The Dispatch.

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PITTSBURG, TUESDAY, JULY 2, 1889.

THE BUSINESS TAX DECISION.

The decision of Judge Slagle, in the business tax case of the Hartman Steel Company, restrains the collection of that tax on the principal share of the plaintiff's business. One of the prohibited classes of traffic consists of goods sold from the works outside the city to people living in the city, but delivered to the customers at the works. The vast bulk of the business of factories outside of the city being able to do business with the city in that way it is safe to presume that the amount of business tax collected in the future from firms of this class will not be worth mentioning.

Judge Slagle's reasoning on the legal aspects of the case, as reported elsewhere, appears sound, and coming from a jurist of his ability it may be assumed that it will stand as the law. That being the case, it will simply offer another reason for discarding this antiquated style of taxation. It is bad enough to have a tax levied primarily on enterprise, which enterprise must in turn collect from the consumers; but when in addition to this the tax is made to offer a premium on locating manufacturing enterprises outside of the city, it appears to be somewhat phenomenal in its stupidity.

There might be some sense in an income tax, which is a tax not necessarily on enterprise, but on prosperity. The tax on gross sales combines all the bad features of the income tax, with a total absence of any of its recommendations.

MR. CLARKSON'S BOOMERANG.

Assistant Postmaster General Clarkson, as is shown in our New York notes, has placed himself on record to the effect that the election was for the purpose of putting Republicans in office, and that nothing gives him greater pleasure than to make room for Republican office holders. Applied strictly, and in good faith, this deliverance might prove a boomerang for Mr. Clarkson.

It would be hard to find any more correct definition of a Republican than one who upholds the Republican principles as stated by the platform of the National Convention. We have looked over that document with some care, and have failed to find any declaration of the principle that the purpose of the election was to put Republicans in the minor offices. On the contrary, we find there a double pledge in favor of civil service reform "to the end that the dangers to free institutions which lurk in the power of official patronage may be wisely and effectively avoided."

This statement of Republican doctrine, in contrast with the principle of political action laid down by the First Assistant Postmaster General, proves conclusively that Mr. Clarkson is no longer a Republican. He has cast aside the civil service reform principles authoritatively avowed and adopted by the Republican national organization in order to rank himself among the professed spoilsmen. Having thus disavowed Republican principles, his own rule of action debars him from holding office. His first duty, according to his own statement, is to kick himself out.

We shall await with interest the action of Mr. Clarkson in removing himself to make room for a Republican who maintains the platform of the Republican party sincerely and in good faith.

A DELAYED CURSE.

The agricultural experiment stations and bureaus are sending out circulars telling about the green bug in the wheat. This is regarded as fresh news by the Agricultural agencies, but the farmers who have found out about the green bug and have learned how to circumvent them for some time, will not be much excited over the news. So far as can be ascertained the green bug, or midge, is a very important factor on the bull side of the grain exchanges, but otherwise he is but little larger collectively than he is individually. The fact is that the green midge has been beaten in most of the wheat-raising districts where he has appeared by the very simple device on the part of the farmers of harvesting a good crop of wheat before the midge has had a chance to get in his work. It will be time enough to get up a panic about the midge when the crop returns show that a short crop has been harvested.

DOWN WITH THE SPARROWS.

A volume containing over four hundred pages entitled "The English Sparrow, (*Passer Domesticus*) in North America, Especially in Its Relations to Agriculture" has been received by THE DISPATCH from Secretary of Agriculture Jeremiah M. Rusk. It is a beautiful work. The covers are a pale æsthetic green, but the statements about the infamous sparrow within them are printed in large type with the blackest of ink. There is no doubt about Secretary Rusk's meaning in authorizing the division of the economic ornithology and mammalogy to issue Bulletin 1, as this work on the English sparrow is designated. It is an unmistakable indication of the bold and determined policy to which Secretary Rusk has committed the administration. He does not issue a leaflet and suggest tamely the advisability of taking the sparrow seriously. He plants his foot firmly, and emits a volume of four hundred pages to the effect that the English sparrow must go at once.

The statistics in this book are very voluminous; all of them are interesting, a great many very humorous. They all prove, however, what a terrible fellow this *Passer Domesticus*, this English intruder, is. For instance, on page 80 we find a list of native American birds molested by the sparrow. In this we find it recorded that 377 bluebirds, 182 robins, 11 yellow warblers, 84 swallows, 72 chippies, 5 bobolinks, 1 humming bird, 3 peewees, and a solitary yellow-bellied woodpecker have been at sundry times and places assaulted, abused, and otherwise maltreated by the English sparrow. This is awful. The thought of an inoffensive yellow-bellied woodpecker being subjected to the insults of a brown-coated little whippersnapper of an Englishman makes our blood boil. Secretary Rusk rightly sounds a call to arms.

After recitals of outrages such as these, it is hardly necessary for Secretary Rusk to tell us that the sparrow is a fraud. He, the sparrow, won't eat worms, caterpillars, bugs or other things nobody wants, and he will devour grain, fruits and all sorts of valuable agricultural products. We have thought for some time that the *Passer Domesticus* was an unornamental nuisance, but the four hundred odd pages Secretary Rusk devotes to the subject have convinced us that the sparrow as a feature of our Caucasian civilization is played out. The sparrow must be removed. Secretary Rusk will attend to the actual removal of the nuisance no doubt before he issues Bulletin 2.

A NEW THOROUGHFARE ADDED.

Select Council could not fairly do otherwise yesterday than concur with Common branch in passing the ordinance for the widening of Diamond street. There need be no surprise, therefore, that but three votes were cast against it. This is a case where not only is the public convenience consulted by substituting for a mere alley a handsome fifty-foot thoroughfare in the very heart of the city, but one which has the additional merit of the work being openly pledged to be done at the expense solely of the abutting property owners.

As some objection was made under the seeming impression that the city, or property in the neighborhood but not on the street, would have to share the cost, it is well that there is a very clear understanding about that. Considering the immense increase in value reasonably anticipated for the abutting lots when the widening is done, and the fact that they persistently petitioned for the work, with the understanding that they were to pay the whole damages, any attempt to bring in the city would be alike futile and in bad faith. But as the parties concerned vigorously repudiate the imputation of such an intendment there is no need to speak of it farther, excepting to make doubly clear now, before the work begins, the understanding that the abutters defray the cost. The Board of Viewers, who are to assess benefits, are also committed to the same position by their late official communication to Councils.

With the widening effected and the expense met in this way by the property owners directly interested, nothing should stand in the way of congratulation on the prospect of a fine, new thoroughfare being added to the city's facilities for business. As for recent indications that the new street, like Fifth and other avenues, will be sought for railway purposes, it may reasonably be believed that the property owners who pay for this improvement will be quick enough to protect their interests. The present desire is strong and unequivocal for an unobstructed thoroughfare.

THE EXAMPLE OF CHICAGO.

The enterprising city of Chicago has recently set an example which should be of value to the communities lying along the three rivers in this vicinity. In order to obtain the full benefit of the suburban population in the rating of the cities at the next census, she has taken in the outlying districts so that a stretch of territory twenty-four miles long and eight miles broad is included within the city limits. This is expected to give Chicago 1,100,000 population in the next census, and if any city can approach her in area she is ready to annex a State or two.

Perhaps it is not discreet to urge upon the conservative people of this region the full copying of Chicago's example. If we did so, we would begin at Leetsdale and annex all the way up to the city, including Allegheny. The southwestern limit would take in Mansfield, the southeastern McKeesport, while the northeastern would bring in Verona and Sharpsburg. Without urging our people to so daring a flight, it is proper to point out that the closely settled sections adjacent to our city are sufficient to add 150,000 to our population next year, and to give us 350,000 instead of the 200,000 or thereabouts which we are likely to show in our subdivided state.

Chicago has made herself what she is by the policy of presenting her merits and her full growth to the world. Not the policy of annexing the suburbs alone, but that, of which the first is a part, of doing everything possible to increase the reputation of the city as a community, is the cause of the growth which will record over a million souls in Chicago next year. It may also be pertinent to remark that the lack of united effort in that direction is one of the reasons why Pittsburg is rated among the cities of 200,000 population or less, and has something less than 40,000 in the communities of which she is the center.

Is it not about time for our city to profit by the example of Chicago? Would not a good way to pursue that policy be to perfect a plan for uniting the immediately adjacent population into a city of 350,000 to 400,000 in time for the next census?

FASHION'S KIND RELIEF.

Writers upon current topics have exhausted themselves during the past two years in endeavoring to convince the softer sex of the discourtesy and lack of that essential principle of lady-like action which is based in the care for the rights and enjoyment of others, embodied in the wearing of lofty and exclusive headgear at theaters. They have enlarged upon the discomfort and damage to those whose enjoyment of public performances was entirely destroyed by these towering head-dresses. They have appealed to the example of foreign courts, where ladies in attendance at theaters invariably remove their bonnets before entering the playhouse; and they have shown how easy and beneficial the adoption of such a custom would be in this country. All these arguments, pleas and protests were of no avail. American fashion decreed the wearing of the tall hat, and our better halves went on with the custom, calmly regardless alike of reason, courtesy or logic.

Now a change has come. We are informed that the mysterious power embodied in a somewhat inchoate body of foreign milliners has decreed that the high hat shall no longer be worn. Low head gear is to take its place. The ladies will concede to fashion what they denied to reason and good breeding, and in that way will permit the play-goers to have a fair idea of what goes on upon the stage.

But is it not cogent to suggest to the fairer and generally better sex, that in thus placing fashion above the dictates of true courtesy and consideration for others, they fail to attain that ideal of true feminine character which we are all so glad to attribute to the mistresses of our homes and hearts.

THE report that trust deals are on foot to monopolize the natural gas business and the coal industry of Pittsburg sounds rather alarming. With regard to the natural gas business, attempts to control that branch of the supply of fuel by combinations, have already developed the fact that free competition is still possible. In monopolizing the coal industry the combination will have to purchase all the coal lands, not only of Western Pennsylvania but of West Virginia. It is possible for the trusts to undertake the proverbial but excessive task of biting off more than they can chew.

THE Shah is in London. The people of the English capital will endeavor to restrain their feelings until the Persian monarch leaves, when they will relieve themselves with a prolonged and scornful "Psha."

THE fact that the first time that precious anti-dressed beef law was brought into the courts, it was decided to be unconstitutional, only fulfills what was a foregone conclusion from the start. One State cannot shut out the products of another by any device or evasion of the United States Constitution, however much it may be to the profit of interested parties to do it. This is a nation; and protective lines between the States were debarred when the Constitution was adopted that made it a nation.

IF Uncle Jerry Rusk succeeds in abolishing the English sparrow by his last 400-page pamphlet, he should try the effect of the next publication of that sort upon the equally tough and incorrigible peach-crop liar.

THE recent development of the fact that one railroad line out of Pittsburg will carry coal at rates that permit shippers to live, and that another will throw its influence on the side of living rates for iron ore, proves that competition is still a vital force in transportation, however much railroad combinations may strive to smother it.

SINCE the fashion has been started, it may be expected that Mr. Cooney, the missing Cronin murderer, will commit suicide simultaneously in Kansas City, Brooklyn, Montreal and New Orleans.

THE reward of modest merit may be long delayed, and hope deferred continued to make the heart sick, but that its steady continuance sometimes triumphs, is proved by the renewed announcement that the golden-haired, but always hopeful, Thomas V. Cooper is now to receive that long expected Collectorship of Philadelphia.

THE expectation is natural that the victory of Yale in the recent boat race will restore in athletic circles the primeval fashion of having the nose bored.

DR. HAMMOND'S declaration that it is better to swallow coals of fire than ice water will find few converts at this season of the year. Ice water may be somewhat deleterious; but when the thermometer mounts up into the nineties it is exceedingly quenching.

THE question arising out of the latest event in municipal circles, seems to be whether the building inspection business requires inspection.

THE rise in trust certificates is evidently founded upon the belief of stock speculators that in purchasing investments it is unnecessary to pay any attention to the fact that the favorite investments embody an assault upon the rights of the public.

NAPLES is tearing itself down to clean itself. This looks like radical work, but what is worth doing at all is worth doing well.

CHICAGOANS rejoice in the possession of a city that is 24 miles long by 8 miles wide. The noble ambition of Chicago to be the biggest city in America is bound to be satisfied if it has to annex all of Northern Illinois.

PERSONAL FACTS AND FANCIES.

MR. AND MRS. GEORGE KENNAN will spend the summer at Cape Breton.

SENATOR CHANDLER and family are at their summer home at Warren, N. H.

THE Prince of Wales will sell his shorthorns and southdowns at Sandringham on Tuesday next.

QUEEN VICTORIA'S favorite musical composers are Mendelssohn and Sullivan, and the latter's "Lost Chord" is the one piece of which she is most fond.

WHEN the German Emperor visits Osborne, he will find in the garden a splendid myrtle, which he ought to regard with reverence, but which he will probably regard—judging from his past career—with spiteful hatred. It was originally a tiny twig plucked from his mother's wedding bouquet.

AMONG the Ministers who travel with the Shah is Mohammed Hassan Khan Ekbalus Saltane. He is Chief of the Press. He not only supervises all publications in Persia, but himself edits four papers, the *Ivan*, the *Elteia*, the *Echo of Persia* and the illustrated *Scherew*. He has also written some histories, and conducts a bureau for the translation of European books and papers into Persian.

ONE of the latest works which Sir Edward Boehm has executed for the Queen is a colossal bronze statue of John Brown, which has been erected in the grounds at Balmoral, on a wooded bank near the garden cottage. The Duke of Albany is commemorated at Balmoral by a polished granite seat, which has been placed near the dairy; and Sir Thomas Biddulph by a granite fountain, which stands by the road which leads from the castle to Abergeldie.

SOLD FOR A FORTUNE.

The Lively Bidding at Paris Upon a Celebrated Picture.

PARIS, July 1.—The sale of the Creran pictures was begun to-day. There was a large attendance. Many foreign galleries were represented. Number 63 in the catalogue was Millet's "The Angelus" (Evening Prayer). For this famous picture there was a spirited competition. The bidding started at 100,000 francs. Mr. Avery, of New York, offered 490,000 francs. Just as a bid of 503,000 francs was made the auctioneer declared that Proust was the buyer of the picture. M. Proust, who was acting for the Musee de France, had bid 502,000 francs.

The American bidders protested that the auctioneer had been too hasty. After an excited discussion M. Proust yielded to the auctioneer's appeal to allow the sale to be resumed. The Americans bid up to 550,000 francs, M. Proust finally purchasing the picture at 553,000 francs.

SAVING A HEAP OF TROUBLE.

Scheme of a Missourian to Ascertain the Popular Choice for President.

WASHINGTON, July 1.—An enterprising Missourian by the name of Curtin proposes to take a popular vote on the Presidental preferences for 1892, and thus settle the work of the nominating conventions in advance. The taking of the vote will occupy a year, and he expects it to cost $50,000 to complete. A half dozen clerks have been sworn in to accurately record the votes as they come in on postal cards.

Curtin expects to reimburse himself and clear some money by selling his unofficial returns to the newspapers.

A Sword for Colonel Spangler.

JOHNSTOWN, July 1.—The heads of the commissaries presented Colonel Spangler with a sword this evening. General Hastings made the presentation speech.

THE TOPICAL TALKER.

Some Theatrical News—The National Drama in the Future—The Local End of It.

IT is a little early to talk of what the theatrical season of 1889-90 has in store for us in the way of new plays, but the managers and actors don't think so, for their advance announcements are falling fast and thick in newspaper offices. W. H. Crane, the comedian, now divorced from his partner, Robson, writes me that the comedy written for him by Messrs. Brander Mathews and George H. Jessop, has just been named "On Probation." The scene of the comedy is laid in France and Switzerland, but its authors claim for it a distinctly American theme and treatment. Mr. Crane says he feels at home in the principal character, a middle-aged American man of business, which seems to be a little like the part he played in "The Henrietta." There is real comedy in the character-drawing, Mr. Crane says, but the situations which involve Mr. Crane with an elderly sister, three American girls of pronounced types, and a number of cosmopolitan personages, are farcical, very farcical.

It is about time for two such clever writers as Mathews and Jessop to write a play that shall be a worthy addition the small list of good plays written by Americans.

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MR. BRANDER MATHEWS and his collaborator had better beware of following the advice which Mr. Howells gave them in the last number of *Harper's Magazine*. The American school of dramatists will never produce anything that will live a decade or surely a season if Mr. Howells' theory of writing plays without plots is adopted by it.

The thinness of Mr. Howells' argument that because one or two sketchy plays dealing with American types of character have been successful therefore the American play must henceforth be devoid of plot if it is to succeed, is so thin that no dramatist is likely to be deluded by it. This is not saying that a play dealing exclusively with American characters and scenes with a strong American plot is not wanted. On the contrary, it is such a combination of cognate appeals to its national taste and patriotic feelings that the American audience desires. The most successful plays of the future in America will be plays of this order.

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MR. GEORGE C. JENKS, whose comedy, "The United States Mail," is certainly American from the heart of the soubrette to the outside buttons of the special delivery messenger who both figure in the piece, has just returned from New York, where he has been gathering a first-class company for some weeks.

Mr. Jenks says the company is now virtually complete. Miss Kate Davis, with whom he has been in negotiation some time, has signed a contract, and that wonderfully clever young actress will add greatly to the "U. S. Mail's" chances of instant success when it is produced next fall. Frank David, who will be remembered as the original *Brabanto* in "The Corsair," will bring out the lowest comedy side of Mr. Jenks' piece. He is a low comedian of no little ability and has to boot a good voice. I notice that he is just now making quite a hit as *Sir Joseph Porter* in the revival of "Pinafore" in Mr. Harris' Academy of Music at Baltimore—a first-class theater, by the way. Ned Hanson, the well-known minstrel, is another pillar of comedy strength Mr. Jenks has engaged. Then there is Mamie Hayman, a pretty and dashing soubrette; Tony Murphy, who is to play the special delivery boy; Ed Hubbard and Julia Earnest and several others equally above the average rank.

Kirtland Calhoun, who is managing the summer season of the Thompson Opera Company at present with unusual success, is to be Mr. Jenks' stage manager, and the advance agent is likely to be a local newspaperman with a good deal of natural and acquired ability in such work.

Altogether, the end of the American drama in the hands of Mr. Jenks is prospering in its earliest stages. It is probable now that the "United States Mail" will be given an extended trial in New York, where several managers are anxious to get it. Pittsburgers will see it at the Bijou during the latter part of September.

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WILLIAM HAWORTH is receiving some rather odd advertising prior to his tour in "Paul Kauvar" next season.

"A few days ago," writes Mr. Haworth from New York, "I received a small box by express, and I was surprised, as well as pleased, when I found therein a fox terrier. A card in the box read, 'With the compliments of William Malony, Montreal.'"

Mr. Haworth's friend and admirer in Montreal was none other than the celebrated Billy Malony, who had to skip out because of his connection with the bribery of the New York Aldermanic boodlers in 1884.

Nina Van Zandt has also threatened to join Mr. Haworth's "Paul Kauvar" company as the leader of the mob in the last act of Steele Mackaye's play, or Haworth's manager says she has.

WORK TO BE RESUMED.

The Bankrupt Iron Works Bought by the Philadelphia and Reading Road.

READING, July 1.—The plant of the Reading Iron Works, which failed four months ago for over $1,000,000, was put up for sale here this afternoon. There was large attendance of leading iron men of the State. In 40 minutes after the bidding began, the property in its entirety, which includes furnaces, rolling mills, tube mills, pipe mills, foundry, forge, etc., beside valuable tracts of land, was sold to William P. Bard, of this city, for $150,500, subject to a mortgage of $600,000.

Mr. Bard purchased it for the Philadelphia and Reading Railroad Company, and the works will resume operations at an early day.

At Harris' Theater This Week.

Quite a sea of rapidly moving faces, programmes and newspapers yesterday greeted the company which is presenting Tom Taylor's sterling melodrama, "The Ticket-of-Leave Man," at Harris' Theater this week. It is the same company which a few weeks ago, at the same house, gave an excellent rendition of "The Streets of New York." Frank Kilday is *Bob Brierly*, and his interpretation of the wild Lancashire lad whose love of pleasure gets him into a peck of trouble, is a good one. His support is equal to the task imposed upon it.

Philadelphia as a Summer Resort.

From the New York Tribune.]

Visitors to Philadelphia say that if the city could be roofed over, it would make a splendid Turkish bath establishment, although it would be a little too hot for most people.

DEATHS OF A DAY.

Theodore Dwight Woolsey.

NEW HAVEN, CONN., July 1.—Theodore Dwight Woolsey, ex-President of Yale University, died to-day, aged 88 years. Deceased was born in New York, October 31, 1801. Rev. Benjamin Woolsey, of Southold, L. I., son of the original immigrant, graduated at Yale in 1709. His grandson, William Walter Woolsey, married a sister of the first President Dwight, of Yale. His sixth son was Theodore Dwight Woolsey, who graduated from Yale in 1820. Theodore read law in Philadelphia, then spent two years studying theology at Princeton, was a tutor at Yale from 1823 to 1825 and was licensed to preach in 1825. He studied for two years in France and Germany and spent a year in England and Italy. From 1831 to 1846 he was Professor of Greek at Yale. On October 21, 1846, he succeeded President Day, of Yale. He was given the degree of L. L. D. by Wesley in 1847. In 1850 he delivered an historical address on the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the founding of Yale. As President he taught history, political economy and international law. In 1860 he published a text book on the latter subject, of which six editions were printed and used all over the United States and in the English universities. Two English editions have been issued. In 1871, when 70 years old, he resigned the Presidency of Yale. He was one of the revisers of the New Testament. He was for many years a regent of the Smithsonian Institute. He was twice married, first in 1833 and second in 1852.

Elias T. Hunzeker.

The many friends of Elias T. Hunzeker were shocked to hear of his sudden death, which occurred Sunday at noon, at his home on Locust street, Allegheny. While seated on the porch with his wife and sister talking, he suddenly fell forward and expired without uttering a word. Mr. Hunzeker had been confined to his home for some time past, but some three weeks since had improved so much that all his friends had every hope of his resuming his business activity. Born and reared in the city, and for many years connected with McKee Bros., glass manufacturers, and being a devout and lifelong member of the Smithfield M. E. Church, he leaves a host of friends to offer their condolence to his family in their bereavement. He leaves a wife and daughter to mourn the loss of a kind and dutiful husband and father. The funeral takes place this afternoon at 2:30 from the Smithfield Street M. E. Church.

John Carville.

The funeral of John Carville, who died at his home, No. 9 Wylie avenue, on Sunday, will take place from St. Paul's Cathedral this morning. Mr. Carville was 49 years old, was an old Union soldier, and was one of the active members of the old Allegheny Volunteer Fire Company.

LIVING TOO EAGERLY.

Patience Comes From the Great Protector, but Hurry is From Hades.

From the Louisville Courier-Journal.]

Americans know how to work, but they do not know how to rest. Hopes are early kindled in their hearts, and life becomes forever after only an unceasing struggle. Men work for work's sake. We speak of the blessings of labor, and even in our system of political economy act on the false idea that the more work the greater blessing; so we create obstructions only to multiply labor.

Man was condemned to work. That it seems a blessing—that to escape thought, or remembrance, or to exhaust the frame we turn to it as to a friend—only proves how far we have fallen from our lost estate, and how changed is the condition of man.

To compass an end by exacting labor is worthy any man's endeavor, only in so doing let us not become the slave of work; let us not surrender our independence; let us not work for any of these things, whether it is wealth or power, or love itself, more than it is worth.

But many do give too much. Next year, or ten years hence, they say, our task will be finished, but they find too often that they have only sold their birthright for a mess of pottage.

"There is a legend in some Spanish book
About a noisy reveler, who, at night,
Returning home with others, saw a light
Shine from a window, and climbed up to look
And saw within the room hanged to a hook
His own self-strangled self, grim, rigid, white,
And who, struck sober by that livid sight,
Feasting his eyes in tongue-tied horror, shook.

Has any man a fancy to peep in
And see, as through a window, in the past
His nobler self self-choked with coils of sin
Or sloth or folly? Round the throat whipped fast
The nooses give the throat a stiffened grin,
'Tis but thyself. Look well. Why be aghast?

Habit is stronger than sin, or sloth, or folly, and the habit of uninterrupted labor, or the loss of self in same work meant to be for a time, forges chains that only life itself can break.

MUSICIANS GATHERED TOGETHER.

The Thirteenth Annual Meeting of the Teachers' Association Begins To-Day.

Special Telegram to The Dispatch.

PHILADELPHIA, July 1.—The Music Teachers' National Association will hold its thirteenth annual convention in this city, beginning to-morrow afternoon and continuing until Friday evening. Great preparations have been made and no effort has been spared to make the convention the most interesting ever held by the association, which has a membership of 1,000. Some of the members arrived in the city from various parts of the country today, but the great majority are expected tomorrow. The Continental Hotel has been selected as the headquarters of the convention. All sessions will be held in the Academy of Music. At 4 o'clock to-morrow afternoon the Board of Vice Presidents will meet in one of the rooms of the Academy to transact such business as may come before them. At 8 o'clock there will be a reception and a banquet. At 9:30 o'clock on Wednesday morning the first business meeting will be held.

It will open with an address of welcome, followed by the annual address of President W. F. Heath, of Fort Wayne, Ind. The reports of the various officers and delegates will then be received, after which Edward Chadfield, of Derby, England, Honorable General Secretary of the National Society of Professional Musicians of England, will deliver an address entitled "National Associations and Their Duties." At 7:30 P. M. there will be a chamber concert. The entire time of the convention usually given to miscellaneous essays will be devoted to the discussion of "Teaching and Teaching Reform." At 8 P. M. there will be an organ concert, and on Thursday and Friday evenings there will be orchestral concerts of American compositions.

PRESIDENTAL APPOINTMENTS.

A Large Number of Office-Seekers Receive Their Expected Reward.

WASHINGTON, July 1.—The President to-day made the following appointments:

Louden Snowden, of Pennsylvania, to be Minister Resident and Consul General of the United States to Roumania, Servia and Greece.

William Hayden Edwards, of Ohio, to be Consul General of the United States at Berlin.

Augustus O'Bourne, of Rhode Island, to be Consul General of the United States at Rome.

Eugene Schuyler, of New York, to be agent and Consul General of the United States at Cairo.

To be Consuls of the United States: Wallace Bruce, of New York, at Leith; William Harrison Bradley, of Illinois, at Nice; Edmund B. Fairfield, of Michigan, at Lyons; Irving J. Manatt, of Nebraska, at Athens; William Bowman, of Kentucky, at Tien Tsain; Adolph G. Studer, of Iowa, at Barmen; Enoch J. Smither, of Delaware, at Osaka and Hioga; Alexander C. Moore, of West Virginia, at St. Thomas; Charles F. Johnson, of Ohio, at Hamburg; Silas C. Halsey, at Sonneberg.

Also the following: Arthur M. Tinker, of Massachusetts, to be an Indian Inspector; A. H. Jackson, of Wisconsin, to be Register of the Land Office at Monarah, Wis.; Jesse Taylor, of Kansas, to be Receiver of Public Moneys at Garden City, Kan.; E. P. Freeman, of Minnesota, to be Receiver of Public Moneys at Marshall (formerly Tracy), Minn.

To be Indian Agents: Archer O. Simons, of Montana, at the Fort Belknap Agency in Montana; Chas. D. Bartholomew, of Colorado, at the Southern Ute and Jicarilla Agency in Colorado.

IN A FLOURISHING CONDITION.

The Status of the Young Men's Christian Association in Western Pennsylvania.

Special Telegram to The Dispatch.

FRANKLIN, July 1.—A midsummer conference of the Young Men's Christian Association of Erie district closed a three days' session in this city to-day. Delegates were present from all parts of Northwestern Pennsylvania and the sessions of the conference were very interesting. The reports from the different associations of the district show the Young Men's Christian Association of Western Pennsylvania to be in the most flourishing condition.

During the past year the membership has been doubled and the association is now in a better financial condition than ever before. Yesterday the different pulpits of the city were filled with delegates attending the conference, and in the evening there was a grand mass meeting of all the delegates and their friends in the M. E. Church. The next conference will be held in Erie at a time yet to be fixed.

NO SLIGHT INTENDED.

Governor Beaver Obliged to Carry His Own Grip Into Johnstown.

[FROM A STAFF CORRESPONDENT.]

JOHNSTOWN, July 1.—Governor Beaver was not expected to-day, and when he arrived, early this morning, His Excellency was first discovered crossing the bridge and carrying his own grip. It was thought strange that somebody around the depot who knew the Governor did not offer to carry the valise for him.

Certainly no slight was meant the Governor. The next time he comes he should notify General Hastings, and the entire camp will turn out to meet him.

Killed by Toothache Medicine.

Special Telegram to The Dispatch.

FRANKLIN, July 1.—Horatio McKelvy, aged 15 years, died here last night from the effects of a peculiar accident. He had been suffering with toothache, and a dentist put creosote into the cavity of the tooth to kill the pain. During Saturday night the boy swallowed the creosote and was taken violently ill soon after and died. The physician attending him says he died from blood poisoning caused by the creosote.

The National Treasury Flooded.

WASHINGTON, July 1.—There was a heavy rainfall to-day and the large silver vault in the courtyard of the Treasury building, in which over 80,000,000 silver dollars are stored, was flooded with two inches of water. Considerable damage was done to the boxes and bags containing the silver, but the latter was uninjured.

Praise for the Soldier Boys.

[FROM A STAFF CORRESPONDENT.]

JOHNSTOWN, July 1.—General Manager John Fulton and L. L. Smith, of the Cambria Iron Works, wrote Colonel Paichment a very nice letter to-day, in which they praised the Fourteenth Regiment highly, and denied they had ever said anything derogatory of the boys.

A More Liberal Postal Arrangement.

WASHINGTON, July 1.—A money order convention between Germany and the United States was signed on Saturday by the German Minister, Count D'Arco-Valley, and Postmaster General Wanamaker. It increases the amount of a money order that can be sent by either country to the other from $50 to $100.

The Dam Empty.

A lake or dam near Ligonier, covering 29 acres, has caused much apprehension to the residents of that town since the Johnstown disaster. It was used for an ice pond. Last week the owners concluded to empty it, which was accordingly done, Ligonier people are now happy.

JUDGMENT ON JUNE.

The Weather Referee Shows How the Month Was a Record Breaker—The 15th a Deluge Day—The Coolest Month of Roses Since 1878.

In many respects the past June was a most remarkable month, especially in regard to the continuity of dampness, only five days of the month being devoid of rainfall, and only two consecutive days—the 23d and 24th—being fair. There have also been singular extremes of heat and cold, and the weatherwise have had a great time guessing from one day to the next what the probabilities would be. The Signal Service has been unusually successful in hitting the weather probabilities for the past month. The daily record of rainfall for the past June and that of the same month for the past seven years is appended in the following table of comparisons, which will be perused with interest:

	1889.	1888.	1887.	1886.	1885.	1884.	1883.	1882.
1	T.	.0	.82	.0	.0	.0	.0	.38
2	T.	.25	.24	.56	.0	.0	.0	.0
3	.04	T.	.01	.78	.02	.0	.04	.15
4	.44	.0	.0	T.	.49	.0	.0	T.
5	.08	.0	.02	T.	.02	.0	.05	.03
6	T.	T.	.91	.0	.0	.0	.44	.0
7	T.	.01	.57	.0	.03	.01	.23	.0
8	.19	.0	.01	.0	.39	.0	.0	.0
9	.06	.01	.04	.78	.0	.0	.06	.09
10	.02	.01	.0	.01	.0	.46	.36	.40
11	.90	.04	.0	.0	.0	.02	.07	.0
12	.08	.0	.0	T.	.0	.9	.0	.0
13	.0	.0	.01	.33	.0	.01	.25	.0
14	.08	.0	.0	.07	.06	.40	.0	.10
15	1.73	.0	.0	.0	.05	.0	.0	.02
16	.04	.0	.0	1.51	.02	.0	.27	1.44
17	.12	.0	.0	.50	.0	.0	.06	.63
18	T.	.0	.08	.0	.0	.0	1.02	.0
19	.31	.0	T.	T.	.0	.02	.66	.31
20	.0	.0	.08	.0	.03	.04	.07	.0
21	.20	T.	1.64	.0	.96	.0	.0	.0
22	T.	.33	.04	.96	.57	.06	.0	.0
23	.0	.17	.0	.27	.0	.0	.0	.0
24	.0	.10	.0	.30	.01	.01	.0	.0
25	.32	.0	.0	.43	.0	.66	.65	.25
26	.09	.0	.0	.03	.0	.02	.02	.0
27	.21	.12	.0	T.	.0	.0	.55	.0
28	.02	1.10	.0	T.	.07	.0	.04	.07
29	T.	.08	.0	.0	.01	.0	.01	.0
30	.0	T.	.0	.0	.0	.0	.0	.29
	4.93	2.22	4.50	5.17	2.68	1.71	4.73	4.14

T. indicates traces of rain.

* * *

From the 1st of the month up to the 13th, rain fell every day, the one fair day being followed by six more of wet weather. The rainfall was, however, by no means unusual, with the exception of the 15th, when 1.73 inches of rain fell—a record never equaled in any preceding year. In June, 1889, 25 days were rainy; in June, 1888, 15 days were rainy; in June, 1887, there were 14 days of wet weather; in June, 1886, the wettest month on record, there were 19 days on which rain fell; in June, 1885, 14 days; in June, 1884, 11 days; in June, 1883, 18 days, and in June 1882, 14 days, so that the last June holds the record as being the most continuously wet for a number of years. A peculiar feature of the Signal Service record is that it shows extremely heavy rainfall during the middle of the month. By reference to the table it will be seen that June 1888, had eight consecutive days of fair weather.

The temperature of last June was extremely variable, the thermometer fluctuating from hot to cold almost every 24 hours. The maximum was reached on both the 21st and 30th, 87° being the record. The lowest being 46° on the 2d. The mean temperature for the month was 68.2° unusually low as will be seen by the following table:

1889	68.2	1885	68.8
1888	71.8	1884	72.7
1887	72.2	1883	70.5
1886	67.9	1882	69.7
General average 19 years			70.8

* * *

The coldest June on record was in 1878, with a mean temperature of 66°, and the warmest was in 1876, with a mean temperature of 74°. The following table of highest and lowest temperature in June for the last eight years is interesting:

June, 1889	Highest, 30th	87°
	Lowest, 2d	46°
June, 1888	Highest, 20th	95°
	Lowest, 3d	41°
June, 1887	Highest, 30th	94°
	Lowest, 12th	52°
June, 1886	Highest, 13th	92½°
	Lowest, 4th	45°
June, 1885	Highest, 7th	94°
	Lowest, 9th	46°
June, 1884	Highest, 21st	95°
	Lowest, 15th	50°
June, 1883	Highest, 17th	90°
	Lowest, 14th	48½°
June, 1882	Highest, 26th	97°
	Lowest, 2d	46°

It will be noticed that the last is the only June in eight years in which the quicksilver never reached the 90's. A peculiar and noteworthy fact is that, with only slight exceptions, the extreme of cold has fallen during the first week in the month and the extreme of heat in the last week. In 1885 and 1883 the extremes of heat and cold during the month came within a space of 48 hours. The heat record of June in past years is 97° reached in 1888 and 1882, and the record of extreme cold was in 1879. The month of roses is always full of weather surprises, and the last June was certainly no exception to the general rule.

* * *

Signal Service Officer Stewart shook his head ominously when asked what sort of weather would be dished up by Old Probs for the "galorious"—next Thursday—and said that the indications were that the first week or so would doubtless be very unsettled, which conveys a warning to the small boy to keep his powder dry if possible. It goes without saying, that thousands of plans for the celebration of the Fourth hinge upon the weather, and those who are making preparations to be outdoors had better keep their weather eyes wide open. Judging from the humidity in the atmosphere yesterday a storm is brewing, as the Signal Service foreshadows. It is of interest to know that the hottest day on record is July 10, 1881, when the mercury attained the dizzy altitude of 102 7-10 degrees. It is confidently expected that the thermometer will climb up into the nineties some time this month, and that right early, as this is the only summer for years in which there have been no days showing a heat of 90 degrees or more. It is, therefore, quite time to lay in panama hats lined with green and orange silk, for the sunstroke era is shortly billed to appear in all its devastating perniciousness. Old Sol has been very lenient heretofore, but having parted with his spots, it is quite likely that he intends to resume business at the old stand after the manner of previous Julys.

* * *

Rev. Ira G. Hicks, of St. Louis, the good and true weather prophet, who has hit the nail on the head in his self-assumed character of intermediary between Providence and General Greely, so far as the months of May and June were concerned, finds it impossible to refrain from saying, in his July *Word and Works*, "I am Sir Oracle. When I ope my mouth let no dog bark." His meteorological forecast for July is as follows:

July will open in the close of June's last reactionary storms, fresh and cooler; about the 3d the temperature will rise and continue until among the warmest days in the summer are reached, from about the 4th to the 8th. The regular period is from the 3d to the 9th, and ought to culminate in heavy rains, wind and thunder.

The equinox of Mercury is on the 8th and will tend to produce prolonged cloudiness and rain. Watch your harvesting. The next regular period is from the 15th to 19th, and with the combined tension of Jupiter and Mars will bring its quota of summer storms. Watch about the 24th and 25th for warm weather and reactionary storms.

The last period for the month is from the 26th to August. The equinox of Venus is on the 14th of August and its mighty electric power will be plainly discernible in the closing storms of July. Another of the hottest spells of the summer will fall within the last July period, and the high temperature will not yield until it has developed some very hard storms of rain and wind, with thunder and hail. We say that a double storm cycle is going to come together in a final blow-out.

BREAKS IN THE BUSINESS WORLD.

Mercantile Failures in the United States for the Half Year Just Closed.

Special Telegram to The Dispatch.

NEW YORK, July 1.—The total number of mercantile failures throughout the United States reported to *Bradstreet's* during the past six months shows a gain of 664 as compared with the total for the first half of 1888, or 12.7 per cent. The record for six months for nine years is: 1889, 5,918; 1888, 5,254; 1887, 5,072; 1886, 5,461; 1885, 6,106; 1884, 5,444; 1883, 5,296; 1882, 3,643; 1881, 3,256.

The six months failures for the States by divisions is as follows:

New England States—Failures in 1889, 884; assets, $8,967 633; liabilities, $20,618,571; failures in 1888, 691; assets, $2,864,195; liabilities, $6,335,486.

United States—Failures in 1889, 1,384; assets, $8,730,080; liabilities, $17,575,299; failures in 1888, 1,242; assets, $11,469,523; liabilities, $20,891,300.

Southern States, including District of Columbia—Failures in 1889, 985; assets, $3,531,239; liabilities, $6,853,485; failures in 1888, 1,075; assets, $4,903,452; liabilities, $9,566,472.

Western States—Failures in 1889, 2,046; assets, $9,620,518; liabilities, $18,792,756; failures in 1888, 1,685; assets, $11,313,195; liabilities, $20,016,038.

Pacific States—Failures in 1889, 445; assets, $1,113,-737; liabilities, $2,154,892; failures in 1888, 439; assets, $4,207,290; liabilities, $7,207,588.

Territories—Failures in 1889, 173; assets, $625,-133; liabilities, $1,416,708; failures in 1888, 149; assets, $676,891; liabilities, $970,737.

Canada and the Provinces—Failures in 1889, 872; assets, $3,494,623; liabilities, $7,283,571; failures in 1888, 914; assets, $4,006,950; liabilities, $8,789,795.

Totals—Failures in 1889, 5,918; assets, $32,803,940; liabilities, $67,411,711; per cent, assets for liabilities, 51.0. Failures in 1888, 5,254; assets, $34,834,-746; liabilities, $64,987,622; per cent assets for liabilities, 53.0.

A Present From the Pope.

BALTIMORE, July 1.—Cardinal Gibbons has received a beautiful present from Pope Leo XIII. It is a large golden and rich jeweled ostensorium, and was sent to the Cardinal as a souvenir of the Pope's Jubilee.

NEW YORK NEWS NOTES.

[NEW YORK BUREAU SPECIALS.]

Clarkson's Idea of Republicanism.

NEW YORK, July 1.—Some days ago Nathaniel McKay, the staunch Republican who imported pictures of impoverished English working women for campaign purposes last fall, received a fine game cock from San Domingo. He sent the bird to John S. Clarkson, Assistant Postmaster General, with a note to the effect "that the cocks crowing should steady his nerves while decapitating the Democratic officeholders." In his reply Mr. Clarkson said: "It can give no more pleasure to any one than it does to myself to help put Republicans into office. That is what the contest was for, and I believe in standing up for a healthy and honest Republican."

A Witness on the Stand Two Years.

The longest recorded examination of a legal witness has just been concluded in the case of the State of New Jersey against the Morris and Essex Railway Company for $1,000,000 back taxes. Richard F. Stevens, the expert who examined the Railway Company's books, was put on the stand two years ago last Wednesday and testified for two hours every week up to this afternoon. His testimony, when printed, will fill three fat volumes.

Never Too Old to Wed.

Henry Bluet, 76 years old, and Virginia Dupont, 75 years, were married by the Rev. E. A. Blake, of Brooklyn. Both were born in Paris. They met in Trenton ten years ago and have been courting each other ever since. Virginia had a little money saved and so had Blunt. With it they purchased the right to be cared for during the remainder of their days in the Old People's Home in New Jersey. A week ago they came to Brooklyn to obtain Miss Dupont's brother's consent to their marriage. The brother gave his consent willingly, and they became man and wife. They are now in the Old People's Home, and are the happiest couple there.

American Workingmen Abroad.

In about three weeks 50 representative American workingmen, selected from candidates named by trade organizations, will sail for Europe on the steamship City of Rome. The main purpose of the expedition will be to accumulate information concerning the advance of industrial art from the point of view of practical workingmen. A staff of correspondents and artists will accompany the party. The programme of the tour includes visits to Liverpool, Birmingham, Manchester, Sheffield, London, Glasgow, Rouen, Lille, Essen, Cologne, Antwerp and other big cities. The central point, however, will be Paris and the World's Exposition. The 50 representatives are sent on this tour by a newspaper syndicate, presumably for advertising purposes.

Miss Josie Nagle, of Frank Frayne's "Mardo" Company, played in several scenes with trained bull dogs last season. Mr. Frayne's pet dog nipped her hands and arms half a dozen times and once bit her severely. Shortly after the close of the season Miss Nagle fell ill. The flesh around the wounds where the dog had bitten became badly inflamed. Eventually all the symptoms of blood poisoning appeared. Miss Nagle is now in a very critical condition.

YOUNG CUPID'S PRANK.

He Sticks a Dart Through the Hearts of One Hundred and Forty-Two Years.

From the Erie Gazette.]

A tall, fine-looking man of distinguished appearance, and clerical air, stepped into the office of Clerk of Courts Hewitt yesterday and asked with great dignity if Mr. Hewitt were the one who made folks happy. Mr. Hewitt joined him in a little blush and shyly admitted that he sometimes distributed great chunks of happiness to young men for a consideration.

"I want a marriage license, then," the stranger remarked.

"What is the name?" asked Mr. Hewitt.

"Spratt—Rev. G. M. Spratt, of Philadelphia."

After the usual questions required by law to be asked of those who come there for tickets in the lottery, Mr. Hewitt observed: "Of course I can see that you are of age, but," in an apologetic tone, "I am required to ask your exact age."

"Certainly, certainly, sir," responded the clerical visitor. "I know how it is. I have officiated at a large number of weddings since the law went into effect. I am 75."

The bride Mr. Spratt was to lead to the altar was Mrs. Amelia Down Wheeler, of Corry, whose age is 67, so that the combined ages of the bride and groom reach the almost unprecedented age of 142 years, just an even century more than the age of the average bride and groom.

It Might Kill the Boy.

From the Tobacco Leaf.]

That man's policy was wiser who, catching his son taking a whiff or two from a cigar, merely insisted upon his finishing it, standing by him until he had done so. The succeeding two hours were never forgotten.

TRI-STATE TRIFLES.

FARMER NICHOLAS GRISWOLD, of Random township, Pennsylvania, owns a mongrel dog that has learned to climb a ladder. No one ever taught him how, but there was a cozy hiding place in a mow of hay, where the boys wouldn't be apt to look for him, and the only way to get to it was up a slanting ladder. How he learned it Farmer Griswold doesn't know, for it is a difficult thing for a dog to do, but he did learn it, and when he got tired of playing with the boys or when anybody whipped him or treated him in a shabby way, he slunk off to the barn, climbed up the ladder and hid himself in the haymow.

A LARGE dog at one of the Scranton, Pa., hotels became very much attached to one of the boarders. He got in the habit of following this man on his leisure walks uptown, and the boarder liked to have him along. But on a rainy day the dog didn't see the man start out, and the latter had got around the corner before the dog caught sight of him. The big dog was so tickled when he saw that his old companion was not far away that he dashed up and rubbed his great wet side against the gentleman's good clothes. That was a form of boisterous familiarity not to be put up with, and the man spoke harshly to the dog and drove him back. The dog's sensitive nature resented this unkind treatment, for from that day to this the man has never been able to get the dog to walk out with him, although he has done everything he could think of to win back the dog's friendship. He followed the man once, but he did it much against his will, and only after his owner had ordered him to. It was thought the spell had been broken, but it hadn't, and he has refused to accompany the man, except when his master has commanded him to.

A 3-YEAR-OLD child of Charles Traves, who lives near Cincinnati, O., died very suddenly the other day. She had been licking some green wall paper in the morning, and it is supposed that the arsenic in it poisoned her.

PRESTON county, West Virginia, has a ghost that smokes cigarettes.

IT happened as an odd coincidence that three intended bridegrooms who failed to make connections were obliged to take the way freight in order to reach their destinations in Warsaw, Pa., vicinity two or three days ago. During the ride they exchanged confidences. One was due in Warsaw at 1 o'clock, but by making good time across lots would not be over half an hour late for his nuptials.

JACOB QUENZER, of Columbia, Pa., returning from a Sunday school picnic, sat on the rear platform of the last car, letting his feet dangle so they would occasionally touch the rail. As the train passed a switch his feet caught in it and he was jerked from the car. His left leg was broken in two places and a piece of iron was driven through the right foot.

CROWS in Lewistown, Pa., vicinity are feeding on locusts and letting the corn alone.

JACOB BROOKHART, of Williamsport, Pa., while gathering up waste paper felt something brush his ankle, but did not heed it. Presently he found a large rat inside his pants and boldly mounting his leg. He turned on it and succeeded in expelling it.

A WILLIAMSPORT, Pa., horse owned by Mrs. Flock was being suffocated by the swelling of an abcess in its neck, when a surgeon as a last resort slit its windpipe and inserted a tube. It worked, and the horse is getting well.

THE limbs of many Mifflin county, Pennsylvania, trees are dying from locust-stings.

CURIOUS CONDENSATIONS.

—Pins are made 200 per minute.

—We have 2,000 women drug clerks.

—Diamond scales weigh even a hair.

—Ireland has 200,000 women lace makers.

—A big Sharon, Pa., iron mill is run by water.

—Belfast, Me., has a woman machinist apprentice.

—Sanford, Fla., sells alligator hides for 75 cents each.

—A Bridgeton, N. J., woman, 76 years old, took her first railroad ride last week.

—Massachusetts has just passed a law against clipping horses or docking their tails.

—Artificial ice is cheaper in Southern cities than the natural article is in the North.

—The value of church property in New York City amounts to not less than $80,000,000.

—A prisoner in a Kentucky jail attempted to commit suicide by eating two dozen pads of blotting paper.

—Russian military authorities state that they can in 24 hours put 180,000 soldiers in the field prepared for war.

—Russia has fixed doctors' charges. Physicians making $450 per year will get 45 cents per visit; others 25 cents. In country towns 10 cents is the usual charge.

—Although there are 73 different languages and about 800 dialects spoken by the American Indians, the sign language is equally understood by all the tribes.

—It has been found that a nickel-plated bullet will go plump through a man, where one without will stop short, and England will hereafter nickel-plate all her bullets.

—The "scow," a sea bird, familiar to the Georgia coast, has become so numerous that the boys on the wharves at Brunswick knock them off the houses with short sticks.

—The latest medical pronunciamento is that smoking after meals is injurious. Since it is already established that smoking before meals is injurious the only refuge is to stop eating.

—A stingy hunks of Burlington, Vt., drew up some valuable papers and used ink of his own make to save expense. The other day he found the writing had faded out, involving him in a loss of $7,000.

—The court decided against St. Louis in a suit against the Western Union for $5 each per year for poles. It was decided that the city cannot impose the tax, although it can regulate the placing of the poles.

—The duck is to China what the codfish is to the rest of the world. They eat duck raw, cooked, boiled, fried, baked and every other way, and they worry over the duck crop the same as we do over wheat.

—England has over $1,000,000 invested in the manufacture of idols for heathen countries, and yet the churches of that country are continually calling for more money and more missionaries to suppress idolatry.

—Raw ham and bologna sausage had for years been favorite articles of diet with Joseph Palmi, aged 34 years, of New York. Last Wednesday he died at Bellevue Hospital of trichiniasis. His muscles were literally alive with the parasitic worms.

—Judge Schley, of Paulding county, Georgia, drives to his buggy a mule that is perhaps 35 years old and yet sprightly and in fine condition. He bought the mule in 1865 as a 10-year-old from a man who had picked him up running at large after Sherman's march through that section.

—Out in Nevada electricity runs the very deep mines, and has increased production 25 per cent. The men who work 3,100 feet deep live about two years, notwithstanding the fact that they work only two hours per day. They get more pay than the eight-hour men. They work 15 minutes and rest 45.

—The emancipation of slaves in Brazil is said to have one very curious consequence, that of exhausting the supply, and greatly raising the price, of corsets. All the negro women and girls don the corset as an insignia of deliverance from bondage, although in so doing, they resign themselves to another bondage.

—Engineer J. C. Griffin, of Thomasville, Ga., has a couple of interesting pets. They are two young wild turkeys. He found 12 eggs while out on his run and set them under a common hen. They all hatched, but ten of the little fellows died. The two he has now are quite large, and bid fair to be raised.

—The habits of the crow form an interesting subject for the study of the ornithologist. The crow has a larger brain than most birds, and all his energies are directed toward procuring food. Crows will destroy the nests of quail and other birds, taking the young from the nests in the absence of the old birds. The favorite food of young hawks is frogs.

—There is a remarkable specimen of deformed humanity at Paradise, in the northern part of Clay county, Missouri. His name is Jos. Jesse. He weighs 200 pounds, has no hands, feet, elbow joints or shoulder blades; but notwithstanding these drawbacks, he enjoys life immensely, walking about on his chair, talking well, writing with a pen in his mouth, singing, crowing, barking, and in fact constituting an entire museum in himself. He has a wonderfully developed chest, and can hold his breath for three minutes without any apparent inconvenience.

—A queer trout story comes from Kineo, Me. A party of fishermen were angling from a rowboat, and one of their number was feeling for a small trout, when, in the clear water, a big ten-pounder was observed to start, open-mouthed, after the smaller fish. The little fellow forsook the bait and swam rapidly round and round the boat, hotly pursued by the big fish. When two or three circles had been made, and both fish were nearing the top of the water, a man in the stern of the boat suddenly put his dip net in and neatly scooped the ten-pounder out. It was a queer way of fishing, and that was probably the most surprised trout in Moosehead Lake.

CLIPPED BITS OF WIT.

Irrelevant Impudence. — Evangelist—I shall deal to-day with especial reference to the curse of cards.

Voice (from a back seat)—Shuffle 'fore yer deals and give us er chance ter cut.—*The Epoch.*

A Strong Recommendation.—Foreman—I want to employ a good strong man to wheel brick. Have you been engaged in work that would harden your muscles?

Applicant—Yes, sir. I've been employed in Wheeling West Virginia.—*Omaha World.*

English club men are excited over a new kind of cigars, which are said to contain not a particle of tobacco. Cigars like that may be new in England, but they have been making them down in Connecticut for a great many years.—*Somerville Journal.*

WHEN THE SHOE PINCHES.

There is value in a proxy, when the barbs of
othodoxy, from an arrow freighted sermon
set the feelings all awry.
Then we modify affliction, in unsavory conviction,
by assuming it can only to another man
apply.—*Philadelphia Press.*

A Heartless Brute.—Mrs. Muckles—Henry, I do think you might use your manners when we are alone as well as when there is company here. What would you think if I were to sit around with my feet cocked up on the table like you do!

Mr. Muckles—I think the chances are that the table would break down.—*Louisville Courier-Journal.*

Two Sides of the Case.—"That's a queer headline in the paper said Mrs. Schoeppenstedt, "Lost, a Fortune and a Wife." "I wonder which be missed the most."

"The fortune, probably," said Mr. Schoeppenstedt, heartlessly. "If he had the wife, it would be hard for him to get another fortune, but if he had a fortune, he could easily get another wife."—*Somerville Journal.*

Journalism. — Reporter (continuing to read from his account of a royal ball)—Then came the queen, followed by other ladies of the court; all dressed alike, in one respect, at least; lavishly decolete in V shaped bodices and——

Editor.—Great Cæsar! That will never do. You want to break up the paper, don't you?

Reporter.—How must I put it then?

Editor.—Try something like this: Then came the leading light followed by other stars in the constellation of the great bare.—*Philadelphia Press.*

ENGAGED.

What going so soon? she said.—
Her shy, surprised, reproachful glance
Shot like an arrow to my heart,
For I, too, cherished our romance.
Her true gray eyes, upturned to mine,
In silent wonder scanned my face.
What could I do but stop and clasp
Her once again in fond embrace?

I knew that it was time to go
However much I wished to stay,
I knew the hour was growing late,
I knew just what her pa would say.
And still I stayed, as lovers fond
Have stayed since Eve and Adam met—
What! going so soon? she said.
Why, love, it isn't midnight yet.
—*Somerville Journal.*