such an assumption is neither good law nor good sense, and as the vote for congressman was not in question at all, the commissioner had no jurisdiction and Perkins is discharged.

It is a nice question to wrangle over, but at present writing Judge Gresham seems to have the advantage of this argument.

Mysterious Traction.

The Philadelphia Traction company which is soliciting legislation from the state that will give it very extensive powers, and has thereby aroused public sentiment in Philadelphia to a high state of indignation, has suddenly reduced its price for passage to the five cent fare which the people have been calling for, and to which the law in fact limits it. They have made a virtue of necessity, at the very time when it was thought that they were seeking the help of the legislature to avoid the necessity. They move in a mysterious way their wonders to perform, and seem to love mystery for mystery's sake. But notwithstanding they seem to have come down the tree before they were shot down, the people do not trust them, and do not relinquish their demand that the legislature shall not give them the powers they ask for. Though they find that the Traction people can be decent when it is expedient, they do not propose to trust to their sense of decency for protection, when they can have it in the law. And the Traction people, though conceding five cent fares, cling to their demand for additional powers, which will enable them to monopolize Philadelphia street passenger business, and put the town at their mercy. They think that they will be merciful. President Kemble, of addition, division and silence memory, claims that it is his aim to give the poor man cheap riding. But nevertheless the poor man needs to take heed that he does give to president Kemble's company sole ownership of the city highways.

THE wake that will follow the death of the present Congress will be its most enjoyable feature.

AMERICAN flour has been going to Brazil in large quantities in spite of the duty levied on it, but London capitalists have a scheme afoot by which they propose to ruin that branch of our trade. They will build immense mills in Rio Janeiro and, importing wheat from the Argentine Republic and Chili, will undersell the Americans. Committees representing the flour interests have called on Secretary Bayard and want our government to do something for them. They think it unjust that Brazil should levy a discriminating duty on their flour when America admits Brazilian coffee, rubber and other products free. But if Brazil adopts our protective system it would be extremely awkward in us to complain.

[illegible] model Mexican colony, the Utopia of the nineteenth century, is in a bad way. A dispatch from Guaymas says that smallpox has broken out in the colony. Seven deaths have occurred and sixty-one colonists are down with the disease. Twenty-one have reached Guaymas, nearly all in destitute condition. There were some thirty who left Tapolobampo in a small fishing boat that was unseaworthy. They were fighting against heavy sea and hard wind when they were sighted by the steamer Altata, which picked them all up but nine who it is feared have been lost, as nothing has been seen of them since. These colonists report that besides the scourge of smallpox the water supply is small and impure, the land worthless and unfit for agricultural purpose, and food scarce. As nothing is produced at the camp, the danger of a famine is imminent. Those who left other fair lands will return with a better impression of them.

IT has long been the general impression that the Indians were dying out in the United States, but recent statistics tend to correct that impression. Previous to 1874 the records of Indian population in the United States were fragmentary, incomplete, and conjectural; but in that year or in 1875 a pretty reliable count was had, and it is probable that in the latter year there were in all sections of the country 240,000 Indians. The annual excess of births over deaths has increased the aggregate of Indian population in the country until last year it reached the total of 247,[illegible]; and well informed historians estimate that there are more Indians in the United States to-day, by a very considerable number, than were here one hundred years ago.

ALL the railway and ocean horrors of recent times have nothing in them more terrible than the details of the sinking of the [illegible] on the night of January 20th off the Brazilian coast. There were 313 people on board, 272 being passengers, and most of them Australian emigrants. The women were locked in their bunks, and when aroused by the sudden shock of collision, their desperate efforts to escape were terrible even to those not confined, whose cases were hardly less perilous. Over three hundred were drowned. A dark night and no lights on the vessel with which they collided are the reasons for the disaster. To landsmen they sound just as unsatisfactory as the excuses given for railway collisions. Both kinds of travel call for government supervision.

PERSONAL.

PATTI played to a $10,000 house in St. Paul, Minneapolis, on Monday night.

MRS. EMMONS, the oracle lady whose sanity was recently under trial at Washington, has sailed for Europe.

SARA BERNHARDT is in Washington, healthy and wealthy. Her present tour has netted her $7,000,000.

VITO CIRICOLONE, who died recently at Milo, has left by will his entire fortune, amounting to $120,000, to King Humbert.

JAMES M. TROTTER, a Massachusetts colored man, has been named by the president [illegible]

[illegible] resident and non-resident active members, 59 corresponding members, about 50 stockholders, and two honorary members. Of the original membership of about a dozen, who organized the society twenty-five years ago, but four remain in Lancaster, one resides in Paradise, this county, and one in Easton. The others have passed over the "World Beyond."

On the conclusion of his address, Dr. Rathvon received the unanimous thanks of all members. Short addresses were then made by Hon. J. P. Wickersham, Prof. J. B. Kevinski and S. M. Sener, eulogistic references being made to the faithful work of Jacob Stauffer, H. G. Bruckhart and Frederick Smith, deceased, active members, and Dr. S. S. Haldeman, Dr. LeConte, of Philadelphia, and other prominent corresponding members.

The society then adjourned to meet on Saturday afternoon, April 30, at 2:30 o'clock.

CREMATION OF A CHILD.

The Incineration Performed by Natural Gas After Appropriate Services.

The funeral services of a nine-year-old child Monday in the natural gas crematory in Pittsburg possessed many remarkable features. The little one was Annie Catshall. Her parents, who live at No. 30 Strawberry lane, are both Free Thinkers and have been for years. Professor Seymour, the vice president of the Liberal League, led the singing of secular songs at the service. Mr. Grundy, president of the league, made a speech teeming with sentiments of "death ending all," and its being a good thing for children. He gave the parents no hope of meeting their loved one in the future life, saying to them it was inevitable to die and never to live again. Mr. John Hooper read a beautiful poem written for the occasion, in which cremation as against burial was the theme.

Twelve o'clock was the hour fixed, and at that time the furnace in the basement was heated and everything arranged so as to prevent delay after the arrival of the funeral party. The preliminaries to the incineration occupied but little time. It took but a few minutes to swathe the body in bandages soaked in alum water, which prevented the covering from breaking into flames. The door of the furnace was then thrown open and the coffin, placed on a truck, was wheeled into the heart of the furnace and left there for the space of an hour. At the expiration of that time the remains were reduced to ashes. Mr. and Mrs. Catshall then received the ashes and took them to their home, and will keep them as a sacred treasure, instead of permitting them to be consigned to a grave in a dreary cemetery.

Fresh Wit From Abroad.

He (anglomanica)—Seen the last *Punch*?

She (anglomanica)—I am ashamed to say no.

He—Clever little thing in it. It says "an umbrella keeps Lent all the year round."

She—Ha! ha! ha!

He—Haw! haw! haw!

CURIOUS.

A marriage made in words is sealed
And with much empty sense is wed.
He with deserves his piece of mind
By giving him a piece of lead.

—From the Newport Traveler.

they were talking the emperor came in and joined genially in their chat. "I've just been out driving," said he. "But I thought the doctors forbade you to go," said the empress. "They did," he replied; "but I went all the same."

MRS. JAMES BROWN POTTER, having completed her professional studies for the stage, left Versailles for London, where she will sign a contract for her appearance in England and in the United States. Before leaving she said: "I hope to develop my powers and facilities to their utmost capacity, and intend to work as hard as I can to attain a position in an art that I love and in a profession that I admire."

REV. ANDREW LONGACRE, in a sermon against card playing preached at Mount Vernon church, in Baltimore, said: "I remember when I was a lad I was taken to visit an accomplished lady in her elegant home, and she boasted that during a trip across the ocean she had won at cards enough money to pay her passage. Not long since a lady here in Baltimore boasted that she had won enough at cards to buy a party dress."

THE LINNÆAN SOCIETY.

Dr. S. S. Rathvon Delivers an Interesting Address On Its Twenty-fifth Year.

The Linnæan society celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary on Saturday in its rooms in the Y. M. C. A. building. Dr. S. S. Rathvon, in behalf of the curators, delivered an address, in which he detailed the labors of the society during its twenty-five years of existence. The society was organized on February 8, 1862, and from that time up to 1878 occupied the third floor of the old City Hall building, in conjunction with the Athenæum. In the latter year the Athenæum library building was merged in the Y. M. C. A. library and the Linnæan took up its home in the Y. M. C. A. building. The various collections are interesting and valuable, composed as follows: Mammalogy—30 specimens, most of them mounted, some few being alcoholic specimens.

Ornithology—240 specimens: 150 land and 90 water birds. Allied to these is a collection of 612 birds' eggs, of about 150 species; 16 birds' nests and 15 craniological specimens.

Reptilia—456 specimens, consisting of serpents, turtles, lizards, frogs and toads.

Ichthyology—523 specimens, 13 of which are stuffed, the balance alcoholic specimens.

Connected with these are 10 specimens of the saws of the saw fish.

In the branch of articulata there is a case containing 10,000 specimens of coleopterous insects, of about 9,000 species; two cases of 1,500 specimens of moths and butterflies 1,000 specimens of hemipterous insects; 123 jars of about 375 specimens of arachnids and crustaceæ; 1,200 bottles of myriapods, entozoa, etc. in alcohol. Also, about 65 specimens of insect architecture.

The conchological collection numbers about 2,500 specimens, of which 600 are fluviatile and 1,900 marine.

The botanical collection consists of forty large cases and portfolios, containing 3,000 specimens of plants. This includes nearly a complete herbal of the Lancaster county flora, and many from adjacent states and some foreign specimens. In connection with this there are 150 specimens of different woods.

The archæological collection embraces 86 specimens, consisting of stone implements of the aborigines, implements of the modern Indians and also numerous antiquities.

There are over 60 specimens in paleontology, consisting chiefly of fossil plants and mollusca.

The mineralogical [illegible] between 3,000 and 4,000 specimens of minerals and ores.

There are [illegible] specimens in entomology, about 1,000 specimens of insects and about 1,000 specimens of crustacea. The historical collection contains 15 antique documents and pamphlets, [illegible] clubs, and other rare and interesting relics.

The society issued one volume of its transactions, embracing the proceedings of the society during the years 1875 to 1880, inclusive, and other papers of which are preserved in its archives and a goodly number of which have been published in newspapers and other publications. The society issued one volume of its Bulletin, or five volumes of its papers. The society has exchanges with societies and institutions in all parts of the world, receiving its transactions and other publications in return for its own. The society has also published a catalogue of its museum, which has been very largely increased since the publication of the catalogue, and which now numbers about 15,000 specimens, not including duplicates, and other rare and valuable specimens and curiosities