

54th CONGRESS.

Opening Scenes in the Senate and House.

REED ELECTED SPEAKER.

Admission to the Capitol Galleries Was by Card Only—The Senate Made No Attempt at Organizing—Banks of Flowers in Both Chambers.

The 54th Congress met and organized, with the usual routine proceedings. The opening day of a Congress is always a sort of holiday for many people, particularly ladies, in Washington.

As early as 9 o'clock the rush began and scores of men and women were making their way into the Capitol, intent upon securing good seats.

For the first time, at least in many years, access to the House galleries could only be had through tickets issued by members. The crowd that had no tickets could go no further than the main floor, and complaints both loud and deep were uttered.

Those who were fortunate enough to have friends or acquaintances among members were enabled to obtain the necessary bits of pastboard and thus pass the guards, who were stationed at every stairway and at the elevators. Notwithstanding this new regulation, many more reached the upper corridors than were able to get into the galleries.

At 11:45 the floor was cleared and those who had not the privilege of the floor reluctantly retired and sought at the thronged doors of the galleries an opportunity to get a glimpse of the proceedings below.

In the press gallery every seat was taken by correspondents of the great dailies of the country. As the hands of the clock opposite the Speaker's desk pointed to the hour of 12, Col. "Ike" Hill, the deputy sergeant-at-arms, lifted into its place on the green malachite pedestal alongside of the rostrum the ebony eagle-surmounted mace, the emblem of the House's authority; the flag above the House was run up and Hon. James Kerr, the clerk of the last House, called the Fifty-fourth House of Representatives to order.

A hush immediately fell upon the assembly, and the Rev. Mr. Bagley, the chaplain of the House, offered the invocation.

Under the direction of Mr. Kerr the roll of the members elected to the Fifty-fourth House was called.

Mr. Reed, for whom every eye was inquiring, had not made his appearance, but Ex-Speaker Crisp, who had taken a seat in about the center of the Democratic side, was pointed out as he sat chatting to those around him. At the conclusion of the roll-call Mr. Kerr announced that 841 of the 356 members of the House were present.

Mr. Kerr then, in accordance with the custom, stated that the first thing in order was the selection of a presiding officer, and called for nominations for Speaker.

The result of the vote was: Reid, 234; Crisp, 95; Bell, 6; Culberson, 1. Total 336. Mr. Kerr's announcement of Mr. Reid's election was greeted with a thunder of applause.

Messrs. Crisp, Grosvenor and Bell were appointed a committee to conduct the Speaker to the chair, and soon appeared at the main entrance, Mr. Reid leaning on the arm of Ex-Speaker Crisp, and Messrs. Grosvenor and Bell arm in arm.

Representative Linton, of Michigan, has the distinction of having introduced the first bill in the House of the Fifty-fourth Congress. It is in the interest of railway postal clerks.

The Senate.

Exactly at 12 o'clock the Vice-President ascended to the presiding officer's chair, and rapping once called the Senate to order.

With impressive tones the blind chaplain of the Senate invoked Divine blessing on the chamber, referring eloquently to the affliction in the family of ex-Senator Wilson, of Iowa, and to the absence of Isaac Bassett, the veteran door-keeper of the Senate, but who is now dangerously ill.

The first business transacted was the swearing in of new Senators and those re-elected. They proceeded to the clerk's desk in groups of three and four, accompanied by their state colleagues, and with uplifted right hands took the oath as it was read by the Vice-President.

AN INGENUOUS SWINDLE.

A Penniless Telegraph Operator Collects Money on Bogus Messages.

R. W. Tracy, who says his home is in Elmira, N. Y., has been arrested in Cleveland, O., while practicing an ingenious swindle. He employed a messenger boy and sent him with bogus telegrams enclosed in Western Union envelopes to the homes of fifty well-known persons. The boy was told to collect \$1 charges on each message. He had succeeded in collecting the charges from four or five persons when one woman objected to paying the charges and called a policeman. The messenger boy and Tracy, who was waiting outside the house, were arrested. The fifty bogus messages, all addressed, in the boy's possession, Tracy says he is a telegraph operator, and that he adopted the scheme to get money, of which he was in need. He was held in \$500 bail.

MR. SPOFFORD'S ACCOUNTS.

The Treasury Report Sent to the President.

The report of the Treasury auditor on the shortages in the accounts of Mr. Spofford, the librarian of Congress, has been completed and delivered to the President.

It is understood that Mr. Spofford has deposited from time to time the amounts found to be due, with the exception of a comparatively small amount, about which there is some difference of opinion.

When questioned as to whether the report disclosed any wrong-doings on the part of Mr. Spofford beyond carelessness and an extremely loose system of keeping accounts, the Treasury officials declined to answer, saying that the matter was entirely in the hands of the President.

FIFTY-FOURTH CONGRESS.

HOUSE.

FIRST DAY.—In the House Thomas B. Reed, of Maine, was elected Speaker by a vote of 234, as against 95 for Chas. F. Crisp, of Georgia. Mr. Reed, in taking the chair, made a brief speech, in which, among other things, he said that those who had acted with wisdom in the past might be fairly expected to act with wisdom in the future. Messrs. McDowell, of Pennsylvania; Russell, of Missouri; Glenn, of New York; McElroy, of Ohio, and Conden, of Michigan, were chosen as Clerk, Sergeant-at-Arms, Doorkeeper, Postmaster and Chaplain, respectively. The Rules of the Fifty-first Congress (popularly known as the Reed Rules) were adopted for the government of the House in the present Congress, after an assurance from Mr. Cannon, who had offered the resolution, that they would hereafter be referred to the Committee on Rules, and that the House would have an opportunity to discuss the report of the committee. After a drawing for seats, the House adjourned.

SECOND DAY.—In the House the new blind Chaplain, Rev. Mr. Coulson, of Michigan, coupled with a petition for grace within one border one that we should be quick to react in any insult to the nation. After the reading of the President's Message the House adjourned.

THIRD DAY.—The House of Representatives was not in session to-day.

FOURTH DAY.—The House of Representatives was not in session to-day.

FIFTH DAY.—The House was in session for only half an hour. Mr. Baker, of New Hampshire, attempted to introduce a resolution calling upon the Secretary of Agriculture to explain his failure to expend an appropriation for the purchase of seeds for distribution among congressional constituents.

SENATE.

FIRST DAY.—In the Senate the new members were sworn in. It being learned that the President's message would not be sent in until to-morrow, the Senate adjourned until that time.

SECOND DAY.—The President's Message was read in the United States Senate, and then laid on the table. Subsequently that part of it relating to the payment of the indemnity to British subjects, in connection with the Berlin Sea controversy, was referred specifically to the Committee on Foreign Relations. Mr. Morgan announced his intention of addressing the Senate on that subject. The duties of the United States Government in relation to the recognition of the principles of the Monroe doctrine were demanded in joint resolutions introduced by Messrs. Lodge and Cullom. Memorials were introduced from the States of Illinois, New Hampshire and Massachusetts concerning "the deplorable condition of affairs in Turkey." After an executive session the Senate adjourned.

THIRD DAY.—Mr. Mitchell presented a letter from H. A. Dutton, claiming the right to be admitted as a Senator from the State of Delaware. The letter and papers were referred to the committee on privileges, and on motion of Mr. Gray Mr. Dutton was accorded the privilege of the floor of the Senate pending a determination of his case. Mr. Hoar offered a resolution denouncing the recent atrocities in Turkey and assuring the executive branch of the cordial endorsement of Congress of a vigorous course for the protection of American citizens in Turkey and the suppression of the barbarities against Christians. Another resolution by Mr. Hoar requesting information from the President as to the correspondence with Turkey was passed. The first formal speech of the session was made by Mr. Allen (populist of Nebraska) on Cuba and the Monroe doctrine. It was made from manuscript. Mr. Allen urged the recognition of the Cuban insurgents, the annexation of Cuba and a strong foreign policy.

FOURTH DAY.—The session of the Senate was brief again. Its only feature, beyond the introduction of a bill by Senator Chandler, of New Hampshire, for the free coinage of silver when England, France and Germany should enact similar legislation, and a resolution by his colleague—Senator Gilliland—declaring it to be the sentiment of the Senate that it was unwise and inexpedient to retire the greenbacks, was a short speech by Senator Gall, of Florida, in favor of the recognition of the Cuban revolutionists as belligerents.

FIFTH DAY.—The United States Senate was not in session today.

DISASTERS AND CASUALTIES.

John Sharpe was frozen to death near New Martinsville, W. Va.

The British tramp steamer Garsedd, from Singapore for Port Townsend, Washington, is 24 days overdue, and is believed to have been lost.

The boiler in the engine house of the New Athens, Illinois, Coal Company exploded, injuring six men. Jacob Eng and Henry Sands were mortally wounded.

By the fall of ceiling in a public school in Paterson, N. J., Bella Craig, aged 10 years, had her scalp almost torn from her head. Several other children were severely injured.

Robert Watkins, 27 years old, was found frozen to death in his wagon near Hay Meadow, Wilkes county, N. C. He had been over the mountains with a load of produce.

At Milton, West Virginia, several boys tried to grid some blast powder in a coffee mill. Charles Meadows and Kitchen Wilson were probably fatally injured by the explosion which ensued.

Anton Hodenpny, a well-known New York diamond merchant, fell from a wagon at Peoria, Ill., and was killed. He had \$70,000 worth of diamonds in his possession at the time of the accident.

J. W. Fortalis, engineer; W. A. Stanley, conductor, and G. H. Helig, brakeman, were killed in a wreck of coal trains on the Norfolk and Western Railroad, at Lick Branch, West Virginia.

A thousand pounds of nitro-glycerine exploded in the magazine of the Humes Torpedo Company, near Butler, Pa., and two men were blown to atoms. The magazine building was utterly demolished.

The family of Albert Coulbillion, of West Sandwich, Ontario, were poisoned by eating bologna sausage which is supposed to have been made from diseased meat. One child died and three others are not expected to survive.

A passenger train on the Savannah, Florida and Western Railway was wrecked by the spreading of the rails, 15 miles north of Jacksonville. A sleeping car turned completely over and seven of the passengers were more or less seriously injured.

Reports of destitution from the northern coast of Newfoundland continue to be received at St. John's. Messages received state that the inhabitants of White Bay are in a condition of almost actual starvation. "Traders are afraid to visit certain localities seeking fish, fearing that their stocks will be taken by the starving people."

The Turkish authorities are having trouble with the Bedouins of Southern Arabia, and the whole country is now unsafe to travel.

13 LIVES LOST.

Mine Laborers Buried Under a Mass of Earth.

STRUCK WITH GREAT FORCE.

It Fell From the Mouth to the Bottom of a Pit at the Tilly Foster Mines, a Distance of 300 Feet, Crushing the Men Out of All Recognition.

An accident resulting in the loss of thirteen or fourteen lives occurred at the Tilly Foster mines, near Carmel, N. Y., a little after three o'clock in the afternoon. Foreman Patrick Murtha was descending into the pit to take the time of two gangs of laborers, numbering about thirty-five men, who were working at the bottom, when a vast weight of earth and rock slid with the force of an avalanche from the mouth of the pit to the bottom, a distance of 300 feet. The earth crashed over the men with tremendous force. Out of one gang of eleven only five came out alive, and three of the men employed in another gang were taken out dead.

The cave-in caused the greatest excitement, but as soon as possible gangs of men were set to work to remove the bodies of those known to be under the mass of earth.

The accident occurred at Tilly Foster, a small town located near Carmel. The first intimation to those below was the low rumbling sound which preceded the fall of the mass. But the shock came so suddenly that few were able to reach places of safety. Half a dozen of the workers were directly under the ledge from which the mass of earth fell, and they were buried under tons of debris. The fall was tremendous, for great pieces of rock and earth were carried along in the avalanche.

One of the first to be brought to the surface was foreman Murtha. He was found near the top, pinned down by a huge piece of rock. The rescuing party dug him out and bore him, still alive, to the fresh air. Murtha was badly mangled, and his clothes were almost torn from his back. He was taken to his home, but a short distance away, but died almost immediately after reaching there. Murtha was married, and his wife, along with the wives of the other unfortunate, stood at the top of the slope while the rescuers were at work.

All of the bodies were horribly mangled, the sharp pieces of the iron and rock tearing through their clothing and peeling the flesh from their faces and bodies. One by one the bodies were brought out and carried to the carpenter shop, where the awe-stricken crowd of people looked upon the remains and uttered exclamations of woe when the identity of the victim was made known.

William Oस्पell and four companions succeeded in getting away by running. Five Italians also got out alive. One of the Italians, who came down on the cable car for the purpose of rendering assistance, was killed by a second fall of rock.

Despite the dangers Patrick H. Kelley and J. McGinn descended the mine in the rear. They succeeded in organizing the frightened men who had not been killed outright, secured tools and commenced to remove the bodies.

The accident is supposed to have been caused principally by the heavy rains, which opened crevices in many places.

The mine is owned by the Lackawanna Iron and Coal Company, of New York and Scranton, Pa. Clinton Stephens is the contractor in charge, and the men killed and injured were in his employ.

CHANDLER'S COINAGE PLAN.

He Proposes To Change the Ratio to Fifteen and a-Half to One.

Senator Chandler introduced a bill providing for the unlimited coinage of gold and silver, in connection with other nations, and establishing the ratio of one to fifteen and a-half.

After providing for coining the bullion and the issuing of silver and gold certificates, the third section of the bill provides that the law shall take effect and become operative when similar laws shall have been adopted by the Governments of England, France and Germany.

"which laws shall, in substance, provide for the purchase of gold and silver bullion without limit, and shall make legal tender of the gold and the principal coins and any certificate representing them, the ratio between the gold and silver to be the same provided for in this act; and when such laws have been passed by the governments aforesaid, the President shall make proclamation accordingly, and this law shall then take effect and be in force."

WORLD'S FAIR MEDALS.

They Will Be Distributed This Month—Diplomas Almost Ready.

Mr. Scoville, of the Scoville Manufacturing Company, of Waterbury, Conn., the contractors for the Columbian World's Fair medal, was at the Treasury Department and announced that all of the 24,000 medals would be completed and ready for delivery by the middle of the present month.

The medals, which are artistically and otherwise very satisfactory to the government, are put up in handsome aluminum cases, so that both sides may be readily seen, and these are again inclosed in wooden boxes. Thick pastebord shipping box wrappers are furnished with each medal.

The diplomas are nearing completion at the Bureau of Engraving and Printing, and it is expected that both the diplomas and the medals will be ready for delivery some time next February. The entire cost of the medals, cases, &c., will be about \$50,000.

FORT WORTH TRAIN HELD UP.

Robbers Were Unsuccessful, as They Could Not Get the Safe Open.

Five miles north of Childress, Texas, train No. 2, northbound, on the Fort Worth and Denver was held up by two men. Supt. Good states that the robbers got nothing, as the messenger could not open the safe. It is also stated that officers are now close to the robbers. No one on the train was hurt.

PENNSYLVANIA ITEMS.

Epitome of News Gleaned From Various Parts of the State.

Joe Passarillo and Anthony Marver who were captured at Hazleton after an exciting chase, were given a hearing by Alderman Martin, who committed them to jail without bail on several grave charges. In addition to the assault and highway robbery of Lawrence McKelvey and John Hodor, for which offense they were primarily arrested, it now appears that Passarillo was concerned in the brutal attack upon Patrick Shields several days ago. At the hearing a broker's ticket for a watch, which proved to be the property of Shields, was found in Passarillo's pocket.

Frank Saners, a young man who eludes Lebanon as his home, hired a horse and buggy from Liverman Beach, of Ebensburg and took the rig to Huntingdon, where he was arrested on a charge of horse stealing. He was brought back to Ebensburg and in twenty hours afterward had been tried, found guilty and sentenced to twenty-nine months in the penitentiary. Saners claims he was intoxicated at the time.

George Major, the young man who stabbed Conductor Daniel Ogden and Special Officer Peter Stringer with a knife in Media, got off by paying the costs, amounting to \$140.

Charles Ball, a brakeman on the Delaware and Hudson Railroad, had both his legs cut off above the knee and died an hour after. A brake chain snapped in twain, throwing him beneath the car. He leaves a wife and one child.

The golden wedding anniversary of Mr. and Mrs. Gottschall, of Spring City, was celebrated in an enjoyable manner by the old couple. Guests were present from Philadelphia, Schuylkill, Pottsville, Parker's Ford, Boyer's Ford and other places.

Thomas A. Parke, a prominent business man and chairman of Allegheny Common Council, died suddenly at his home from the formation of a blood clot on the heart. He had been ill with bronchitis. He was born 46 years ago at Wellsburg, W. Va., and is survived by a wife and son.

Frank Mattison, aged 24 years, met with a peculiar accident that caused his death near Meshoppen. He was riding with two companions on top of a load of stone when he fell from the wagon and the heavy load passed over him. His skull was crushed and his neck broken.

The movement among Pittsburg bankers to send \$1,000,000 in gold to the United States Treasury has fallen through. About a quarter of a million in gold has been sent from Pittsburg to relieve the Treasury, but the concerted movement has been dropped.

Charles Volkert, of Franklin Street, South Easton, was killed by an engine at the Lehigh Valley Railroad shops in South Easton.

By a fall of roof slate, Ludwig Harlusky, of Scranton, aged 25 years, was killed instantly in the Meadow Brook mine. He was unmarried.

The Pennsylvania Belt and Nut Works, the East Lebanon Iron Mills, the Weimer Machine Works and West End Rolling Mills have all resumed operations after a brief shut-down.

At the opening of the December court term at Pittsburg, Presiding Judge Single spoke to the Grand Jury of the growing evil of small suits improperly sent into the court. He advised that in all such cases those bringing the suits be mulcted of the costs.

Henry McCall's 5-year-old child was burned to death at his home in West Nottingham. McCall had butchered the previous day and failed to put all the fire out. As the child was playing around the pile of ashes her clothes caught fire and death followed in a few hours.

There was considerable excitement in the County Prison at Allentown by the antics of Dominick McElroy, who is serving a year's sentence for stealing coal. McElroy is mentally deranged, and became violent. He broke the lamp in his cell, smashed furniture and created havoc in general. His yelling made the other prisoners boisterous, and it was some time before quiet was restored.

A "snapper" engine which had assisted a mail train up the mountain, when returning to Altoona struck two unknown men who were walking on the track at the east end of Gallitzin Tunnel, killing one instantly and probably fatally injuring the other.

J. K. Elroy, aged 47 years, an oil driller, whose home was at Bradford, died at the West Penn Hospital from surgical shock, the result of having both legs amputated. He was injured by a train at McDonald.

While attempting to crawl under a freight train at Kittanning Point two laborers had their feet crushed. They were picked up by a passing engine.

Michael Kubiat, a laborer at furnace No. 1 of the Lackawanna Iron & Steel Company's furnace, at Scranton, pulled out the slide of one of the furnace gas conductors, allowing gas and flames to burst forth. Death resulted within a few moments as a result of inhaling the gas. The unfortunate man was 28 years of age and leaves a wife and one child.

The rear half of the main building of the Ajax Iron Works, Corry, was destroyed by fire. The carpenter shop and erecting rooms were totally destroyed, and the main shops, which cover three floors, partially so. The loss is about \$100,000, covered by insurance. A large force of men will be thrown out of employ on it.

Mr. and Mrs. James Melford, John Pick-up and Mrs. Laura Stevenson, of Wood's Run, were drowned in the Monongahela River. They had been in Brownsville and it was late when they started down the river in a skiff. When about two miles below Brownsville they met the steamer James G. Blaine coming up the river. They got too close to the steamer and the waves upset the skiff, throwing them out into the water. They soon became helpless and sank to the bottom.

CHOKED TO DEATH.

Cornelius Lipscomb, of Washington, Scoums to a Strange Accident.

Cornelius Lipscomb, of Washington, D. C., met with a horrible death while on a visit to a son near Old Church, in Hanover county, Va. A portion of the bone of a fowl lodged in Mr. Lipscomb's throat while eating dinner. Every effort was made to remove the bone, but without success. At one time Mr. Lipscomb seemed upon the point of recovering, when he suddenly lost consciousness and died in a very short time.

CABLE SPARKS.

The Pope is said to have sent 50,000 francs to the Armenian relief fund.

At the opening of the Reichstag Baron von Bülow-Berenberg was re-elected president of that body.

Great Britain is said to have sent a negative reply to President Cleveland's letter urging arbitration of the Venezuelan dispute.

General Maceo, the Cuban insurgent leader, has invaded Santa Clara and is attempting to form a junction with Maximo Gomez.

It is said that there is a great dissatisfaction in Nicaragua with the President's announced intention of allowing the United States to superintend the survey or construction of the Nicaragua canal.

The Porte has issued a statement in regard to the recent troubles in Trebizond, in which it is said that the riots were started by the Armenians, who planned a great slaughter throughout the country.

A company of American capitalists, it is said, have made an offer to purchase the Windsor Hotel, Montreal. The offer makes 50 per cent. of the capital stock and bonds, amounting in all to \$750,000.

It is said that in the next issue of the Jesuit organ, the Civita Cattolica, the Vatican will publish an official note, blaming retrospectively, the Chicago religious congress and condemning the idea of a similar congress at the Paris exposition in 1900.

Said Pasha, president of the Turkish council of ministers, is reported to have taken refuge in the British embassy at Constantinople, being in fear of his life. The Russian Black Sea fleet is said to be in readiness to sail upon a day's notice. There are indications at Constantinople that the ambassadors of the powers have tired of the Sultan's dilatory policy.

Russia is said to be in accord with the other European powers in their determination to have order restored throughout the Turkish empire, and the powers are said to have joined an ultimatum to Turkey to issue firmans for extra guardships within 72 hours or the passage of the Dardanelles would be forced.

METHOD IN THEIR MADNESS.

The Armenian Massacres as Viewed by an American in Turkey.

The following letter from Constantinople has been received in Boston. Its author has spent the major portion of his life in Turkey: "Telegrams and letters inform the world," he says, "of the continued massacres, the sack and loss at Harpoot. Note that: "1. Women and children are not outraged and killed as in the ordinary Mohammedan massacres.

"2. The chief object of the Moslem mobs and the Kurds is to kill the principal men among the Armenians and plunder their shops and houses.

"3. The greatest slaughter is among the poor villagers, who try to defend their little all.

"4. The Turks and Kurds seem to have come to the deliberate conclusion that the surest method of extermination is to kill the men and to leave the survivors utterly helpless. In this they are right. The suffering in the highlands of Armenia this winter must be perfectly awful.

"5. The government clearly means that when the scheme of reforms is put into execution the number of Armenians to be benefited thereby shall be sensibly diminished. This is the real reply of the Turks to Europe.

"6. There has been system in all the massacres. Beginning at Trebizond, the wave of murderous assault and pillage has swept on till now it has reached Sivas, and where it will stop we know not. The Kurds never had such a grand opportunity for killing and stealing. They bring even their women along to take care of the stolen sheep and cattle of the poor villagers while the male Kurds advance upon the cities.

"Such is the new baptism of blood to which in the nineteenth century the poor Christians of Turkey are subjected, while four hundred millions of Christians in America and Europe look on! We hear that ships of war have sailed from France, Italy, &c., but we know that the powers of Europe have not even now laid aside their jealousies for one short hour to stay the wave of Moslem cruelty and fanaticism and save the lives of these suffering, dying Christians. The Armenians are in utter despair."

INDUSTRIAL ACTIVITY.

A Number of New Railroad Enterprises in the South.

Special reports to the Manufacturers' Record show the projection of a number of railroad enterprises in the South; some for lines of considerable length, but the majority for short extensions or for connecting links between important systems. There is considerable activity in the projection of electric railways, and especially in and around Baltimore, where a number of important lines are to be constructed.

In cotton mill matters there have been reported during the week a proposed addition at a cost of \$125,000 to a Kentucky mill, which will make it one of the largest mills in the entire South; a \$330,000 cotton mill company incorporated in Texas; a \$10,000 rope and cotton factory enterprise in Alabama; the enlargement of two North Carolina mills and one in South Carolina; and a proposed \$100,000 spindle mill in North Carolina; a \$100,000 cottonseed oil mill is projected in Texas; a 20-ton ice plant is reported for Mississippi; a 10-ton ice plant in Louisiana; a rice mill and electric plant in the same State; a bicycle factory and flour mill in Kentucky; a \$25,000 gold mining company in Georgia; a \$25,000 lumber company in Virginia; two oil-boring companies, one of \$400,000 and one of \$300,000 capital, coal mining and a roller mill enlargement in West Virginia.

MILLIONS FOR THE NAVY.

Half of England's Budget Surplus of \$20,000,000 to Go for that Purpose.

The London "Chronicle" expects that the budget surplus will amount to \$20,000,000. Half of this will be devoted to the navy; \$5,000,000 to the relief of husbandry, and \$5,000,000 to the endowment of voluntary schools.

Mr. William Cairns, who has just died in Scotland, had a unique claim for distinction. He had read through every line of the many volumes of the Encyclopaedia Britannica. He did it in preparing an index for that work and was well paid for his trouble.