

The Centre Reporter

Centre Hall, Pa.

THE OLD-TIME PARLOR.

There used to be in almost every rural home in the country a sacred room—the "parlor." Every reader is probably familiar with it, for it still exists, though not so universally as it did years ago, when no home in the land, in village, hamlet, or on farm, was considered complete or well-equipped without this dismal apartment—carefully shuttered in against air and sunlight; a jar of waxwork on the center table; a collection of curious odds and ends on the what-not in the corner; mottoes and chromos on the wall; a vivid Ingrain or Brussels carpet on the floor. The sound of festivity seldom penetrated the gloom of this parlor, says the Philadelphia Press. At rare intervals distinguished visitors were received in it—witnesses of wedding or funeral. It was never a pleasant room; it smelled damp and dusty; the children stood in awe of it; and yet it was their mother's pride. Happily the day of the pentup, unsavory parlor is fast passing away. The children, going out into the big world with observant eyes, have returned to the homestead and insisted upon flinging open the doors and windows and admitting a burst of sunlight and a rush of pure air. They have made a living room of a tomb. In their childhood the kitchen was the most comfortable place in the house; it was scrubbed every day, ventilated always, made light and airy and clean and hospitable while the ghostly forbidden precincts of the parlor were exposed to sanitary search not oftener than twice a year—during the inevitable spring and fall housecleaning.

It is only recently that they have discovered a way of canning decayed eggs, and there are bakers in the large cities who are so devoid of honesty that they would as soon use rotten eggs as fresh ones. Thus a market is created, and but for the fact that the state under its pure food laws can step in and condemn this product as unfit for consumption, the problem created by cold storage would have been rendered more complex as the year goes by, says the Rochester Herald. It is not beyond the bounds of possibility that meat which has been cold-stored to the point of decay is treated in the same manner. No one ever hears of it being thrown away.

And now the London police have discovered that the prisoner convicted by finger prints, and who, it was reported, had established his innocence by indisputable evidence that, being in the army at the time, he could not have been guilty, was, after all, a fakir. He stole the army records of another man to bolster up his defense and came very nearly getting away with it. The police are doubly pleased at the discovery, since it prevents a guilty man from escaping and re-establishes the finger-print theory as infallible at least so far as experience has gone. But for a time the fakir had both the London police and the finger-print theory "grogy."

Secretary Dickinson has just issued a report on the militia of this country that shows how little the minds of Americans are turned away from peace and toward war. He announces that in 1910 the strength of the organized militia forces of the nation is only 119,660 men, an increase of but 3,113 in seven years, says the Boston Globe. He does not add that there are almost a thousand as many clergymen, printers, manufacturers, grocers, butchers, stenographers or masons in the nation as there are citizen soldiers. But the fact is true.

A Butte man who is being sued for breach of promise is charged by the plaintiff with having called her "My Dear Tobacco." No wonder she wants \$10,000, since he was not explicit enough to say whether she was of fine cut, or a mere plug.

Returns from the New York public library indicate that fiction fell off in demand as compared with books of a historical or scientific nature. This should spur the Indiana school of novelists to renewed efforts or something.

A San Francisco man says he will rot before he pays alimony to his divorced wife, but it is believed he will change his mind before decomposition gets a firm hold on him.

It may be theoretically possible to transport 10,000 men across the Alps in aeroplanes, but with the example of Moisant and Hoxley in their minds the chances are that 9,000 of them will refuse to be transported in that way.

China will sacrifice 200,000,000 geese for the artificial hair market this year, and all will be sent to America. The joke on the Chinese is that they don't know that puffs have gone out of fashion now.

AMERICAN HELP FOR PERSIA

Experts to Reorganize Its Finances.

W. M. SHUSTER IS TREASURER GENERAL.

W. Morgan Shuster, of Washington, Will Be Appointed Treasurer General of the Empire, and Four Other Americans Will Assist Him in the Work Which Will Take at Least Three Years.

Washington, D. C.—To assist the Persian government in reorganizing its finances W. Morgan Shuster, of this city, will be appointed treasurer general of the empire. Mr. Shuster, who reorganized the Philippine customs service and revised the Philippine tariff law, is one of five Americans who will be employed by Persia in its financial rehabilitation. The Persian Parliament recently passed a law authorizing the government to seek five American experts to reorganize the finances. The Persian charge in Washington thereupon took up the matter with the State Department, which suggested the names of five Americans competent to undertake the task.

In addition to the treasurer general, the positions to be filled by Americans are those of inspector and an expert accountant, who will serve as assistants to the treasurer general, and a director of taxation, with one assistant. The American appointees will be under the direction of the Persian Minister of Finance and their contracts will be for a minimum of three years. Arrangements practically have been completed for the appointment of these other experts, and their names will be announced shortly.

The advent of the Americans in Persia will be in line with the policy of the new regime of the empire to introduce foreign talent in various capacities for the purpose of modernizing the administration of the country.

Mr. Shuster has had many years of experience abroad in the service of the United States government. From 1898 to 1901 he was in Cuba, chiefly in the customs service, and in 1901 he was appointed collector of customs for the Philippine Islands, having charge of reorganizing the Philippine customs service and revising the Philippine tariff laws. Upon the recommendation of President Taft, who was then secretary of war, Mr. Shuster was appointed by President Roosevelt in 1906 secretary of public instruction in the Philippine Islands and a member of the Philippine Commission. He is a member of the bar of the Supreme Court of the United States and of the federal Court of Customs Appeals, as well as of the Supreme Court and Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia.

\$10,000 FOR A CALF.

Record Price for Youngster Only Seven Weeks Old.

Brockton, Mass.—Daniel W. Field, of this city, has announced the sale of his seven weeks' old Royal purple bull calf, Aggie Cornucopia Sir Colantha, to W. H. Miner, of Chicago, the purchase price being \$10,000, the highest amount, it is believed, ever paid for a young bull. The bull was, figuratively, born with a silver spoon in its mouth, its dam and sire being world's champions. The dam was Aggie Cornucopia Pauline, owned by Mr. Field. Pauline is the world's champion senior four-year-old. The sire is Colantha Johanna Lad, also owned by Mr. Field. He paid \$8,000 for the bull. Both sire and dam are products of previous world's champions.

Mr. Miner operates a farm of 7,000 acres at Chase, N. Y. He is stocking his farm with the best horses and cattle that he can secure. A few days ago he sent an expert agent to this city and the purchase price was agreed upon.

VISIT OF FRENCH SQUADRON.

Will Stop at New Orleans and the Naval Academy.

Washington, D. C.—Lieutenant Commander Benoit d'Azay, the French naval attaché, called upon Acting Secretary Winthrop at the Navy Department to notify him that the French squadron in the West Indies will visit New Orleans between February 23 and 25. As the Mardi Gras festivities begin on February 28, it is believed the French sailors will probably remain until that time. There are three vessels in the squadron—the Conde, the Gloire and the Admiral Aube. The same vessels also will pay a visit to the Naval Academy at Annapolis between March 12 and 17.

Couple Commit Suicide.

Itasca, N. Y.—Mr. and Mrs. Jades Townsend were found dead with bullet wounds in their heads by their son, Linn Townsend, upon his return from his studies at Cornell University. The Townsend home is about three miles from the city, where Mr. Townsend conducted a dairy farm. It is believed by the family that each in turn committed suicide, as both had been despondent from fear of a second stroke of paralysis to Mr. Townsend.

TOMB OF MILLIONAIRE ROBBED

Ghouls Carry Off Woman's Body From Cemetery.

Erie, Pa.—Body-snatching that may equal the daring grave ghouls who stirred the country more than a quarter of a century ago when the body of A. T. Stewart, New York's pioneer merchant, was stolen, has stirred this section of Pennsylvania in indignation at its daring as nothing has since the sensational kidnapping which occurred in this vicinity a few years ago.

The mausoleum of one of the most prominent families of this section of the state was desecrated. A body is missing from the vault of the family of the late Congressman William L. Scott. The police of neighboring cities and communities within 400 miles have been notified of the crime. The discovery was made by two women walking through the Erie Cemetery. The family was immediately notified and a watch was placed in the cemetery at midnight after all assurances were made that the missing body was not in the vicinity.

Is Mrs. McCollum's Body.

While the police have been informed of the grave-robbing, no name is attached to the missing body by them. The first information to the public came from the family, but again no name is given. It is known, however, that the body taken by the ghouls is that of Mrs. McCollum, sister-in-law of the late Mr. Scott. The police believe the body is being held for ransom and that the vandals also intended to carry away the bodies of the millionaire and his wife.

Investigation showed that the casket containing the body of Mrs. McCollum had been carried away. The caskets are sealed in a wall, and a chisel had been used in breaking the seals before the metallic box could be carried away.

That the casket and body were carried away in a wagon is indicated by tracks in the snow about the mausoleum. The footprints of four, and in some instances, six men are discernible about a point where the end of a wagon might be placed.

Cemetery Offers Reward.

The Erie Cemetery Association offered a reward of \$1,000 for information that will lead to the arrest and conviction of the ghouls who desecrated the mausoleum. Later developments indicate that the body of Mrs. Anna M. McCollum had been taken from the casket before its removal from the mausoleum. Parts of the casket were found scattered over the floor of the vault. Although a large force of detectives are making a thorough search of the city not a trace of the robbers or the missing body has been found.

LOCAL OPTION FOR ALABAMA.

House Passes Bill and the Senate Is For It.

Montgomery, Ala.—By a vote of 58 to 44 the House of Representatives passed the Parks Local Option bill. As the Senate is known to be overwhelmingly in favor of a local option bill, it is believed that the Parks bill will be rushed through that body and become a law before the end of next week.

The bill provides that 45 per cent. of the number that vote for Governor can petition for an election on the question of "wet" or "dry." It also provides for distilleries and breweries.

TO BE 41 STORIES HIGH.

Seattle's New Skyscraper to Be the Highest Outside of New York.

Seattle, Wash.—The last obstacle in the way of the erection of a 41-story building in this city by the estate of the late C. M. Smith, of Syracuse, N. Y., was removed, when the council committee that has been going over the plans voted to grant the permit. The local agent for the Smith estate informed the committee that he skyscraper, which will be the highest office building in the world outside of New York city, will be begun within the next six weeks.

Twenty Years for Lyncher.

Newark, Ohio.—Judge Weyand overruled the motion for a new trial Carl Etherington, a "dry" detective, who was found guilty of manslaughter for complicity in the lynching of Carl Etherington, a "dry" detective, in this city last July and sentenced McKinley to twenty years in the Ohio penitentiary.

Rear-Admiral Terry Dead.

Washington, D. C.—Rear-Admiral Silas Wright Terry, retired, who was prominently identified with the naval operations of the Civil War, died at his Washington home of pneumonia. He was a native of Wallonia, Ky., where he was born 68 years ago.

Defeat Anti-Reciprocity Bill.

St. Paul, Minn.—The House by a vote of 63 to 50 defeated the resolution directing the Minnesota Representatives in Congress to work for the defeat of the Canadian reciprocity agreement. A similar resolution is pending in the Senate.

Consular Service Bill Passes.

Washington, D. C.—The Senate bill providing for the reorganization of the consular service was passed by the Senate. This creates ten consular offices and abolishes eighteen.

HOUSE INCREASES ITS MEMBERSHIP

Crumpacker Bill Fixes Size of House For Ten Years.

BASED ON THE 1910 CENSUS REPORT.

Democrats, Aided by Few Republicans, Win Fight for Increased Representation—Reapportionment Under the Census of 1910—New York Gains Six and Pennsylvania Four Additional Representatives.

Washington, D. C.—After March 4, 1913, the Senate concurring, the House of Representatives will consist of 433 members. This is the result of an all-day struggle in the House over the question of reapportionment, which finally resulted in the passage of the Crumpacker bill fixing the size of the House for ten years, commencing with the Sixty-third Congress, at the number stated.

If Arizona and New Mexico should be admitted to statehood, they will be given one representative each, bringing the total up to 435.

Under the new reapportionment plan no state loses a member. The following states gain the number indicated:

Alabama, 1; California, 3; Colorado, 1; Florida, 1; Georgia, 1; Idaho, 1; Illinois, 2; Louisiana, 1; Massachusetts, 2; Michigan, 1; Minnesota, 1; Montana, 1; New Jersey, 2; New York, 6; North Dakota, 1; Ohio, 1; Oklahoma, 3; Oregon, 1; Pennsylvania, 4; Rhode Island, 1; South Dakota, 1; Texas, 2; Utah, 1; Washington, 2; West Virginia, 1.

The House spent more than five hours in discussing and voting upon the bill and various proposed amendments. An amendment offered by Representative Bennett, of New York, and designed to cut down Southern representation, was voted down by 154 to 96.

Champ Clark, of Missouri, in favoring an increase in membership, declared that the real work of the House would continue to be performed in committees and that the number of representatives on the floor would make little or no difference.

MONUMENT TO LINCOLN.

Senate Passes Senator Cullom's Bill With House Amendments.

Washington, D. C.—The Senate Wednesday concurred in the House amendments to Senator Cullom's bill providing for the erection in Washington of an appropriate monument to the memory of Abraham Lincoln. The House so amended the bill as to place Senator Cullom and Speaker Cannon on the permanent commission. Senator Root moved concurrence by the Senate and the motion was unanimously adopted.

The proposed monument is to cost \$2,000,000.

80 INDICTED AT DANVILLE, ILL.

This Is Result of Vote-Selling Probe in Jockanontown.

Chicago—Eighty indictments have been voted by the grand jury of Vermillion county in the vote-selling investigation.

One city official and one county official are included among those named in true bills.

More than a hundred additional indictments are under consideration. This action by the jury is taken to mean a fight to the finish against the influences that have been exerted against a continuance of the inquiry.

3 YEARS FOR BANK WRECKERS.

Crawford Brothers Sentenced For Breaking American Trust Co.

Philadelphia.—Pleading guilty to charges of wrecking the American Trust Company, of this city, Dr. J. Kanler Crawford and Joseph S. Crawford, brothers, and vice-president and secretary-treasurer, respectively, of the institution, were each sentenced to three years in the county prison and fined \$500 in Quarter Sessions Court here.

Woman 136 Years Old Dying.

Fort Worth, Texas.—At the great age of 136 years and undoubtedly the oldest white woman in the world, Mrs. Lucy Owens is dying at the home of her daughter, a centenarian, a few miles west of Long View. Mrs. Owens was born in North Carolina when the Revolutionary War broke out, and three years later she saw George Washington. She is the only living person who has seen Washington.

U. S. Minister Bars Cook.

Copenhagen.—U. S. Minister Egan, in accordance with the university opinion, has written Cook disallowing him from a visit here, fearing unpleasant demonstrations.

Now Baroness Decies.

New York.—Helen Vivien, second daughter of George J. Gould, head of one of the wealthiest and most prominent families in America, was married at St. Bartholomew's Episcopal Church, in Madison avenue, to Baron Decies, an English army officer. She is 18 years old; he is 44. The church was packed with a brilliant assemblage representing the best of New York's social and professional life, together with a sprinkling of foreign nobility, relatives and friends of the bridegroom.

WHOLE FAMILY WIPED OUT

Husband and Wife Die in a Suicide Pact.

New York.—Joseph Barrett, on his way up the stairs of the apartment house at 750 Fulton street, Brooklyn, stumbled against a man. Barrett struck out with his right hand.

"What are you doing here?" he asked. "It's you, Bernard, is it? What are you doing here?" "Oh, it's you, Barrett, is it?" said the man on the stairs. "I don't know what to do. I've got 50 cents between my family and starvation. What would you do?"

"I think," said Joe Barrett, "I would go to bed and look for a job in the morning. Go on. That's a good fellow."

With a nod, the man turned into a third-floor flat as Barrett climbed another flight of stairs to the fourth floor. Barrett told his wife that he had met Frank Bernard in the hallway and that Barrett seemed depressed.

Some hours later, at getting-up time, Barrett smelled gas. For a time the odor was hard to locate. He went up a flight of stairs and made sure it came from the Bernard flat. He tried the doors. All were locked. He went to his own apartment and used the fire escape to the apartment above.

In the bedroom of the Bernard apartment Mr. Barrett found Frank Bernard, his wife and two small children dead on the bed. Gas was rushing from opened cocks in the ceiling chandelier. Mr. Barrett notified the police, and Borough Inspector James Dillon and Capt. B. J. Hayes, of the Bergen street station, made a formal investigation.

It seemed that Mr. and Mrs. Bernard had agreed to die together and take their children with them. There was no indication of a struggle. The father and mother lay clasped in each other's arms, with their children, George, four years old, and Daniel, two years old, in their arms. After questioning the people in the house Inspector Dillon concluded that Bernard had become so despondent because of failure to obtain work that he had persuaded his wife to join him in committing suicide.

Frank Bernard was a well-known athletic trainer. He was a member of the old Union Athletic Club, Pineapple and Fulton streets, and was known all over the country as an amateur athlete. He ran in short events from 100 yards up to a quarter of a mile, and was also a good jumper and hurdler. He became a professional some years ago and contested in the Caledonian and Irish-American games, and in contests in all parts of the country. He was successful and well liked.

SAFE BLOWER SECURES \$1,800.

Citizens Held At Bay Outside Bank By Two Confederates.

Linwood, Kansas.—Three robbers blew up the safe of the Linwood State Bank and escaped with \$1,800 in silver and currency. Citizens were held at bay outside the building by two of the men while their companion inside emptied the safe.

With drawn revolvers the three men retreated to the outskirts of town and disappeared.

Schenk Files Suit.

Wheeling, West Virginia.—John O. Schenk, millionaire packer, filed the petition in his suit for divorce against Mrs. Laura Farnsworth Schenk, recent defendant in the famous poisoning trial. He names Daniel Z. Phillips, a piano salesman of Wheeling, as co-respondent. Pending hearing of the divorce suit Schenk agrees to pay his wife \$25 a week alimony.

Model of Columbus' Ship.

Paris.—The Marine Museum of the Louvre has been enriched by what is described as an excellent model on miniature of Columbus' ship the Santa Maria. Rear Admiral Besson presided at the dedicatory exercises, the feature of which was the story of the voyage and discovery of America retold by M. Rompol, professor of naval archeology.

Two Hurt on U. S. Dolphin.

Washington, D. C.—An explosion of one saluting charge of a gun on the American gunboat Dolphin, now at Port au Prince, Haiti, caused "extensive superficial burns" to two of her crew, according to a telegram received by the Secretary of the Navy from Captain Laws, of the vessel.

Kidnapper Gets Twenty-five Years.

New York.—Giovanni Gangi, a peddler, who was convicted last week of kidnapping five-year-old Rosina Giordino, the daughter of a baker, last March, was sentenced by Judge Crain in the Court of General Sessions to 25 years in the state prison.

Crippen Will Probated.

London.—The will of Dr. H. H. Crippen, made just before his execution in Pentonville prison, and leaving all of his \$1,342 estate to his sweetheart, Ethel Le Neve, was recorded for probate Friday. Miss Le Neve is the sole executrix.

Canners Indorse Reciprocity.

Milwaukee, Wis.—The National Canners' Association in convention here indorsed the proposed reciprocity agreement between the United States and Canada.

LIVE NEWS OF THE STATE

Nazareth.—Robert E. Bachman, of Nazareth, who was under indictment to answer a charge of murder in causing the death of May Irene Smith, aged five years, on April 23, 1908, has been released from jail on nolle prosequi proceedings made before Judge Scott, at Easton. Bachman was adjudged insane a few months after the crime and committed to the Norristown insane asylum. He is now discharged from that institution, having completely recovered his normal mental condition. The prisoner furnished bonds in the sum of \$2,000 to keep the peace. The dead girl was a niece of Bachman. While at a meeting of a religious sect commonly known as the "holy rollers," at his home Bachman, in a frenzy of religious fervor, strangled the girl to death.

Clifton Heights.—At the risk of her own life, Mary Kelly, aged eleven years, of Clifton Heights, saved from terrible injury her two little sisters, Katherine and Elizabeth, aged 7 and 3 years, by throwing them off a sled while they were coasting. The three children were coasting on Campbell's Hill, and going down at terrific speed, Mary lost control of the sled. Seeing that she would crash into a barbed wire fence which crossed a ravine, by great presence of mind Mary threw her two sisters off the sled, but before she could get off the coaster herself she crashed into the barbed wire fence and fell into the deep ravine and was severely injured.

Newcastle.—Two children were cremated, the mother seriously burned and three other children slightly hurt by being dropped from a second-story window, when fire destroyed the home of Peter Eckland, in South Newcastle. The dead children are Arthur, aged 4, and Margaret, aged 2 months. The children dropped from the window by the mother are Helen, aged 11; Albert, aged 9, and Joseph, aged 7. Mrs. Eckland sustained burns about the body and was injured when she leaped from the window.

Media.—Aston Township, Delaware county, which has had many cases of diphtheria and scarlet fever in the past two years, is without a Board of Health, all the members of that body resigning with one exception, because of a grievance against the State Board for failure to prosecute a man alleged to have broken quarantine in the neighboring township of Aston. Two houses are under quarantine in Aston and Health Officer James L. Killen is continuing with his duties.

Scranton.—John J. Connors, of Minooka, now serving six months in jail on his confession to tampering with election returns in Lackawanna township, took all responsibility for the stuffing of the ballot box in the Sixth ward of Taylor borough in the June primaries last year. On his testimony Robert O'Galligan, M. J. Glynn, James Gligannon and James Mairkey demanded acquittal. This they secured.

Altoona.—Very little interest was taken upon the part of the citizens of Juniata, a suburb, in the proposition to borrow \$10,000 to extend the borough's water system. Out of a population of over 5,000 only 144 citizens voted, 99 favoring and 45 opposing the loan.

Reading.—Lancing a pimple on his thumb proved fatal to William L. Hafer, a well-known Civil War veteran. Blood poisoning set in and he died after intense agony. Deceased was about 63 years of age, and served through the Civil War, escaping without a scratch.

Easton.—Mrs. F. A. March, Sr., wife of the eminent philologist of Lafayette College, who some time ago fell and fractured his hip, was stricken with apoplexy, and is in a critical condition. Worry over her husband's injury is said by the physicians to have brought on the attack.

Chester.—During the hearing given Lee Johnsens before Justice Galloway at Prospect Park, on the charge of attacking his 9-year-old step-daughter, there was much anger shown by the spectators. Fearing that the man would be attacked, Thompson and Stinson, two constables, hurried Johnsens to the county jail at Media. Justice Galloway committed Johnsens in default of \$1000 bail.

York.—Edwin W. Laucks, for many years considered one of York's most conservative business men, conveyed to George E. Neff, his city, as trustee, all of his real estate in Blair and York counties, this State, and in Harford and Baltimore counties, Md. The liabilities of Mr. Laucks are placed at \$200,000, and his real estate is estimated to be worth \$143,000.

Catasauqua.—Earl Zeerfass, aged 7, and William, his brother, aged 10, while coasting ran against a Lehigh Valley transit car. William was thrown under and cut about the head. Earl got under the rear truck and was instantly killed.

Oil City.—Two chicken thieves attempted to kill W. B. Lyon, a Cranberry township farmer, when he interrupted them at work in his henhouse. Both the robbers opened fire with revolvers, but none of the shots took effect.