COL. DANKS ON TRIAL.

A Methodist Committee Trying the Veteran's Case.

SECRET SESSIONS HELD.

The Emphatic Letter Which Stirred Up All the Trouble.

THOMAS BLASHFORD PROSECUTOR.

Church Members Give Their Varying Views of the Quarrel.

MORE EVIDENCE TO BE HEARD TO-DAY

The most interesting feature occupying the attention of the Methodist Episcopal Conference, at the East End, is the investigation being conducted by a large star-chamber committee into charges made against the Rev. John A. Danks. The conference sat yesterday only during the forenoon. A committee of three was appointed to audit the accounts of Treasurer Horner. Annual reports were made by Presiding Elder Johnson, of the Blairsville district, and Presiding Elder Eaton, of the Allegheny district. The latter was applauded when he said that every congregation in his district was unanimous for prohibition. Rev. Dr. William Cox was removed from the superannuated to the effective list.

Bishop Foss called the attention of the conference to the Methodist Ecumenical Council, which will be held in New York in 1891. This is the great international conference of the denomination, and each conference is entitled to one clerical and one lay delegate. Rev. Messrs. Nesbitt and Meachram were appointed to nominate delegates at the conference session next year.

Tarentum, Uniontown, Monongahela City and Greensburg were nominated for the conference meeting in 1890. Greensburg was selected. Conference adjourned until this morning.

A M'KEESPORT SQUABBLE.

Some interest has been excited among the conference attendants by the case of Rev. R. B. Mansell, of McKeesport, but it is generally stated that the disagreement between that minister and a large minority of his church will not come before the conference or any of its committees. Whether he will or will not be returned to the First Church of McKeesport rests entirely with the Bishop and his cabinet of presiding elders, and their decision will not be made known before Monday afternoon.

Rev. T. J. Leak, chairman of the Danks committee of inquiry, called the members to meet him in the church lobby after dinner, and he conducted them thence to the meeting place, in a hall over the hardware store of Hall & Nelson, at No. 6231 Penn avenue. The committee consists of 15 members, of whom Rev. Mr. Leak is the only minister from either of the two cities. The members seem to have been taken from distant points, so that they would be without personal prejudices in the matter. Rev. Dr. W. B. Watkins, secretary of the conference, was elected secretary of the committee. Mr. Thomas Blashford, the insurance agent, who is a member of the Mt. Washington M. E. Church, and its Sunday-school superintendent, attended as the prosecutor, and was represented by Rev. R. T. Miller as counsel. Colonel Danks and his counsel, Rev. J. Franklin Gore, were also present.

THE CHARGES AGAINST HIM.

The general charge made against the militant preacher is that he has been guilty of conduct unbecoming a minister of the gospel. The principal specification is based upon a threatening letter which Rev. Colonel Danks wrote to Mr. Blashford. This letter was read to the committee, and is as follows:

MT. WASHINGTON, PITTSBURG, October 26, 1888.

SIR—I am going to move away from Mt. Washington next week. I do so to avoid meeting you, for I am only human and have an infinite disgust for liars, sneaks and slanderers. In my past life I have seen better men than you ever were bite the dust. I am afraid of myself. If I should meet you it is possible you might meet your doom. The best thing you can do is to avoid me on all occasions, for, rest assured, I hate liars, sneaks and cowards above everybody else on earth. I say, when you look into the mirror, remember you are looking at a coward, a sneak and a liar. Remember, Tom, I know a few things you have been thinking no one knows, but they do, and I say you are a liar, coward and a sneak. What have you to say, you slimy, double-dealing wretch? But I am wasting my time writing to a coward. I am,

JOHN A. DANKS,
Late Colonel Sixty-third Pennsylvania Volunteers.

At the Latrobe Conference held a short time before the date of this letter, Rev. Colonel Danks was retired from the effective list and made supernumerary. It is said that he accused Mr. Blashford and other members of the Mt. Washington church with having caused his retirement from that charge. Shortly after the letter was written Mr. Blashford had Rev. Colonel Danks placed under $1,000 bond to keep the peace.

A REPORTER HEARD.

The committee yesterday afternoon heard the testimony of Mr. E. B. Sawyers, a reporter on an evening paper. He testified that he had several talks with Rev. Colonel Danks and other persons involved in the matter, in October, 1889, and that Colonel Danks acknowledged the authorship of the letter, saying that he meant every word of it, and that it expressed precisely his opinion of Mr. Blashford. The latter was examined. He produced some documents, signed by members of the official board of the church, bearing upon the dispute and sustaining Mr. Blashford in whatever action he had taken. The witness went pretty fully into the condition of affairs in the Mt. Washington congregation, and alluded to the alleged disruption of the church choir by Rev. Colonel Danks. At 6 o'clock the committee took a recess until 7:30 o'clock.

During the recess Colonel Danks said to a reporter for THE DISPATCH that he had not yet found out what all the specifications charged against him were. He added: "This trouble will not be understood until all the details are laid before the community." Numerous rumors concerning the charges against the minister were in circulation at the East End yesterday. It was said by a number of the members of the conference that new charges had been filed which had no relation to the letter published above, but no one could say what these charges were.

CALLING MORE WITNESSES.

At the evening session, which was held at the Emory Street M. E. Church and continued until midnight, James Morris and Dr. W. L. Phillips were called on behalf of Mr. Blashford; John T. Hedrick, Henry Zilk and Thomas Hodkinson on behalf of Rev. Colonel Danks. The investigation developed into a sort of trial of Mr. Blashford as well as the actual defendant. Rev. Colonel Danks defended his act of writing the letter by alleging that Mr. Blashford had resorted to underhanded methods to prevent the congregation from paying to Mr. Danks his full salary. Much of the evening examination was directed to this point. The testimony differed, some witnesses upholding the pastor, while Mr. Morris stoutly defended Mr. Blashford. Both he and Dr. Phillips claimed that Mr. Blashford was opposed simply to the Church's entering into obligations which it could not perform. Mr. Morris showed considerable feeling in the matter, and said that the best interests of the Church required Rev. Colonel Danks' withdrawal.

HE DIDN'T TELL ALL HE KNEW.

After coming out of the committee room Mr. Morris said he could have told a great deal more about the trouble, but that the committee would not give him a chance. The inquiry proceeds very slowly, as the questions and answers are all written down carefully by the secretary, after the manner of a taker of depositions. The committee will resume this afternoon.

The Women's Foreign Missionary Society held its anniversary yesterday afternoon, and was addressed by Rev. Dr. Irwin H. Carrell, recently of Japan; Mrs. J. H. Brown, President of the Children's Mission Bands, and Mrs. B. F. Beazell. At the missionary meeting last evening a large audience was addressed by Rev. Dr. J. O. Peck, of New York, National Missionary Secretary, and Rev. William P. McLaughlin, of New Orleans.

ENGLISH LUTHERANS MEET.

A Notable Body of Clergymen From All Parts of the Country—Dr. Passavant's Part in It.

In the stately auditorium of the First Lutheran Evangelical Church, Grant street and Strawberry alley, yesterday, there assembled the General Council of North America of that denomination. Fully 100 clergymen were present from all parts of the country. They represent the welfare of 1,350,000 worshipers, and controls 4,500 ministers and 8,000 congregations. Rev. Joseph A. Seiss, D. D., LL. D., pastor of the Church of the Holy Communion, of Philadelphia, and probably the most prominent theologian in the Lutheran Church, occupied the pulpit all morning, opening the council. In his black ministerial gown, his patriarchial white hair, and with his measured style of delivery, he attracted much attention.

The delegates representing Pittsburg in the council include one of the most distinguished men in the denomination throughout the country—Rev. Dr. W. A. Passavant, whose portrait is given above. He is beloved in this city as a philanthropist, and beside backing educational and religious enterprises, Passavant's Hospital made his name familiar to everybody. He is taking a deep interest in the present conference.

A call of the roll in the afternoon showed that seven synods were represented by delegates as follows: Pennsylvania Synod, 34 delegates; New York Synod, 16 delegates; Pittsburg Synod, 18 delegates; District Synod, of Ohio, 6 delegates; Augustana Synod, of Minnesota, 19 delegates, will be 38; Canada Synod, 1 delegate, and Indiana Synod, 4 delegates; total, 98.

President J. A. Seiss, D.D., LL.D., of Philadelphia, read his report. Among other points were the following:

At the convention of this body in Chicago, in 1886, a resolution was passed expressing our sympathy with our suffering brethren of the faith resident in the Baltic Provinces and other portions of Russia under the wrongs and oppression inflicted upon them by the Russian Government. The earnest prayer of the council then was that by the good providence of God speedy deliverance might be vouchsafed them. But instead of relief, latest accounts are that they are being subjected to a still heavier cross. According to the latest information the authorities of Russia have entered upon a systematic effort to disable and gradually suppress all German churches and schools in the realm, most of which are Lutheran.

In the election of officers, three ballots were taken for President before a decision was reached. On the third ballot, Rev. G. F. Krotel was declared elected. The other officers were elected on first ballot. They are as follows:

Recording Secretaries—English, Rev. G. W. Mechling, of Lancaster, O.; German, Rev. J. Nicum, of Rochester, N. Y.; Swede, Rev. O. W. Holmgrain. Corresponding Secretaries—English, Rev. Dr. H. E. Jacobs, of Philadelphia; German, Rev. F. Phatteicher, of Pottsville; Swede, Rev. E. Norelius, of Vasse, Minn. Treasurer, W. H. Staaker, Esq., of Philadelphia.

While the ballots were being counted, it was decided that the sessions would be held from 9 to 12 A. M. and from 2 to 5 P. M., and Dr. Belfour announced that the young men of his church had arranged to give the delegates a steamboat ride on Saturday afternoon. It was agreed to take up the question of the proposed theological seminary in Chicago at Monday morning's session, on request of the Augustana Synod.

The business for this morning will be the consideration of the reports made by Revs. H. E. Jacobs, D. D., of Philadelphia; R. F. Weidner, D. D., of Rock Island, Ill., and E. Belfour, D. D., of the First Church, on "How does the preaching in the pulpits of other than Lutheran churches during synodical conventions agree with the declaration of the General Council made in Pittsburg in 1868?"

At the evening session Rev. W. Ashmead Scheaffer, of Philadelphia, made an address on "Foreign Missions." Mr. Scheaffer is Secretary of the Foreign Mission Committee. He gave an interesting account of the progress of the Lutheran missions in India. Two of the men employed there have died during the past year, and the force employed is not adequate to the work. He spoke of the necessity of increasing the interest of the congregations in missionary work.

After the address Rev. Emanuel Edman, of Princeton, Ill., was consecrated by the laying on of hands to the work of a missionary. He will sail for India in a few months.

A HEBREW OPERA.

A Romantic Drama in Turner Hall Draws a Big Crowd.

The Oriental Opera Company drew a big crowd to Turner Hall last night, the novelty of a German-Hebrew play acting as a mighty attraction. The playbill was for the most part in Hebrew, and the title of the piece was "The Emigrant Shoemaker, or the Sailor Lad," opera in four acts, by Herr Tomeshovsky. The language used was the German patois spoken by the Hebrew races of central Europe. The whole opera evidenced the fact that it had been originally two pieces, which the author had ingeniously stitched together.

The opera proper dealt with the loves and sorrows of Miss Rosalia and her sailor husband; while there was a companion plot, in which an emigrant Hebrew shoemaker, coming to America, makes many funny blunders, and a host of sage and witty observations on the novel manners of the people of the United States. The villain of the piece was a U. S. navy captain. The emigrant was admirably performed by M. Gorvenstein, while the author, M. Tomeshovsky, played the sailor and gave full fling to his fine baritone voice. Miss Tomeshovsky was a pretty, if rather languishing, heroine, and Mme. Greenberg was a capital virago. The house was most enthusiastic throughout, and the reporter learned that applause was the same in Hebrew as it is in English.

To Adjust Current Rates.

The tableware branch of the American Flints held a conference on Tuesday night with reference to their scale.

THE ROAD NOW OPEN

A Great Demonstration Over Bellevernon's First Railway Line.

PLENTY OF ORATORY AND EDIBLES

Old Villagers Awaken From Their Lethargic Slumbers.

MANY PROMINENT PEOPLE PRESENT

The opening of the McKeesport and Bellevernon Railroad was celebrated yesterday by the officials of the road and the citizens of the latter place. It was truly a gala day in the history of Bellevernon, and never before did the town present such an appearance. The sturdy old country folk of the borough awoke from their lethargic slumbers of over half a century, and turned out to do honor to the first railroad line to afford them rapid transportation to the outside world.

Bellevernon is a historic little borough. It was once a stopping place for Daniel Webster, Henry Clay, Andrew Jackson and all the illustrious men of that day, while on their way to and from Washington via the old stage coach route. It lies in a beautiful spot of country about 40 miles up the Monongahela river. The Pittsburg, Virginia and Charleston Railroad skirts the south bank of the Monongahela river, but as the people had no bridge to get across to it, the railroad did not benefit the town very much. Nearly all their business was done by the Monongahela river packets, but this method of transportation is entirely too slow for the townspeople.

PROMINENT PEOPLE THERE.

On Monday the first train was run into the town, and yesterday the event was appropriately celebrated. A special train of five cars gaily decorated with flags and bunting left the Pittsburg and Lake Erie station at 8:30 o'clock and carried about 150 of Pittsburg's representative citizens to the town. Among the party were:

William McCreery, W. W. Patrick, J. D. Scully, Roly Smith, Max Moorhead, Captain T. Fawcett, Alexander Dempster, Charles Meyran, R. J. McClure, J. E. Umstaetter, George Hill, John Swan, ex-postmaster of Allegheny; W. R. Holmes, Dr. J. B. Murdoch, John Gaffey, ex-Sheriff of Westmoreland county, and Z. Dilworth. Among the railroad men were D. P. Corwin, Secretary, P., V. & C.; George E. McCague, General Agent, L. S. & M. S.; F. A. Dean, General Freight Agent, P. & L. E.; M. E. Valiant, agent American Express Company; T. W. Galleger, Division Freight Agent, B. & O.; F. H. Kennedy, F. G. Bailey and W. T. Taggart, of the Lake Erie freight department.

At McKeesport, where the train left the "Pemicky" tracks, the party was joined by President J. Wainwright, Secretary and Treasurer W. T. Wallace, General Superintendent O. A. Rogers and General Freight and Passenger Agent J. C. Grooms. At every point along the line the people turned out to cheer the train as it sped on over the smooth and even roadbed. At Webster and other points the school children were assembled, and sang songs of joy and good tidings. At every workshop whistles were blown, and when the train pulled into Bellevernon the noise was deafening.

A ROUSING RECEPTION.

Upon the arrival of the guests they were given a rousing reception and escorted by the crack brass band of the borough, they marched to a stand where a mass meeting was held. Dr. J. T. Van Voorhis, ex-member of the Legislature, was the president of the meeting and delivered the opening speech. He began by saying that his dream of 40 years was realized, thanks to the shrewdness and skill of the engineers of the new railroad. He said the river was the only means of transportation the town had enjoyed, and while it was good enough in its time, the present age demanded rapid transit and quick returns. He compared the engineers of the road to Napoleon, who surmounted all obstacles in crossing the Alps. He stated that it would be but a short time until the road was extended to West Virginia, and would soon be a connection of the Chesapeake and Ohio road, in which a controlling interest is being purchased by the Vanderbilts. He said the road would put new life and vigor into the town, and nothing could retard its growth and prosperity. He predicted a number of large industries to be located near them in the near future.

President J. Wainwright was the next speaker. He was followed by Hon. George V. Lawrence, ex-representative from the Congressional district. He began by saying that the day was an epoch in the history of the town. He reviewed and called attention to the different methods of transportation from the days of the pack-saddle until the present time. He paid a tribute to the Pennsylvania Railroad, and said the day would soon come when the journey could be made from Pittsburg to San Francisco in one day. Electricity would be the power, and trains would be run at the rate of 100 or 200 miles per hour.

SOME LIVELY SPEECHES.

Judge Hunter, of Greensburg, followed Senator Lawrence. His speech was a review of the rapid development of the country. State Senator Robbins, of Greensburg, made the speech of the day. He reviewed the history of the country, and his remarks were received with wild applause. Judge Ewing, of Uniontown, said the county had not one single railroad 30 years ago, and gave a glowing description of the advancement of progress from the Indian trail to the telephone.

Letters were read from Congressmen Bayne, Dalzell and other prominent speakers who could not be present. The meeting then adjourned and a banquet was held in the Roley House. The afternoon was spent visiting points of interest about the town. In the evening a reception and banquet were given by the citizens of the town.

The new road is 28 miles long and runs from McKeesport to Bellevernon. Work was begun upon it some time in December, 1887. For some time afterward the company experienced considerable trouble securing rights of way and only 11 miles were built. The other 17 miles were constructed since April last. The capital stock is $600,000, mostly held by Pittsburg parties. So far the road has cost over $1,000,000. The rolling stock consists of five locomotives, five passenger cars and 100 freight cars. On Wednesday they turned over 77 cars of coal to the Lake Erie Company. The directors of the company are J. M. Goffey, C. H. Sackrider, S. F. Jones, R. S. Linton, J. H. Given, B. L. Wood, Jr., and J. Chamberlain.

The following named well-known persons were also present:

E. T. Douglas, J. W. Bailey, Dr. T. L. White, A. A. B. Campbell, J. A. Skelly, A. L. Riggs, I. L. Stuckslader, Postmaster J. B. Shale, A. W. Smith, M. F. Ryan, James Lynn, George Lippig and James Devenney, proprietor of the News, McKeesport; Joseph Campbell, Braddock; Hon. J. B. Finlay and James Alexander, of Monongahela City, and Editor Richard Wiley, of Elizabeth.

JUMPED INTO THE WATER.

James McBride Took a Cold Bath in the Ohio River.

A man about 25 years of age was seen to walk down to the Allegheny Ferry landing at the foot of Main street, in the West End, yesterday afternoon, and plunge into the river. Several men jumped in after him and with much difficulty got him to the shore. He was unconscious when taken from the water. Officer Donnell took him to the Thirtieth ward station. He gave his name as James McBride and at first said he lived at No. 19 Wylie avenue. He afterwards said he was from Allegheny.

Do Not Experiment

With your stomach. Take that only which has been proven to be purest and best. The genuine imported Carlsbad Sprudel Salt is admitted by the best physicians in this world to be the grandest remedy for stomach disorders. Be sure and secure the genuine.

IN ALLEGHENY COUNCILS.

Both Branches Met, but Little Business Was Transacted—A Discussion on Monument Hill Improvements.

Both branches of Allegheny Councils met last night, and neither transacted business of much importance. In Select Councils the report of Controllor Brown was presented for September, showing an expenditure of $61,934.73. A number of petitions and ordinances were also presented.

An ordinance authorizing the issue of $117,000 renewal bonds bearing 3½ per cent interest was passed.

A letter was read from City Solicitor Elphinstone, in which he claimed that the resolution before Councils to build board walks in the country districts was illegal. An ordinance must be passed when they are a public necessity. Mr. Schad wanted the resolution passed, but it wasn't.

A resolution was passed asking the Mayor to enforce the ordinance forbidding persons jumping on and off trains.

In Common Councils a number of petitions, resolutions, etc., were presented on the call of wards. One was an ordinance to widen Frazier street, and the location of a switch across Preble avenue to the works of B. F. Jennings.

An ordinance was passed placing a license fee on peddlers. Mr. Neeb also presented an ordinance regulating the vehicle licenses. President Hunter called attention to the fact that the ordinance imposed a license fee on persons "whether resident or non-residents" of Allegheny, and made no reference to Pittsburg vehicles, there being an agreement under an act of Assembly that a Pittsburg license is good in Allegheny, and vice versa. The ordinance was referred back to the committee for amendment.

Mr. Robinson, from the Health Committee, presented an ordinance regulating the removal and destruction of garbage, which was passed finally.

The resolution providing for the expenditure of $25,000 for the improvement of Monument Hill was taken up and occasioned some discussion. Mr. Stauffer wanted more definite information as to the proposed improvements than contained in the resolution. He said that there was a more urgent need for the money in other directions. President Hunter remarked that he had received numerous petitions from the G. A. R. for the improvement of the hill.

Mr. Rudolph added that the city had promised in 1867, when the soldiers' monument was erected, to improve the hill.

Mr. Stauffer moved to lay the resolution over for one month, but the motion was lost by 18 ayes to 9 nays.

Mr. Drum said that the Committee on City Property asked for $25,000 with not a scratch of the pen to show what is intended to do with it. Twenty-five thousand dollars would not make a beginning on the Hill; it would take $100,000, and when $25,000 is spent it will be a good excuse for asking for more. It would only benefit a few people anyhow, as the Hill is isolated. When the people from the Ninth, Tenth, Eleventh, Twelfth and Thirteenth wards ask Councils for improvements the request is promptly voted down. Continuing, he said that the city now has more public ground on her hands than she can take care of, and is spending money on posies when the people need it for necessary improvements. The resolution was finally laid over for a month. A discussion arose over some printing authorized by the Mayor in a paper not official. It was postponed indefinitely. A resolution authorizing the transfer of $5,000 from the contingent fund to the city property fund for current expenses was passed finally.

HITHER AND THITHER.

Movements of Pittsburgers and Others of Wide Acquaintance.

—Rabbi A. Bernstein has been connected with the Hebrew Synagogue, corner of Fourth avenue and Ross street, for nine years. His is an orthodox flock, and numbers within the fold some of the best-known Hebrews in Pittsburg. Of solid build, an intellectual cast of countenance, and being a powerful orator, Dr. Bernstein is regarded as a leader among his people. For this reason some value attaches to his opinion of the movement among a class of the Hebrews to colonize Palestine. After reading THE DISPATCH article about the spread of the scheme to Pittsburg, he came to this office to say that "all the prominent Hebrews of the city" are not in the movement by many means. He says he and the great majority of the better class of Hebrews in Pittsburg regard themselves as loyal citizens of the United States. He says Eastern people "have devised this cunning scheme to rob poor peddlers of their earnings."

—Miss Emma D. Anderson, of Allegheny, sails from New York to-day for India, where she will be a missionary for the U. P. Church. On Sabbath morning next farewell services will be held at each of the First, Second and Fourth U. P. churches in Allegheny to four other new missionaries being sent to Egypt by these congregations. They are Rev. F. E. Cummings, sent by the Fourth Church; Rev. E. E. Fife, sent by the Second Church; Rev. W. M. Nicols, of the First Church, and Rev. E. M. Giffin, sent by the church at large. In the evening a union farewell meeting will be held in the First Church, which Dr. J. B. Dales will be present to address.

—Superintendent Follansbee, of the Chamber of Commerce, yesterday received word from General Manager Rickman, of the International Maritime Exposition, which opens at Boston, November 4, to notify all who intend to have exhibits at the big show to make their applications without delay. Applicants must address J. W. Rickman, General Manager. Exhibits will consist of articles and matters relating to ships, shipping and analogous interests.

—The marriage of J. W. Stirzel, Superintendent of the Philadelphia Gas Works of this city, to Miss Clara White, daughter of Dr. J. D. White, of Federal street, Allegheny, took place last evening at the residence of the bride's father. The Rev. B. F. Woodburn, pastor of the Sandusky Street Baptist Church, united the happy couple, who later left for the East on an extended wedding trip.

—George W. Jeffries, of London, England, passed through last night on his way to Denver, Col. He is prominently associated with banking interests in his country, and is one of those gentlemen of the English financial world who believe that it pays to invest money in this country. He said he had no objection to accumulating a corner lot out in Colorado if he got it cheap.

—General W. T. Eckert, of New York, and prominently connected with Western Union Telegraph interests, was a passenger to Cincinnati, St. Louis and other Western points, over the Panhandle route last night. The General said his trip was of the vacation variety of excursion, but he thought he could find time for any business that might travel his road while abroad.

—Warren Wolfersberger, of the passenger department of the Pennsylvania Railroad at Philadelphia, returned to this city yesterday from a combined business and pleasure trip to Buffalo and adjacent points. Mr. Wolfersberger is a gentleman who keeps his eyes open and who could not forbear a good word for the traveling facilities furnished by other roads.

—Rev. John Holliday, until lately attached to the African Methodist Episcopal charge in Pittsburg, is making earnest appeals for subscriptions toward the rebuilding of the colored church in Johnstown.

—The members of Local Assembly No. 1374, Cigar Makers' Union, had a meeting yesterday, when they decided to start a co-operative cigar factory. They will make cigars and tobies, but no cigarettes.

—John Kraus, who has been organist in the Sharpsburg St. Mary's Church for 25 years, has resigned through ill health. The congregation presented him with a gold headed cane.

—W. J. Dillon, Secretary of the American Flint Glass Workers' Union, will address the newly formed Trades Council at East Liverpool on the first meeting night.

—Dr. J. M. Venn has engaged Toma to train him for the medical boat race. The doctor is rowing every day from 9 A. M. until 12, and from 3 until 4 o'clock.

—John E. Davidson, Ralph Peters and Thomas Lambs have been appointed members of the Pennsylvania Relief Department of the lines west of Pittsburg.

—Councilman Mart Brophy, of the Ninth ward, is celebrating the increase of his constituency by the addition of a Mr. Brophy, Jr., to the family.

—General Passenger Agent A. E. Clark, of the Lake Erie road, left last night for Eagle Waters, Wis., for a ten days' fishing trip.

—Robert Bingham, an old conductor of the Pennsylvania road, is now lying seriously ill at his home at Morningside.

SPRECKELS' SUGARS.

Will Their Price Knock the Trust Out of Water in the West?

VIEWS PRO AND CON HEREABOUT.

Will Claus Play the Role of Santa Claus Pro Bono Publico?

SWEETS MAY OR MAY NOT BE CHEAPER

The sugar interest is one of vast importance to the people of the United States, not one of whom is independent of it. Tariff reformers will tell you that it costs the people from $50,000,000 to $70,000,000 a year to make one-tenth of the sugar the country consumes. This feature adds interest to Claus Spreckels' professed determination to get away with the trust which not only invaded his preserve on the Pacific coast, but has lately put the price of sugar up to an extent that means millions of dollars to the people of the United States. The big refinery at Philadelphia is about complete, and an idea of its immensity may be had from the insurance on the building, $1,800,000. It is said to be the largest sugar refinery in the world, and its capacity is 4,000,000 pounds, or 11,500 barrels, a day. It is fitted up with over 200 Westinghouse engines instead of the usual arrangement of belting, and when anything gets out of order with one or more engines, that part of the works can be shut down without interfering with the rest.

There has been a great rivalry among brokers to get the agencies for the sale of the product, and there are said to have been 27 applicants for agent in this city. A circular letter addressed to jobbers states that H. P. Dilworth & Co. have been appointed Pittsburg brokers. It is said the applications for agencies in the West, South and Southwest foot up over 12,000.

THE TRUST AFRAID OF HIM.

While some people affect to treat Spreckels' pronunciamentos with contempt and insinuate that he is a man who likes to be interviewed, others say the Sugar Trust is afraid of him, and point to the fact that its stock, which has sold at 126, is now selling at 83 or 84, and that the trust has been pulling prices down ½c at a time for weeks past.

It is claimed that the Philadelphia location has all the advantages of New York and Boston, and added to them a difference of 2 cents per cwt. in its favor as to New York and 4 cents as to Boston in the matter of freight to the West, Northwest, South and Southwest. On the full output of the factory the 2 cents would represent an advantage of about $1,000 a day as to New York, and twice that amount as to Boston, giving them but the New England and a portion of the Middle States in which to contend on equal terms, and this difference in freight rates is established by the Inter-State Commerce Commission. As the Pennsylvania Railroad, Baltimore and Ohio and Reading Railway tracks all run into the refinery it does business on the ground floor in this respect.

The Spreckels' party profess to believe that he is animated by philanthropy or pride in his war on the trust, but there are others who think him of the earth earthy, and predict an early wedding or subsidization.

AN ADVANTAGE TO PITTSBURG.

Mr. D. W. Llewellyn, of T. C. Jenkins', said the effect of the competition would be to put this city on the same footing as some other distributing points, which have heretofore had an advantage. He opined that consumers would eventually get the benefit.

Mr. James Flood, of Arbuckles & Co., supposed that Mr. Spreckels was only human. Mr. Flood hadn't any doubt that Spreckels could get a trade as large as his soul desired if he undersold other refiners, but doubted the existence of such a disposition on his part. Mr. Flood thought the trust able to fight Spreckels if it felt like it, and didn't believe it had pulled down prices either because of fear of him or from philanthropic motives, but simply because it was able to dictate prices to the owners of raw sugars.

Mr. John A. Bower, of Dilworth Bros., said that if Spreckels wanted to get Pittsburg jobbers out of the arms of the trust, he must do it by selling sugar cheaper than it does. Mr. Bower attributed the decline in price of sugars to the prospect of a very large crop next season. He said Spreckels was rich, but the trust was richer, and what he might possess in the matter of certain advantages might be offered in other directions by facilities within reach of the trust.

Mr. Scott, of Allen, Kirkpatrick & Co., did not believe that Spreckels had any notion of playing the role of bull in a china shop. Said Mr. Scott: "He, Spreckels, doesn't ask for all our trade, but only for a share of it."

CURRY IS IN DOUBT.

Mr. Curry, of Curry & Metzgar, said he did not know what the effect of the rivalry would be. It can only be told by its operation, and it has not yet begun to operate. Mr. Dewhurst, of Haworth & Dewhurst, said: "I have no doubt Spreckels will waken up the sugar trade, but it's too early to predict results."

The infantile part of the community has no opinion to express, but hopes that Claus Spreckels will prove a Santa Claus, who will fill stockings on Christmas Eve with sugar plums and sweetmeats so cheaply that the hearts of all good little boys and girls will be made sing with joy on Christmas morning. And the most extreme high-tariff man will not kick if he can sweeten his coffee with cubes at a nickel a pound, or even less. In Cincinnati it is reported that Santa Claus has talked as though the trust pole might be long enough to knock the persimmon and that there were only $2,000,000 distance in altitude between one end of that pole and his virtue, and it is supposed by some that a bagatelle of $2,000,000, 4 per cent of sugar makers' profits, will not long stand in the way of a deal.

HIS TOOLS STOLEN.

A Carriage Factory Systematically Robbed of $1,200.

There has been a systematic robbery carried on at the carriage works of James W. Moore, Twenty-seventh and Smallman streets. It appears that for the past few months valuable tools have mysteriously disappeared without anybody accounting for them. The firm duplicated the missing tools a few times, but these, like the others, were lost. Mr. Moore, however, got tired of losing so many, so he put a detective to watch how they were lost. The detective's investigation proved that the tools have been carried out a few at a time until Mr. Moore has lost $1,200. No arrests have been made, but it is expected two guilty parties will be arrested to-day.

In the Fur Room.

Our stock of seal jackets, coats and wraps surpasses in variety, extent and quality that of any former season. We carry only the best Alaska seal goods, made by the best manufacturers. Any seal garments purchased from us can be implicitly relied upon as being not only the best in style, but also to give perfect satisfaction in wearing qualities.

No better time to buy this year than now. You will find these goods and all other articles in fur goods on the second floor of our new suit and cloak room. Capable and obliging attendants in charge of this stock.

JOS. HORNE & CO.'S
Penn Avenue Stores.

Mules, Mules.

We have just received a large lot of draught and pit mules, all sizes; also a lot of general purpose horses, which will be sold at reasonable figures. We have in our stables 100 head of choice animals. Call and see them.

ARNHEIM LIVE STOCK CO., LIMITED, 52 Second ave., between Market and Ferry streets, Pittsburg, Pa.

AN APOSTLE'S BIRTHDAY.

St. Mary's Ladies' Temperance Society Honor Father Matthew.

The Ladies' Total Abstinence Society of St. Mary's Church celebrated the anniversary of Father Matthew's birth last night. St. Mary's Church was crowded, and several temperance hymns were sung. Rev. F. R. Canevin spoke eloquently of the life and labors of the great apostle, and drew a comparison between him and O'Connell.

Rev. Father Sheedy spoke of the good example shown by so many ladies in joining the temperance societies through the diocese. Women were deeply interested in battling with drink, which stole away the peace and purity of the home. The scene shifter, Intemperance, soon turned the happy cottage into a miserable garret, filled with hungry, ragged children. He then implored all present to do their utmost in the temperance cause. At the close of the celebration all in the church took the temperance pledge, and 30 ladies enrolled themselves as members of the society.

THE TOWN WILL BLAZE.

Pan-Americans to be Treated to an Electric Display.

C. R. Shipler, chief engineer of the Court House, has been instructed by the County Commissioners to receive the Pan-American delegates when they visit this city with a brilliant electrical display. On the north side of the tower the American shield piece will be chief. In the upper division will appear the word "America" in clear incandescent lights with bars of red, white and blue below. In the piece, 15 feet high and and 12 wide, will be 200 16-candle power lights. The 24 loop holes in each side of the tower will be lighted by a 32-candle power light in each, and a 24-light box cluster will be suspended from the flagstaff, making a star of nearly 200 candle power.

It will be a grand display and will cost considerable effort, but no money of consequence to the taxpayers, as the county employes will do the work.

LOCAL ITEMS, LIMITED.

Incidents of a Day in Two Cities Condensed for Ready Reading.

THE Board of Viewers yesterday held a preliminary view on the new sewer on Fortieth and Butler streets, from Kirkwood's property line to Almond alley, and on the grading and paving of Geneva street, from Main to Forty-fourth streets.

WHILE Mrs. Jones and her two children were crossing the B. & O. track at McKeesport yesterday they were knocked down by a locomotive, but not seriously hurt. Another woman was thrown from the tracks ten yards farther on.

A. W. COVERT, well known in Lawrenceville, lost his youngest child, Thomas A. Covert, yesterday. Much sympathy is felt toward the bereaved family. The boy was a great favorite among a large circle of Lawrenceville people.

YESTERDAY a young Polish woman and an old man named Evans were killed on the Pemicky road at South Twenty-second street. The victims were crossing the track when a passing train struck and killed them.

THE Pharmaceutical Board is still hard at work in the Monongahela House holding examinations. There are 3,000 persons yet to be examined. The numbers of those who passed will be made public on Saturday.

ANNIE LOTT, living on Thirty-eighth street, made an information yesterday before Alderman Porter, alleging that her husband, George Lott, cruelly beat her children and otherwise abused her.

THE citizins living on Butler street, between Forty-ninth and Fifty-first streets, are indignant over the deplorable condition of the street, and threaten to sue the city.

JAMES RAYBURN and his wife had a hearing before Alderman Porter yesterday for disorderly conduct. Rayburn was fined $10 and costs and his wife $5 and costs.

THE Black Diamond Steel Works are to be replaced with corrugated iron buildings. The melting shop, which is about 400 yards in extent, has already been rebuilt.

PHILIP ATWOOD attempted suicide yesterday by throwing himself under a moving train at Braddock. He was rescued and sent to jail for ten days for his trouble.

MRS. ANNIE DURANT, of New York, notified inspector McAleese that her husband had left her and she believes he is in Pittsburg. The police are looking for him.

THE conductors and gripmen of the Citizens' Traction line refuse to buy the uniform overcoats demanded by the company. Some trouble may result.

ABOUT 175 officials of the Pennsylvania road will dine at the Monongahela House next Monday, on their return from their inspecting tour of the road.

MARY CONNORS was sent to jail for ten days by Magistrate Gripp for disorderly conduct. She is thought to be insane.

Shawl Department.

Mourning shawls, square and long, in Lupin's black cashmere and black Thibet, ranging from $2 50 to $25—heavy wool long shawls, black, square and long shawls, in checks, stripes, mixtures, in all the new winter colorings—old ladies' shoulder shawls, in two sizes and three qualities—square and long shawls in best qualities of real Scotch tartans and in all the different clans, light fancy shawls for evening wear, square shawls in white cashmere, French chudda and real India chudda. We are also offering the balance of this season's importation in black cashmere, embroidered and heavy fringed mantles or fichus in extra sizes, white India silk and Japanese shawls in large and small sizes, embroidered all over and heavily fringed with pure silk twist,

JOS. HORNE & CO.'S
Penn Avenue Stores.

Victory for the New No. 9.

At the Exhibition Universelle, Paris, 1889 (the great World's Fair), the highest possible premium, the only prize for sewing machines, was awarded to the Wheeler & Wilson Mfg. Co. Office No. 6, Sixth street, Pittsburg.

Visiting Eastern Cities.

Messrs. Crumrine and Bassett, of Crumrine, Bane & Bassett, are visiting New York and Boston markets looking up choice designs in paper hangings, aiming to get the newest and best colorings in mural decorations.

Our Overcoat Department

Is always crowded, and the most popular garment is our $13 light-colored kersey, which is sold everywhere else at $25.

P. C. C. C., cor. Grant and Diamond sts., opp. the new Court House.

A Bargain in Made-Up Dresses.

We offer to-day about 50 ready-made dresses in all sizes, well made and handsomely braided, in dark and medium grays, navys and myrtles, at the extremely low price of $10. These are all new and the best bargain you have ever seen.

JOS. HORNE & CO.'S
Penn Avenue Stores.

FINE goods at prices far below the price of common goods at the closing-out sale of F. Schoenthal, 612 Penn avenue.

DABBS has made quite an addition to his exhibit at the Exposition. Those going should not fail to see it.

EXPOSITION—Fashionable night. Hear the Thirteenth Regiment Band, of New York.

FRAUENHEIM & VILSACK'S Iron City beer grows in favor every day. 'Phone 1186.

MEN'S natural wool underwear.
JAMES H. AIKEN & CO., 100 Fifth ave.

THE entire stock must be sold quick. Come at once and see the bargains.
F. SCHOENTHAL, 612 Penn avenue.

A Land Office Business

Is done at Aufrecht's "Elite" Gallery, 716 Market st., Pittsburg, owing to low prices and fine work. Bring children. Use elevator.

CLOSING out all goods regardless of cost or value. Come quick and get a bargain.
F. SCHOENTHAL, 612 Penn avenue.

OLD LANDMARKS.

Dr. Lambing Reads a Paper About Local Points of Interest.

The Western Pennsylvania Historical Society held a regular meeting yesterday afternoon, and the few members present listened to a paper on "Pioneer Landmarks in Western Pennsylvania," prepared by Rev. Dr. A. A. Lambing.

He spoke first of the Indian trails across the mountains over which the early settlers found their way. The old Frankstown road, part of which is now known as Frank