The Dispatch.

ESTABLISHED FEBRUARY 8, 1846.

Vol. 44, No. 112.—Entered at Pittsburg Postoffice, November 14, 1887, as second-class matter.

Business Office—97 and 99 Fifth Avenue.
News Rooms and Publishing House—75, 77 and 79 Diamond Street.

Average net circulation of the daily edition of The Dispatch for six months ending May 1, 1889,

28,051

Copies per issue.

Average net circulation of the Sunday edition of The Dispatch for April, 1889,

46,143

Copies per issue.

TERMS OF THE DISPATCH.

POSTAGE FREE IN THE UNITED STATES.

DAILY DISPATCH, One Year	$8 00
DAILY DISPATCH, Per Quarter	2 00
DAILY DISPATCH, One Month	70
DAILY DISPATCH, including Sunday, one year	10 00
DAILY DISPATCH, including Sunday, per quarter	2 50
DAILY DISPATCH, including Sunday, one month	90
SUNDAY DISPATCH, one year	2 50
WEEKLY DISPATCH, one year	1 25

THE DAILY DISPATCH is delivered by carriers at 15 cents per week, or including the Sunday edition, at 20 cents per week.

PITTSBURG, THURSDAY, MAY 30, 1889.

DECORATION DAY.

Nature as well as man celebrates Decoration Day. She hangs all her leafy banners out, and makes all the gardens gay. The sun is fickle, but it is almost his steadfast fashion to shine brightly on this day of May. Even the wind's will is to be warm and gentle when the people adorn the graves of patriots and recall the deeds of the nation's heroes.

Happily here man is in full accord with nature. Decoration Day is at once a festival and a season of sorrow. If the hands of those who celebrate it most sincerely are full of flowers, if the glint of saber and bayonet, the tap of drum, the blare of brass, the tramp of marching men and the deep voices of cannon recall the glory of war, deep in thousands of hearts spring again the memories of father, husband, brother and friend who fell in the service of their country.

But Decoration Day should avail more than this. As the tender plants and small images of the great flag of freedom are planted to-day over those whose patriotic duty is done, so may the seeds of true patriotism be sown in the hearts of the children to blossom, should the unhappy need ever come again, in deeds as glorious as their sires did in the defense of the Union. It is never too early for the American to learn that it is most honorable to meet death at the hands of the enemies of their country.

So when the day comes that personal grief shall no longer be awakened by the memorial services, when a generation shall arise to whom the honored dead shall be unknown, then the spirit of patriotism will continue to inspire the souls of Americans as they gather on Decoration Day to strew flowers on the soldiers' graves.

CAN WE AFFORD IT?

The intelligence that a British squadron is to be sent to cruise in Behring Sea for the protection of British sealing vessels against the United States revenue authorities, should inspire our Government with a little consideration as to whether its course in upholding a monopoly of sealing is founded upon reason. The fact is, that the policy of the United States Government in Alaskan waters is in the interests of a single sealing corporation, which exercises an unjustifiable monopoly over the business. American as well as British subjects who are not members of the favorite company are excluded from sealing, in the interests of that monopoly. For the purpose of upholding that combination the United States makes a claim of jurisdiction over an open sea such as it would repudiate if made by the English Government with regard to the fisheries on the Atlantic coast. We think the majority of the American people will agree that the United States cannot afford to get into a dispute with Great Britain in the interests of a monopoly like the Alaska Seal Company.

SUCCESSFUL POLICE WORK.

Arrests continue in the Cronin case. Very vigorous protests are likewise made by members of the Clan-na-Gael society against the assumption that their order had anything to do with the terrible piece of business. They criticise the Chicago police for going upon the ground that the society was concerned. Of course it is true that, so far, the police have not offered formal evidence, unless in the secrecy of the grand jury room, to prove the motive of the murder political, but that they have at least succeeded well in their hunt for the perpetrators is shown in the confessions already made, and by the decisive action of the grand jury. It does appear to be the one remarkable case in which the police have been equal to the emergency.

As to how far erroneous impressions may possibly prevail in public as to the cause of the murder, that is to appear farther on. What is clear is that the police seem to have the case thoroughly in hand; and if suspicions have been falsely or malignantly cast on Cronin's former political associates, the course of the trial will vindicate them; while if the accusations are based on fact, the offenders are as sure to receive their deserts.

A RESULT OF SPOILS POLITICS.

The terrible disclosures which have been made in regard to the conduct of the county insane asylum at Chicago, ought to deal a death blow to the practice of placing institutions of that sort under the spoils system. Indeed it should be sufficient to kill the spoils system, altogether; but it is peculiarly forcible in showing the iniquity of the plan as applied to public institutions.

The testimony leaves no doubt as to the abuse of insane patients. Crowding a dozen of them together without care and letting the strong ones abuse the weak was an every-night occurence. The betrayal of the female insane by the keepers is hinted at, and a case is pretty well established of at least one lunatic killed by the brutality of the keepers. On top of this the testimony is overwhelming that the abuses are due to the political control of the asylum. One physician declared that they were produced by the spoils system. Another witness who was favorable to the superintendent of the asylum testified that he did the best he could while the places had to be filled by the political favorites of the County Commissioners. And an ex-commissioner stated that efforts to better the asylum in the County Board had failed "by reason of the differences of views and opinions regarding the policy to be pursued by the County Board, between its members." In view of these facts the following remarks of the court have a decided point:

Appointments in this county made by men who are elected to office proceed to a greater or less extent on the theory that those who have won the fight have a right to parcel out the offices, and we are all to blame for that—the whole community, all the citizens.

In the majority of political appointments the appointees do not have the chance either to abuse or to murder the insane wards of the public. But if political influence cannot select men of sufficient intelligence to keep them from abusing irresponsible lunatics is it likely to satisfactorily fill offices requiring higher intelligence for the discharge of their duties.

NO IMPOSSIBILITY ABOUT IT.

It will be seen in our local columns that the officers of the Amalgamated Association have been informed on behalf of the manufacturers that there can be no conference on the scale this year, because the Manufacturers' Association went to pieces last year. Consequently the scale adopted by the association will be presented to each firm by the lodge in the respective mills.

We have no doubt that a settlement of the scale can be effected in this way; but it hardly seems probable that the same uniformity of results will be attained as by a conference. It is rather hard to see why the dissolution of the Manufacturers' Association should render a conference impossible. If we are not mistaken the manufacturers appointed a committee for conference long before the association was formed; and it would not be hazardous to predict that the same thing will be done long after that organization has gone to pieces.

But as the only persons who will be placed at any disadvantage by separate action among the manufacturers and united action among the men will be the manufacturers themselves, they can of course take the policy that suits them best.

THEY IGNORE THE LAW.

The recent decision of the United States Supreme Court, which took into consideration the legal status of combinations to suppress competition, is being quoted as containing food for reflection. The case arose out of a combination between two gas companies in Baltimore, and the Court, while holding that a statute in Maryland made the contract invalid, gave some declarations upon the general subject of such combinations, which are full of pertinence on the present policy of trusts and pools.

Thus the Court said: "Innumerable cases might be quoted to sustain the proposition that combinations among those engaged in business impressed with public or quasi-public character, which are manifestly prejudicial to the public interest, cannot be upheld." Again as bearing especially upon the agreements between corporations by which they unite to suspend competition with each other, the Court declared: "It is also too well settled to admit of doubt, that a corporation cannot disable itself by contract from performing the public duty which it has undertaken, and by agreement compel itself to make public accommodations or convenience subservient to its private interests." These principles, if applied to their legitimate extent, would make short work of all the trusts and pools, which are now so much in vogue.

The editorial comments upon this decision betray an impression that it is the enunciation of new or at least generally unknown doctrines. That is incorrect. The doctrines have been declared time and again by the highest courts and legal writers. The supreme courts of Pennsylvania, Ohio and Massachusetts and the Court of Appeals of New York, have all laid down this doctrine as clearly as the United States Supreme Court does. It is important of course that the United States Supreme Court has renewed the declarations which have been recognized principles of law for centuries; but it is also pertinent to remember that the law has been clearly recognized and the principle undisputed, from the beginning of constitutional government.

In view of that fact, there is the most food for reflection in the fact that the greatest bodies of capital have persistently gone on with their policy in violation of the recognized and fundamental principles of law.

THE ANTIQUE IN BURLESQUE.

When the aged but ever fair Lydia Thompson was in Pittsburg a few months ago it was a noticeable feature of her engagement that it was not financially a howling success. In fact, the company must have then been on its last legs, although to look at them they appeared substantial enough to have borne the fair burlesquers for years with ease and comfort. Just now Lydia and her manager are trying to find out who is liable for the season's losses. Lydia says she put in $2,000, and thinks she ought not to pay more for the privilege of dancing like an eighteen-year-old and singing like a swan with a sore throat at the venerable age of two score years and ten. And we agree with Lydia.

But we think Lydia, with her British blondes and brunettes, had better go home. Americans are too impressionable. They are not accustomed to such juvenile song and dance artists. It was only last Saturday that an ardent youth of Chicago killed himself on account of a hopeless infatuation for Lydia Thompson. He was but twenty-five. Before he was born Lydia was breaking men's hearts. The danger looms up that the generation now in the cradle will go crazy over the aged Lydia thirty or forty years hence.

Go home to London, Lydia, where the grandchildren of your first admirers are posted on your gay deceptions, and accumulate pounds instead of losing dollars. The American rage for antiques is evidently being carried to absurd lengths.

NEW YORK'S NEXT CENTENNIAL.

With one centenial celebration just concluded, New York through some of her newspapers is rather vehemently urging the desirability of holding the Great World's Fair in New York City in 1892, to celebrate the 400th anniversary of the discovery of America by Christopher Columbus. Other cities, notably Washington, are also eager to boss this centennial celebration, but it is hardly worth while to examine their clashing claims.

There is an interesting side to New York's noisy demand to be considered the fittest place for the Columbus Centennial Fair. Before the metropolis is accorded the approval of the country in taking the contract for an enterprise of such magnitude it would be well for New York to make it clear that the centennial celebration of 1892 will not be conducted under the conditions which disgraced that of 1889. If New York will promise to send her entire Legislature to jail, the Board of Aldermen to the workhouse, and the Four Hundred, particularly Stuyvesant Fish and McAllister to insane asylums, or other suitable harbors for demented persons, at least one month before the festival of 1892 shall commence, the country will be glad enough to see Gotham grab this opportunity to make some more money under patriotic auspices.

But the entire country wishes to be spared another exhibition of legislators and city officials fighting for free seats, free ball tickets, and free banquets, of aristocratic committees bandying the language of the gutter, and of a Select Assembly guzzling champagne till in condition to out-do the scandalous orgies of a French ball.

THE English yacht Valkyrie started out by losing a yacht race, but since then has been winning them. This is reversing the rule of the Allegheny Baseball Club which starts out by winning a game or two and then loses straight along.

THE complaints of the Chicago organ of the Sugar Trust that the profits of that combination were 10 per cent less than last year, because the raw article has been cornered by a clique of "Jews in Magdeburg" is pertinent. As the Sugar Trust paid 10 per cent upon a capitalization four times the actual investment last year, the information that some foreign clique has cut down the 40 per cent profits of that combination is likely to make the American public rejoice over the existence of someone who can pinch the pinchers.

THE statement that Sybil Sanderson, the new American songstress, can take a higher note than any other living prima donna, affords a very clear indication as to the kind of notes which will be needed to hear her.

CONSTANT and renewed reports of immigrants who are sent back under the imported labor law, together with cases where the immigrants to be imported are known to have not been sent back, strengthen the impression that the law is most effective in keeping out the laborers whom it might be desirable for the country to have admitted, and in admitting those who ought to be kept out.

THE report that the German mine owners have beaten their strikers, by importing coal from England, indicates that paternalism did not protect the rights of the strikers so much as it professed to be doing.

"THERE is one American machine that won't be represented at the Paris Exposition. It is the political machine," says the Philadelphia *Times*. This is in the nature of unexpected news. We were under the impression that the Hon. Whitelaw Reid and the Hon. Lewis McLane were both present at the Paris Exposition.

IT is some satisfaction, in view of the repeated defeats of the Allegheny baseball team, to know that we have the old resort still open to us, and can ease our injured spirit by laying it on the umpire.

ON his recent trip the President discovered a citizen of Reynoldtown, Md., who was willing to take the President's office and salary, since the latter was tired of it. This will convince the President that he cannot escape the importunities of ambitious office seekers, even by leaving Washington.

REV. HEBER NEWTON'S lecture upon "The Merits of Trusts and Monopolies," ought to be as brief as the famous chapter on "Snakes in Ireland." There are no merits to trusts and monopolies.

THE news that the Earl of Zetland has accepted the position of Viceroy of Ireland, shows the success of the Tory Government in at last obtaining as a nominal ruler of Ireland, a member of the nobility whose principal recommendation is that he was never heard of in politics before.

MR. MARION CRAWFORD is said to be a candidate for a consulate. If it is stipulated that Mr. Crawford is to write no more novels, the public will deem it worth while to let him have the office.

THE report that the grasshoppers are getting ready to appear in large numbers out West next year gives rise to a dark suspicion that the boomers of the Western States are setting things up to have the grasshoppers counted in the next census.

THE numerous shooting scrapes which it is necessary for a man to go through in order to hold real estate in Guthrie, Oklahoma, indicates that about the hardest lot in life is one in Guthrie.

THE public is waiting with breathless anxiety to hear the overwhelming severity with which Colonel Elliott F. Shepard will declare the present administration a failure, because the President went upon a Sunday excursion down the Chesapeake Bay.

PERSONAL FACTS AND FANCIES.

THE oldest Yale alumnus is the Rev. Dr. Joseph D. Wickham, of Manchester, Vt. He is 92. He will attend the coming Yale Commencement.

THE New York *World* says: Mme. Blavatsky, the Theosophist, has explained the Keely Motor. She says: "The force is in Keely, is part of him and will die with him." The stockholders of the Keely Motor Company should get Keely's life insured for a large amount. Or does Mme. Blavatsky mean that there is no hope for the stockholders?

AMELIE-RIVES CHANLER had a strange caller in Paris a few days ago—no less a personage than Louise Michel. The Nihilistic Parisienne has literary tastes and aspirations, and she was anxious to have the author of "The Quick or the Dead?" read certain manuscript poems and pass judgment upon them. Just what Amelie said to Louise is not known, but the former confessed to a friend that she was afraid of the little Anarchiste and did not dare to refuse her request.

HERE is a curious story that is told about Arditi in Berlin: "Arditi was sitting in his room when a gentleman was announced whose name he did not quite catch. 'I am Mr. Jonas,' the visitor said; 'you may not remember my playing second violin under you in New York. I worked rather hard then, but I have since changed that profession. I am a millionaire now, and if you will come and dine with me—I own the Continental Hotel among others (sic)—I should be so happy to see you and Mme. Arditi.' So he went, and his charming wife too, and it seems they had a dinner to shame Lucullus and Gargantua in their graves. Moral of the story: Never despise small musicians. A man may play second fiddle to you for a long time, and yet suddenly rise in the world and give you a most delicious dinner."

LADY ONSLOW, wife of the new Governor of New Zealand, the Earl of Onslow, has a hard cross to bear at the outset of her viceregal career. For self-protection the colonies have passed a law requiring imported dogs to go into quarantine for a certain period before they are allowed to wander at large. Lady Onslow applied for an exemption order for her pet poodle, but the local authorities were inexorable, and decreed a six months' separation between mistress and dog. The mistake Lady Onslow made was in formally applying for exemption. Had she quietly smuggled the animal ashore in a bandbox (the orthodox mode of evading this law), nobody would have been the wiser, but as she herself directly acquainted the public health authorities with the animal's coming, they say they have no option but to enforce the law.

Not Perfect.

From the Cincinnati Commercial Gazette.]

A Texan is reported to have invented a machine that will husk 12 acres of corn a day. Is it still imperfect, however, as it will not kiss the girls of the neighborhood whenever it husks a red ear.

THE TOPICAL TALKER.

The President and the Ailantus—Two Tales of Kegs and Bottles—The Lay of a Bore.

THE ailantus throws a grateful shade. Its leaves are large and heavy, but its blossoms are anything but sweet. If, as has been reported, President Harrison ordered the ailantus trees which grow in the White House grounds to be cut down nobody ought to complain. The odor of a bone converting establishment is not more rich or delightful than the pungent phosphoric odor which the antlers of the ailantus give out. The White House trees of this order were brought by General Grant from China, I believe, but they are common enough in some parts of this country. New York City, and particularly Harlem, abounds in them. They are prized for their umbrageous qualities, but freely abused for their free distributions of scent.

It shows the taste of the Malays that they call a species of this tree which is found in the Moluccas, or Spice Islands, the ailanto or tree of heaven. The American notion of heaven certainly does not include ailantus trees. They are not even plentiful in this region.

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A wholesale liquor merchant in this city told me yesterday that he has more orders for liquors of all sorts from a little town near Pittsburg which bears the name of being very faithful to prohibition ideas than from any other community he deals with.

"I have to tax my brains," he said, "to invent novel shapes and denominations for the packages. 'Dry goods' is the most favored of the deceptive titles, and the furthest from the truth. I was sorry to hear of one of my customers having a mishap the other day. He ordered a quarter of beer and asked to have it marked vinegar. His order was filled according to his directions and all went right till the keg got to the railway depot of the town I've alluded to. The trainmen handled the keg roughly and started the head. The beer ran out and the baggagemen drank the health of the temperance man to whom the keg was directed.

Between ourselves, it must be said that at this season of the year the above tale is slightly open to suspicion. Still it was told to me as a fact.

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TALKING of wet goods, some time ago a very well-known legal light in this city, who liked a nip of the very best whisky to be had now and then, discovered that a bottle of rare old whisky which he had obtained for his own consumption was being emptied too rapidly. He suspected that one of his servants liked good whisky. The girl was a great favorite with his wife as well as him, and consequently he did not make his suspicions public.

But he bought a bottle of the cheapest whisky on the market and set in the place hitherto occupied by his treasured liquor. Though he never drank a drop of it the cheap whisky disappeared gradually in a week. By watching closely he found that the girl he had suspected was the thieving bibber.

He did not want to lose such a valuable girl and worry his wife, so after that he kept his good whisky carefully under lock and key, and filled up the bottle which was easy of access regularly with cheap whisky as it was emptied. And for all I know he does this to-day, for the servant is still in his family.

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THE INTRODUCING BORE.

The bore who doesn't know a thing,
But claims to know it all;
The bore who's always chattering
About the game of ball;
The bore who sniffs, the bore who laughs
At everything one says—
Their boring's nothing to the calf's
Who's bored me many days.

He loves to introduce a man
To everyone he meets,
And like a merry rataplan
This phrase forever beats:
"This is my good friend Mr. Doe!
Doe, this is Mr. Green,
A man I'm sure you ought to know"—
He smiling stands between.

Upon the street, and in the cars,
No matter where you be,
He'll introduce you; nothing bars
His frenzied courtesy.
His butcher, baker, tailorman
And men he never knew,
And men you know, aye, if he can,
He'll introduce to you.

Some day he'll die, and when he goes
To Sheol's torrid shore,
He'll find a special fire flows
For every kind of bore.
And then he'll hear Old Nick himself
Sing out with ghoulish glee:
"You needn't introduce yourself,
You've long been known to me!"

—H. J.

CHOICE ORIGINAL STORIES.

A Series of Complete Novelettes to be Published in The Dispatch.

A series of novelettes by noted authors has been prepared for THE DISPATCH and will be published weekly. Each story will be complete in one issue of the paper. Joaquin Miller, Wilkie Collins, Franklin Fife, Emma V. Sheridan, Louise Stockton and Nym Crinkle are among the writers whose stories will be included in the series. Nowhere else can be found choicer or better fiction for summer reading. Do not miss a single story!

Sunday, June 2, we shall publish a novelette by Joaquin Miller, entitled "For Forty Eight Days." In reality it is history and not fiction, although it has a strong element of romance. It tells for the first time the story of an early campaign against the Modocs, during a part of which Miller was in command of the expedition, although a mere boy. In this very spirited narrative is embodied all that the author chooses to tell of the mysterious captive maiden, who is referred to in several of his "Songs of the Sierras." The production is in Miller's characteristically poetic vain, although it deals with rough facts, and is a decidedly unique piece of work.

TOMCATS ON A TEAR.

Thirty-Three of the Animals Let Loose in a Broadway House.

NEW YORK, May 29.—Thirty-three anxious women, ten of them black and five red-haired, besieged the door of Gus Heckler's Bohemia yesterday afternoon. Each carried a parcel in her arms which seemed to be alive. They had come in answer to the following advertisement in a morning paper:

WANTED—A liberal price will be paid for a tomcat; must be a good ratter. Bring him at 4 o'clock to-day to Bohemia, 1237 Broadway.

Gus claims that the above was a joke, put up by some practical fiend. When the women found that the "ad" was a sell, several let loose the contents of their bundles, and Bohemia was flooded with tomcats fighting on the stairs and in the cellar, and filling the place with their music.

Mr. and Mrs. Rea at Home.

The Oliver residence on Ridge avenue, Allegheny, was filled with people of the two cities yesterday afternoon and evening, it being the second "at home" of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Rea. The house was gorgeously decorated with beautiful flowers and the guests were sumptuously served with rare delicacies. Altogether the reception was far pleasanter than the former one, which was marred in a measure by the rain.

A Shorter Cut to Greatness.

From the Chicago Tribune.]

Caller—(with customary smirk of congratulation)—He's a remarkably fine baby, and just as likely as not he'll be President some day.

Proud Father—(shaking his head emphatically)—I'm not going to expose that boy to the uncertainties of politics. I intend to apprentice him to Buffalo Bill.

The Only Man Who Is Sure.

From the Boston Herald.]

The man who aims at nothing in this world is the only one who is sure to bring down his game every time.

DEATHS OF A DAY.

Mrs. B. W. Finney.

Mrs. B. W. Finney, nee Lilly Warwick, wife of Mr. B. W. Finney, of the First National Bank, died of consumption at her home in Wilkinsburg, last Tuesday evening. The deceased was a sister of W. H. Warwick, of J. D. Chantler & Co., and of Mrs. John Longmore, of Allegheny. She was 36 years of age and leaves many friends to sympathize with the husband and other relatives at their loss of the deceased.

H. Melville Fay.

CLEVELAND, May 29.—H. Melville Fay, the well-known spirit medium and husband of Lena Eva Fay, has just died in a hospital here of cancer of the tongue. He was 48 years old.

SUBDUING YELLOW FEVER.

Inoculation Will be the Future Preventive of the Dread Scourge.

PINE BLUFFS, ARK., May 29.—Dr. Wolfred Nelson, member of the College of Physicians and Surgeons of the Providence of Quebec, and a late member of the State Board of Health of Panama, read a paper yesterday at the fourteenth annual meeting of the State Medical Society of Arkansas. The subject was "Yellow Fever," and the result of his experiences extending over many years at Panama, Colon, Mexico, Cuba and Tampa, which led to his bold forecast of the Jacksonville epidemic, was brought out. Particular mention was made in the paper of Dr. Domingo F. Reive, of Rio de Janeiro, who is entitled to honor as being the first to recognize the germ of yellow fever and to use inoculation as a prophylactic. Mention was also made of the work of Dr. L. Girard, late surgeon-in-chief of the Panama Canal Company, whose profound faith in the protective power of inoculation was fully shown by his inoculating himself and having a mild form of yellow fever, which was followed by perfect immunity from the disease, and finally the crucial work of Dr. Carlos Findlay and Dr. Delgado, of Havana. Dr. Nelson being personally familiar with the work of three of these gentlemen he boldly forecast a day when inoculations against yellow fever will take equal rank with inoculations against smallpox.

With such measures and the acid treatment where the disease has invaded, he predicted a new era in the treatment of this scourge, in the presence of which physicians for four centuries have been powerless. Dr. Nelson described yellow fever as a blood disease, pure and simple. Hence the absence of marked pathological evidences, save destruction. It is claimed for the pure acid treatment described by him that its acidulation of the life currents, while not interfering with the oxygen carrying functions of the red corpuscles, renders the blood wholly uninhabitable to the germ of yellow fever, it thus ceasing to be a culture fluid for the germs, death in yellow fever being due solely to death of the blood or necremia. With such propyplastic measures and treatment, and the quarantine system recommended by Dr. Joseph Healy, yellow fever will cease to dominate, travel within the tropics will be robbed of its terrors, and the commerce of nations will be almost untrammeled.

The paper was listened to with profound attention and was ordered to be published. A vote of thanks was accorded to the reader.

THE DRESSED BEEF FIGHT.

A Strong Sentiment for an Inspection General in All the States.

DETROIT, May 29.—The controlling question among the butchers now in National Convention in this city, is how to resist the encroachment of the dressed beef combine; and there is a constant expression of hatred against Phil Armour. Thomas Armour, of Chicago, speaks very plainly against the monopoly. Among other things Mr. Armour said: "The monopoly is now branching out into the small towns. They compel the small retail butchers to buy Chicago dressed beef. If he does not the concern will put a retail branch and sell meat so cheap that the poor butcher would be ruined. He cannot compete by selling meat of his own slaughtering. You can't tell some diseased meat when dressed. If a steer has lump jaw or pneumonia there is no sign of it in the dressed carcass; yet it is unhealthful food. The remedy is for inspection on the hoof in every State, which means practically that beef shall not come into a State already dressed. This convention will take a very strong stand in favor of more legislation. We have been defeated in several States, but we do not propose to give up."

Vice President Nooney, of New York, said there was not so much competition with the monopoly in New York City, still the influence of the Chicago concern could be felt and was growing.

"This session will be very important, and its conclusion will indicate the future attitude of the butchers toward the monopoly. We must not give up the fight, and must strengthen our organization for a more decisive effort next winter. We have to fight money and bribery in every Legislature." The Chicago men say they do not have much competition with Armour in Chicago, but instead buy much of their beef from him.

A PRISONER IN HER OWN HOUSE.

Tenants Take a Novel Method of Getting Even With Their Landlady.

PHILADELPHIA, May 29.—Mrs. Susan Weaver is the owner of a cozy 2½-story brick house with a pretty mansard roof, which is located on the northwest corner of Eighth and Earp streets, a small thoroughfare just north of Reed street, but she is now in the embarrassing position of being a prisoner in her apartment on the second floor, and the neighborhood is greatly excited thereat.

It seems that Mrs. Weaver has for some years been renting a portion of her home, as she had no use for so much room, and it is to her tenants that she owes her present embarrassment. The first floor consists of a small store and two back rooms. A German butcher rents the store, a back room and a bed chamber in the third story. The other back room and the second bed chamber under the roof are occupied by a journeyman barber and his young wife, while the proprietor reserves for her own use the entire second floor, which contains three rooms and the bath room.

Disagreements arose between the women occupying the house, and one of them locked Mrs. Weaver in her room. She has friends on the outside who put provisions in a basket which she hauls up. The woman who locked Mrs. Weaver in refuses to let her out. Mrs. Weaver won't talk much, but says through the window that she is afraid to come out because if she does her tenants won't let her in again, and she is determined to stick it out. The police were asked to interfere in the matter, but as there had been no breach of the peace they were powerless to act, and the warfare continues.

A SNAKE IN THE MAIL.

A Small but Lively Reptile Creates a Flurry in the St. Louis P. O.

ST. LOUIS, May 29.—There was quite a flurry in the distributing department of the Postoffice this morning over the finding of a snake in the mail. When the packages were delivered last night there was one that seemed to have a very unfriendly odor. None of the clerks wanted to associate with it and it was quietly laid aside. This morning its presence was so manifest that at a consultation which was held it was determined that something must be done. One of the clerks reported to Major Harlow, the superintendent, that there was a package down stairs that ought to be indicted, for it was certainly against the peace and dignity of the United States. Major Harlow started to investigate, but he didn't finish. He weakened. "It had better be opened," he said, "for it is unmailable matter, on account of its odor."

The clerks drew lots to see who should open it, and the winner gave the porter a quarter to take the job off his hands. The porter cut the string and took off the wrapper. He found a pasteboard box and he kicked the top off and peeped in. He found only a little garter snake, about 12 inches long, but it was very strong. It was thrown out and the card bearing the address, still fragrant with the odor that clung to it, was forwarded. Postmaster Hyde says he knows it was a garter snake because it had, "Honi sois qui mal y pense," on its back.

A NEW SHAD HATCHERY.

A Government Reservation of 1,900 Acres. Near Stone River, Col.

WASHINGTON, May 29.—The Fish Commission has about completed its work with shad. A few days ago Colonel McDonald received two shad, each 14 inches long, caught in the Withlacoochee river, in Florida, where they were planted several years ago.

President Harrison has set aside as a Government reservation 1,900 acres of land lying alongside Stone river, Colorado, running up from the location of the proposed new fish hatchery to the source of the river, up in the mountains.

Prizes for Pig Driving.

NEW YORK, May 29.—An engine company of the New Brunswick, (N. J.) Fire Department, will have a novel contest at the rink in that city June 10. An inclosure resembling the pigs-in-clover contrivance will be built in the center of the rink and a prize of $25 will be given to the man who can drive four live pigs in in 20 minutes. Whipping will be barred.

THE BELLE.

The strains of a waltz are sounding,
To and fro each dancer flits:
I am standing out in the half-dim hall,
Where the belle of the evening sits.

A crowd of men stand around her,
And hide her face from my view;
And I wonder whether she's tall or short,
If her eyes are brown or blue.

If one man happens to leave her side,
Another one takes his place:
"I will go," I say, "and have one look
At this lovely creature's face!"

To gaze at her over their shoulders
I diffidently advance—
* * *
No maid is there with luring eye,
But a punch bowl meets my glance!

—*Cornelia Redmond in Life.*

SUSPENDED ANIMATION.

An English Editor Comments on Mind Reader Bishop's Case.

That Mr. Irving Bishop, the American thought-reader, was not really dead when his body was subjected to an autopsy is extremely improbable, says the London *Standard*, though the report will, no doubt, revive the craze regarding premature burial which has at different times disturbed many nervous people. In an age when the signs of death were less understood than at present, and especially in the South and in tropical countries, where the corpse is frequently committed to the tomb within 24, or even fewer, hours after death, there have unquestionably been cases of hapless cataleptics, or victims of trance, being entombed, and reviving when help was no longer within reach.

M. Bruhier, a French author, who published a large book on the subject, enumerated, prior to 1742, the year in which he wrote, 54 cases of persons buried alive, 4 of persons dissected while still living, 53 of those who recovered without assistance, after they had been laid in their coffins, and 72 falsely pronounced to be dead. In the years which have since elapsed it may be safely concluded that this dreadful roll has been greatly increased. Of the well-authenticated instances, that of Vesalius, the famous mediæval anatomist, is one of the earliest, and has acquired an almost classical interest. He had opened an apparently dead body, when, to the horror of the company around the table, the exposed heart was seen to be still beating. The case of the Abbe Prevost is even more remarkable. He had been struck down by apoplexy, but recovered his consciousness under the scalpel, though he died almost immediately afterward.

Although cases such as these, recorded on undoubted evidence, are very few, yet the horror of such an awful fate as premature burial has been sufficient to arouse a widespread feeling of dread, and we continually hear of the most elaborate precautions being taken to prevent the risk of its happening. In some countries the dead are kept for a time in mortuary houses specially fitted up for the purpose, bell wires being attached to the extremities of the corpse, so as to summon aid on the slightest motion of the body. It may ease the tremors of the timid to know that in no instance have these precautions proved of any use. The truth seems to be that, though trance and catalepsy are as common as ever they were, the signs of death are now so well determined that any medical man—any layman, indeed—can, with reasonable care, certify without fail to the fact.

A Colonel Stevenson is said to have been able to suspend his own animation at will, and feign death for many days; and everyone can recall instances in which girls have remained in what is loosely described as a condition of "suspended animation" for weeks together. But in Mr. Bishop's case there should have been no possibility of doubt. If he had been in a cataleptic fit, only the most hideous culpability or ignorance—sufficient, in this country, to secure for those guilty of it an interview with the Medical Council—could have permitted the autopsy.

NINETY MILES AN HOUR.

Fast Traveling by a Railroad Flyer—An American Engine in England.

From the Philadelphia Record.]

A single mile in 39 seconds, and eight miles covered at this prodigous speed, was the record made the other day on the Bound Brook Railroad by engine No. 206, of the Wootten pattern, that drew the fast train which leaves Philadelphia at 7:50 A. M. There were five cars in the train, and John Hogan, a veteran engineer, was in the cab. The massive strong locomotive, which has recently been tried on the Reading Railroad, took the fast express to New York for a number of days, and, when No. 206 made its remarkable run, it was trying to surpass the record of its rival. The speed recorded is equivalent to a rate of over 90 miles an hour. The record is probably the fastest ever made in this part of the country.

Some years ago "Long Tom," a New Jersey Central locomotive, drew a train carrying Chester A. Arthur, then President, and a party of friends at the rate of a mile in 37 seconds, as it was claimed, but the achievement has been regarded with some doubt. Another performance has been recalled by the record of No. 206. The Shaw engine, which has lately been running on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, made a trial of speed some years ago before the Ohio Railroad Commissioners. A mile was made in 47 seconds, and for six miles a rate of 72 miles an hour was maintained without the maximum of performance being reached. It is likely that this Shaw locomotive will make an attempt to secure the record either on the Baltimore and Ohio or the Atlantic City Railroad.

It has been decided by the Pennsylvania Railroad to send one of its best engines, perhaps "Long-legged No. 10," to England to be tried on the roads there. It will make its first appearance on the London and Northwestern Railroad. As the English railroads are much straighter than those in this country railroad men are much interested to see what an American locomotive can do on a bee line track.

A NEW HONEYMOON.

Baron and Baroness Von Sucrow Brought Together by the Husband's Ruse.

NEW YORK, May 29.—Baron and Baroness Von Sucrow have made up and are now as happy and as loving as when they spent the earliest days of their honeymoon together. The Baron is especially happy and was in excellent humor to-night. The happy reconciliation came about in this way: When the Baroness went to Boston she was very angry at the notoriety that her husband had caused by his peculiar conduct and would not listen to any argument. She even kept her address from Von Sucrow. She was at the Parker House and remained there during his absence, but it was several days before the lady in this city who knew her address was allowed to tell it to Von Sucrow. When she finally got permission by letter to divulge it to the Baron she did so indirectly, and soon a correspondence between the husband and wife was begun. This continued for several days, but it was not satisfactory to the Baron in its results, for the Baroness several times refused point blank to return to this city and to her husband.

The telegram which decided the matter was sent last Sunday, and, it is said, contained a statement from Von Sucrow that he was extremely ill, having met with an accident that confined him to his bed. In response to that telegram his wife left the Parker House, Boston, at once, for her husband's bedside. She arrived at 114 East Twenty-fifth street, half angry, but still very anxious about her husband's condition. She didn't find him ill, but he told her all was fair in love, and a complete reconciliation followed.

Elocutionists Contest for a Medal.

Special Telegram to The Dispatch.

EMMITSBURG, MD., May 29.—The preliminary contest for the gold medal for elocution took place at Mount St. Mary's College to-day. Of the number who entered the contest several displayed great elocutionary power in the treatment of the subjects selected. The following were chosen as best qualified to enter the final contest, which takes place June 25: John Morrissey, Little Falls, N. Y.; F. H. Lee, Lancaster; John L. Martin, McKeesport; James D. Casey, Pittsburg; John F. Seton, Baltimore; Joseph A. Malone, New York City. The gold medal is the gift of A. V. D. Watterson, Esq., of Pittsburg.

TRI-STATE TRIFLES.

THERE are 27 more dogs than sheep in Miami county, Ohio.

THE rattles off rattlesnakes fetch $1 a string in the snake centers of this State.

FISH have died by thousands, year after year, in the Youghiogheny river, and nobody seems to know why.

W. S. THOMPSON, of East Liverpool, O., opened an old organ and found a three-foot snake coiled inside.

WILLIAM H. DOANE, of Lancaster, Pa., has shot a "Western flicker," a bird hardly known east of Kansas, and never before killed in this State.

EDWARD MORROW, living near Bradford, Pa., while plowing last fall, lost a $20 wad of greenbacks, which his son plowed up a few days since as good as ever.

A RUSTIC chair, bought by a citizen of York, Pa., was made of green sassafras wood, and a few warm days have caused it to put forth many sprouts, some an inch long.

THE parents of James White, of Scranton, Pa., sent $60 to Cleveland, O., to pay for the return of the supposed corpse of their son. When the body arrived yesterday it was found to be that of another James White.

TWO boys who live in a small town near Piedmont, W. Va., had a banana race the other day, in which one ate 40 and the other 38 in 20 minutes. Both were awfully sick after the race, and don't want to see any more bananas.

A YOUNG married couple in Ashtabula county, Ohio, have been making garden for the first time. When planting onions they were at a loss to tell which end to put down, so they compromised the matter, by putting them in one way and she the other.

ALBERT SNEEBOLD, of Natrona, Pa., who had received anonymous threatening letters at different times, was shot at while on his way home at 2 o'clock on Sunday morning, but his life was saved by his watch, which the ball completely shattered. The watch was carried in an upper vest pocket, near the wearer's heart.

NEW YORK NEWS NOTES.

What Ended the Haytian War.

[NEW YORK BUREAU SPECIALS.]

NEW YORK, May 29.—The United States man-of-war Galena arrived in port from Key West this morning. She carries a crew of 250 men and mounts ten guns. She left Haytian ports a few weeks ago with the cruiser Yantic, which arrived last week considerably disabled by the rough sea weather. She brought with her Rear Admiral Bancroft Gherard, commander of the North Atlantic squadron. The general impression among her officers is that the Haytian war is about over, because there is no more money in it for the leaders and the soldiers are wanted at home to harvest the spring crops.

Mrs. Carter Qualified to Star.

Mrs. Leslie Carter, of Chicago, is expected to arrive in the city next Friday. Every theatrical manager in this city save one, it is said, wishes to engage her as a star for the coming season. That one has already engaged her. The name of Mrs. Carter's manager and the plans for her first starring tour will be announced as soon as the result of her appeal becomes known.

Why Sadie Martinot Is Going to Europe.

A few weeks ago M. Coquelin wrote to Sadie