by the British Government would be a more serious rebuke than Lord Salisbury deserved, under the circumstances, and would kill his political career; but if he resigned or came home because his presence was no longer desirable in America, it would not interfere with his subsequent advancement here. The reported appointment of Tupper is not given serious consideration on this side of the water, and is simply attributed to a few of Tupper's friends in Canada. No one at the Foreign Office knows anything about it, and the only information to be obtained there is that Lord Salisbury has taken no official action in the matter. He has not even expressed an opinion for publication and refuses to do so. Minister Phelps said to-night that he knew nothing of Tupper's appointment although it is not likely that he would be consulted in the matter, even if it were true, but in view of all the circumstances he thought the report extremely improbable.

A prominent member of the Carlton Club, the Tory stronghold, said to-night: "I have not found a single member of the Government who believes Lord Salisbury will be so unwise as to name Tupper for the place. His recent attitude on the fisheries question would make it an extremely unpopular appointment in America, and to jump him over the heads of other men in the line of advancement for the place would make it equally unpopular here. It would very much disarrange, even if it did not demoralize, the diplomatic body to take a commissioner for a colony and make him a first-class ambassador. He has had no training for such place."

## RUSSIA.

### THE ACCIDENT TO THE CZAR'S TRAIN.

ST. PETERSBURG, Oct. 31.—An official statement regarding the accident which happened to the Czar's train on Monday has been issued. It is as follows:

The train containing the Czar and Czarina and suite left Ivanovka at noon on Monday. While passing through a deep gorge near Borki the train left the rails. At the time of the accident the Czar and Czarina were in the saloon carriage at breakfast. When the first carriage left the track the rest of the train oscillated and the succeeding carriage heeled over. The saloon carriage, although remaining on the track, was badly shattered. The roof fell in, but rested on a portion of the side, thus forming a shield for the occupants. It seems incredible that with such havoc any of the occupants of the train should have escaped unhurt. But God protected the Czar and his family, who were taken from the debris uninjured. Some of the other occupants of the train received slight contusions. The only person severely injured was General Scheremetjev, an aide-de-camp of the Czar.

The *Grashdanin* states that the train was drawn by two engines and consisted of several carriages besides the saloon carriage. The latter was of massive construction. The train was running at the rate of 65 versts an hour. When the first engine left the track it ploughed up the road bed and embedded itself in the earth. The second engine ran on top of the first and was wrecked. The first and second carriages were also wrecked. They were occupied by court servants and railway officials, among whom Baron St. Jernval, Chief Inspector of Railways, was badly injured. Generals Vannovsk and Tcherevin, who were in the saloon carriage with the Imperial family, received contusions. The Czar and Czarina remained at the scene for some time, giving attention to the injured. Towards evening they returned to Zosowje, the last station they had left.

Religious services have been held throughout the empire, giving thanks for the escape of the Imperial family.

The *Grashdanin* contradicts the official report of the accident in regard to the casualties. It affirms that 30 persons were killed, including Captain Bresch, a staff courier, three couriers and eight soldiers of the Railway Battalion. It also says that 18 others were injured.

The Imperial family passed over the Charkoff and Nicolaeff Railway last evening on their way to Gatchina. All were well.

The weather was very stormy at the time of the accident, but despite the fact that a heavy rain was falling and that the ground was slippery, the Czar stayed on the spot and assisted in the removal of the dead and injured. He did not enter the reserve train until the last of the injured had been placed in the ambulance. On his arrival at Zosowje, the Czar ordered the clergy to conduct a requiem for the victims. After the religious services he invited all of the occupants of the train who had escaped to partake of dinner, which he had served in the railway station.

An examination will explain the cause of the accident, but the idea that it was due to malicious designs upon the Emperor's life may be considered quite out of the question.

## No Religious Test.

The last clause of paragraph 3, Article VI, of the constitution of the United States reads: "But no religious test shall ever be required as a qualification to any office or public trust under the United States." According to this, a few are not ineligible to the office of president.

Scopstone incorporated with oil, after the manner of a paint, is said to be superior to any kind of paint as a preservative.

## THE PRESIDENT'S THANKSGIVING PROCLAMATION.

Constant thanksgiving and gratitude are due from the American people to Almighty God for His goodness and mercy, which have followed them since the day He made them a nation and vouchsafed to them a free Government. With loving kindness He has constantly led us in the way of prosperity and greatness. He has not visited with swift punishment our shortcomings, but with gracious care He has warned us of our dependence upon His forbearance, and has taught us the obedience to His holy law is the price of a continuance of His precious gifts.

In acknowledgment of all that God has done for us as a nation, and to the end that, on an appointed day, the united prayers and praise of a grateful people may reach the throne of grace, I, Grover Cleveland, President of the United States, do hereby designate and set apart Thursday, the twenty-ninth day of November instant, as a day of thanksgiving and prayer, to be kept and observed throughout the land.

On that day let all our people suspend their ordinary work and occupations, and in their accustomed places of worship, with prayer and songs of praise, render thanks to God for all His mercies, for the abundant harvests which have rewarded the toil of the husbandman during the year that has passed, and for the rich rewards that have followed the labor of our people in their shops and marts of trade and traffic.

Let us give thanks for peace and for social order and contentment within our borders, and for our advancement in all that adds to national greatness.

And mindful of the afflictive dispensation with which a portion of our land has been visited, let us, while we humble ourselves before the power of God, acknowledge His mercy in setting bounds to the deadly march of pestilence, and let our hearts be chastened by sympathy with our fellow countrymen who have suffered and who mourn.

And as we return thanks for all the blessings which we have received from the hands of our Heavenly Father, let us not forget that He has enjoined upon us charity; and on this day of thanksgiving let us generously remember the poor and needy, so that our tribute of praise and gratitude may be acceptable in the sight of the Lord.

Done at the City of Washington, on the 1st day of November, 1888, and in the year of Independence of the United States, one hundred and thirteenth.

[SEAL] In witness whereof, I have hereunto signed my name and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

GROVER CLEVELAND, President.

T. F. BAYARD, Secretary of State.

## NEWS OF THE WEEK.

—A cave in occurred on the morning of the 29th ult., over an abandoned mine at Curry Hill, Plymouth, Penna. The house of John Fox sank 12 feet, and the inmates, six in number, were thrown from their beds and severely injured. Several other buildings were damaged, and, it is said, their occupants will have to vacate.

—Mrs. Carrie Turner, a teacher in the Little Rock University, in Little Rock, Arkansas, committed suicide on the 28th ult. Her body was found in the Arkansas river. An unfortunate marriage and separation are given as the cause. Charles Dietz, aged 53 years, committed suicide in New York on the evening of the 28th ult., by hanging himself in his room. He was a carpenter and a non-union man, and did not have steady work. Thomas Hill, a commission merchant in Detroit, Michigan, committed suicide on the 29th ult., by shooting himself in the head. He had met with financial reverses.

—A telegram from Minneapolis, Minnesota, says the officers who have been working on the Bobemian Flats poisoning case have arrested Mrs. Martin, the young bride, charging her with the crime. It is said that on the afternoon of the day on which the bridal party arrived from New Prague there was a quarrel. The bride of three days was said to be jealous of her cousin, Lizzie Halavatch, and grew excited because her husband was attentive to Lizzie. In this the whole family, it is stated, took part, and the bride went to a drug store and bought the poison. A package found has been identified as the one she bought. After the poisoning it is charged that the family entered into collusion to conceal the identity of the prisoner, who has repented of her rashness. A despatch from Ashland, Wisconsin, says on the 27th ult., two young swags overheard some remarks made by a married woman, Mrs. White Bird. The swags turned upon her and gave her a beating, which caused her death. Jealousy was the cause of the tragedy.

—N. M. Wilkins, Postmaster at Jahma, Mead county, Kansas, in a letter to the Post-office Department, states that owing to the failure of the crops the people in that section are suffering for food and clothing. "Three-fourths of the people," he adds, "will starve unless aid can be procured. The people of this county have been pleading for aid since Spring, but as yet no aid has reached us. Some in our county are living on parched corn, and others on bread and coffee, and others on bread and water."

—Arthur Watkins, of Huntington, was shot dead by Marshal Rosenberg, in Wabash, Indiana, on the evening of the 29th ult. Watkins tried to escape from the custody of the officer, and attempted to stab him.

—Harry Smart was on the 30th ult., found guilty in Louisville, Kentucky, of the murder of Meisler Green and Belle Ward, whose bodies were found floating in the river four months ago. He was sentenced to imprisonment for life.

—There were 32 new cases of yellow fever and one death at Jacksonville on the 30th ult. The total cases to date number 4127, and the total deaths 353. Three new cases of yellow fever developed at Gainesville on the 30th ult., and the same number at San-Jerson. At Enterprise there were five cases.

—August Ritz and Joseph Farreni have been arrested at Winnemucca, Nevada, for passing counterfeit silver dollars.

—While testing a rope fire escape at the Monongahela House in Pittsburgh, on the afternoon of the 31st ult., the rope broke, and three boys—James McClure, aged 14 years; John Duddy, aged 15 years, and Daniel Nagle, aged 15—were precipitated from the fifth story to the pavement, 70 feet below. McClure and Duddy fell headforemost and were killed instantly. Nagle had both arms and legs broken and will probably die. The agent of the fire escape, H. C. Wilson, of Zanesville, Ohio, who hired the boys to descend the rope, paying them five cents each, was arrested pending the Coroner's investigation. He is reported to be almost crazy over the disaster. Three more of the victims of the bridge disaster at Blairsville, Illinois, died on the 31st ult. Their names were not learned.

—Andrew Franks was found dead in his place of business in New York, on the morning of the 31st ult. He is supposed to have committed suicide.

—Dollie Phillips, aged 20 years, was shot and killed by a man named Galoway, while watching a parade in Terre Haute, Indiana, on the evening of the 30th ult. The man escaped, notwithstanding the fact that the street was crowded with people. The cause of the shooting is unknown. J. A. McAfee and Thomas Slaven engaged in a fight in the latter's saloon, in Indianapolis, Indiana, on the evening of the 30th ult., and both were fatally wounded. Frank Briester was beaten and robbed by unknown ruffians, in Chicago, on the evening of the 30th ult., of his injuries. Four white travelers who were attacked by a band of negroes in Mercer county, West Virginia, on the 28th ult., when two were shot and robbed of \$600. The other two men made their way to Bramwell and gave an alarm. Fifty men went in pursuit, but up to last accounts the outlaws had not been captured. The body of John Groshart, a well-known ranchman in Carbon county, Wyoming Territory, has been found in an isolated spot, with a bullet in his brain. The murderer is unknown.

—The air brake of an engine, attached to a pile-driver on the Rio Grande Railroad, gave out as the descent of the steep grade from Pacha Pass, near Salina, Colorado, was begun on the 30th ult. The engine shot down the mountain at a terrific speed, and, upon reaching a curve, left the track and tumbled down a thirty foot embankment. Fireman Ludlow and Conductor Vinson were killed, and Engineer Whitlock and Brakeman Allen severely injured. A freight train on the Northern Pacific Railroad ran into the rear of another, near Townsend, Montana, on the 30th ult. The trainmen saved themselves by jumping, but one passenger was killed and three injured.

—An explosion of hot metal occurred at the Sable Iron Works, in Pittsburgh, on the 1st, killing George Smith, aged 29 years, and severing Joseph Klein, aged 50 years; his son, aged 15 years, and John Sutro, aged 27 years. The men were employed in the furnace department, and were pouring the molten metal into a boggy car, when it was accidentally upset and the hot iron ran into a puddle of water. A terrible explosion followed, demolishing the furnace and a portion of the mill and scattering the metal over the men. A despatch from Greensburg, Penna., says that Amanda Montgomery and Gus Wiseman, her intended husband, were run down by a freight train on the Southwestern Railroad on the evening of the 31st ult. and killed. They stepped off one track to avoid a train coming in the opposite direction. While Company F, of the First Regiment was at the largest practice in Chicago, on the 31st ult., the marker, a boy named Bolger, was killed. Continually to orders the boy was standing behind the target when a bullet struck the round axis about two or three feet above him, and glancing down, entered his left breast. Dennis B. Lane, ex-Tax Collector in Wilmington, Delaware, was on the 31st ult., struck and killed by a locomotive, as he was crossing the tracks near the machine shops. John Thompson, supposed to have been in the iron business in Philadelphia, was run over and killed by cars on the Lehigh Valley Railroad, at Mauld Chunk, Pa., on the 1st. He was about 60 years old.

—The weather crop bulletin, issued on the 1st by the Signal Office at Washington, says: "The weather has been generally favorable for farm work in the winter wheat States, and the rainfall for the month has doubtless affected the winter wheat crop favorably. The rain in the southern portion of the Gulf States has improved the condition of crops in that section, although the reports indicate that generally the weather for the season has not been favorable for the cotton crop."

—Louis Brubaker, aged 24, while convalescing from an attack of typhoid fever, in Washington, Kansas, called his mother to his room on the evening of the 31st ult., and cut her throat. The invalid then made an unsuccessful attempt to commit suicide.

—While Michael Quinn was making a water connection in New Haven, Connecticut, on the 1st, the banks caved in, and he was smothered. John Thompson, aged about 60 years, supposed to have been a Philadelphia, was killed by a train while walking on the Lehigh Valley Railroad track, near Mauld Chunk, on the 1st.

—Joseph Dickenhof, aged 70 years, was attacked by two highwaymen in Akron, Ohio, on the evening of the 31st ult., and robbed of \$7360 that he carried in a valise.

—The public debt statement, issued on the 1st, shows a reduction during October of \$4,585,619. The total cash in the Treasury, \$624,304,487.

—Jacob Loewenstein, a well-known detective in Chicago, was fatally shot by his wife on the morning of the 2d, during a quarrel. A telegram from Charleston, West Virginia, says that

Thomas Sayers, one of the negro highwaymen who robbed and murdered two peddlers in Mercer county on the 28th ult., was caught and lynched on the evening of the 31st ult. Frederick Auschlag, now in jail in Los Angeles, California, under sentence of death for the murder of Mr. and Mrs. Hitehook, at Garden Grove, some months ago, has made a confession of the murder of Julius Feugh, in September, 1887. Auschlag claims he was inspired to kill Feugh by George Stenger and one Border, to obtain Feugh's money. Stenger has been arrested in San Francisco. Border's whereabouts are unknown.

—In Cincinnati, on the 1st, the Bodmann Tobacco Warehouse Company, upon balancing bank accounts, found a forged check for \$5000 in each of three banks. Each check was endorsed by Charles Tinkler, collector for the warehouse, who received the money. Tinkler was only 19 years old, and left the warehouse about the last of September to get higher wages as assistant to a bookmaker at the races. His employers think he was the dupe of experienced criminals. The boy is missing. Walter Hall, sub-agent for the Yarmouth Steamship Company at Boston, disappeared on the morning of the 1st and his accounts show a deficit of \$1000.

—There were 28 new cases and 3 deaths from yellow fever in Jacksonville on the 2d. Total cases to date, 4249; total deaths, 359. Four new cases of the fever are reported at Live Oak. There are eight cases of the fever at New Decatur, Alabama. One new case was reported in Decatur on the 2d.

—While a number of miners were riding on a hand car near Hopewell, Penna., on the morning of the 2d, they were thrown from the car by a runaway team. Samuel Hastings was killed and seven others were injured, Martin Mather, it is feared, fatally. In turning a curve on the Louisville and Nashville Railroad, near Louisville, Kentucky, on the 1st, an engine jumped the track and rolled down an embankment 30 feet high, landing bottom up. The postal car landed on top of the engine. The other cars remained on the track. Three train hands were slightly hurt. Not a passenger was injured.

—A passenger engine on the Lehigh Valley Railroad ran into a coal train South Plainfield, New Jersey, on the evening of the 1st. The engine and a number of the coal cars were wrecked, and Superintendent Donnelly, of the Lehigh Valley road, who was on the engine, was dangerously injured.

—A violent wind storm damaged property in Laporte, Iowa, to the extent of about \$50,000, on the evening of the 1st. Many houses were unroofed, and their contents damaged by torrents of rain. One horse was completely wrecked. No person is reported injured.

## Fact or Fiction.

We are puzzled to know whether the following scene from the *N. Y. Weekly* is fact or fancy. Can any of our readers tell us?

A young man has just asked a young lady a most important question, as follows:

"Will you be my wife?"

"Your wife, Fred? Of all things, no! No, indeed, nor any one else's."

"Lizzie, what do you mean?"

"Just what I say, Fred; I've two married sisters."

"Certainly! and Mrs. Hopkins and Mrs. Skinner have very good husbands, I believe."

"So people say; but I wouldn't like to stand in either May's or Nell's shoes; that's all."

"Lizzie, you astonish me."

"Look here, Fred; I've had over twenty-five sleigh-rides this winter, thanks to you and my other gentlemen friends."

Fred winced a little here, whether at the remembrance of that unpaid livery bill, or at the idea of Lizzie's sleighing with her other gentlemen friends, I cannot positively answer.

"How many do you think my sisters have had? Not the sign of one, either of them. Such pretty girls as May and Nellie were, too, and so much attention as they used to have!"

"Now, Lizzie—"

"I am fond of going to the theatre occasionally, as well as to a lecture or concert sometimes, and I shouldn't like it if I proposed attending any such entertainments to be invariably told that times were hard and my husband couldn't afford it, and then to have him sneak off alone."

"Lizzie, Lizzie—"

"And if once in a dog's age he did condescend to go with me anywhere in the evening, I shouldn't like to be left to pick my way along the slippery places, at the risk of breaking my neck, while he walks along unconsciously by my side. I'm of a dependent, clinging nature, and I need the protection of a strong arm."

"Lizzie, this is all nonsense."

"I am the youngest in our family, and perhaps I've been spoiled. At all events, I know it would break my heart to have my husband vent all the ill-temper which he conceals from the rest of the world on my defenseless head."

"But, Lizzie, I promise you that I—"

"Oh, yes, Fred; I know what you are going to say—that you will be different; but May and Nell have told me time and again that no better husbands than theirs ever lived, and I'm half inclined to believe them. No, no, Fred; as a lover, you are just perfect, and I shall take awfully to give you up. Still if you are bent on marrying, there are plenty of girls who have not married sisters, or who are not wise enough to profit by their example, if they have. And don't fret about me, for I've no doubt I can find some one to fill your place."

But before Lizzie had concluded Fred made for the door, muttering something "unmentionable to ears polite."

"There!" exclaimed Lizzie, as the door closed with a bang. "I knew he was no better than the rest. That's precisely the way John and Aleck swear and slam doors when things don't go just right. He'd make a perfect bear of a husband; but I'm sorry he came to the point so soon, for he was just a splendid beau."

## NEW YORK LETTER.

NEW YORK, Nov. 20.

Outside of Wall street business does not as first glance seem to be very apprehensive of the result of the election. Never before in the history of the country, it is believed, has so cheerful a tone and so active a business prevailed on the eve of a Presidential contest. This may not, however, in reality mean that Mr. Gould has bought control of the National policies that may follow the election, for this can scarcely be so. Nothing is so sensitive as business, and ordinarily no one is so timid and fearful of change as the business man. He is not indifferent to the result of so important an election. It may mean only that the current necessities of the consumers are large enough to make an active market, without any transactions that require the discounting of the future. However this may be, a glance at the reports of the commercial agencies given below shows that, though trade is undoubtedly more or less retarded by the political excitement, the volume of business, under the circumstances, extraordinarily large. This, of course, is a most gratifying fact, and speaks well for the solid prosperity of the country.

Though very dull this week the stock market has shown up very well in point of strength. A fierce bear attack on Reading early in the week has been followed by a quiet but steady upward movement under the lead of Missouri Pacific and Atchison, which from being the weakest have suddenly become the steadiest of stock. One report has been that Mr. Gould has bought control of the Atchison and another is that negotiation are in progress for an agreement and alliance. These reports, though unsubstantiated by evidence of fact, have nevertheless had a buoyant effect on the Gould stocks as well as Atchison. As to Mr. Gould's intentions they are past finding out. Bankers as yet do not take much stock in his reported large financial operations. Still some agreement between the two roads might not be an unreasonable result of their present complications. The point of interest in the railroad situation has shifted for the time being from the Northwestern to the Southwestern roads. Instead of St. Paul, Burlington and Quincy and Rock Island, it is Atchison and Missouri Pacific which have taken the lead in the speculative mart. The Southwestern roads are undergoing much the same experience that has fallen to the lot of the Grangers. Both the Atchison and the Missouri Pacific, as well as other roads in the Southwest, have suffered severely from a competition that has overtaken their resources. That the Southwestern roads should desire to come to some satisfactory agreement in regard to restoring rates seems to be a rational supposition, and this, in connection with the advance in prices, is the basis of the report that Mr. Gould and others interested are conferring to see if a settlement can be reached.

Bradstreet's issue of the 3d, present details of bank clearings for October and ten months ended therewith from 41 cities, in advance of all contemporaries. The list of cities given exceeds in number those in any similar report, and comparative totals are given over a period of years long enough to render them of some real value. The aggregate clearings at 32 cities during October—those for which total are available for four years—are \$4,970,336,655, a gain of about 10 per cent. over October, 1887; about 6 per cent. over October, 1886, and nearly 11 per cent. over the corresponding month in 1885. New York City's total for October last was \$3,194,301,395 (two-thirds of that for 32 cities), about equal to the October total in 1885, but less than 2 per cent. smaller than that for October, 1886, and about 7 per cent. larger than in October one year ago. Evidently the bank clearings outside of New York City have increased relatively more rapidly than at the metropolis. Leaving New York's totals out of those first given above, we find that the aggregate clearings for October, 1888, at 31 cities were \$1,776,035,290, or 15 per cent. more than in October, 1887, 17 per cent. more than in October, 1886, and 10 per cent. more than in 1885. It will be recalled that early in the year the clearings declined notably as compared with the preceding 12 months, and to this must be attributed the decreases in the 10 months' totals as compared with 1887. The aggregate at 32 cities is \$39,905,885,686, or 5 per cent. less than in 1887; at New York it is \$25,407,046,970, or 8 per cent. less, while at 31 cities (omitting New York city from the above) the total for 10 months in 1888 is \$14,498,838,716, a gain of less than 2 per cent. over 1887.

## Cloaks on the Installment Plan.

"You would be surprised," said one of these enterprising and somewhat grasping merchants the other day, "at the variety of people who have dealings with us. We have sold to dry goods clerks who were working for \$1,000 a year seakskin cloaks as high as \$400. Sometimes it takes three years to pay for them, but they will have them. The women are extravagant, or one of the neighbors has a cloak, and the poor man has no peace at home until he gets one for his pretty but foolish and ambitious wife. Last winter we sold seventy-five seakskin sacks on the installment plan, and in a great many cases the wives made the purchases unknown to their husbands and saved the money to pay for them out of their allowance for household expenses. We have ladies come here for their fancy bonnets, and in many cases for their dresses, which they never could get if they had to wait until they saved money to pay cash for them. We have a number of cases on our books where articles of dress are either worn out or have become old style and the women are still paying the regular installments on their cost. They must pay or they can't get any more goods, and they know that, and are accordingly very prompt and regular in their payments."

—Rain caused the postponement of the Ivy City races recently.

—Belle Hamlin, 2137, has been turned out for the season.