DEATH BY TRACTION.

A Startling and Probably Fatal Grade Collision

ON LAWRENCEVILLE'S HILL

The Grip of a Rear Car Breaks, and it Crashes Down on Another,

CATCHING AN OLD MAN BETWEEN.

A Panic on the Forward Car, and Several Other Persons Injured.

THE SECOND COLLISION OF ITS KIND

Another car broke loose on the East End division of the Citizens' Traction Company's line yesterday afternoon near Thirty-seventh street, and, rushing down the hill, smashed into another car that was just ahead, crushing one man, it is thought fatally, grinding one boy's leg seriously and maiming three others.

The same thing, without such serious results, has happened once before; but it was only by chance that it turned out to be less startling than the ugly accident of yesterday.

From the stories of those that saw the accident (which happened about 1:30 o'clock), it seems that the forward car had stopped at Thirty-seventh street to let off some passengers, and just started on down the hill toward the city. The car was full, and seven or eight persons were on the platform. Suddenly the car behind gave a lurch forward and come on at a terrific rate. The grip had broken, and the car was at the mercy of the law of gravitation, which rushed it on, there being insufficient time and distance clear to stop it with the brakes.

A PANICKY SCENE.

When the persons on the platform of the forward car saw that the rear one was fairly pouncing down upon them, they endeavored to get off, climbing over the rails and pushing one another every way.

James De Beck, a man of 68, living on Ella street, Bloomfield, was whirled around in getting off, and caught between the two cars, cutting his face and head frightfully, bruising his right side, and, as Dr. Gaertner, who attended him, learned on examination, seriously injuring the pleuritic membrane of the chest.

John Henry Crawford, a young man living on Forty-fifth street, had his left leg badly bruised, the doctor stating, however, that he will probably be able to be around in seven or eight days. He was taken to his uncle, Mr. Key's, nearby.

Two young men from Little Washington, whose names were not learned, had their feet bruised, and another man had his thumb cut. The rest of the passengers were generally shaken up, frightened and thankful that they escaped as well as they did.

LIABLE TO PROVE FATAL.

Dr. Gaertner took Mr. De Beck home in his buggy, and on his return told a DISPATCH reporter that the old man was very seriously hurt, and that the chances for his recovery were very doubtful.

Later inquiry elicits the fact that car No. 208, the one in front, was occupied by a pleasure party that had got on at Fortieth street, and it is alleged that De Buck and Crawford might have got into the car with the others, but preferred standing on the rear platform, where they were when the collision occurred. At Thirty-sixth street, they say, a car was observed to be following car No. 208 at a very rapid rate. No particular attention was paid to the incident till the car in the lead stopped to permit a passenger to get off at Thirty-fifth street, when it was discovered that something was wrong with the car following, and that a collision was imminent.

De Beck was so injured internally that he may die. Crawford had both legs crushed, it seems. De Beck was finally taken to his home on Ella street, and Crawford to his at No. 155 Forty-fourth street.

No official investigation as to the cause of the accident has yet been made.

This accident, while it may result in the loss of only one life, recalls the Federal street horror in this—that it occurred in a manner liable to find repetition to-day, to-morrow or any day, on a line that is traveled to an enormous extent. It has had a parallel once before on the same hill, except as to results, and, as stated, may occur again at any time if cars are permitted to follow each other closely down that hill, with the possibility of breaking grips and running away.

ALLEGHENY POLICE BUSY

Running in Helpless Men Out of the Cold.

The two Allegheny patrol wagons were kept busy last night hauling drunks and disorderlies to the lockup. Many of the victims were strangers in town and celebrated the birthday of Washington by imbibing too freely. One country boy was brought in and cried as though he was to be hung. Officer Trapp, of the Ft. Wayne depot, gathered in two men for fighting in the depot.

At midnight ten drunks and 15 disorderlies were behind the bars.

KNOCKED DOWN BY FOOTPADS.

An Allegheneian Assaulted and Robbed on the Railroad Bridge.

Jacob Hart, of Ohio street, Allegheny, was attacked by footpads on the railroad bridge about 10 o'clock. He was knocked down and badly beaten, but was able to make his way to the Central station, where he reported that he had been robbed of $40. He said his assailants were colored men, and gave a very good description of them.

Mr. Hart's injuries were dressed, and, as he was somewhat under the influence of liquor, he was put to bed for the night.

The Reports Denied.

Reports of prosecuting parties stating that Jesse H. Dewees, late of the Osceola Coal Company, and his wife had left for Denver, Col., are denied. Mrs. Dewees is a guest of her sister, Mrs. Captain George Stone, of McKeesport, and Mr. Dewees is at the home of his brother, Mr. Thomas B. Dewees, in Chester county, Pa.

A Homestead Entertainment.

Prof. E. R. Kappeler and 54 of his pupils from Homestead, Allegheny and Pittsburg gave a grand vocal and instrumental concert and ball last night at Monitor Hall, Homestead. The entertainment was a thorough success and attracted a very large and select audience.

Too Much Liquor.

John Driscoll, when running down Forty-eighth street last night with a keg of beer on his shoulder and two bottles of whisky under his coat, was taken to the Seventeenth ward station by Officer Schultz as a suspicious character.

HOW THEY CHEAT DOCTORS.

A Physician's Story—The Manner in Which People Endeavor to Get the Best of Men in His Profession.

"Here's your money, if you will come along!"

"I tell you, sir, I will not, and that is the end of it. I will not go, and there is no use for you to waste any more breath about it!"

Those were the words which a reporter overheard while entering the office of a Southside physician last night. When the reporter was alone with the physician the latter remarked:

"I guess I have taught that fellow a lesson, and I think he will find that his game is about played out."

"What is the matter?"

"Well, sir, that man is one of that class of people who make it their business to cheat a physician out of his pay. He came to me and asked me to attend a daughter of his, who has been sick for over two weeks, and she is now almost convalescent. He has had another physician all the time, but of course he is aware of the fact that he will have to pay the other physician if he allows him to attend her until she is quite well again. That doctor's bill will probably amount to $25 or $30.

"Now in order to save that amount he has discharged the other doctor, and he comes to me, because the few visits that I would have to make to finish the other man's work would not cost him very much. Now if after awhile the first physician's bill comes in the man refuses to pay, because, he says, that he had not done his child any good anyhow; in fact, he will insinuate that she would in all probability have died. So you see that doctor would be cheated out of his money as well as being deprived of the credit of having cured his patient. But we are not doing those kind of tricks any more on the Southside, and the people who don't know it must learn."

"Are physicians much imposed upon in that manner?"

"O yes, almost every day it is tried. Then there are other people who try to get over the paying of their bills by giving the doctor a lot of blarney. They laud him up to the skies, say he is the greatest man on earth, but let him only send in his bill and they change at once. He is then nothing but a mean contemptible cur. An ignoramus, a profligate, a drunkard and even a murderer.

"Why, during Garfield's illness one of these fellows came to me and asked me to give him the permission of writing to Washington and endeavoring to have me called in the case, so high was his appreciation of my ability. Shortly afterward I sent him a bill. He has never employed me since, but he has, at every occasion, traduced me."

TWO BACK GATES.

A Terrible Lesson for a Young Man Who Entered the Wrong Door.

An amusing story is related of a young man in this city, who rarely looks upon the wine when it is red, but when he does he always meets with misfortune. His latest adventure has led him to take a pledge never to drink any more until he is sure he will be taken care of by a friend.

He was at a ball early in the evening, and when it broke up in the morning and he had seen his fair one safely home, he came back to the city, and there met a gang of fellows who were "painting the town." To make a long story short he soon commenced to see lamp-posts waltzing and otherwise behaving disorderly.

He reached the back gate of the parental mansion some way or other, he can't say how, and started for the rear door of the house.

Adjoining his home is a shop kept by a German, who imagines he knows everything. The back gates are similar, and the poor fellow got into the wrong gate. The latch keys fit, and he let himself into the kitchen and wandered thence into the storeroom. It was rather an odd parlor, he imagined; but he thought little about it, and started upstairs to his bed room.

He got into the room of the German, and, after disrobing, attempted to get into bed with him. The shopkeeper awoke, and, seizing him, threw the bewildered young man on the floor, and knelt on his stomach. At the same time he commenced yelling for the police. An officer appeared, and carried the young man off to the station house, refusing to listen to any explanations or to allow him to call his friends. At the time for the morning hearing, he was placed in a patrol wagon and got a ride through the streets of the town to another station house. His friends had heard of his blunder and arrest by this time, and secured his release before he went to jail.

ARMY OFFICERS' BANQUET.

The Loyal Legion Holds Its First Feast at the Duquesne.

The first social meeting of the resident companions of the military order of the Loyal Legion of the United States was held at the Hotel Duquesne last night. Covers were laid for 22, and, most remarkable, all who were expected were promptly on hand at 8 o'clock. The menu was a very elaborate one. There were impromptu speeches, songs sung, army stories told, and a most pleasant evening was passed. As this was the first formal meeting, no efforts were made to advertise it.

Judge Slagle acted as master of ceremonies. Major Harry D. Campbell, of the California Commandery, was the guest of the companions. The following were present: E. J. Allen, Henry A. Breed, Thomas Howe Childs, James Collard, George W. Dean, John T. Denniston, Joseph F. Denniston, Levi Bird Duff, W. S. Foster, B. F. Jennings, W. R. Jones, Henry H. King, George M. Laughlin, William G. McCandless, William McClelland, William McConway, William J. Moorhead, D. C. Phillips, James M. Schoonmaker and David M. Watt.

The next meeting will be held the latter part of April. It is expected that there will be many additions to the membership here.

FOUND ON THE TRACKS.

He Claims to Have Been Stunned, But Was Possibly Mistaken.

Last night about 10 o'clock Officer Smith found a man named Martin Barrett lying insensible on the Allegheny Valley Railroad tracks at Thirty-third street. At the Twelfth ward station house Barrett stated that he had been stunned by a fall at the crossing, but as his head was only scratched, the officers suspected that he had been indulging overmuch, and therefore locked him up for a hearing this morning.

C. M. B. A. ENTERTAINMENT

And Reception Given by Branch 34, East End, Last Night.

Branch 34, C. M. B. A., gave a pleasing literary and musical entertainment in Liberty Hall, East End, last night, for the benefit of the charity fund. The audience was a large one and gave frequent encores.

The character sketches seemed to take well. The second part consisted of a two act serio-comic drama entitled, "The Farmer's Story," the parts being well taken.

FATHER CANEVIN ILL.

No Lecture Delivered at the Old Fifth Avenue Market House.

Rev. Father Canevin, of the Tannehill Street Orphan Asylum, did not lecture in the old Fifth Avenue Market House last night, on account of a severe cold in the head. A substitute would have lectured had it not been for the fact that the committee in charge deemed the hall in an entirely unfit condition.

GAIL HAMILTON, *in the Sunday issue of* THE DISPATCH, *talks like a philosopher to the silk-clad ladies who sit at Delmonico's tables and chatter about starving working women.*

JIMMY LEAVES JAIL.

A Youthful Prisoner's Daring Escape From the County Prison.

LIGHTNING RODS USED FOR ROPES.

Seated on the Roof, He Coolly Watches the Parade March Past

UNTIL HE IS TIRED, AND THEN SKIPS

Jimmy Doran grew tired of life in jail, and so he left yesterday afternoon without even bidding his keepers farewell.

Jimmy (pardon this familiarity, as one of his daring, if not of his tender years, deserves to be called Mr. Doran, but everybody called him Jimmy), is only 14 years old, and is from Woods' Run. Mr. Doran was engaged in the plebeian occupation of filling spittoons with sawdust in the jail yard, north wing, yesterday. Other prisoners had carried them out of the building and placed them in a line before him. It was a long row, and Jimmy could hear the sullen roar of the bass drum intermingling with the shrill notes of the fife, as the bands in the parade tried to drown the cheers of the spectators with patriotic music. He thought, on this birthday of Washington, the father of independence, that he would never reach the end of his task. He was tired of the life he was leading. It was too confining, too awfully dependent, and he knew he was growing stout for want of exercise.

As James (for he cannot really be called Jimmy, for he pried nothing open,) held a shovelful of sawdust poised in midair, he made up his mind to go. The sawdust scoop was dropped. James looked around. High in the air above him

TOWERED THE JAIL WALL;

a slender twisted wire ran from the ground to the top, fastened at intervals to the rough stones; no one was in sight. Down on his knees he dropped, and in a few moments his shoes and stockings were removed and he stood in his bare feet. Seizing the lightning rod, he slowly made his way to the roof of the jail.

An extra hard thump on the bass drum by a patrol marcher nerved him immensely. He slowly made his way from the side of the jail nearest Old avenue along the roof, which is steeper than a toboggan slide, to a point above Warden Berlin's residence, near the corner of the institution at Diamond and Ross streets.

Below him marched the procession in all its glory and with all its thousands of eyes. He had a private box, though, and there was no danger of his feet being trod upon by the little man who always wants to see everything. He was the envey of the spectators below, who imagined he was a newsboy that had climbed up the side of the jail so as to get a better view. James enjoyed the parade; but, as his position was too prominent for his shrinking nature, and his bare feet were growing cold, he thought he would leave. At the corner stood his jailer, Warden Berlin, in company with two of his friends.

HIS LADDER OF FAME.

A lightning rod running up the side of an air duct was the only set of steps James needed. Down he slid, alighting on the roof of the warden's residence. Beneath him Mrs. Berlin sat at a window, watching the parade. The upper rod had broken under his weight, but he was uninjured. Seizing the lower rod, he swung himself over the edge of the roof and slid down the rod as a sailor goes down a rope. Mrs. Berlin was surprised at the sudden appearance and disappearance of a man, or boy, or something, near her window. His feet had hardly touched the pavement before he was off like a deer, and hundreds saw him go, still thinking him a "newsy" at liberty. Down Diamond street toward the Panhandle railroad he ran.

The crowd then slowly began to realize that a prisoner had escaped from the jail before their eyes, and started in pursuit. James was running for freedom, however, and although at least 50 persons were after him, he escaped near the Panhandle bridge, on Second avenue. It was about 3:30 o'clock when he escaped.

Warden Berlin was notified, and he in turn gave notice of the escape to the various police officials in the two cities.

James Doran, as before stated, is about 14 years of age, and, when not in jail, resides in Shanghai row, Woods' Run. He was committed to jail on January 17 by Mayor Pearson, of Allegheny, to answer two separate charges of larceny, preferred against him by men named Stemmler and Hughes. He is charged with having robbed a notion store of candy and tobacco. When he escaped he was in his bare feet, be it remembered, as he had left his shoes and stockings in the jail yard.

A Dead Body Found.

The body of a young man was found near Ellrod station, on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, yesterday, and from thence conveyed to the morgue in this city. He had the name of T. Feehan tattooed on his left arm. Who the man is or where he comes from is so far unknown. He had, however, no marks of violence upon him. Dr. McCandless will hold a post mortem examination upon the body, whereupon Coroner McDowell will hold an inquest.

Had Enough Clothing.

An unknown man was killed on the Panhandle Railroad at Nimick station yesterday morning. The body was brought to the morgue, and when the undertakers went to prepare the body they found it dressed in 4 pair of pantaloons, 6 shirts, 3 vests, 2 coats and 3 pair of socks. The man was evidently a tramp, about 40 years of age. He was struck by the Washington express. An inquest will be held this morning.

Fell Off a Railroad Track.

Michael Foley, of Mansfield, fell off the Panhandle Railroad track at the Birmingham station last evening and lit on the roof of Miller's Cincinnati Brewing Agency. He was picked up insensible, and a patrol wagon conveyed him to the Homeopathic Hospital. His head was badly bruised, but he had no bones broken.

They Stole a Horse and Wagon.

Robert Gray, better known as Spanish Bob, was arrested in Allegheny last evening on a charge of larceny. He and a companion drove off in a wagon belonging to George Beilstein, the butcher. Officer Alexander captured Bob, but his companion escaped.

Presented With a Flag.

Washington Lodge No. 2, A. P. A., was presented with a beautiful flag last night at the second annual reception in the Birmingham Turner Hall, Southside.

Opening a Fair.

Lieutenant Geary Post No. 236, G. A. R., opened a fair last night at Salisbury Hall, Southside, which is to last several weeks. Dr. J. M. Duff made the opening address.

Railroad Offices Removed.

The offices of the West Penn Railroad, at Blairsville, are to be removed to Allegheny City by March 1, and Superintendent Kirkland and 14 others will have to locate here.

DR. B. M. HANNA. Eye, ear, nose and throat diseases exclusively. Office, 718 Penn street, Pittsburg, Pa. S&Su

FAIR HEADS SHAVED.

Revelation of a Pittsburg Ladies' Hair Dresser—Blonde Tresses Cover Spots That Do Not Appear in Society—They Frequently Get There Though.

A pulling of lace curtains and general bustle behind the scenes ensued yesterday afternoon as a DISPATCH reporter sought to enter Mr. A's ladies' tonsorial parlors on a prominent down town thoroughfare. Was it a scene in fairyland or a glimpse of a water nymph at her toilet that faded from view as the long blonde wavelets fluttered in the wind occasioned by the pulling of the curtain? No, it was but a Pittsburg belle taking her regular shampoo.

The reporter was hustled into the men's department. In a few moments Mr. A. appeared from behind the scenes, sharpened up two or three razors and whispered, aside.

"Just wait a short time, until I shave this lady's head, and I will attend to you."

The subsequent interview in the secret room fully justified the use of the word tonsorial as the proper name for the parlor, as much as for the men's department.

After a long wait the knight of the secret room again arrived and took the reporter into the lady's parlor and introduced him to

The lady hair-dresser as a stately figure passed down the street, saucily shaking her false ringlets, fastened to the newly-shaven head.

"Do you have many such customers?" asked the reporter of the lady hair-dresser.

"Oh, yes, they come regularly to have their heads shaved. It's getting to be quite the thing, and our patronesses are all among the society people. Some come to get bald spots on their heads shaved, either on top or at the side, where the hair doesn't grow good.

"Mr. A., here, does all the shaving. They generally come twice a week and have their heads shaved and the scalp treated until the hair grows in. Of course it takes longer with some than with others.

"A good many young girls and ladies of all ages have the whole head shaved regular once or twice a week to make the hair grow, where some scalp trouble causes it to be thin or to fall out. They wear wigs until it grows out, which generally takes three or four months. Some of the best people in society come here regularly to get their heads shaved."

Just then a young lady came in to show the proprietor her hair, which was thick and glossy, with long bangs.

"Has she had her head shaved?" queried the reporter.

"Yes; she had the erysipelas, and her hair came out, but shaving brought it back again.

"Sometimes we paint the head with a preparation when there is bad scalp trouble. I do all the curling, banging, shampooing, etc. After being shampooed they sit with their hair hanging down over a tin flume or heater, which dries it in three to five minutes.

"No, hair-dressing is not our specialty this season, the styles of doing the hair are so simple that the society people generally do it up themselves. Braids will be the thing next summer, though, and they will then need a professional dresser."

"Do ladies have more than one color of wigs?"

"No, not in Pittsburg, though I noticed in a fashion book that in some places it was quite the thing to have a different wig to match each dress. But I hardly think that will reach Pittsburg."

NOT BUILT THAT WAY.

Senator Spooner Says Klein Will Never be Delivered to Germany.

Senator Spooner, of Wisconsin, passed through the city last night for Chicago. He said:

I don't know anything about the Cabinet, so don't start in on that. I do know, however, that whoever is Secretary of State for the next four years that he will lay aside the robes of his office feeling that foreign nations have a little more respect for us than they have at present. The people were never before so humiliated in the eyes of foreigners as they have been during this administration. I see that Germany now has the gall to demand the body of Klein. It will be a cold day, indeed, when the American people deliver him up to Bismarck for punishment. We are not built that way.

I don't believe there will be an extra session of Congress. In the next week or so some of the revenues will be reduced, but there will be no tariff legislation this session. I am told that some of the Democrats who voted for the Mills bill are favorably inclined to the Senate tariff bill, but it won't be passed. The taxes on sugar and tobacco will be modified probably.

The New York *Sun* does not agree with me that the bill introduced to establish national institutes for farmers in connection with the new Agricultural Department, embodies a good idea. We have such institutes in Wisconsin, and the farmers derive a great deal of good from them. I do not claim the bill is perfect, and I want it to be corrected and amended. I merely introduced it at this time to draw attention to the needs of the farmers.

McKEESPORT'S UNION DEPOT.

A Handsome Structure to be Soon Erected by the Railroads.

Plans and specifications have been completed for a very fine large brick union depot to be built by the Pittsburg, McKeesport and Youghiogheny and the McKeesport and Bellevernon Railroads at the corner of Fourth avenue and Walnut street, McKeesport. The building will be of pressed brick with stone trimmings. The work upon it will soon be commenced.

Three Allegheny Receptions.

There were three large receptions in Allegheny last evening. The T. J. Wallace Rod and Gun Club entertained about 1,000 people in the Coliseum until an early hour this morning. The management was good and no disturbance occurred. Northside Council No. 113, Jr. O. U. A. M., gave a reception at Union Rink, and Washington Camp No. 4, Patriotic Sons of America, at Washington Hall.

Run Down by a Train.

An old soldier, whose name is Krause, and who has been living recently at the Allegheny County Home, was run down by a train on the P., C. & Y. Railroad at Glendale, at 4 o'clock last evening. The remains were taken to Mansfield, where an inquest will be held to-day.

LATE LOCAL BREVITIES.

JAMES BROWN, a flagman on the Panhandle Railroad, had his left hand crushed coupling cars yesterday.

THOMAS FERGUSON, an old man living on Webster avenue, fractured his right leg yesterday by a fall down the cellar steps.

GEORGE NEWHOUSE, a youth of 19, living at the corner of Roberts street and Center avenue, accidentally shot himself in the leg yesterday while handling a revolver.

LILLIAN MOODY was placed in jail yesterday for a hearing on next Tuesday before Alderman McKenna on charges of selling liquor without a license. Bail in $2,000 was asked, but not given.

JOHN JACKSON was placed in jail yesterday by Justice of the Peace Rudisill, of Sewickley, to await trial at court on a charge of larceny. It is alleged the prisoner stole an envelope containing $30 belonging to C. G. Wood.

A NOTE was left at Alderman Porter's office yesterday stating that the body of a babe had been found in a freight car on the A. V. R. R. There was nothing in the missive to indicate who left it, and the Coroner knows nothing of such a case.

ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE O'MARA last night arrested John Thomas and George Melville, who were found loitering about the Anderson Hotel, and locked them up as suspicious characters. Thomas belongs here, but Melville hails from Columbus, Ohio, and both are alleged to be professional thieves.

CHINA'S WALL, *one of the most ancient and grandest of engineering triumphs portrayed by Frank G. Carpenter, together with some anecdotes of a royal old joker, in to-morrow's* DISPATCH.

THE BRANDING IRON.

The Stamping of Criminals Not Favored in This Community.

VIEWS OF WELL-KNOWN PEOPLE.

Only One Person Found Who Believes in the Ancient Custom.

SOME PERTINENT REMARKS PICKED UP

Pittsburg does not favor branding of criminals, apparently at least, though we doubtless might poll a large vote in favor of making them make roads. The *Medical Journal*, under the head of "Modern Use of Tattooing," states that this process of marking criminals for the purpose of identification, has been adopted by several prison authorities, and further:

It has been suggested that in every penal institution the process should be carried out, and in this way a complete record could be kept of a man's life, no matter in what part of the globe he might be found, as, having a key, the prison management could readily follow up his history. It is proposed to introduce the plan in the Illinois State Prison at Joliet—first, because it is harmless, and, second, because it will form a perfect chain of evidence against wrongdoers, but will in no way affect unfavorably those who may be disposed to reform and live an honorable life.

Regarding the possible effect and the danger of infection, the *Journal* says:

By this plan (tattooing) disorders of the system may be conveyed from one person to another, and until such a penalty becomes a part of the edict from the court no person should be subjected to this trying ordeal; and we believe that physicians will be ready to show their disfavor toward it by discountenancing such proceedings as far as lies in their power. The fact that the saliva of some persons is sufficient to cause symptoms of poison when introduced into the skin of another would in itself be sufficient to condemn the practice; but, with our knowledge of the germ theory and the principles underlying the distribution of disease by inoculation, it seems almost impossible that such diabolical schemes could long find a resting-place in the minds of civilized human beings.

PITTSBURGERS OPPOSE IT.

A DISPATCH reporter interrogated people whom he knew casually, just as he met them in a half hour's walk, and found the proposition generally abhorrent. They were questioned not as to their views of tattooing but branding, with a hot iron, the latter not being likely to produce the evil physical effects possible from the former. Gentlemen spoken to were Messrs. F. C. Dorrington, of the City Treasurer's office; John J. Davis, of the Controller's office; W. P. Beadell, and among lawyers E. E. Cotton, J. C. Haymaker, Henry Meyer, Morton Hunter, Frank W. Smith, B. C. Christy, T. H. Davis, C. F. McKenna, Captain McClelland and W. A. Sipe, Esqs., and these all expressed substantially the same opinion, though Messrs. McClelland, Sipe and McKenna treated the proposition as absurd, and seemed to refuse to believe it could possibly be seriously entertained. Mr. Cotton said experience had shown that crime most prevailed in the times when malefactors were barbarously mutilated, and that evidently branding, scourging, ear-clipping, nose-splitting, etc., had no preventive effect. The same argument has been used against the whipping post and against capital punishment, yet some very good people would like to see the first established and the work of the second greatly extended.

Some took the ground that the State has an interest in the criminal, and that a reformatory one and that branding, or tattooing, or any other kind of marking, would preclude most criminals from ever making any effort at reformation, and Mr. James P. Quinn took the ground that the prison birds are generally punished fully enough, anyhow. Said another man, "I am opposed to any kind of mutilation of criminals on grounds both humane and politic, and also because the greatest criminals of the age are outside of penitentiaries, and the same has been the case in all ages, so far as I can learn. The really great criminals are always able to take care of themselves, and if the small fry escape it is because they find protection under the greater."

ONLY ONE FAVORS BRANDING.

Among all solicited for an opinion, Mr. Alfred McCabe was the only man who would admit that the practice might be defended in extreme cases. He said there were men against whom he believed society would have a right to protect itself by indelibly branding them in such manner that they could never by any possibility impose themselves on strangers. On the ground that prevention is preferable to cure, doubtless most people could agree that some people of their acquaintance should be marked, so that all mankind would shun them as it does lepers. In the meantime, Dr. E. A. Wood has a preventive plan that might not only decrease crime in the present, but increase in potency from generation to generation, but it isn't likely the doctor's plan would gain on the people at large, as last as would the proposition to tattoo or to brand.

Some people have contended that branding, tattooing, nose-splitting, ear-clipping, etc., are unconstitutional, and quote the eighth article of the amendments to the Federal Constitution proposed in 1789, and ratified by the requisite number of States; excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted." Now, the question arises as to what the people in 1789 considered a cruel and unusual punishment. It is said that once, probably at that time and later, horse thieves were branded in Pennsylvania. Our ancestors did not trouble themselves much with ethics in the case of a criminal, especially if he were a horse thief, the latter gentry being regarded with an aversion similar to that we now entertain toward burglars. In some places at present horse thieves, when caught, may esteem themselves fortunate if allowed time to pray before taking their swing. The telegraph has circumscribed their operations in thickly settled countries.

OF ANCIENT ORIGIN.

The branding of criminals appears to be of very ancient origin. We are informed that a mark was put on the first murderer mentioned in history, but that brand, as it is generally styled, we are told was put on the murderer to save his life and not for the purpose of marking him so that he could not impose himself on the Nodites. It would seem that 2,700 years later there wasn't much need for branding murders, for those who could not claim sanctuary in the cities of refuge were put to death with little ceremony and it was seldom that either an allocutor or a new trial was granted.

Opponents of the brand say it is only fit for the marking of beasts, and this shows how the sentiment of the age differs from that of former times. Once not only criminals, but slaves guilty of no crime, were branded or marked in some distinctive way. It was provided in the Mosaic law that if a poor Hebrew sold himself to his neighbor for a term of years, and, if before the expiration of the time, he became mashed on one of his master's female servants, so badly that he could not leave her, then the master took him to the door-post and bored his ear through with an awl, and the enamored servant became the master's property, absolutely and forever.

It doesn't appear that marking criminals will grow in favor. People may disfigure themselves by wearing tight shoes, or bangs, or bustles, or Grecian bends, or patches of court plaster on their faces or in a thousand other ways, but dudes and dudines, tailors, shoemakers, dressmakers and milliners make society's laws, and only their edicts command obedience. Doubtless obedience to their commands causes much of the crime complained of, but fashion's votaries laugh at all railers and will not that Sam Small, Sam Jones, the Boy Preacher, or any other agency shall save them by turning them from the error of their ways.

There is one case, however, in which branding might not be considered either cruel or disgraceful. If all children had their names branded on some part of the body not exposed to observation, that portion of the anatomy designated by law, and no deviation allowed, it would save many millions of dollars now spent in litigation and such trouble as occasioned by the loss of little Charlie Ross would be obviated, and the damage and pain to the child would be but slight. Tattooing would not answer, as marks thus made can be obliterated.

A SMALL COAL OUTPUT.

Mr. Sanford Says He Mined Less This Winter Than Ever Before.

The coal men are in the soup. The exceptionally fine winter has spoiled the trade and upset their calculations completely. Mr. Sanford, of the Sanford Coal and Coke Company, said yesterday:

We have mined less coal this winter than during any year since we have been in the business. This is true also of other operators. They all have their complaints to make. There is positively no demand for coal, and to tell the truth we haven't made anything for two years. In an average winter there is not enough natural gas to keep the people warm and they must buy coal. We always do a large business in the towns west of the Ohio, and even sell some coal in Pittsburg, but this winter the trade from those places has not panned out.

Then the railroads are not willing to give the coal operators the rates they used to before the inter-State law went into effect. We haven't been able to give a consumer a rate for a long time. We have been anxiously waiting for the commission to give a decision in the Imperial Coal Company's case. If the commission only knew how much the calculations of coal operators depended on a ruling in that case they would declare it at once.

As to the miners, I think they are entitled to all they get. When a man works under ground from nine to ten hours a day for $2 he has certainly earned it.

A COAL POOL.

The River Operators and Shippers Preparing to Form One.

An unusually large and important meeting of the Coal Exchange was held at the office of John A. Wood & Co., yesterday afternoon. The price of mining was discussed at length and all admitted that there was no profit in coal at a 3-cent rate for mining.

The sharp competition in the Southern market has brought prices down as low as they have ever been. Several remedies were proposed, but the one meeting with the most favor was one providing for the formation of a pool or combination to be composed of all miners and shippers of coal in the Monongahela Valley.

No definite plan was suggested, but it was decided to leave the matter in the hands of a committee of three to formulate a plan and report it at the next meeting. The President of the Exchange, John A. Wood, was authorized to name the committee and he will do so to-day.

OFFICERS TAKE A REST.

A Reduction May be Made in the Freight Rates on Bottles.

The general offices of all the railroads were closed yesterday, but here and there a busy man could be found who hadn't time to celebrate George's birthday.

A division freight agent of one of the the roads was among the number. In regard to the appeal of the bottle men for a reduction in freight rates, he said:

The local committee has been considering the matter, and will meet again in a few days to render some decision. All they can do is to recommend a change in the classification to the joint committee, who have this business in charge. The tableware manufacturers have not asked for a reduction. It is hardly fair that the man who receives only 2½ cents per pound for his glass should pay as much as the manufacturer who gets from 10 to 12 cents per pound.

HIS TIME TOO SHORT.

Mr. Powderly Declines to Talk, for Fear of Missing His Train.

Grand Master Workman Powderly, of the Knights of Labor, passed through the city last night going East. He said he was returning from a meeting of the order at Cincinnati, and declined to talk about anything on the ground that the time was too short.

"If you were to ask me a question, he said, "about the time I should get into a discussion about it, the train would start, and you would supply the balance."

When asked if he had received a communication about the proposed strike on the Citizens' Traction road, he replied that he had not, and he did not know before that there was any trouble among the men on the line.

Why Peter Wise Was Discharged.

Secretary Robert Watchorn, of N. D. A. 135, K. of L., has just completed a tour of the Connellsville coke region, and found the organization in good shape. He investigated the discharge of Peter Wise, Superintendent of the H. C. Frick Company, and says "pernicious activity" in the cause of the Knights of Labor was the real cause of his discharge.

A Letter From Powderly.

Master Workman I. N. Ross, of D. A. 3, K. of L., yesterday received a letter from General Master Workman Powderly. In it he says the order is rapidly increasing in membership, and will soon regain lost ground.

Nearly $60,000,000 of Assets.

President Greene's annual report of the affairs of the Connecticut Mutual Life Insurance Company presents a gratifying view of its solidity and strength. A company with $57,460,649 of gross assets and $3,565,680 surplus on the most rigid legal standard is certainly strong enough for all emergencies. The company has 63,660 policy holders, insured for $151,361,913. Its receipts from policy holders last year were $4,456,285, and it paid out $3,385,348, yet three-quarters of a million dollars were added to its net assets. These figures tell their own story.

Famous Suit Sale.

Our famous $6 suit sale closes at 11 P. M. to-night. This is positively the last day you can buy one of those elegant tailor-made men's suits, in plaid, stripes, broken checks, and many other neat effects, for the small sum of $6. It is actually giving them away at this price, and $15 is what they are worth, but $6 takes your choice of 'em to-day. Special in children's department is the sale of all our $3, $4, $5 children's two-piece suits at $2.

P. C. C. C., corner Grant and Diamond streets, opposite the new Court House.

SANITARIUM and Water Cure. The only Eastern institution in which mud baths are given. Steam-heating and electric lights. Baths, massage and electricity by trained manipulators. Address John S. Marshall, M. D., Green Spring, O.

The Holidays Have Come Again.

Yes, you would think so if you go into Hamilton's music store, 91 and 93 Fifth avenue. The invitation we placed in the daily papers yesterday has borne fruit already. We are surprised at the prompt returns. We have made sales just as we promised to, some of the organs going at cost. We must have the room, as the pianos and organs contracted for are now coming in and must be sold as fast as they arrive. We propose selling more this year than ever before, and have placed large orders with that determination. Come in and see us. You will be surprised at the low price you can buy a piano or organ at; every instrument fully warranted and easy terms given.

DISCIPLINE TOO LAX.

This is the Opinion of the Legislators on the Penitentiary.

AN INVESTIGATION MAY BE ASKED

If the House is Not Satisfied With the Inspectors' Decision.

WOULDN'T DO ANY HARM, SAYS MR. FOW

The Legislative Sub-Committee on Appropriations visited the balance of the charitable institutions yesterday. Judge Acheson and Mr. Guthrie in behalf of the proposed hospital for children, asked for an appropriation of $50,000. The Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children wants $5,000, and the Free Dispensary makes a request for $15,000.

But the prison board's decision in the Maharneke case was the chief topic of conversation between the members of the committee. They were anxious to know what the public had to say about it.

"I understand," said Mr. Fow, "that the people think the decision was given because this committee was here; that we scared them into it."

The committee was not inclined to talk very much themselves, but they asked freely for information about the investigation, and Representative Marshall said:

HIS FAITH IN THE BOARD.

Now that the decision has been rendered by the Prison Board, I don't know what will be done. I know Inspectors Trimble and McCutcheon, and I don't believe there is a man in Allegheny City who would question their integrity. I take it for granted they acted fairly in this examination. I do not know the other members of the board, except by reputation.

In the next few days I will read over the evidence in the case. I am not well enough posted to express an opinion at present, but I do think that the investigation should have been conducted by the Legislature. I have perfect confidence in Warden Wright. It looks to me as if he had been too kind hearted, and some of his subordinates had taken advantage of his good nature. He has been at the head of the penitentiary for 20 years, and, having no trouble in that time, I think he became a little lax in his discipline and placed too much confidence in those under him. I don't like Dr. Maharneke, and never did. I always thought he was the wrong man to fill such a position, and I am glad he is dismissed. I suppose that under the circumstances nothing further could be done with him.

A LITTLE TOO LAVISH.

Representatives Fow and Thompson, of the committee, returned to Harrisburg last night. At the depot Mr. Fow said

I don't believe in buying 26 lots that adjoin the penitentiary when the State would only need 40 feet. There is a proposed street that should run along the walls, and if the property owners are not willing to sell the 40 feet the Attorney General could be directed to go ahead and condemn the ground for the use of the State.

"Do I think there should be a Legislative investigation of the penitentiary? Well, I hardly know how to answer. If the House is not satisfied with the decision in the Maharneke case, and the resolution to investigate is pressed, I will vote for it. If the people are innocent an investigation would do no harm; in fact, would restore public confidence in the management. I think the discipline has been too lax, but I hardly believe it is any more serious than that."

Mr. Thompson said:

I wouldn't be surprised if the Legislature made an investigation, and I wouldn't be at all surprised if they made none. When we get back to Harrisburg, we will make our report to the House, and they can do as they please.

ANOTHER INVESTIGATION

Will Likely Be Held at the Riverside Penitentiary.

Another investigation may soon be held at the penitentiary. This time John W. Riley (hobnail) will appear in the role of prosecutor, and a high official, it is said, as the defendant. One of the charges, it was learned, is that the official stole $250 from Riley.

During the recent investigation Riley was one of the witnesses, and at the close of his testimony announced that he had a charge make. President Kelly informed him that if it had no bearing on the case on trial he could not make it, but would be heard later. Riley has written a letter containing the charges, which is now in the hand of a certain person who will see that the matter is investigated.

In proof of his statement Riley refers to an Allegheny police officer, who denied all knowledge of robbery, but said he knew Riley had $250, which had been paid to an attorney who had attempted to obtain a pardon for him.

Removal Sale.

Shoes can be bought cheaper now than ever before. Every pair of shoes is subject to a cash discount of at least 10 per cent. Many shoes below cost.

TTS CAIN & VERNER.

AFTER a sleepless night use Angostura Bitters to tone up your system. All druggists.

INVALIDS call at 1102 Carson st. and be cured free of charge.

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