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PITTSBURGH, THURSDAY, AUG. 1, 1893.

THE COMMISSIONER'S MISTAKE.

The meeting of the State Commission at Johnstown, yesterday, indicates a determination to continue its previous policy, which speaks more for the firmness of the commission than for its discrimination.

The financial statement authorized to be made affords some information as to the way in which the money has been expended.

It shows, for example, that the commission has expended \$100,000 in the purchase of land.

A difference of opinion as to the relative needs of the flooded districts might be overlooked, however, if the commission had been able to perceive what is apparent to every one else, that when the people of Johnstown have had time to organize, they are the proper ones to determine and direct the expenditures for their relief.

Instead of that, if we understand the report of yesterday's meeting, the present policy is to continue. This means that outsiders, unacquainted with the people, are to distribute the funds piecemeal by the proper ones to determine and direct the expenditures for their relief.

It is necessary to say in this decision the commission has failed to perceive the requirements of the situation. If they had voted to turn over the funds to the local representatives of the sufferers they would have been much wiser.

WHEN GREEK MEETS GREEK. The interest in Senator Quay's arrival in town yesterday and in his conferences with his supporters shows that though the preparations for the coming Republican State Convention are tame enough, the keenest sort of interest is felt in the legislative contests mapped out a year ahead. There is a well-defined split of interests and leadership among the party workers.

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THE WATER WE DRINK.

Filters aren't the best. What? To remove the strainers. But does not straining affect the tea? No, it neither affects its flavor nor its strength. The tea is sweeter before being strained than after.

WHEN THE esteemed Philadelphia Record proceeds to charge the responsibility of the rain-water upon the Harrison administration, as is done in a recent paragraph, it may be reminded, silly, but it is sticking close to good old Bourbon precedents.

THE flannel shirt case is regarded by the Chicago News as a hopeful sign that in the course of a few years the people who are wearing the woolen garment will develop up to the stage of civilization which requires boiled linen and starch.

But there are in almost every church congregation a man and a woman who are engaged in the work of setting their pastor and his flock on fire. They think they have the right to dictate how he shall dress, how he shall assume himself, whose society he shall seek and whom he shall avoid.

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AN IMPORTANT DEPARTMENT.

Work Done by the Fish Commission in the Past Year. WASHINGTON, July 31.—The United States Fish Commission distributed during the past fiscal year 10,000 yearling fish of the indigenous species of the Mississippi Valley, consisting of catfish, buffalo, crappie, white and black sunfish, pickersel, gar, perch, walleye pike and native carp.

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NEW YORK NEWS NOTES.

Condon's Boat Her Own Record. NEW YORK, July 31.—The special and steamer City of Paris arrived at the Bar at 8:14 o'clock this morning, having made the voyage from Queenstown in 5 days 23 hours and 30 minutes. Her time was three minutes behind her famous record of last May, though in this last voyage the distance was 25 miles less.

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CURIOUS CONDENSATIONS.

They have politics in Japan now, under the Constitution, and one of the parties is called the Jikken. The Jersey squawk has not appeared in his accustomed haunts this year and people are wondering why.

Students who use tobacco in any form are barred from the University of the Pacific at San Jose, Cal. James Tunny, of Boston, is 102 years old and in the full possession of all his faculties. He was born in Ireland, and died in 1892.

A 17-foot snake was seen recently near Herndon, Kan. It is supposed to be a boa constrictor that escaped from a show seven years ago. There were five white men in Yankton when the Sioux moved out in July, 1863. There was one log house. The first white woman was born in Ireland, and died in 1892.

The largest catch of pickerel from the St. Lawrence river on record was made at the New York Islands Park by Philip Luther, of New York. He brought in 30, with a total weight of 150 pounds. At Galveston recently a carpenter named Edward Johnson, while fishing with an ordinary handline, caught a redfish weighing 100 pounds. He required the assistance of two men to land the monster.

An old church in Cahokia, Ill., that was built in 1804, of cedar logs, was torn down by the late war, and the logs were used as building. There were only two churches in America—at St. Augustine and Santa Fe—that were built of logs. The largest catch of pickerel from the St. Lawrence river on record was made at the New York Islands Park by Philip Luther, of New York. He brought in 30, with a total weight of 150 pounds.

The biggest pollworm in the United States, with one known exception, is Lieutenant Mallin, who is now in charge of the Twenty-first Infantry. He is 5 feet 10 inches tall, weighs 250 pounds, and carries himself with the precision of a veteran. William Throckmold, who resides near St. Louis, has a "pocket" of 100,000 dollars in a grove of persimmon trees enclosed by a high board fence he has between 700 and 800 pounds of persimmons. The fruit is so large for the market is said to be very remunerative.

The feat of lowering a large house intact from an undesirable location on a hill 90 feet high to the street was accomplished in San Francisco last week. The house, a two-story building, before removal, occupied an account of 100,000 dollars. The house was lowered by the use of several hundred thousand gallons of oil. As a result of a movement started by some fun-loving youths every man in Syracuse, N. Y., has shaved his head. The youths would not agree to shave were forced into barbers' chairs and made to submit to the operation. A commercial drummer, stopping at La Grange, Ga., hotel, dreamed that a burglar had broken into his room, and he had a chair for the intruder and opened fire. He put three bullets through the garments before discovering his mistake. The cigarette habit is increasing. The Commissioner of Internal Revenue collected \$1,000,000 in cigarette taxes in 1892, an increase of 250,000,000 over the preceding fiscal year. The number taxed is a pretty good indication of the habit. The number of cigarettes taxed during the last fiscal year was 4,875,000,000, an increase of 250,000,000, showing that the consumption is increasing more rapidly than that of cigars. An interesting discovery was made recently while excavating in London Wall, in the city of London, a Roman wall. The wall was found in almost perfect condition. It is of the Norman period, with a thumb nail of the wall. Unfortunately, it was struck by a pick, and two portions of the base were broken. It is a splendid and a light stone-work in color. A Rutland paper credits Vermont with having the smallest town in the United States. It is called "The Village of the Mountains," and composed mostly of rocks and knolls. Years ago it was a part of Cavendish, Vt., and was a part of the town of Cavendish. The town was a part of the town of Cavendish, and was a part of the town of Cavendish. The town was a part of the town of Cavendish, and was a part of the town of Cavendish. The town was a part of the town of Cavendish, and was a part of the town of Cavendish. The town was a part of the town of Cavendish, and was a part of the town of Cavendish