The Dispatch.

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PITTSBURG, FRIDAY, MAR. 29, 1889.

COMMENTS ON THE NOMINATIONS.

In general, the comments on President Harrison's nominations for diplomatic service are a gratifying tribute to the President's perception of the fitness of things. Even the franker Democratic papers, such as the New York *Sun* and Henry Watterson's Louisville organ, feel obliged to join in the expression of approval. If the *Evening Post* of New York is rabid because so many newspaper persons figure on the list, the country will not necessarily go into convulsions. There was once a tradition that the *Post* was edited in heaven. Celestial wisdom it may demand from the President, but that he can hardly do better for his missions from the material offering will not seriously be disputed. The choice of Lincoln meets with stronger favor as a fit remembrance of a name great in the nation's history; the nomination of Halstead had the approval of everyone but the Senators who felt the sting of his just criticisms on the Payne seat-purchasing business; the compliment to the Irish Republicans, through Egan, offends nobody but the British Tories, while it will signally delight the leaders of the Liberal party of Great Britain; and the capacity of Thorndyke Rice to carry himself well at St. Petersburg is not questioned.

Yesterday five Republican Senators aided the Democrats in defeating the confirmation of Murat Halstead. A determined effort will surely be made to reverse this unreasonable decision, and the motion to reconsider is still under debate.

Should the United States Senators finally reject Halstead on the pitiable ground that his strictures on their votes offended them, they will cover themselves with public contempt. Nothing else is alleged against the Field Marshal. It will be a queer commentary on the state of mind of the Senate if it comes to be recorded that had Halstead kept quiet about the notorious bribery of the Ohio Legislature, the vote for his approval as Minister to Germany would have been unanimous; but because he denounced the abuse and opposed the beneficiary's admission to the Senate the country has no use for him. The petty cowardice and mean revenge of such a decision would well evoke such scathing comments as Henry Watterson has already made in anticipation of the contingency.

THE FIGHTING GOLD MINERS.

A fight for the possession of valuable territory is reported to have broken out between the American and Mexican miners in the new gold region of Lower California. According to the dispatches there has already been bloodshed, and further trouble is imminent. It is a wonder that something of the kind has not occurred sooner, Fire and water are not more unlike than Americans and Mexicans, and it could not reasonably be expected that representatives of the two nationalities, each feverish with the thirst for gold, could work peacefully together very long.

The Americans, it is reported, began the firing and intend to keep up the fight by battling with the Mexican cavalry. If they want the symathy of their own people and the aid of this Government in defending their interests (a contingency by no means remote or improbable) they are pursuing a course not likely to secure either. The United States is bound to protect its citizens as long as they behave themselves, but when they turn adventurers and defy the laws of a sister republic their conduct is scarcely likely to be upheld.

EPIDEMICS OF CRIME.

It is a singular fact, which philosophers have vainly sought to explain, that crime, like disease, seems to be epidemic at certain seasons in certain localities. Many a day passes without a single murder or suicide being chronicled in the leading newspapers, while at other times a dozen horrible crimes are reported in a single issue. No one who reads regularly the current news can fail to have noted frequent instances which prove the truth of this statement.

It seems almost as if some strange, secret influence, working at certain periods and resting during others, controlling human action and inciting men to desperate deeds, must be held accountable for the phenomena attending these recurring cycles of crime. But what the influence is, if it exists, is a mystery as yet uncomprehended.

Just at present one of these singular epidemics seems to have broken out in this country, and particularly in the city of Allegheny. For nearly a week the columns of the local papers have teemed with accounts of shooting affrays, suicides, plots to murder, and other shocking deeds. Can it be that the population of these two thriving cities has steadily degenerated, until appaling crimes have become things of everyday occurrence? Certainly not. A number of offenses have come in close succession, as they frequently do in the world at large. Why it is so is inexplicable. If the result is to arouse the officers of the law to greater vigilance and to teach courts and juries the folly of leniency in dealing with crime some good may grow out of it.

THE COUNTRY ROAD QUESTION.

In the House at Harrisburg yesterday Mr. Brown, of York, made the just observation that the country roads through the State were "a sham and a disgrace." If the member, as is to be supposed, based this strong language on his experience in the Eastern counties, it can be imagined that he would be at a loss for adjectives to describe the condition of the highways in the West, particularly at this season when the thaw makes a universal puddle in the country districts.

There are several proposals before the Legislature for better roads; but there is only one way of getting permanent satisfaction. They must be macadamized. This will cost something at the start; but in the end it will give valuable results. Less money and labor than are now expended will keep macadamized roads in excellent repair. The saving of horse power, of vehicle wear, and of the human temper, will repay tenfold the investment. Has any doubting farmer ever calculated that the horse-power he has now to employ to bring his load to market, or to the railway station, is that which will haul the burden over the most difficult part of the road? When the energy required to get over the worst parts of the average existing country highway is considered, conception of the enormous waste becomes easy. The increased value of farms, particularly where within fifteen or twenty miles of large cities or thriving towns, will many times overcompensate for the initial outlay in macadamizing.

If the Pennsylvania Legislature of '89 were to do nothing else than provide for a system of macadamized roads through the Commonwealth it would earn a just fame. THE DISPATCH hopes that the sitting body will on no account lose this chance to earn an honorable distinction.

BOYCOTTING LIQUOR'S FOES.

How violent the battle between the Prohibitionists and the liquor men is likely to become was indicated by the speeches and results of the meeting of the Brewers and Agents' Association held yesterday. It is hardly a new thing for the representatives of the brewing trade to be talking of carrying the war into the Prohibitionists' camp, nor is it to be expected that men whose business depends upon the granting of licenses to retail dealers should view the course of the present License Court with unmixed approval. But the outspoken declaration of the boycott upon all firms and individuals tinged with prohibition tendencies, which was the climactic event of the Brewers' Association's meeting yesterday, is a departure fraught with very grave responsibilities.

A list is to be prepared containing the names of all persons in Allegheny county who are hostile to the liquor interests, and the members of the Brewers' Association will be required to oppose and boycott these persons in trade, in politics, and in every possible manner. There was naturally some objection on the part of the more conservative portion of the association to such an extreme measure, but even this opposition was argued into acquiescence before the meeting ended.

What the brewers are at liberty to do in this direction, and what would be wisest for them to do, are two distinct things. On the face of affairs at present the liquor men can hardly decide, when their blood is cool, that a war of retaliation, which is likely to intensify existing hostility and arouse it in new quarters, is a prudent measure for them to adopt.

A MUCH-NEEDED DEFINITION.

A bill "defining what shall constitute a tramp" is on its way through the Pennsylvania Legislature. This is important. Dictionary makers, naturalists, philanthropists and students of sociology have wrestled with the question in vain; their definitions of this strange, but by no means rare, human creature, have been vague and unsatisfactory. Thus far, in all the learned treatises, detailing the results of critical analysis and careful observation of this peripatetic biped and his ways, no rules have been laid down which would enable the average citizen to distinguish a tramp from other individuals of allied species. Every householder, if asked, would doubtless acknowledge that he had occasionally mistaken book agents, peddlers, and even those in search of work, for tramps, thus ignorantly and unintentionally wronging men who were trying to earn an honest living.

Now, thanks to the wisdom and foresight of our solons, no Pennsylvanian need suffer humiliation or embarrassment from this cause hereafter. The tramp is to be given a legal status, and any person who can read can supply himself with full and authentic information on the subject with very little trouble or expense. By all means, let the bill pass. Ladies and politicians will find it invaluable. Merely by looking over a page of the statute book and then examining the face of the person ringing the doorbell, they will know whether to admit the visitor or set the dogs on him.

RETURN OF THE BALL TOURISTS.

The American baseball players who have been making a tour of the world, are now on the Atlantic, homeward bound. They have played their last game in the Old World, but the sea is likely to play a fairly exciting game with them before they reach America. They will have considerable practice in sliding and curved pitching, and they will probably become adepts in throwing up from base in the course of the voyage.

There is not much to be said of the tour; the players found no contestants in the lands they visited; they had to demonstrate the beauties of the American national game by exhibition contests between the two teams in the party, and probably the great object of the expedition, the harvest of hard dollars, is not up to the expectations of Mr. Spalding.

Even the old guard of baseball cranks, we believe, feels more interest in the result of a single game in the League series than in all the objectless matches of the tourists.

APPLY IT BOTH WAYS.

It is as good as a comedy to find a Democratic paper like the Detroit *Free Press* gravely quoting the evidences from Republican organs that the clamor for place at Washington is something remarkable and thence arguing that Republicanism must be wholly corrupt and vicious. The rush for office is not to be denied; nor is the conclusion which our cotemporary draws from it wholly unwarranted. But does the *Free Press* apply the same reasoning to its own party? Let us do it the credit to recognize that it was not an advocate of the wholesale spoils policy on the Democratic side; but when the Democratic politicians made a dead set on Cleveland for a clean sweep, we do not remember that it deduced therefrom the conclusion of Democratic corruption. When the *Free Press* argues the viciousness of party organization on both sides, that makes the bread and butter the chief thing at stake, its position will be unassailable.

IT was hardly fair of the License Court yesterday to ask that Allegheny saloonkeeper why there had been falling off in his trade with theological students since their patronage of his house had been thoroughly advertised at last year's license granting. The reason is so very clear.

AFTER the Chattanooga *Times* had been printed on Wednesday last in its usual color, it was run through the presses again, and the following legend in red ink and circus poster type was spread upon the front page: "Vote to-day for streets and sewers and health and prosperity." Is it possible that the *Times* intended to make the bloody shirt an issue in the local election?

LORD DUNRAVEN is going to have a yacht built to snatch the American cup from this country. The race is expected to take place in October. Americans will welcome the British yacht and defeat it with customary enthusiasm.

IT has cost Viscount Dangan $50,000 to trifle with the affections of Phyllis Broughton, the London burlesque artist. The English aristocracy is being taught that it is expensive to break promises made to ladies of the ballet and chorus. They can still hold other vows cheap, however, the divorce courts keep on proving.

IT has just been discovered that Mr. Washburn, recently appointed Minister to Spain, writes poetry. Luckily for him the Senate was not aware of this fact or it might have prevented his confirmation.

YESTERDAY'S session of the United States Senate was in several ways extraordinary. Perhaps the Senators would have behaved more rationally and in a more charitable spirit if the chaplain had read prayers as usual. The chaplain was absent. It is to be hoped that he will be on hand to-day. The Senate needs praying for.

TEN men received votes for United States Senator from Rhode Island. The little Yankee State hasn't much territory to boast of, but she has just as many office seekers to the square mile as any of them.

MR. BRASHEAR has once more received a high compliment from notable authorities in scientific circles. This time it is in the shape of warm praise from the directors of the Sheffield scientific school of Yale College for a number of instruments constructed by Mr. Brashear for measuring light.

THE peach crop is safe, and Delaware men don't seem to care whether they get offices or not. How happy Matt Quay might be in Delaware!

WHILE Americans are seeking to raise money to alleviate distress in the famine stricken districts of China, they should not forget to ask the Chinese Emperor to contribute. He may have something left out of those $10,000,000 which he appropriated for the purpose of a wedding celebration.

PERSONAL POINTS.

LORD TENNYSON has been suffering from rheumatic gout, which incapacitated him from holding a pen.

DR. CHARLES R. DE TROILON, a famous French veterinary surgeon, is in this country examining our methods of treating the diseases of animals. He says that he is astonished at our progress in veterinary science.

THE New York *World* says: Gossip is the name of one of the chess experts now in this city. Naturally it is very hard to check Gossip.

IT is an odd fact that Jay Gould, rain or shine, winter or summer, always carries an umbrella.

SAYS Edmund Yates: "There has been a great deal of stupid, malicious and ignorant gossip about the Duchess of Marlborough's presentation to the Queen. I am enabled to state that Her Majesty has expressed the opinion that there is nothing whatever to prevent the Duchess from coming to Court at the next Drawing Room, or whenever she pleases."

THE "American Duchess" is said to be spending her fortune royally in reviving the artistic glories of her husband's house. An English observer writes of her: "She is a handsome woman, and has improved in appearance since she came to England, while her toilettes are dazzling, and much more elaborate and thought out than those in which she first appeared last year."

IT is significant of the man that among the portraits on the walls in the late John Bright's study is one of Gladstone, one of Lincoln and one of Washington. He did much of his work with the reminders of congenial spirits around him. He recently gave evidence that the political separation between himself and Mr. Gladstone had not changed his confidence in the fundamental worth of the latter's character, though he had previously given way to impatient utterances concerning his home rule attitude.

THE inventer of the "Pigs in Clover" puzzle is Moses Lyman, a farmer living near Waverly, N. Y. He has a large number of children and keeps a great many pigs. One day he wished to amuse his youngsters and the idea of his famous puzzle came into his head. He thereupon made out of a piece of wood and a little pasteboard the original of the "Pigs in Clover." A toy-manufacturing firm at Elkland, Tioga county, Pa., heard of his puzzle and made him a handsome offer, which he accepted, for the exclusive right to patent and manufacture the plaything. A fortune has already been made out of the fascinating little device.

HE WANTS HIS REWARD.

A Councilman Sues an Electric Light Company for Services Rendered.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

BURLINGTON, N. J., March 28.—Recently the Edison Manufacturing Company, of New York, sent its agent, George Sitsby, on here for the purpose of inducing the Council to put in an electric lighting plant, or else to get some assurance that in the event of a local company being started it could secure the contract from Council of lighting the streets. The scheme was a success. A local company was formed, and everything went along swimmingly. Dr. R. B. Glasgow, as Chairman of the Lamp and Gas Committee, advocated the giving of the contract to light the streets for five years, and it was so ordered.

The next event on the programme was when Sheriff Harbert served a writ of attachment on the treasurer of the Burlington Electric Light Company, attaching in his hands $500 of the money due the Edison Company by the Burlington concern. The plaintiff in the suit was Councilman Glasgow, who says the money is due him "for services rendered." What the nature of the services was he declines to say.

The Worship of the Antique.

From the New York World.]

There is now on exhibition at Hartford, Conn., an oil painting attributed to Leonardo da Vinci. Thousands come to view it, whisper that it is beautiful, smile in a hypocritical way and then go away wondering why the old masters insisted upon using so much black paint. This same sort of thing is going on in different parts of the country constantly. The worship of the antique is sometimes pushed to ludicrous extremes.

Down to Business.

Mr. A. B. Wigley, manager of the Mercantile Agency of R. G. Dun & Co., in this city, states that a business purview these times furnishes nothing more than the hard dry facts given in the weekly reports. The crop reporter isn't doing much just now, and there are no exceptionally interesting features in trade at present.

Hanging Around Quite Handy.

WASHINGTON, March 28.—Mr. Huston, of Indiana, and Mr. Parsons, of Ohio, the leading candidates for the United States Treasurership and the Controller of the Currency, respectively, are in Washington, and gossip says their nominations will be sent to the Senate in a few days.

Prohibitionists' State Meeting.

Joseph Weeks, of this city, left last evening for Philadelphia to attend a meeting of the Prohibition Central Committee. The meeting is to be held for the purpose of comparing notes, looking over the field at what has been done and devise ways and means to carry on the work for the Constitutional amendment.

An Effect It Might Have.

From the Louisville Courier-Journal.]

Should this thing of women voting on school questions continue, no doubt lady teachers in many parts of the States will soon be abolished.

THE TOPICAL TALKER.

Judges Who Pay Their Fare—Converting Heathen Bones—Illinois Disgruntled—Two Murats Set Together.

THE Judges of this county do not travel on railroad passes as a general thing. Whether they are all averse to accepting the courtesy of the corporations at all times I can't say, but I know of my own knowledge that Judge White travels to and from his home in Sewickley upon a commutation ticket of the ordinary sort to be bought at a fixed price. Judge Hawkins also pays his fare on the Pennsylvania Railroad, and Judge Over has to buy his ticket on the Fort Wayne.

Judge Ewing lives in the city, and so does Judge Slagle, and it is only fair to them both to believe that when they take unto them the wings of the locomotive and fly to the nethermost part of the land they pay their way as they go. I have been assured by a number of people that Judges Ewing, Slagle and Collier always pay for their railroad tickets.

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THE importation of human bones from Africa into this country suggests new hope for the heathen. The bones of Africans and Arabs which have been lying in the sand of the Sahara for goodness knows how long, are to be manufactured in various ways for our benefit. And in this, as I have said, there is hope for the heathen, for we know that while:

A Yankee missionary can,
With his melodious tones,
Convert the living African,
Who worships sticks and stones;
And now a shrewd American
Will eke convert his bones!

***

A REPUBLICAN of some prominence in Illinois politics who spent last night in Pittsburg said to me: "Personally, I am very glad to see such a thoroughly American ambassador sent to St. James as Robert T. Lincoln. He is not likely to forget, no matter how long he stays in England, that he is an American representing the American people. But when you say that as an Illinois man I ought to rejoice I'm hardly with you. The opinion is gaining ground with us that President Harrison and his advisers are not going to give Illinois a fair show. It looks more like a shake than a show to me. Our Senators and Congressmen are of that opinion, too. But we shall see. This Murat Halstead business is likely to make the administration tread softly for a season, and Illinois stock may get a boom before all the good things are gone. That's what Senator Cullom said yesterday."

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A FLOCK of wild geese containing several hundred birds was observed flying northward at several points on the Ohio river between Pittsburg and Sewickley yesterday. According to the superfine hand-woven superstition of the country this flight of the birds who are never happy unless it is a cold day for them, would indicate that no more winter need be expected hereabouts.

It was somewhat disturbing for the trustful believer in the veracity and straightforward behavior of wild geese to observe the downward course of the mercury last night. At 9 P. M. a sharp frost was fairly on the programme.

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WHEN the brave General Murat, who was so faithful to the first Napoleon, was captured at last and condemned to die, his captors offered to bandage his eyes and give him a chair. But Murat replied: "I have braved death long and often enough to face it with my eyes open and standing."

That Murat Halstead will receive his doom from the Senate as his namesake did his death sentence, anybody who knows the great editor will believe.

AN INTERESTING FEATURE.

The Twenty-Six Best Orators in the Country to Assemble at the Centennial Banquet.

From the New York Sun.]

An interesting feature of the Washington Centennial banquet will be the 13 toasts. They are being prepared by "a gentleman of national fame," as a member of the committee puts it. It is whispered that the distinguished gentleman referred at is Dr. Depew, but the committee refuse to say. The toasts will be proposed by "13 distinguished speakers," and will be replied to by "another 13 distinguished speakers." When asked whether these 26 distinguished speakers would represent in pairs the 13 original States, the committeeman said no. The sentiment of the speeches might do so, but the speakers would be the best 26 orators to be found in the country, and in the choosing some of the original 13 States might get no representation at all, while the other States might have four or five sons each on the programme.

If the intention is carried out, and the 26 best orators in the country actually assemble at the banquet, the comparison will be wonderfully interesting. A question of thrilling interest which may then be settled is this: Who is the second best after-dinner speaker in the world?

RETIRED OFFICERS SLIGHTED.

Army and Navy Officials Deeply Incensed at an Apparent Oversight.

WASHINGTON, March 28.—Army officers in active service are joining the naval officers in the criticism upon the New York Centennial Committee. They hold that it is not courtesy to Adjutant General Schofield, who will command the military forces, to place at the head of the demonstration, in a position where there must necessarily be concert of action between them, not an army officer who is upon the retired list, but one who comes from the low branch of the military service.

They also complain that on the committee of which this officer is chairman, there are several reputable naval officers and a grandson of Admiral Farragut. It is hinted that little active assistance for the demonstration can be expected from Secretary Tracy, under the circumstances.

Lost 12,331 People by Drought.

WASHINGTON, March 28.—The United States Consul at Pernambuco, Brazil, reports to the Department of State that the province of Ceard has lost 12,331 inhabitants on account of the summer drought, most of them emigrating to the Northern and Southern provinces.

For the Exposition.

Frank Connelly, of this city, left last evening for New York to make arrangements for the dramatic benefit performance to be given in April for the Exposition fund. He will try to secure the services of Minnie Palmer, Minnie Madern, Lillian Spencer and Burr MacIntosh.

William is All Right.

DES MOINES, IOWA, March 28.—Mr. Edgar W. Nye—"Bill" Nye—who has been sick at this place, has so far recovered as to be able to continue his journey next week, and his condition has not been as serious as has been reported.

What the Oklahoma Opening Means.

WASHINGTON, March 28.—It is said at the Interior Department that the President's Oklahoma proclamation, issued yesterday, will throw open to homestead entry on April 22 about 1,800,000 acres.

DEATHS OF A DAY.

Braddock Taylor.

The death of Braddock Taylor at 6 o'clock Wednesday evening, March 27, 1889, removed one of the brightest scholars of the Oakland M. E. Sunday School. He was aged 12 years, and belonged to the class taught by Mrs. Millie L. Roberts. Some of the incidents connected with his death are very touching. The class is composed of poor boys, and one little fellow thinking to give some relief, put a solitary cent, his all, under the door of the little dying scholar. Another offered to wheel coal to keep his room warm, which was done. The manner in which the poor boys of his class endeavored to lighten the passage of Braddock across the river of death was very affecting. He was the youngest child of Margaret and the late James Taylor. Funeral services at 10 o'clock this morning from his home, Bouquet street, Oakland, conducted by the Rev. B. F. Beazell.

Thomas Keegan.

Special Telegram to The Dispatch.

HOLLIDAYSBURG, March 28.—Thomas Keegan, an Irish resident of Juniata township, was buried to-day at the advanced age of 108 years. He carried a pike in the Irish Rebellion of 1798, and came to this country 75 years ago. His first vote was for Andrew Jackson and his last for Cleveland.

Dr. R. P. Howard.

MONTREAL, March 28.—Dr. R. P. Howard, Dean of the medical faculty of McGill University, and one of the most distinguished medical men on this continent, died to-day.

Richard Hiscock.

SYRACUSE, N. Y., March 28.—Richard Hiscock, father of United States Senator Hiscock, died at Preble, Cortland county, yesterday, aged 91 years.

Dr. John Swinburne.

ALBANY, N. Y., March 28.—Dr. John Swinburne, the eminent surgeon, died at his residence here at 7:45 o'clock this morning.

SILK CULTURE'S RAPID GROWTH.

Gratifying Results of the Attempt to Keep Millions at Home.

WASHINGTON, March 28.—The report of the President and Treasurer of the Women's Silk Culture Association of the United States for the past year, made to the Commissioner of Agriculture, has been printed. The Government appropriates for this association $5,000 annually to foster and encourage the development of the silk-growing industry. Mrs. John Lucas, the President, says:

To the intelligent observer, the rapid progress of this industry is impossible. Orchards of mulberry trees or hedges must be grown to a perfection that will admit liberal picking of leaves before the first real start can begin to the industry. During the past few years much of the work has been of a desultory character, yet leading to good results, inasmuch that even with few trees the people have been learning to raise cocoons, and tree planting is becoming a systemized part of the effort. Until this is general no increase of product can occur. The United States could, in a very short time, raise not only its own silk, but much more, and this accomplished, at least $50,000,000 per annum would be gained. Yet the protection of the few raises a hue and cry against this new industry, though there is no reason, climatic, mechanical, or otherwise, why it could not be successfully planted.

The report of the Treasurer, Mrs. H. P. Taylor, shows that during the year nearly 2,500 pounds of cocoons were bought of 168 persons in Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Pennsylvani, South Carolina, Virginia and West Virginia. There were distributed 2,686 mulberry trees, to 19 States, as follows: Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Texas, Virginia, West Virginia and Wisconsin.

A SERIOUS SITUATION.

The Report as to Colored Preachers in White Conventions Doesn't Settle It.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

CHARLESTON, S. C., March 28.—The report of the special committee appointed by the diocesan convention of the P. E. Church to try and arrange a settlement of the color question, which led to the secession of nearly all the Charleston churches two years ago, is published to-day. The report recommends a compromise which proposes to admit such colored clergymen to the convention who have been in connection with the church for 12 months prior to May, 1889. It also proposes a separate convocation for the colored churches under the ministration of the bishop. No provision is made for the admission of colored lay delegates.

The diocesan convention meets at Anderson in May. If the report of the committee is adopted, which is doubtful, three colored clergymen will be admitted to the convention, but no lay delegates. A prominent vestryman of St. Mark's, the aristocratic colored church here, said to-day that the terms would not be accepted. "We will not secede from the church," said he, "because we are in the church and propose to stay there. We shall simply wait, and if we are barred out of the diocesan convention we will carry the case to the general convention."

As to whether St. Mark's would continue to pay its contribution to diocesan conventions he was not prepared to express an opinion. The question promises to be a burning one at the coming convention. At the convention of 1887 most of the lay delegates from the city churches and several of the city clergymen left the hall and have not attended a convention since then. The situation, viewed from a canonical point of view, is serious.

MERELY A WORD TO THE WISE.

Secretary Windom Tells Applicants a Few Things They Need to Know.

WASHINGTON, March 28.—Secretary Windom has received a large number of applications for appointment in the steamboat inspector service, many of which come from persons who seem altogether ignorant of the qualifications necessary for such service. In order to meet these cases he has prepared a letter specifying the necessary legal qualifications for the different classes of appointments. Supervising inspectors are required to be persons of long experience as masters, pilots or engineers of steam vessels, or persons eminent in the designing and construction of the same, and such persons should have held a first-class United States license as master pilot or engineer for at least five years. Local inspectors of hulls on the sea coast should be navigators themselves, but at inland ports either masters or pilots of inland steamers are eligible.

Local inspectors of boilers must be practical marine engineers. Local inspectors, whether of hulls or boilers, are required to have held a first-class United States license for three years prior to appointment. Assistant inspectors of hulls and boilers are required to have had three years' practical experience.

A LETTER TO HARRISON.

The Washington Centennial Committee Want a Proclamation Issued.

NEW YORK, March 28.—The following telegram sent to-day explains itself:

NEW YORK, March 28.

Hon. Benjamin Harrison, President of the United States.

The Committee on the Centennial Celebration of the Inauguration of George Washington as President of the United States respectfully ask that you issue a proclamation calling upon clergymen to hold a special service of thanksgiving in the churches throughout the country at 9 o'clock on the morning of April 30, the same hour in which services of prayer were held in the churches of this city on the morning of Washington's inauguration 100 years ago. The clergymen of New York, through a special committee, have issued an address to the clergymen of the United States, suggesting that a religious service be held similar to services on April 30, 1789. Our committee would respectfully ask you, inasmuch as the day is a national holiday, to suggest in your proclamation that the day be made memorable throughout the United States by the decoration of buildings, the display of fireworks and the meeting of patriotic citizens. HAMILTON FISH, President.
HUGH GRANT, Chairman.

A GOOD EXAMPLE LOST.

One of Ex-Secretary Endicott's Precedents Good No Longer.

WASHINGTON, March 28.—Army officers who are not so lucky as to have had staff appointments have taken alarm at the action of Major General Schofield in appointing his brother an aid de camp on his staff. It was Secretary Endicott's policy to distribute these places, which he regarded as educational, among officers who had previously been employed in connection with their regiments. When their appointments as staff officers expired he held that they had acquired all the benefits likely to be received from the places and that they should give way to other officers. Secretary Endicott's position in this matter gave rise to some friction with army officers high in rank, but was generally well received by the line.

In the present instance the aid de camp has already served a number of years in that capacity and it is feared that his reappointment will establish a precedent which will be seized upon by the other major generals as an excuse for overturning the practice established by Secretary Endicott.

A REAL RIPE OLD AGE.

James Hubbert, a Hoosier, Celebrates His 104th Anniversary.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

INDIANAPOLIS, March 28.—One hundred and four years ago yesterday James Hubbert was born, and yesterday nobody enjoyed the celebration of that event so much as the old gentleman himself. A crowd of friends called on him at his home, near Mapleton, a suburb of this city, and wished him many happy returns of the day, and so far as appearances go he is likely to fulfill the wishes.

Mr. Hubbert's three children, 77, 75 and 73 years old, were present, together with many of his 47 grandchildren, 100 great-grandchildren, and half a dozen great-great-grandchildren.

A Flock of Geese Struck by Lightning.

Special Telegram to The Dispatch.

GONZALES, TEX., March 28.—During a heavy rain and thunder storm this morning, a flock of wild geese flying over this town was struck by lightning and 78 were killed. They were picked up by boys and sold on the streets for 10 cents each. Some of the geese were badly torn up by the electric current. The incident was a subject of universal comment here.

Young Republicans Meet.

The Young Men's Republican Tariff Club at its meeting last night initiated 45 new members and elected 38. The new club house on Sixth avenue will be opened on April 18. A set of resolutions on the death of George A. Morrow was passed, condoning with the bereaved family.

A Meeting of Fasting.

The members of the W. C. T. U. of this State had a day of prayer and fasting yesterday, in the Bingham street church on the Southside. Rev. D. George, of Beaver Falls; Rev. C. Riddle and Rev. J. K. Milburn made short addresses during the evening, and Rev. R. T. Miller presided.

OUR MAIL POUCH.

A Correction From California.

To the Editor of The Dispatch:

A copy of your valuable paper, under date of March 10, 1889, has just been received, and among other matters of interest therein found is an article purporting to come from "a Pittsburg gentleman who has just returned from San Diego, Cal." To people who do not understand the condition of things here, the article in question has a misleading tendency and many would at once presume that "Coronado" and San Diego were anything but desirable places in which to reside, by reason of so many financial wrecks, etc.

The gentleman's statement as to this being the scene of one of the most remarkable booms of modern times and the collapse thereof, is true in more than one respect, but the most remarkable circumstance to me, who have spent two years in San Diego, is that this favored spot was not "boomed" and built up long years ago. While I admit that suburban real estate was boomed far beyond its present value, yet that same boom has built up hundreds of fine residences and business blocks, and also the means of developing a system of water supply, costing millions of money, whereby 100,000 acres of the finest and most productive land the sun ever shone upon can be irrigated; to say nothing of the increase of our population from a town of 10,000 souls three years ago to our present population, of 30,000 souls and still increasing rapidly. So all things considered, the boom is and has, for the general welfare of this section, been a good thing. As to Coronado Beach and its fine $1,500,000 hotel, let no one for a moment suppose it a failure. The hundreds of happy homes there in full view of the shining waters of the Pacific ocean, clothed in perpetual summer, as well as the hundreds of guests crowding the "Hotel del Coronado," are surely evidence of prosperity.

We have quite a number of Pittsburgers here, both as permanent residents and as visitors. Among the latter is one of your millionaire iron manufacturers, whose faith is such as to cause him to invest heavily in San Diego real estate.

Hoping that THE DISPATCH, which is read by all Pittsburgers here, will give this space, I am, AN EX-PITTSBURGER.

SAN DIEGO, CAL., March 19.

They Want Gas.

To the Editor of The Dispatch:

I am induced to address you asking for information in gas matters. First—Can natural gas be piped 15 miles and the probable cost per mile? Second—From experience in your vicinity is natural gas giving evidence of giving out? Such is the rumor here. Three—Can fuel gas be made cheaper than piping natural gas 15 miles.

Will you please give us information on these points and oblige the residents of a town of 3,000 inhabitants who want gas. S. V. HOPKINS.

NORTH MANCHESTER, IND., March 22.

[First—Yes, providing the pressure at the wells is high enough. If too low, use gas pumps along pipe line. The cost depends entirely upon the size of pipe used. Second—Our gas fields are practically inexhaustible. Three—The practicability of fuel gas has not been determined, but it is subject to experiments.]

Goodbye Jim.

To the Editor of The Dispatch:

Can you tell me where I can get a copy of the poem which Sol Smith Russel recited in Pittsburg, in which the following appears quite frequently: "Good-bye, Jim; take keer o' yerself?"

JOHNSTOWN, March 23. T. P. W.

[The poem in question is doubtless published in one of the volumes of James Whitcomb Riley's works in verse. Mr. Riley is the author of the poem, the title of which is, we believe, "Good-bye, Jim." The delay in answering your question is due to the endeavors we made to ascertain the desired facts.]

32 Vesey Street, New York.

To the Editor of The Dispatch:

As a constant reader of THE DISPATCH, I write you to do me the favor of sending me the address of your faithful correspondent in Ireland, Mr. Edgar L. Wakeman. J. O. M.

MEYERSDALE, March 27.

LAW AND ORDER IN GEORGIA.

It Serves as a Cover to Attack Seventh Day Adventists.

CHICAGO, March 28.—The Rev. George B. Starr, Superintendent of the Central Bible School for Home and Foreign Missions, complains that the Seventh Day Adventists are being horribly treated in some parts of the South. He has received from Elder M. G. Huffman, of that sect, for transmission to the General Conference of Battle Creek, Mich., the following letter, written at Alpharetta, Ga.:

Brother D. Conklin, of Michigan, who, with his family, has lately moved into this neighborhood, has been reported to the grand jury and a bill found against him for working on Sunday, and all he did was to cut a few sticks of wood to build a fire, just what I have seen many others doing since I came to the State. The penalty for violating any portion of the law in this State is very severe. They have what is known in this State as a "chain gang," where those who violate the law are taken, and ball and chain fastened to one leg, and they are made to work on the public roads and railroads, and those who are put there are, many of them, treated worse than brutes. Many have been whipped to death, and doubtless if he should be taken there for working on Sunday he would be compelled to work on the Sabbath, or whipped. What is your advice? Should we be beaten in the Circuit Court would you take the case to the Supreme Court, and if so can you help us? We are all poor here.

A NEW WAY TO MAKE MIRRORS.

A French Manufacturer Has a Patent for a Simple and Efficient Process.

A Paris correspondent says that a French manufacturer, Mr. Borz, has recently taken out a patent for silvering mirrors by a very simple and efficient process. The plate of glass is first carefully cleaned and laid on a perfectly level table, which must be kept at a temperature of 25 to 30 degrees centigrade.

To silver a plate of one square metre two liquids are prepared, the first consisting of ten grammes of double tartrate of soda and potash, dissolved in one litre of distilled water, and the other of five grammes of nitrate of silver dissolved in three grammes of pure ammonia, and diluted with one litre of water. The two liquids are then intimately mixed, and a small portion of the mixture is spread evenly over the glass, when the remainder is poured on. In the course of 30 or 40 minutes the silver is precipitated in its metallic form, and adheres closely to the glass, which need only then to be freed by tilting from the superfluous fluid, slightly rinsed with water, and placed upright to dry. A coating of varnish is afterward applied with a brush to protect the mirror from damage and the action of the air.

A MIX IN COURT.

Who Objects to His Pretty Wife's Picture Being Taken.

Special Telegram to The Dispatch.

NEW HAVEN, CONN., March 28.—Henry Mix created a scene in the Supreme Court this afternoon. His wife, a beautiful young woman, was testifying in the contested will case of Mrs. Adeline King, of Detroit. The court stenographer, S. W. Cogswell, was sitting near by the witness box, and on his desk lay a detective's camera. When Mrs. Mix struck a particularly bewitching attitude, Mr. Cogswell aimed the camera at her.

Mr. Mix jumped from his seat and approaching Cogswell, told him that no one could take pictures of his wife. There was a wordy dispute between the men, during which the court had to suspend.

$20,000 for a Calf.

From the New York Tribune.]

Another decision in the Jones county calf case comes just in time to restore our faith in human nature. So long a time had elapsed—at least a month—since any phase of that litigation had been brought to public notice that we feared that either the plaintiffs or the defendants had ignobly betrayed their trust, and relapsed into a weak and pusillanimous inactivity. The last decision, which is to be appealed from at once, carried costs of about $35,000, and the total expenditure on a $3 calf is now estimated at $20,000.

Judge Chandler to Get a Plum.

WASHINGTON, March 28.—There are indications to-day of a very positive nature that the President will nominate Judge Chandler, of Independence, Kan., to be First Assistant Secretary of the Interior.

Spring Fashions in War Clouds.

From the New York World.]

The spring fashion in European war clouds presents a small pattern of a lighter shade than last year, with bright spots scattered here and there by war correspondents out of a job.

Why So Many Marriages Are Shaky.

From the New York Herald.]

A correspondent wants to know why so many marriages are "shaky" nowadays. Perhaps because that little rogue of a Cupid keeps his arrows in a quiver.

A GREAT CITY'S SMALL TALK.

Success of a Chinese Lawyer.

[NEW YORK BUREAU SPECIALS.]

NEW YORK, March 28.—Hong Yen Chang, the only Chinese lawyer in the State, pleaded his first case in a Brooklyn court to-day. He appeared in behalf of two New York Chinamen who had loaned $36,661 to a Brooklyn Chinaman who keeps a Mongolian restaurant at 363 DeKalb avenue. The delinquent debtor did