

NEWS FROM NORRISTOWN

TWO MEN STABBED, ONE MORTALLY.

NORRISTOWN, Pa., Feb. 11.—Four Italian laborers, employed at Albertson & Son's glass works, became engaged in a quarrel at noon to-day, and Peter Petrello stabbed two of them, one fatally, inflicting a long, deep gash in his abdomen. The victim is Frank Elmo. The attending physician said to-night that the man could not live. The other wounded man, who was cut in the back, is in a critical condition, but is likely to survive. A third man, who interfered, was knocked down with a shovel by Petrello and rendered senseless.

The assailant fled, pursued by an officer on horseback and a posse on foot. He was driven into a woods in Plymouth township this evening, and when darkness set in the hunt was abandoned.

THIEVES MAKE A GOOD HAUL.

NORRISTOWN, Pa., Feb. 11.—B. F. Richardson, residing in Plymouth township, near the borough line, reported to the police this evening that his dwelling had been robbed of jewelry, silverware and clothing to the value of about \$600. Mr. Richardson and his family have been away since Saturday afternoon, and nothing was known of the robbery until the former's return this evening.

NEWS OF THE WEEK.

A diabolical attempt to burn and blow up a five story double tenement on Rester street, New York, was discovered early on the morning of the 10th. Bundles of rags saturated with kerosene had been used; also several pounds of gunpowder. Fortunately the powder had not been reached when the flames were discovered and extinguished. The author of the plot and its motive are unknown. Simon J. Dillon was stabbed and killed in a quarrel with an unknown man in Danbury, Connecticut, on the morning of the 10th.

Cesar Frazer and Edward Criss, both colored, were arrested on the morning of the 10th in Charleston, South Carolina, for the murder of E. H. Holdenberg. Frazer confessed his guilt, while Criss asserted that he was innocent.

A fight took place ten miles from Newport, Kentucky, on the afternoon of the 10th, on the line of Huntington's new railroad, between Italian workmen and negroes. Three men are reported to have been killed and a score wounded. The trouble is said to have begun in a dispute over the ownership of a jug of whisky. No particulars have been received.

William Holden was killed by a man named McGrath, in Montreal, Quebec, on the 9th. Holden had called McGrath a "nigger." McGrath is a white man, but his wife has negro blood in her veins. E. H. Oldenburg, a grocer in Charleston, South Carolina, 60 years of age, was murdered at his store on the evening of the 9th, by two unknown negroes, who had entered the store for the purpose of robbery. They escaped with about \$50. While a number of colored laborers were returning to a camp in Lee county, Kentucky, a ruffian named William Shaw asked one of them to drink with him. While the man was complying Shaw raised a pistol and shot him dead on the spot. The enraged colored men would have lynched the murderer had not Thompson, the contractor, rescued him and afterwards had him lodged in jail. Haywood Handy, colored, shot and killed a young white man named Charles Stewart, in Bossier parish, Louisiana, on the 8th, and was lynched by a mob on the same night. It appears that Handy and two other negroes were charged with hog stealing, but were acquitted in the District Court a few days ago. Feeling that Handy and the others had swaded justice through various technicalities, and inasmuch as their past record for hog stealing and other offenses was bad, a few of the citizens residing in that vicinity determined to at least give all of them a flogging and notify them that if they were ever charged with the same crime again they would have to leave the parish. When the party reached Handy's house he refused to allow them to enter and they burst the door open. Stewart was in the lead and Handy shot him.

William Hamilton was stabbed to death by Benjamin Brown, in St. Louis, on the evening of the 10th. They quarrelled over a game of cards in which five cents was the stake. A boiler at the brick works of Guild, White & Gillespie, in Chattanooga, Tennessee, exploded on the 11th, killing Charles Falls and fatally injuring his son. During a dance at San Jacinto, a little mountain town in California, a few days ago, an earthquake shock occurred, and the two hundred people present sought safety by jumping through windows. Many were trampled under foot and others were cut by glass, but no one was fatally hurt.

The Hessian fly is reported to be destroying the wheat crop in Central Illinois. The dry freezing weather is also reported to be killing the wheat.

Michael Rizzolo, alias "Red Nose Mike," on trial in Wilkesbarre, Pa., for the killing of Paymaster McClure and Stabianan Flannigan, was on the 11th found guilty of murder in the first degree. Sentence was deferred until the 16th. Father Ashfield, a priest at St. Peter's Catholic Church, in Memphis, Tennessee, was stabbed to death on the morning of the 11th by W. Reeves, a young man, whom he had been instrumental in having released from jail, where he had been confined on account of mental trouble. When asked why he had committed the deed, Reeves replied: "God told me to do it. He was my best friend, and as I was going away I wanted him to join me." L. E. Mann shot at John Hensley, near Butler, Missouri, on the 9th, and the bullet lodged in a check book he had in his pocket. Mann then shot himself, inflicting a fatal wound. The trouble was caused by jealousy, both men paying court to the same girl. Rollo Walton threatened to kill Marshal Baldrige, in Grant City, Missouri,

on the 9th. They met in a bar room and opened fire simultaneously. Walton was killed, and D. A. Martin was shot in the arm. The Marshal was not injured.

A broken rail threw a freight car and a passenger coach of an accommodation train off the track at Nagney, Pa., on the 11th. There were nine passengers on board and they were all injured, none fatally however.

While two young sons of Eli W. Carpenter were firing at a mark against a woodshed, at Bucyrus, Ohio, on the 11th, one of the bullets penetrated the siding and struck their mother, who had just entered, in the side, inflicting a fatal wound.

On the morning of the 11th an explosion occurred at a point midway between Williams Bridge and Bedford Park, on the line of the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad, just as the train from Stamford, Conn., which is due in New York at 9:40 a. m. passed there. It is believed that the explosion was caused by a gang of Italian workmen throwing out a dynamite cartridge too suddenly. Every pane of glass in the train was shattered, and the 500 passengers were terribly shaken up. A large number received severe cuts about the head and face from the flying glass.

A secret service officer arrested two more counterfeiters in Butler county, Penna., on the 12th, making 16 in all. The work of ferreting out this gang commenced several years since, but active measures against members were suspended, because of arrest of one of the party scared the others so badly that they ceased work.

A loaded car dashed down the incline at Galusha A. Grow's mines, near East Brady, Pa., on the 11th, killing Edward M. Baker and injuring Robert E. Cisswell. The shaft in a coal mine at Mitchell, Iowa, broke on the 11th, precipitating the cage 95 feet to the bottom. George Harper was killed, his son slightly and a man named Reynolds fatally injured. Arthur Dexter and Melvorne Cole, two young men, were drowned in Liverpool river, Nova Scotia, on the 11th, by the upsetting of a canoe.

During a fight between Franzero Pace and Jack Mela in Brooklyn, New York, on the evening of the 12th, the latter was shot in the leg. Policeman Short arrived and Pace fled, and refusing to stop at the officer's call, was shot in the side and fatally wounded. Dr. J. W. Cox, a prominent citizen of Pine Bluff, Arkansas, was shot dead on the morning of the 12th by Edward Howell, whose house he entered "against Mrs. Harrell's protest," during her husband's absence.

The case of Miss Margaret L. Williams against David Keary, for \$10,000 damages for breach of promise of marriage was tried in New York on the 13th, and resulted in a verdict for the plaintiff for \$4500. Miss Williams was the sister of Keary's first wife.

Policeman Jeffords arrested Frank BeFrankie and Nelie Greely, in New Hampton, Iowa, on the evening of the 12th. The former made a break for liberty and was shot and fatally wounded by the policeman. BeFrankie is said to have made a business of recruiting for the Northern Wisconsin divs.

Peter Rooney, a blacksmith, was shot and fatally wounded in Chicago on the evening of the 12th, by Ferdinand Vecchione, an Italian blacksmith, who caught Rooney climbing through his shop window.

An epidemic of a virulent character, the nature and symptoms of which are not clearly stated, has caused 36 deaths among the Indians of Cold Lake, Manitoba, and their extermination is feared.

An explosion occurred at Johnson's dynamite factory, at Mount Wolf, York county, Pa., on the 13th, killing John Harline and demolishing the building. William Harris, a notorious character in Water Valley, Mississippi, was arrested on the 13th on a charge of killing James Jenkins, a young railroad brakeman. As Harris was being removed to jail he was taken from the officers by a mob, but was retaken by the sheriff and his deputies. Later, as Harris was being taken out of town, he was again captured by the mob, and was being strung up to a tree when Rev. Mr. Hudson, a Baptist preacher, appeared on the scene, and, after an impassioned appeal by him, the crowd returned Harris to the calabos. On the evening of the 13th another mob attacked the jail and forced an entrance, but found that Harris had been taken to Coffeerville. At last accounts it was said that another mob would go to Coffeerville and lynch Harris. Charles Gabit, a laborer, 36 years old, shot his wife in Reading, Pa., on the 14th, and then shot himself. The woman's wound is slight, but Gabit's condition is dangerous. They quarrelled about Gabit's failure to support the family. Tascott, the alleged murderer of Millionaire Snell in Chicago, has, it is stated, been arrested at Deer Lodge, Montana. His captors claim that he has all the marks mentioned in the descriptive circular sent out. Sophia Buck, aged 30 years, living on the second floor of a tenement house in New York, threw her 7-months-old babe out of the window on the morning of the 14th. The child was fatally hurt. The woman was abandoned by her husband, who left her ill and destitute, and while brooding over her condition her reason gave way.

All the Calumet shafts, except No. 5, at Calumet, Michigan, were sealed on the afternoon of the 13th, as the miners in shafts 2 and 4 were compelled to leave by gas and smoke. Fire is still burning in the section where it broke out, but it is said, there is no encroachment on the new timbers. The old process of "smothering" will be resumed, and the mine remains closed for an indefinite time.

An unknown man advanced in front of a railroad train in a suburb of Chicago, on the 14th, and, deliberately placing his head on the rails, was decapitated before the engineer could stop the train. George Wick, 30 years old, committed suicide in New York on the 14th, by cutting his throat. Despondency at his failure to secure work was the cause of the act.

Further advices from Shanghai, the China steamer which has arrived in Francisco, state that the famine in Annam and Kiangsu is worse. In one province 350 families are starving, and altogether several millions are suffering from famine caused by drought two years in succession.

A despatch from Helena, Montana, says that A. C. Webster, a stock raiser, just in from the cattle ranges, says that, while the present very agreeable and spring-like weather would appear to benefit cattle, it came far from it. The streams are frozen, and, as there is not a particle of snow on the ground, many cattle are in a famished condition for water. It is feared the streams will run dry very early this year owing, to the very light snowfall.

The saloons in Badger, Duncombe, Lehigh and Barnum, Iowa, were raided by citizens on the 13th, and the liquors spilled. It is stated that active measures are to be adopted in Fort Dodge at once to make the city "dry."

A passenger and freight train on the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy railroad, collided near St. Augustine, Illinois, on the evening of the 13th. Express Messenger Whiffin was killed and two others were injured.

50th CONGRESS.—Second Session.

SENATE.

In the U. S. Senate on the 11th, the credentials of Mr. Coke for his new term were filed. Mr. Dawes presented a petition from 120 Indian students at Hampton, Virginia, against the continuance of the system of issuing rations to Indians as unwise, and recommending their equivalent in farming implements and stock. Mr. Dawes said the memorial was in the handwriting of one of the students, was signed in their own handwriting by all except three of the 120, and was their own unpropitiated idea. The petition was referred. On motion of Mr. Sherman the Senate went into executive session, and remained with closed doors nearly three hours. When the doors were reopened the Union Pacific Funding bill was temporarily laid aside and the Naval bill taken up. Pending its consideration the Senate adjourned.

In the United States Senate, on the 12th, the bill to establish a National Board of Health was reported and placed on the calendar. The Naval Appropriation bill was passed with a few amendments. A message was received from the President transmitting a report from the Secretary of State in regard to the Behring's Sea seal fisheries. Mr. Everts asked unanimous consent for the setting aside of the unfinished business. The Union Pacific Funding bill, to take up the report of the Committee on Privileges and Elections in regard to outrages in Washington county, Texas. After discussion the resolution was taken up. It directs the Committee on Privileges and Elections to carefully reverse the existing laws regulating elections of Congressmen, with a view of providing for a more complete protection of the exercise of the elective franchise and for the punishment of offenders against it, and to report to the next legislative session of the Senate, by bill or otherwise. Adjourned.

In the U. S. Senate on the 13th, the conference report on the Diplomatic Appropriation bill was agreed to, after a statement by Mr. Hale in reply to a question of Mr. Sherman that the appropriation of half a million for the protection of American interests in Samoa was retained, and that the appropriation of \$100,000 for a coaling station at Pago Pago had been transferred to the Naval Appropriation bill, which had passed the Senate on the 12th. The resolution reported from the Committee on Privileges and Elections in regard to the alleged outrages in Washington county, Texas, was taken up, and Mr. Everts made an argument in its support. Mr. Coke obtained the floor, whereupon the Senate adjourned.

In the House on the 9th, the Post-office Appropriation bill was considered. Pending discussion the House adjourned.

In the House on the 11th, a conference was ordered on the amendments to the Direct Tax Refund bill. The South Carolina contested case of Smalls vs. Elliott was taken up. Pending its discussion, the House adjourned.

In the House on the 12th, the Senate bill appropriating \$250,000 to enable the President to protect American interests on the Isthmus of Panama, was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, with leave to report at any time. Mr. Townsend, of Illinois, introduced a bill, which was referred, appropriating \$50,000 for a special display of the farm products of the United States at the Paris Exposition. The consideration of the Smalls-Elliott contested election case was resumed. Mr. O'Connell, of Virginia, defended the majority report in favor of the sitting member. Mr. Cooper, of Ohio, spoke in support of the contestant, and was followed on the same side by Messrs. Johnson, of Indiana, and McComas, of Maryland. Mr. Outwaite, of Ohio, spoke in support of the majority report, and Mr. Smalls, the contestant, then spoke in his own behalf. The General Deficiency bill was reported and the House adjourned.

In the House on the 13th, three vetoes of private pension bills were received from the President and referred. Mr. Oates, from the Judiciary Committee, reported a bill to amend the Naturalization laws, which was ordered printed and recommitted. Mr. Wise, from the Committee on Naval Affairs, reported the bill awarding Chief Engineer Melville for meritorious services, and it was placed on the private calendar. The Indian Appropriation bill was reported and referred to the Committee of the Whole. The Smalls-Elliott contested case from South Carolina was taken up, and, after an exciting debate, the report of the majority, declaring Elliott, the sitting member, entitled to the seat, was adopted. Adjourned.

Beauty unaccompanied by virtue is as a flower without perfume.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.

SENATE.

In the Senate on the 12th the President pro tempore appointed Messrs. Delamater, Reyburn, Brown (of Montgomery), and Henninger a committee to represent the Senate and to meet other committees from Philadelphia City Councils and the State of New Jersey to make inspection of that part of the Delaware river affected by the operation of the River and Harbor bill. Adjourned.

In the Senate on the 13th, the appointment of Thomas P. Butler to be lay Judge of Chester county was confirmed. The President pro tempore signed the writ for a special election in the Eighth Senatorial District of Philadelphia on March 14th. Bills were passed finally, dividing up the cities of the State into three classes, and making Labor day a legal holiday. Adjourned.

In the Senate bills were introduced, as follows: By Mr. Shull to prevent the formation of trust and combinations to regulate the sale and consumption of articles or products which enter into general use.

By Mr. Watson, prohibiting the employment of children under 12 years of age in mines, collieries or breakers, and requiring a register kept in all such places of all the minors under 16 years of age.

The Senate bill making Saturday afternoon a legal holiday, and naming other days to be legal holidays was lost on third reading. Adjourned.

In the House on the 14th the Judiciary General Committee reported favorably the bill to allow druggists to carry on their business on Sundays.

The Appropriation Committee reported favorably the bill to appropriate \$50,000 to the Hahnemann Medical College at Philadelphia; also to make an appropriation of \$20,000 to the Gettysburg Memorial Association, to purchase the ground upon which the battle was fought.

Mr. Richmond introduced a bill to prevent the erection of a slaughter house within 1000 feet of a public square or schoolhouse.

The bill to establish a Board of Directors of National Schools was taken up and passed without further amendment, and sent to the Senate. Adjourned.

In the U. S. Senate on the 14th, messages were received from the President vetoing two private pension bills. The House bill for the allotment of lands in severalty to the Oneida Indians in Wisconsin was reported adversely. Mr. Hear offered a resolution, which was agreed to, directing the Secretary of the Treasury to transmit certified copies of all the sworn testimony in regard to alleged frauds in the New York Custom House taken by Special Agent Byrne. On motion of Mr. Edmunds the Committee on Commerce was directed to consider the expediency of the purchase by the United States of the Dismal Swamp Canal, with a view to the establishment of an adequate water way between Chesapeake Bay and the North Carolina Sounds. A conference was ordered on the Legislative Appropriation bill. Mr. Coke spoke in opposition to the Texas resolution reported by the Committee on Privileges and Elections. After an executive session the Senate adjourned.

HOUSE.

In the House on the 11th, the committee directed to investigate the teachers' orphans' schools was instructed to especially investigate the trouble in McAllisterville School. The Anti-food adulteration bill, which has been reported adversely, was recommitted. Adjourned.

In the House on the 12th, bills were introduced by Messrs. Kraitz and Fow to prevent trusts or combinations from affecting the prices of commodities or restricting trade; by Mr. Hayes, for the incorporation and regulation of passenger railway companies, and by Mr. Thompson, to prevent the sale or gift of cigarettes to persons under 16 years of age. The bill to prevent persons from unlawfully using or wearing the insignia or rosette of the Military Order of the Royal Legion of the United States, or the badge or button of the Grand Army of the Republic, was passed and sent to the Senate. The act of 1874, "to provide for the incorporation of certain corporations," was passed finally. Adjourned.

In the House on the 13th the bill regulating veterinary surgery, which had been recommitted, was reported with slight amendments, and passed on the calendar for third reading. Adjourned.

In the House on the 14th the Senate bill was passed providing for writs of error to the Supreme Court of the United States in all cases involving the jurisdiction of the Court below. A conference was ordered on the Legislative Appropriation bill. The bill to divide a portion of the Sioux Reservation in Dakota into separate reservations and to secure the relinquishment of the Indian title to the remainder was taken up and passed. The Fortification bill, with the Senate amendment, was referred to the Committee of the Whole. The conference report on the Senate bill for the admission of South Dakota as a State, reported a disagreement, was accepted and another conference was ordered. A resolution was offered by Mr. Baker, of New York, instructing the House conferees to withdraw their demand for the admission of New Mexico, and agree to the admission of North Dakota, Montana and Washington, and provide for the admission of South Dakota after a new election. Mr. Cox offered a substitute, differing from Mr. Baker's resolution only in omitting the provision for an election in South Dakota. The substitute was accepted by Mr. Baker, and Mr. Breckinridge, of Kentucky, demanded a division of the instructions. A vote was taken on the portion omitting New Mexico, and it was carried, 135 to 106. A motion to reconsider was tabled. The instruction in regard to South Dakota was agreed to—137 to 102, and Mr. Baker moved to reconsider and lay the motion to reconsider on the table. This gave rise to some filibustering, and the House adjourned.

JOHN BULL OWNS UP.

The American Girl is the Girl of the Period.

The London Daily Telegraph says it may fairly be acknowledged that the 'American girl' is the girl of the period. What she may become in the future nobody can tell. At present her destiny seems superb. Her father finds silver, strikes oil, kills pigs by the million, or raises corn by the square mile. She is pretty, can talk well, does not know what deference or diffidence means and enters Europe full of money. 'If he but shakes a traveling cloak, down our Appian roll the scudi,' said Mrs. Brown's Roman of John Bull. It is still truer of the little girl whom Uncle Sam does his best to spoil by unlimited tenderness and innumerable cheekies. As a result of her beauty, her smartness or her wealth—sometimes all combined—she has French nobles, Italian princes and English dukes at her feet, and can capture coronets at her will. Sometimes, as Mr. Henry James and Mr. Howells point out, she is not so eager for these ornaments as might be expected. For the truth must be told—marriage does not seem to the fair American what it still means to the majority of English women. Whether we call it a virtue or a fault, she can do without it. French women, their countrymen say, are not blameless as wives, but perfect as mothers. Young American ladies of culture do not greatly desire, it is said, either to be wives or mothers. It is well, then, that they should come to English soil to find out for themselves the attractiveness of English nurseries and homes. They will learn here that no queen in society has so true a throne as the wife and mother who mixes love with rule; and even if in future years the slender Yankee belle is hidden behind the ampler beauty of the English matron, we may still hear from her lips the wit and shrewdness, the acute accent, the intelligent questions, and the rapid repartee that proclaim her original nationality.

A Distinguished Officer From Michigan.

On the strength of holding a commission as second lieutenant in the Michigan militia, a young man from that State has been cutting a big figure in the military circles of Munich. He sported a gorgeous uniform, and impressed the German officers at the barracks and elsewhere as a remarkable man for his years. He spoke of his achievements on the field of Kalamazoo, of turning the tide of war at Coldwater and saving the day at Battle Creek. He explained, too, how he once crossed over to Windsor from Detroit with a small detachment, and held Canada in a state of terror and alarm until the saloon closed. He spoke of the long marches he had made along the St. Clair Flats, and gave a vivid description of the siege of Mount Clemens. No such sensation has been created in German military circles since the visit of General Phil. Sheridan, who didn't seem to have participated in half as many actions as the young Michigan lieutenant. But it was observed finally that he didn't pay his bills and was constantly borrowing money. German officers do not like a man who borrows money, preferring to have a monopoly of that industry themselves. Finally the pretentious Michigan officer was found to be a swindler and had to fly to escape arrest.

Feeding a Hungry Beggar.

A good hearted Harlem clergyman has for a six months been the victim of a beggar, who always told him the same story of not having had a mouthful to eat for twenty-four hours. He made the very common mistake of answering the appeal with a dime or a quarter. Recently several of his parishioners told him about this perpetually hungry man and how he had received financial aid from them. Recently the good dominie was the recipient of a visit from the hungry man. This time he had fasted longer than usual. 'My poor fellow, you must be hungry,' said the clergyman, sympathetically; 'come down with me to the kitchen.'

The beggar's face fell, but he followed. At the master's bidding the cook placed an enormous roast, from which the clergyman cut an enormous slice. 'There, my poor fellow, eat your fill.' The fellow ate, not daring to refuse, and, as his plate became emptied, the clergyman, with ferocious hospitality, replenished it again and again. The beggar ate until it became positively painful to watch him. After he had eaten about three ordinary meals the beggar with an invitation to call whenever he felt hungry.

This reclamation of arid lands by means of reservoirs and canals, to be built by the government, will be a proper thing to do whenever the people of the United States run short of other lands requiring no such artificial works. Maj. Powell estimates that when the works have been erected it will cost the farmers from \$1 to \$2 per acre to irrigate their lands. For these sums, capitalized, millions of acres of well watered lands can be bought out-right. It is a waste of money to reclaim arid lands at a time when there is an abundance of good land unworked.

Cultivate charity. She'll sit down on covetousness every time.

Trust no secrets to a friend which, if reported, would make an enemy.

The immigrants to this country from England and Wales last year exceeded those from Ireland by 25,000.

MAXIM is reported to have devised a gun that will fire 1000 shots a minute in any direction. This is supposed to be his Maximum effort.

A BILL has been introduced in the Illinois Legislature, providing for the execution of criminals by electricity. The provisions of the bill are similar to those of the New York law.

WET WEATHER IN FLORIDA.—Southern papers state that the Florida farmers are complaining of the extremely wet weather of the past two months, which has greatly retarded the trucking business in nearly every section of the State. Vegetable growers are much discouraged, because their crops will most likely be too late in maturing to bring the highest prices.

FOR THE NEW STATE to be formed out of Washington Territory the name Taconias proposed, and that of Winona is suggested for Southern Dakota, because it was the name given to the first born child of a Dakota woman. Mont zuma is the name selected for the State to be formed out of New Mexico. After all, there is really nothing in a name, except that in those cases they should be of either historical or geographical import.

A WORKMAN who had inhaled the vapor of burning coals, a Berlin correspondent relates, was taken to the Charite lately. All efforts to restore consciousness having failed, Professor Leyden ordered the injection of 250 cubic centimetres of blood taken from another patient, into one of the veins of the right arm. The patient showed signs of life five hours after the transfusion, then slept for about ten hours and awoke in excellent spirits. His further recovery was rapid, and he is now quite well.

A CAPE BRETON PAPER reports a startling occurrence on McQueen's Lake, a short time since. Reliable witnesses say that the ice with which the lake was covered suddenly cracked like a boiler explosion and something very like a whale rose above the surface, showing between 20 and 60 feet of its body. Then it subsided, but the hole in the ice and the dirt cast about were left to mark its appearance. A similar incident happened there about 25 years ago, causing great excitement. A scientist advances the theory of a hot spring or sort of volcano which is affected periodically and throws mud, etc., from the bottom of the lake.

NO DIFFICULTIES any longer daunt the civil engineer who can figure out a money profit on his undertaking. Plans have been drawn, it is said, for a bridge nearly twenty-three miles long, from Cape Girardeau to Polkstone. The cost is estimated at \$180,000,000, which does not seem extravagant, but the net profit to be realized from freight and traffic is estimated at \$26,000,000. The engineers assume, of course, that passengers would not have to be educated to trusting themselves on a bridge twenty-three miles long, built over the troublesome Straits of Dover, but that, on the contrary, everybody would desert the boats and flock to the bridge.

WESTERN civilization will have a hard time of it in China as long as the Emperor puts so much faith in his astrologers as to stop the building of a railroad because of an evil omen—a fire in the Imperial palace. The astrologer, as long as he is believed, has a great advantage over anybody else. He can get omens of all sorts from every day events and rule the country by his mysterious power. The first steps in the civilization of China will have to be made in the direction of freeing the rulers of superstitious faith in their astrologers, and this will be no easy task. There is one other way of getting round the difficulty, and that is the purchase of the astrologers, but that is immoral and subjects enterprises of great pit and moment to a great deal of risk.

PROF. RICHARDS, of Yale College, has made a study of the records of 2435 students in order to determine, if possible, the relations of athletics, in Yale, to scholarship. The general result is that the athletes fall slightly behind the non-athletes in scholarship, but not so much as to demand a suppression of such exercises. In some branches of athletic exercises the students who engage in the sports are above the average of the non-athletes in scholarship. For the slight difference noted between the two great classes, there may be greater strength and endurance or physical development compensating for the loss of scholarship. This does not appear from the report, but a healthy, energetic man with fair scholarship is a better product of college education than a debilitated student with higher average in book studies. So far as statistics go, however, the most that can be claimed for Prof. Richards's report is that it is negative in its results, and shows that athletic games do not seriously interfere with the scholarship of students.

Trust no secrets to a friend which, if reported, would make an enemy.