

Evening Ledger PUBLIC LEDGER COMPANY CYRUS H. K. CURTIS, President. CHARLES H. LINDGREN, Vice President. JOHN C. MARTIN, Secretary and Treasurer. PHILIP B. COLLINS, JOHN B. WILLIAMS, Directors.

THE AVERAGE NET PAID DAILY CIRCULATION OF THE EVENING LEDGER FOR DECEMBER WAS 96,783.

Without the smile from partial beauty won, Oh what were man?—a world without a sun. —Thomas Campbell.

Prince Oscar has been wounded. Must think he's the Crown Prince.

It is understood that Colonel Roosevelt's next book will be called "The Art of Being a Grandfather."

The actresses who are buying Julia Marlowe's costumes will have to acquire something else before they can rival her on the stage.

The "Paris" which will be imported for the Poor Richard Club's anniversary will be a spring model, 1914. The more up-to-date Paris isn't half so appropriate.

Grover Cleveland wrote during his honeymoon that life was one long, sweet song. Geraldine Farrar, in similar circumstances, does not have to write it. She can sing it.

Farmers are blaming the city for the cost of living. They apparently learn nothing from the bright streams of invective which are pouring like lava upon them each market day by the city's housewives.

For the longest and largest laugh in many months we give the prize to General Venustiano Carranza. The bewhiskered Prexy has announced that in order to enter Mexico a man must possess \$50 in gold. He forgot to add, "and in plain sight."

A great load has been removed from many many breads. It seems that Woodrow Wilson is a candidate for renomination, as he allowed his name to go on the Indiana ballots. And for these many months everybody thought he was going to retire.

It is 104 years since Charles Dickens was born, and the man who will not read a chapter of "Pickwick" in his honor, who deliberately refuses to read such a chapter, deserves never to have the pleasure of reading it. That in itself is punishment enough.

Senator Smith, of Michigan, is not surprised that the Democrats want to get rid of the Philippines, as they have more territory on this continent than they can govern happily or prosperously. When he talks this way it is not surprising that he is the favorite son of the Michigan Republicans.

Nine months and one day after the sinking of the Lusitania the report is given out, with every circumstance of authority, that the case is settled. Previous announcements were to the effect that the United States had neither increased nor diminished her demands on Germany, so that the terms of agreement must be a virtual concession on the part of the offending nation.

Kitchener goes, a little discredited by the failure for which he is not to blame. He served his country, and his devotion was never in doubt. But against him was arrayed one enemy whom he could not destroy through the power of his indomitable will. He met and overcame sloth and suspicion and dishonesty. But Old Age lurked around the corner, and it was England's misfortune more than Kitchener's that this last enemy should come when Kitchener's work was so needed.

If industrial preparedness goes hand in hand with military preparedness, then financial conscription cannot lag far behind military service. In France, where they do many things without fuss, the Chamber of Deputies is discussing a plan for the taxing of war profits. The tax will go, in part, to support the families of those lost in the war. It will be a super-pension fund. If it is not legal, it will probably be legalized, for there is a question of human right and human duty involved in this which no law can withstand.

The alumni of the Central High School has always been a body alert in the public interest and untiring in its efforts to better Philadelphia. The 82d graduating class of the institution has sent a memorial to the Board of Education urging a course in military science for the school, and has followed that with something more definite. The first subscription has already been made by Dr. Joseph Leidy toward a large fund to pay for the course. Should the Board of Education find nothing to prevent, it is unquestioned that the entire sum will be raised, for when the good name of the school and the good of the city are concerned Central's alumni are always "present."

The mere lack of news is sometimes a sorer indication of what is going on in the war zone than many accounts of activity. It seems clear that the first German offensive of ten days ago was dropped just as suddenly as the great offensive movement of the Allies last September, and probably for the same reason. The cost of breaking through a prohibitive and the possible gain very slight, for a mere extension of the line would result in leaving a dangerous salient upon which enemy fire might be driven from two sides and the "front." If either side could break through over a front, sided by natural advantages, or could break through in such a way that they could level up the enemy's positions and left the cost, however great, would be worth paying. But the Allies have

given it up, and now the Germans, moving their centre of operations hither and thither, in search of a weak spot, are confessing that the Allies were right, although they seem intent on trying it again. Mahanism still is miles ahead of Moltkeism. The incorruptible sea does not yield to the land.

Germany's Tariff Commission spent five years studying the question before making a report. America cannot wait so long, but it should have a commission of experts to assist Congress in making the changes in the tariff law necessary to protect our trade from the raids of the nations of Europe made hungry by war.

THE success of the proposed Tariff Commission will depend largely upon its loyalty to the American principle of protection. A vast majority of the voters believe in protecting American markets and developing American industries. They believe that a tariff is the most efficient weapon for use in fighting foreign competition and for opening new markets to American goods; that is, a tariff intelligently conceived and honestly applied.

They will let who will talk about the "principle" of free trade so long as the policy of protection is admitted to be the most expedient for the United States.

A tariff commission composed of men who are Americans first, and big enough Americans to believe that a man is not necessarily a criminal because he happens to be doing a large business, and, after that, are familiar with the fundamental principles of economics and the methods of modern business, can lift the tariff question from the ruck of sordid selfishness in which it has been weltering.

It is essential that there should be general agreement in advance about what the commission is to do.

There was such an agreement in Germany a few years ago, when that country was confronted with the necessity of revising its customs laws in order to make markets abroad for its surplus products, and to protect its home markets against the ruinous competition of the manufacturing nations whose trade leaders had grown gray in the service.

Germany went at the task with the same kind of thoroughness that she has shown in waging war for the past eighteen months. She did not commit the duty of framing a new law to a committee of Parliament, with instructions to rush some kind of a bill through as quickly as possible. She decided, in the first place, that the new law should be framed in such a way as to benefit every German industry to the greatest possible extent. Then a special commission of thirty-two able men was created. They were representatives of the manufacturers, the wholesalers and the retailers, and the farmers—that is, the men who were interested in production—joined in preparing the schedules with the men who were informed as to the rights of the consumers through close contact with them. They were assisted by the experts of every department of the Government which dealt either with revenue or with trade, and by experts informed on technical questions of manufacture.

Fully two thousand qualified persons were consulted. Five years were consumed in preliminary investigations, two years of which were devoted to revising the classification of imported articles and making them so clear and definite that an importer might know what rate of duty he would have to pay on each class of goods. The importance of this phase of their work can be understood when it is recalled that our Board of General Appraisers receives about 60,000 protests a year against the classification and rate of duty fixed by the Collectors of Customs.

Then, when the German tariff bill was prepared, after five years of preliminary study, the Parliament debated it for ten months before passing it.

This is what happens when the most efficient nation in the world sets about tariff revision.

No adequate and satisfactory revision of the American tariff can be made unless it is undertaken with similar thoroughness and similar unity of purpose.

A commission of five members could not do the work as it should be done in less than ten years. When the House of Representatives wanted to know something about the merits of the wood pulp tariff in 1908 it appointed a committee of six to make an investigation. The committee sat for four months and took 4000 pages of testimony without completing its work; and yet the wood pulp question would seem to be simple, as it affects only the paper making and the lumber industries.

We cannot wait ten years, however, before adjusting the tariff to meet the conditions that will be upon us the moment peace is declared in Europe. The Allies are already talking of a zollverein, the purpose of which will be to protect them against German competition in their own markets when the war ends. If Germany is kept out of the markets of France, Russia and England by the workings of a tariff and by the hostility of the people she will seek markets here, as the Allied Powers will seek to sell to us the goods which before the war they were selling to the Central Empire. Something must be done at once. It can be done better under the advice of such experts as should be appointed to the commission than through the action of Congress, unassisted by the experts.

Congress is expected to pass the Rainey bill in some form without delay. It is a better bill than the Democracy would have countenanced a year ago. The Republican and Democratic leaders agree on it in principle. They ought to find it easy to agree on details which will make the creation of a workable commission possible in the near future.

FEDERAL DUTY AND PRIVATE RIGHT SENATOR PENROSE has never been accused of being a scoundrel, and his long career in public service has made him a prophet not to be despised. Yet he seems to have gone over to the camp of the political barkers in his assertion that a Federal armor plate factory will cause Bethlehem and Midvale to disintegrate.

The purpose of the Federal plant is to supplement and regulate the supply of armor plate which private manufacturers can turn out.

Bethlehem and Midvale have weathered storms in times of the most moderate Federal outlay for armor plate. The new plant would take up part of the excess demand, and there would be more than enough to keep many private firms busy. The right of private enterprise is accepted in the United States, but it will not have deep respect if the armor plate manufacturers carry out the veiled threat of raising the price of plate to \$30 a ton, causing an outlay of \$14,000,000 more in the present program of naval building. If the Government is really to be so much the slave of the manufacturers, the sooner it has a regular raise the better.

Tom Daly's Column

"COME, ALL YE!" Doctor Johnson, I think it was, told how a profane old woman of Billingsgate was abused when an urbane individual called her a parrot-bird. "It was the most colossal oath," said he, "I ever heard of."

WELL massacre this lad that slights our hero, Dan O'C. "Now was it Doctor Johnson? I think it was," sez he; "But well be ought to know, begob! that that could never be. It was the great O'Connell who set auld Ireland free—"

Gems From "Luck in Disguise" (A novel written in good faith by William J. Foster, revised and punctuated by L. P. Custer and published in 1903 by the John W. Lovell Company, of New York.)

WE LEFT Mrs. Means discussing with her husband the care of their son.

She feared, should she introduce the subject, that he would enter into a lengthy discussion, endeavoring to substantiate in her mind, by numerous inferences and logical syllogisms, that her projects were crazy and woman's folly, and thus weaken her faith.

Much to her surprise, he made no response at all, but took it in calmly and without the slightest perceptible irritation of mind.

While she was engaged in administering to him the law, peculiar to her sex only, she combatively impressed her thoughts and, as she imagined, in a harmonious way, exercising all the while an egotistical importance that would discount a symphonic assemblage of learned philosophers, viz., Mr. Means, kept his eyes vaguely in the direction of the window.

His seeming inattention of mind, on the subject, proved conclusively to Mrs. Means the inaptitude of her remarks on his mind in the end. Several minutes had elapsed ere the silence was broken.

The unusual mum of Mr. Means on this occasion created an ardent desire in the breast of his better half, to know whether or not her strong language had had its desired effect or, had irritated him, so after pondering the matter over in her mind, she thought best to let the matter rest for the time being and introduce a new subject, believing the need she was endeavoring to sow would fall on productive soil. So she thought she would question him regarding the anticipated trip to Cincinnati he was preparing to make in a few days.

Satisfaction All 'Round We clean and dye To satisfy both you and I. Ad in trolley-car.

And why not try— Excuse our hammer! To satisfy The rules of grammar?

Extra! Beginner tomorrow, we will print, in two consecutive instalments, Gee! He Knew Theo. E. Hill!

A sketch of the early struggles of the famous author of "Bill's Manual of Social and Business Forms. Order Your Paper Now!

We think he's going to be disappointed, but it seems to us a certain ex-President, to paraphrase T. Gray's lines, believes, And all that beauty, all that wealth ever gave Await alike the inevitable R.

In 1818, this is what John Horn, then of No. 56 South 10th street, was selling to the carriage-folk of this town. How do you suppose milord or milady got into the curious tonneau?

SOME rascally make-up man lifted from our overset gallop a poem by one of our contributors and plugged up a hole with it in the editorial page of this morning's "P. L." Ha! Ha! Served him right! The proof had not been read and so the parenthetical line under the title, "An Ancient Gaelic Phantasy," appears in the "P. L." "An Ancient Gaelic Phantasy."

Tir-Na-Nogue "An Ancient Gaelic Phantasy." Tir-Na-Nogue is far away; 'Tis an island in the sea; And indeed 'tis always day In Tir-Na-Nogue.

Sure, there is no sorrow there, Nor the devil a bit of care (Mirth and laughter everywhere) In Tir-Na-Nogue.

And the sky is always blue; And the freshest morning dew Makes the whole world look like new In Tir-Na-Nogue.

As the hills are always green; And the streams that run between Have the finest silver sheen In Tir-Na-Nogue.

There the sweetest songs are sung That were ever on the tongue; For the people are all young In Tir-Na-Nogue.

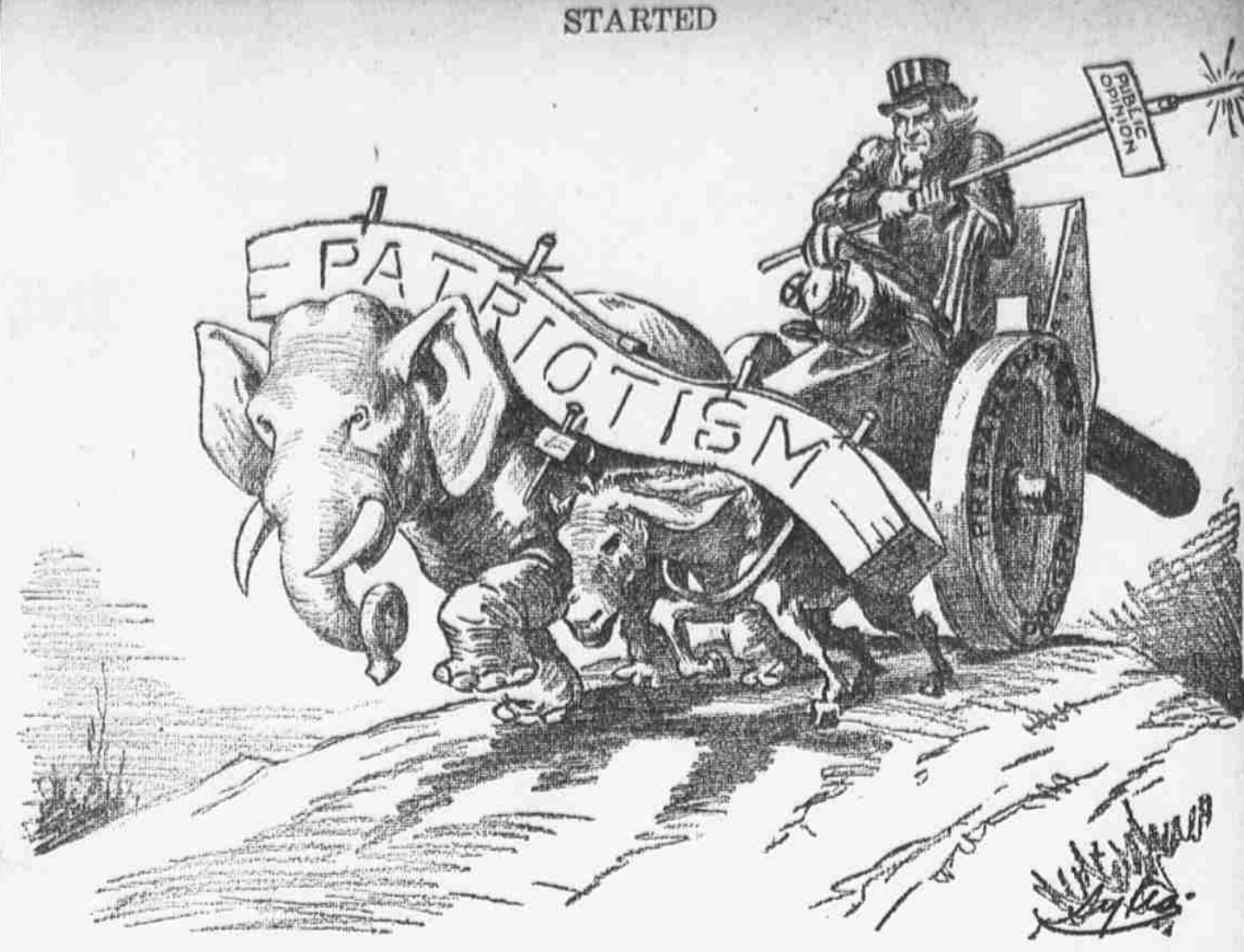
Classifying Your Countrymen I. "When they got in' to funeralize him?" Who speaks so, by palm or pine, It is sure to advertise him As of Charleston, South Carline.

II. And if, walking forth again, ye Hear one say: "Where am I at?" Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, Surely is his habitat.

What's Your Favorite Simile? "She's as sweet as the thoughts of a young mother." "I've a taste in my mouth like a burnt rubber foot." "He's as popular as a wet dog at a young ladies' picnic." "It's as welcome as a fox in a chicken coop."

Class or Two Ahead of Us I've a saying after knowledge And, since you have been to college, Possibly you may appraise it: "What kid first invented 'Cheese it'?" T. F. D.

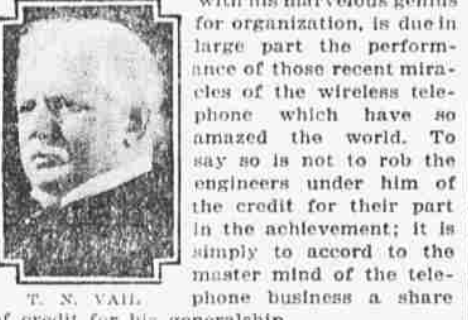
"If you could only hang around here at the dinner hour," said one of our earnest helpers, "you'd hear some pretty funny pronunciation."



TELEPHONE CHIEF IS ALSO A FARMER

Theodore N. Vail a "Rural Lifer." Always a Hard Working Progressive—Helped Develop the Railway Mail Service

SOMETIMES Theodore Newton Vail is set down in books of reference as a capitalist, sometimes as a farmer. He's a progressive in both professions. That is to say, the times never get ahead of him.



T. N. VAIL, with his marvelous genius for organization, is due in large part the performance of those recent miracles of the wireless telephone which have so amazed the world.

He owns a large farm at Lyndonville, Vt., and there he makes his home. In the town of Lyndon he has established an agricultural school which is one of the influential agencies of agricultural progress in the Green Mountain State. There are several similar schools in Vermont, conducted under State auspices, but none is better equipped or more largely attended. He furnishes the money, the plant, the land—but not gratuitously, for the boys pay for what they get, as they should.

Vail is also a generous supporter of Lyndon Institute, a preparatory school with which the agricultural school is affiliated. So when Vail talks of rural progress he talks as a man who is actively engaged in helping things along.

When telephone stock was considered more of a speculation than an investment, when folks were discussing the feasibility of the present day's greatest business necessity, and few could see the future of Prof. Alexander Graham Bell's great invention, Theodore Newton Vail was one of the men who had the faith to devote his entire time to the work of promoting the enterprise.

Mr. Vail is one of the original telephone men of the country. He left the position of General Superintendent of Railway Mail Service in Washington, which he had largely developed, and became the general manager of the original telephone operating company, and continued in the full management of this company and successively the National Bell Telephone Company, the American Bell Telephone Company, and the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, of which he was the first president.

Starts Out as a Telegrapher Mr. Vail was born in Ohio, July 15, 1845, (the son of David R. and Phoebe (Quimby) Vail). His paternal ancestors were English Quakers, some of whom were among the pilgrims who came early to this country and settled in Massachusetts. Branches of the family later drifted to Westchester County, New York, and then to Morris County, New Jersey, where the ninth generation is now living.

Mr. Vail's mother's people were Dutch and French, and were among the early settlers in New York and New Jersey. As a boy Mr. Vail attended the Morristown common school and then the Morristown Academy. He then studied medicine for a while and gave that up to learn telegraphy. He had a position as an operator in New York for a while and was then sent west of the Missouri River to work for the Union Pacific Railroad.

After working with the early organization of the business affairs of the telephone industry, Mr. Vail left active participation in the business for several years in order that he might attend to railway and electric enterprises in Europe and South America. He established the electric street railway system of Buenos Aires, the Argentine Republic, and developed power transmission in several other neighboring States. He invested heavily in these enterprises, and after he had developed them to a high degree of success, disposed of all of his interests to South American and European capitalists.

Mr. Vail never relinquished his interests in the telephone business, and after giving up the South American railway enterprises in 1897, he again took the position of president of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, which position carries with it the presidency of almost every subsidiary company in the country. Mr. Vail is today, without doubt, the foremost telephone man in the world.

Years ago Vail was a factor in the development of the railway mail service. In 1869, through the friendship of General Grenville M. Dodge, chief engineer of the Union Pacific, Vail was appointed a clerk in the railway

What Do You Know?

Queries of general interest will be answered in this column. Ten questions, the answers to which every well-informed person should know, are asked daily.

- 1. State approximately the age of Lord Kitchener. What great services of his made England great? 2. About how far is it from Key West to Havana? 3. What Chicago woman has achieved national fame as an educator? 4. Who popularized the word "mollycoddle"? 5. Who was John Jay? 6. Who made a fortune by acting on the principle that there is a fool born every minute? 7. In what year was Christ born? 8. What state of the Union reaches furthest south? 9. Name the President of France. 10. About what is the population of Seattle?

QUIZ Editor of "What Do You Know?"—The name of the song for which Ralph Scheller asks is "Mother." I will give him the whole of the verse, including the line beginning with "R." Here it is: It is for the million things she's done for you. O is only she is growing old. T is for the tears that she has shed for you. H is for the heart that is all gold. E is for eyes where gleams the love light. R means right and right shall always be. Put them all together they spell "Mother." A word that means the world to me. WILLIAM WINGERT. Philadelphia, February 8.

Lincoln's Rules for Living Editor of "What Do You Know?"—I heard a man refer to Lincoln's rules for living and had hunted for them in his letters, but cannot find them. Can you help me? CAMDEN. Lincoln's rules were given in a letter to a friend. He wrote: "Do not worry, eat three square meals a day, be courteous to your creditors, keep your digestion good, steer clear of biliousness, exercise, go slow and go easy. Maybe there are other things that your special case requires to make you happy, but my friend, these I reckon will give you a good lift."

The River Time Editor of "What Do You Know?"—My grandmother used to recite to me a poem beginning: Oh! a wonderful stream is the River of Time. As it runs through the realm of tears. I have hunted for it since I have grown up, but have not been able to find it because I do not know either its name or its author. Can you help me out? MADISON. The poem is called "The River Time," and it was written by Benjamin F. Taylor. It follows: Oh! a wonderful stream is the River of Time. As it runs through the realm of tears. With a fabled rhythm and a musical rhyme. And a broader sweep and a surge sublime. As it blends with the ocean of years. How the winters are drifting like flakes of snow. And the summers, like birds between. And the years in the ahead—how they come and go. On the river's breast, with its ebb and its flow. As it glides in the shadow and sheen. There's a magical Isle up the River Time. Where the softest of airs are playing; There's a cloudless sky and a tropical climate And a song as sweet as a vesper chime. And the Junos with roses are straying. And the name of the Isle is the Long Ago. And we bury our treasures there; There are brows of beauty and bosoms of snow; There are heaps of dust—oh! we loved them so! There are trinkets and treasures of hoar.

Japanese in Hawaii Editor of "What Do You Know?"—A returned missionary told me that the predominant population of the Hawaiian Islands is Japanese, that is, predominant in numbers, but I did not believe him. What is the truth about it? ETHNOLOGIST. The estimated population of the Hawaiian Islands was 27,000 in December, 1914. Of this number, 83,715 were Japanese, 24,500 pure Hawaiian, 45,000 Caucasian, including 23,200 Portuguese, 21,631 Chinese, 14,900 Filipino, with 14,000 of which races. There were 575 births in 1914, of which 369 were Japanese.

Philadelphia's Congressmen Editor of "What Do You Know?"—Will you kindly give the names of the Congressmen representing the districts in Philadelphia and also the districts which they represent? GEORGE W. NORTH. Philadelphia, February 7. The Philadelphia Congressmen are: W. S. Vare, 1st District; George S. Graham, 2d District; J. Hampton Moore, 3d District; George W. Edwards, 4th District; Peter E. Castello, 5th District; George Foster Darrow, 6th District; John R. K. Scott, Congressman-at-Large.

ONLY A PART Respecting man whatever wrong we call May, must be right, as relative to all. In human words, though labored on with pain. A thousand movements scarce one purpose gain; In God's one single can its end produce. Yet serves to second, too, some other use. So man, who here seems principal alone, Perhaps acts second to some sphere unknown. Touches some wheel, or works to some goal; 'Tis but a part we see and not the whole. —Wells in the "Essay on Man."

Perfection Editor of "What Do You Know?"—Who said "Trifles make perfection, but perfection is no trifle." AMBITIOUS. Michael Angelo.