HAGGARD'S GREATEST
Romance, now running in the Sunday issue of THE DISPATCH, has made a hit. The first installment is a good guarantee of what is to come.

The Pittsburg Dispatch.

"COME FORTH."
A romance of the time of Christ, by Elizabeth Stuart Phelps and Rev. Herbert D. Ward, will commence in next Sunday's DISPATCH.

FORTY-FOURTH YEAR. PITTSBURG, TUESDAY, JANUARY 7, 1890. THREE CENTS

BRICE'S BOYS BLUE.

They Hear a Hole Has Been Found in His Armor.

NOT A VOTE IN HAMILTON

Can be Found for the Chairman Candidate for Senator.

THE OTHER ASPIRANTS SMILING.

A Canvass Shows General McMahon to be Leading Thomas.

ALL CHARGES OF A BOLT DENIED

A hole in Brice's armor has been discovered. It is positively asserted that he will not get one vote from Hamilton county. The other candidates are more cheerful. Allen W. Thurman says they have Brice beaten, sure. McMahon's strength, according to THE DISPATCH'S latest poll, is greater than that of Millionaire Thomas. General McMahon says he will not bolt the caucus. The Legislature at work. Cleveland's name received with loud cheers.

[FROM A STAFF CORRESPONDENT.]

COLUMBUS, O., January 6.—Late to-night it is positively asserted that a hole has opened in Hamilton county, and that the Brice strength in that delegation has dropped out of sight. My first information came direct from the lips of one of the three leading Senatorial candidates, and it was subsequently repeated by an active manager of another prominent aspirant. Both stated that at no time could the man from Lima command more than one vote of the ten in the Hamilton delegation. It was hinted that some mysterious influence had been at work to accomplish this result.

CANNOT CREDIT IT.

This story was repeated to General Rice, the confidential friend of Mr. Brice, and he expressed great surprise. "I think our candidate will get his share of the Hamilton county vote," he said.

The Thomas and McMahon men are wreathed in smiles, and for the first time the Brice crowd looks glum and worried. Allen W. Thurman said emphatically: "We have Brice licked. There is no longer any doubt about it."

Attorney Frank Dougherty has issued another legal argument, endeavoring to show that Brice is ineligible as Senator from Ohio. He quotes precedent to sustain him. A man named Bayley was elected to Congress from a Massachusetts district, after having been six years in Washington as a Government clerk. His seat was contested, and the Democratic House of Representatives bounced him. Dougherty thinks that he has scored a strong point.

SORT OF A STRAW.

The Democratic members of the Lower House held a caucus, with closed doors, to-night. All insist, however, that nothing was done touching upon the Senatorial situation, but that the meeting was merely to effect an organization and discuss the general policy of the party, THE DISPATCH correspondent has completed a canvass of the Democratic members, as to their Senatorial preferences. Of those who openly announced their choice Brice has 18, Thomas 10, McMahon 12, James Neal 2 and McSweeney 3. Eight others will give 1 vote each to various candidates; 20 are non-committal and 6 are either absent or sick. The total number of Democratic members is 79, and it will require 40 votes to nominate.

THOUGHT A WEAK REED.

One of the strings which the hustlers of the Brice aggregation have been pulling with much constancy, and probably considerable effect, in their battle for the Senatorial toga is the assertion that ex-President Cleveland is at least favorably disposed toward their candidate. Mr. Brice's position as manager of the last national campaign has added color to these claims, and many have believed that there was a secret understanding.

Now, however, comes M. D. Harter, the free trade manufacturer of Mansfield, who joined the Thomas forces here this evening. Mr. Harter expresses himself emphatically in this manner: "I am in a position to say that the talk of Mr. Cleveland favoring Mr. Brice or any other man for Senator, is all bosh, and as unjust to Mr. Cleveland as it is to the men who are candidates.

QUITE AS LIKELY A THING.

"Mr. Cleveland would be as likely to try to dictate who should be King of the Cannibal Islands as to express any wish or preference in a case like this. Those who represent Mr. Cleveland as desirous of interfering with the local politics of Ohio have formed a very poor conception of the character of the man, and misjudge him almost as much as his political enemies."

Mr. Harter also has some very decided views concerning the Senate situation. Referring to the boodle charges, he says: "While Mr. Brice may be entirely above the purchase of the office—and I like to feel that he is—still, if elected now, the popular feeling in our party as well as outside of it would be that three-quarters of the votes he would get were purchased. This Mr. Brice cannot afford, the party cannot stand, and the State will not tolerate. An election would, I fear, be worse for the permanent reputation of Mr. Brice than an overwhelming defeat.

NOT AT ALL PREJUDICED.

"You see, I speak without prejudice; for what I know of Mr. Brice is in the main favorable to him, and I credit him with both character and ability, and some valued friends, who are likewise warm friends of his, tell me he has unusual points of excellence—a view which I would be sorry to combat, and know of no reason to doubt. But for Ohio to elect an inhabitant of New York appears to me a little the worst piece of political action open to us. For the good of the party and for its future, I think it would be wiser to select some reputable Republican, and unite with the opposition in giving him an unanimous election. Personally, I favor the election of John H. Thomas, and am sorry he has any opposition, and believe he is the man we should send to Washington as the successor of Mr. Payne."

The appearance of Mr. Harter upon the scene has encouraged the Thomas clans somewhat, and they were working hard again to-day. When asked for figures, by THE DISPATCH correspondent, one of the managers said:

TWO SETS OF FIGURES.

"If you want to use my name in connection with a claim, I will say 30 votes for Thomas on the first ballot. I have got to make it that many, in order to keep in the ring with the other fellows. However, if you want some inside facts, I will give them to you on the quiet. Brice will have 25 votes on the first ballot, Thomas 19 and McMahon 7 to 10, with the rest scattering. On the second ballot Brice and McMahon will both show their full strength, polling a few votes more, and our man will hold his own. After that Thomas will gain steadily, and by the fourth ballot will have the necessary 40 votes to nominate. You will find my figures are correct."

That is one side of the story. Now listen to the other. "Ten votes," exclaimed General McMahon, when asked if that was a fair estimate of his strength in a party caucus. "If I was not sure of twice that number I would quit the contest at once.

BETWEEN BRICE AND HIMSELF.

"All the changes in the past 24 hours have been in my favor. I personally know three members whom the Brice people have had to take off their list to-day. They are now going around begging my members to vote for their candidate as second choice. The fight is between Mr. Brice and myself," continued McMahon. "Mr. Thomas may be an important factor, but is not a possibility in the race himself. Even if he secured 30 votes on the first ballot, he would stick there, and could never obtain the nomination. However, I want Mr. Thomas to secure all the votes possible. They will come in very opportunely for me in my fight with Brice later on."

The Democratic National Chairman has evidently borrowed a leaf from the book of his former victorious antagonist, the eversilent Matthew Stanley Quay, and no claim as to figures can be secured at the Brice headquarters. What is lacking in estimates, however, is made up in enthusiasm. Representative M. E. McClure, in talking of his favorite, says:

SOME BRICE ARGUMENTS.

"After I found out we had a Democratic Legislature I would not express my views on the Senatorial question until about the time I was to cast my vote, when I had plenty of time to interview my constituency. I have been endeavoring to find out about what the public sentiment is. I am now satisfied the sentiment in my county is largely in favor of Colonel C. S. Brice. I am also frank to say I can heartily indorse the opinion of my constituency. I am unable to assign any reason, satisfactory to myself, why I should go away from home to find a candidate. Colonel Brice was born and raised in my county. I have known him personally for nearly 40 years. Mr. Brice was selected by the Democratic State convention a delegate-at-large to the St. Louis convention. He was then selected as a member of the national committee, was chosen by Grover Cleveland to manage his campaign, and, on the death of Mr. Barnum, was made chairman of the committee.

GOOD ENOUGH FOR HIM.

"If the Democratic party of Ohio sent him to St. Louis, it satisfies me he had their confidence. If Mr. Cleveland makes him the manager of his campaign, it satisfies me he had confidence in his ability, as well as his being right on the tariff issues; and if the National Committee has confidence enough in his ability to place him at the head of the committee, I am inclined to the opinion that in casting my vote for him I not only represent the wishes of my own constituency, but receive the indorsement of the State and National Democracy. I shall, therefore, cast my vote in the coming caucus openly for Calvin S. Brice."

This is a fair sample of the arguments which are being impressed upon the minds of the doubtful members by a horde of zealous workers. The fact of Calvin's little transaction with the Vanderbilts, instead of being a drawback, is used as a strong argument in his favor. "Any man who can get ahead of Vanderbilt ought to be elected Senator," is a remark that can be heard a hundred times a day.

Two more candidates personally entered the ring to-day, in the person of Judge Geddes and Congressman Seney. Both received cordial receptions, but the prospect of either of them being elected Senator is not at all startling. BANCROFT.

THEY LIKE GROVER.

A Significant Speech Significantly Applauded—The Legislature in Session —Many Democrats Very Sick —A Narrow Margin.

[FROM A STAFF CORRESPONDENT.]

COLUMBUS, O., January 6.—The Ohio Legislature was duly organized in both branches, to-day, the Democratic caucus nominees being successful throughout. In taking the chair of the House, Speaker Hysell made a short address, of which the most conspicuous sentence was: I am a firm believer in the principles propounded by Jefferson, executed by Jackson and advocated by the greatest of their successors, Grover Cleveland." This sentiment was received with great applause.

A notable incident of the day's work in the Senate, happening just at this time, was the unanimous adoption of a resolution eulogizing the late Hon. George H. Pendleton, who just six years ago was defeated for the Senate by Payne.

The Democratic leaders are much alarmed by the sickness developing among their members. In addition to Mr. Lawlor, who has been in a dangerous condition for some time, Representative Knappe has been taken suddenly ill, and is believed to be at the point of death. Several other members are under the weather. The Democrats could not secure a quorum in the House of their own faith, to-day, and if the Republicans had chosen to do so, they could have prevented an organization being affected. Nothing of the kind was attempted, however.

It is said that R. G. Wood, of ballot-box fame, has a bill prepared to provide for the introduction of the Hall & Wood box in Ohio, and is now hunting up someone of the members who will agree to introduce it. At last accounts no one had agreed to take the responsibility of presenting the measure. BANCROFT.

BOOKWALTER OUT OF THE RACE.

Seeing No Earthly Show for Himself, He Opposes All Other Millionaires.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

SPRINGFIELD, O., January 6.—Hon. John W. Bookwalter is out in a lengthy letter withdrawing the use of his name for Senator from Ohio, and giving his reasons. He says no millionaire should aspire to the office of Senator, and that the Ohio Democracy should by this time have learned the evil effects of sending very rich men to that august body.

Mr. Bookwalter's brief Senatorial aspirations are recognized as having been given expression for the purpose of assisting John McMahon in his canvass, and his letter of to-day is but further evidence that such a theory was correct.

MR. MARQUIS ON HAND,

Ready to Enter the Lists for the Lieutenant Governorship.

[FROM A STAFF CORRESPONDENT.]

COLUMBUS, O., January 6.—M. V. Marquis, the Democratic candidate for Lieutenant Governor, who is contesting the election of Mr. Lampson, arrived in the city to-night. Mr. Marquis has been burdened with a family affliction, having buried his wife last week, and has consequently been paying no attention to politics.

It is understood that the Democrats will make an early and vigorous effort to seat Mr. Marquis in the chair which the Republicans claim by the narrow margin of 22 votes.

IN A BURING MINE.

Five Men Entombed as the Result of a Gas Explosion—Rescued Alive by Two Heroes—Another Danger Threatening Plymouth.

WILKESBARRE, January 6.—At the Nottingham mine in Plymouth, this evening, where the disastrous cave-in occurred last week, about 7 o'clock a terrific explosion of gas occurred. There had been a heavy fall of coal, and this forced the gas toward the shaft, but on its way it was ignited by the naked lamps of miners and exploded. The brattice work and the timber at once caught fire and burned furiously. Five men were caught between the cave-in and the fire, and all manner of exit was cut off. The report spread about town that the men were dead. The wives and children of the imprisoned men gathered at the mine and lost all control of themselves in their grief, and sorrowful scenes were witnessed.

About half an hour after the fire broke out John D. Humphreys and John Richards were lowered into the mine. When they reached the fire they heard cries and shouts on the other side. Putting their hands before their faces they rushed through the fire and dragged the five imprisoned men out one by one, uninjured. When they reached the anxious crowd above the rescued men and heroes were received with shouts of welcome.

Thomas Richards, who was in another part of the mine, was severely burned by the explosion, and it is feared he cannot recover.

Part of the workings of the mine are located under the Susquehanna river, and the miners state that water is oozing through near where the cave-in occurred last week. They fear the river may break into the mine. If this should happen the damage would be enormous. Many mines would be drowned out beyond hope of reclaiming them, and operations would have to be suspended.

BOOTH'S OWN WORDS.

Significant Extracts From the Assassin's Diary—The Time When He Despaired—He Thought He Was Right in What He Did.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

WASHINGTON, January 6.—The diary of Wilkes Booth is now in the possession of the Department of Justice. The following are a few extracts:

April 14—Friday, the Ides. Until to-day nothing was ever thought of sacrificing to our country's wrongs. For six months we have worked to capture, but our cause being almost lost, something decisive and great must be done. But its failure was owing to others who did not strike for their country with a heart. I struck boldly, and not as the papers say. I can never repent it. Though we hated to kill, our country owed all their troubles to him, and God simply made me the instrument of his punishment. The country is not what it was. This forced union is not what I have loved. I care not what becomes of me. I have no desire to outlive my country. The night before the deed I wrote a long article and left it for one of the editors of the *National Intelligencer*, in which I fully set out our reasons for our proceeding. He or the South.

Friday, 21.—After being hunted like a dog through swamps and woods, and last night being chased till I was forced to return, wet, cold and starving, with every man's hand against me, I am here in despair; and for why? For doing what Brutus was honored; for what made Tell a hero; and yet I, for striking down a greater tyrant than they ever knew, am looked upon as a common cutthroat. My act was purer than either of theirs. And for this brave boy Harold with me, who often prays (yes, before and since) with a true and sincere heart—was it crime in him? If so, why can he pray the same? I do not wish to shed a drop of blood, but I must fight the cause. This is all that's left me.

These are the last words in the diary and probably the last he ever wrote as he was shot shortly afterward.

THE EIGHT-HOUR DAY.

Many Unions Anxious to Reap Its First Benefits—John Burns Not Able to Visit the United States Before May.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

NEW YORK, January 6.—The Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor held a special meeting to-day. There were present Samuel Gompers and Henry Emrich, of this city; William Martin, of Pittsburg; P. J. McGuire, of Philadelphia, and Secretary Christopher Evans. A number of matters were referred to the Executive Council by the Boston convention. The most important was the selection of the union or unions which, being the most likely to get it, shall on May 1 demand the eight-hour workday.

Several representatives of unions affiliated with the Federation were present. For obvious reasons President Gompers desired to withhold their names. They are credited with saying their unions are anxious to get the benefit of the eight-hour day. The executive council determined to keep up the eight-hour agitation steadily. A special circular is to be issued, calling upon all organizations to hold meetings. It is to be particularly urged that the celebration of Washington's birthday shall be turned into a demonstration for eight hours.

A cablegram was received from John Burns, the Socialist. Burns said that it would be impossible for him to accept the invitation to lecture in America before May.

DUDLEY'S NEMESIS.

A Move in the House to Inquire Into the Blocks of Five Matter—Attorneys Accused of Shielding the Letter Writer.

WASHINGTON, January 6.—In the House to-day, Mr. Bynum, of Indiana, offered a resolution, which was referred to the Committee on Rules, for the appointment of a special committee of five members to investigate certain charges made against the United States District Attorney for the district of Indiana, Smiley H. Chambers, and his predecessors.

The charges consist in the alleged suppression of testimony presented for the procurement of an indictment against W. W. Dudley in connection with the "blocks of five!" letter. The charges are incorporated in a long affidavit signed by John A. Long, of Indiana, who states that Colonel Dudley conspired with William H. Murray and Charles H. Schroder for the corruption of voters at the polls, and to improperly influence persons in the exercise of the franchise.

The charges are specific as to the Congressional districts and the State at large, but no special instance is cited where such improper influence was used.

Grip Causes a Prince's Death.

BERLIN, January 6.—The Prince of Thurn and Taxis is dead. He had the influenza, followed by pneumonia.

Parnell Engages Counsel.

LONDON, January 6.—Mr. Parnell has retained Sir Charles Russell to look after his interest in the O'Shea case.

A FEDERATION FIGHT.

Strike of Electric Lighters in Pittsburg Officially Sanctioned

BY MR. GOMPERS AND THE COUNCIL

All Members of Local Union 3,696 Are Ordered to Quit To-Day,

WITH FULL SANCTION AND SUPPORT

What President Gompers Says of the Allegheny Light Company's Position.

After all the fuss about "Pittsburg in darkness" last week, without any more darkness than usual, it now looks as if we would have no union electric lights in the city to-night. Last week's strike was sprung by local officials of the American Federation of Labor. Yesterday that great Federation itself took up the fight, with promise of both moral and financial support. All union lighters of Local Union 3696 are ordered to quit to-day.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

NEW YORK, January 6.—A member of Local Union 3,696, of the American Federation of Labor, which includes members of the Allegheny County Electric Light Company's plant at Pittsburg, appeared before the Executive Council in secret session to-day. He said that the company had failed to keep its contract entered into with William Martin, the First Vice President of the Federation. He reported, also, that there had been a dispute in regard to the dismissal of two of the members of the union in the employ of the company.

Mr. Martin repeated the substance of an agreement entered into between the company and himself for the American Federation of Labor, wherein it was stipulated that the company had agreed to take back in its employ the two men who had been dismissed and 27 others who had gone out in sympathy with the others. They had failed to live up to this agreement.

THE FEDERATION BACKS THEM.

It was resolved by the Executive Council that they would stand by Local Union No. 3,696 in their fight with the Allegheny County Electric Light Company, because the latter had refused to live up to the agreement with its representative. It was also resolved that all members of Local Union No. 3,696 in the company's employ should cease work until the company kept this agreement.

Samuel Gompers, President of the American Federation, said that Local Union 3,696 was composed of most of the employes of the electric companies of Pittsburg and Allegheny City. He added:

"The Executive Council of the American Federation of Labor has been led to believe that detectives have been employed, with the hope of breaking up Local Union 3,696. Other means have also been used to break up the local union."

"The American Federation is determined to compel this company to stand by the agreement it made with Mr. Martin, or the return of the 29 men now out on strike. Our money will be used in supporting the men who have been out, or who will come out to-morrow from the electric company's plant."

WHAT THE ORDER MEANS.

[The double significance of the above is that it not only essays to tie up the Allegheny County Light Company, but the East End Electric Light Company and all others for which members of Local Union 3,696 are employed. The language above is very broad in this respect: "It was also resolved that all members of Local Union 3,696 should cease work;" which, in connection with the resolution to support the strike, and with President Gompers' statement that the union composes most of the employes of electric companies in Pittsburg and Allegheny, is taken to mean what the local officials of the union contended it did—that all employes of companies directly or indirectly connected or associated with the Allegheny County Company in these two cities must join in the test of strength and principles. Employes of the East End Electric Company last week refused to take this view of the case, and said they would not join the strike until it was sanctioned by order of President Gompers and the Executive Council. It has at last been thus officially sanctioned.]

HALF A SCORE INJURED.

A 1,000-Barrel Naphtha Still Explodes With Terrific Force—The Whole City of Lima Shaken—List of the Men Who Were Hurt.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

LIMA, O., January 6.—At 3 o'clock this afternoon one of the large 1,000-barrel stills of the naptha works at the Standard Solar Refinery exploded with a terrific force that was felt all over the city. The still was located in the naphtha works, at the East end, and the concussion shook houses in the southern part of the city. At the South School building it nearly caused a panic among the children. The still was being emptied, when in some way not yet explained it exploded, tearing away a portion of the roof. A number of men who were working near were covered with debris. The oil immediately caught fire, causing considerable excitement.

The men employed in other parts of the works came rushing to the rescue, and the work of removing the injured was immediately commenced. William Culver, foreman, was found insensible under a pile of brick, with a bad gash on the head and face terribly burned. Peter Devine, a brick mason, had his right leg broken in two places and was badly bruised and burned. Their injuries are serious, and may prove fatal. J. F. Dreman's face and hands were badly burned. William Murphy, J. L. Galler, L. E. Heiser, Walter Evans, Frank White and John Sullivan were bruised and burned, but are not thought to be seriously injured. Charles Landkammer was thrown quite a distance into a tank of water and came very near drowning. The company immediately sent for Drs. Vail, Haver and Metzer to minister to the wounded.

The fire was extinguished without any great loss of property.

New Street Railway Chartered.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

HARRISBURG, January 6.—The Boyd Street Railway Company, of Pittsburg, capital, $3,000, was chartered to-day to build a line one-eighth of a mile long, from Forbes to Diamond street.

DASHED INTO A CREEK.

Peculiar Wreck of a Wrecking Train Near Wellston—Two Men Killed and Eighteen Others Quite Seriously Injured.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

ELMIRA, N. Y., January 6.—An accident occurred on the Fall Brook road, late last night, near Wellsboro, Pa., which resulted in the death of two men and serious injuries to 18 others. The work train, with a crew of 16 men, in charge of Master Mechanic Baker, was returning to Wellsboro from work a few miles south of there. On the way out from the village in the morning, while passing a bridge, it was noticed that the derrick on the wrecker touched the top of the bridge. Mr. Baker noted the fact, and when the train started to return at night, he instructed the engineer to run slowly.

As the train passed Stokesville Junction, a number of men and boys who had walked down to see the wreck of the trains that collided last Thursday climbed on the wrecker to ride. The train proceeded slowly, at about four miles an hour. Reaching the bridge, the engine and tender passed over safely, but the derrick again caught the bridge cover, and the next instant the bridge broke down, landing the train with its human freight into the creek.

Grant Milliken, Daniel Howard and Conrad Dittenhoffer were standing on the platform when the crash occurred. Milliken's neck was broken and Howard received a blow on the head killing him instantly. Dittenoffer's arm and leg were horribly crushed beneath the heavy timbers. William Brew, a telegraph operator, was taken from the wreck unconscious, but he will recover. John Roberts had three ribs broken. Master Mechanic Baker was badly hurt. William Francis, S. B. Demmeck, William Greene, about 18 in all, were more or less injured. The two men killed were married.

KANSAS CATCHES IT.

The Worst Blizzard of the Season Sweeping Over Western Prairies—A Change of 52 Degrees in 52 Hours—Heavy Snow Storms.

KANSAS CITY, January 6.—Dispatches from Kansas and Missouri say that a blizzard of considerable severity prevails throughout these two States to-night. In Kansas the wind it from the northwest and blows at a high velocity. The temperature is very low, near the zero point, and although the snow is not falling to any great depth on the level it is drifting badly in places. As yet no reports have been received of delayed railway traffic.

The worst blizzard of the season struck Emporia yesterday afternoon, and has been in progress ever since, with a fierce northwest wind, accompanied by snow. The thermometer fell 52 degrees in a few hours and this morning was as low as 24° below freezing. This evening the storm continues and snow has fallen so deep that it is feared travel on the railroads will be delayed.

THE REPUBLICAN PRIMARIES.

The County Committee Selects January 25 as the Date.

The Republican City Committee met last night and held a very short session. Chairman Flinn was absent, and Secretary McCleary called the meeting to order, after which 'Squire Gripp was elected Temporary Chairman.

On taking the chair Mr. Gripp announced the objects of the meeting, and said that he had been requested by Mr. Gourley, who was a member of the committee, to say that an engagement to speak at the Mt. Washington school dedication prevented him from being present.

R. R. Warren, of the Sixteenth ward, presented the following:

Resolved, That primary elections be held by the Republican electors of the several districts throughout the city of Pittsburg, on Saturday, the 25th day of January, A. D. 1890, between the hours of 4 o'clock P. M. and 7 o'clock P. M., to elect delegates to the several city conventions, to be convened upon the following Tuesday at such times and places as the chairman of the committee shall designate, as follows:

Convention No. 1 to nominate a candidate for Mayor.

Convention No. 2 to nominate a candidate for Controller.

Convention No. 3 to nominate a candidate for City Treasurer.

Also to elect from each district, one person to be a member of the Republican City Executive Committee.

There was no discussion, the resolution was adopted, and the committee adjourned, at the call of the chair.

MUST EXPRESS THEIR OPINIONS.

The State Grange to Ask Gubernatorial Candidates How They Stand.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

PHILADELPHIA, January 6.—Leonard Rhone, W. S. Thomas, and other prominent member of the State Grange, were in the city to-day, for the purpose of holding a conference to arrange a series of questions on the subject of farm taxation, which will be presented to the several aspirants for gubernatorial honors, with a request that each publicly declare his standing on the question.

The conference was broken off by reason of the illness of Mr. Rhone, who was severely attacked by sickness, as a consequence of which he was forced to return home. The officers of the grange will arrange another conference, to be held at an early day.

SALISBURY THREATENS PORTUGAL.

The Marquis Demands Prompt Satisfaction for Serpo Pinto's Acts.

LONDON, January 6.—The *Times'* Lisbon correspondent says another note from the Marquis of Salisbury was delivered to-day. It is believed that this note threatens that unless prompt satisfaction is given for Serpa Pinto's action there will be an immediate rupture of diplomatic relations.

The Cabinet was immediately convened and Senor Gomez was charged to answer at once. The Portuguese claims and pretenses were ignored somewhat cavalierly in the Marquis of Salisbury's former note.

A STATE CONVENTION CALLED.

West Virginia Republicans to Discuss the Remarkable Political Situation.

WHEELING, January 6.—A call has been issued by Chairman Burlew, of the recent conference of representative Republicans of the State, for a State meeting of members of the party, to be held at Charleston on the 22d instant.

The purpose of the convention, or conference, is to discuss the present remarkable political situation in West Virginia, and to discuss plans for the reorganization of the party in harmony with the State league of clubs, committees, etc.

POISONED A WHOLE FAMILY.

Terrible Crime Charged Against a Young Boy in Charleston, W. Va.

HUNTINGTON, W. Va., January 6.—Edward Church, a 17-year-old boy living with his father near this place, is charged with poisoning the entire family by putting "Rough on Rats" in their bread. One little girl is dead, and four others of the family are believed to be dying. The young murderer confessed his crime to a friend and then fled. He has not been apprehended.

THE TRENTON TERROR

Tragedy in a Threefold Form Follows That Kniffin Mystery.

THE MURDERED WOMAN'S HUSBAND

Gashes His Throat and Wrist and Then Drinks Deadly Poison

ONLY TO BE CALLED BACK TO LIFE.

Discouraged and Chagrined at the Suspicions Haunted Him.

Trenton's tragic mystery yielded its second terrible result at an early stage of the drama. Dr. Kniffin, whose wife was poisoned to death, and whose pretty typewriter wasn't, tried suicide yesterday, from at least three standpoints. He took too much poison. He tells his story, as does also each of those who visited the slaughter-house scene of terror.

TRENTON, N. J., January 6.—This city had a fresh and startling sensation this morning when it was learned that Dentist Arthur S. Kniffin, whose wife was found dead in her bed Friday morning, had attempted suicide by cutting his throat and by swallowing poison. The poison taken was, however, an overdose and was thrown off soon after it was swallowed. The noise made by the retching attracted the attention of his brother-in-law, Roscoe Murphy, who was in the next room. He thought some one had been taken ill, and started to investigate. He found the Doctor lying undressed on the bed in the room where the murder had been committed. The front of his nightshirt was covered with blood. He was still conscious.

"What have you been trying to do, Arthur?" asked Murphy. "Trying to end my wretched life," said Kniffin.

VERY CERTAIN HE GOT IT.

The household was aroused, and Drs. Shepherd and Cooper were at once sent for, and a messenger hastily dispatched to the home of Druggist Patterson on Mercer street. When Patterson came in he said when told of the poison:

"Why, I don't believe he got any poison."

"Yes, I did," said the doctor. "I got it of your boy, Ed Wilkes, early yesterday morning before you got to the store."

While binding the wounded throat, Dr. Cooper, who is a close friend of the Kniffin family, and who has been their next door neighbor for years, asked: "What is the matter, Kniffin? Why do you want to die?"

"I think it is better so. I hope I will die, and if I don't succeed now—but that's no matter. Look at the prospect before me! What will become of me?"

"What do you mean? You have friends who believe in you," returned Dr. Cooper.

"No, I haven't. They have all gone back on me; all gone back on me," moaned Kniffin despondently.

A MOST GRUESOME SCENE.

Dr. Cooper then picked up the empty bottle from the floor and asked: "What was in this?"

"Aconite," answered his patient.

"Was the bottle full? Did you swallow it all?" asked the physician.

"Yes, every drop of it. I was afraid of the knife," returned Kniffin.

Dr. Shepherd, referring to Kniffin, said, leaving the house:

A more gruesome scene I have seldom witnessed than when I entered Mr. Kniffin's chamber this morning. Blood was everywhere—on the bed, his clothes, his hair, his hands, his face, and the carpet and walls. The gas was turned full head, and everything was in disorder. The unfortunate fellow had cut his wrist, attempting to sever the radial artery, and so bleed to death, but had not succeeded, and then in desperation he gashed his throat, but even then did not succeed in his purpose of ripping the jugular vein. I said to him: "Doctor, when did you do this?" and he replied: "I guess about 1 o'clock this morning. I used the razor and swallowed an ounce of aconite afterward, fearing I would not succeed the other way.

TRAGIC IN THE EXTREME.

David Purcell, brother of Miss Purcell, gave this account of the details of Dr. Kniffin's attempted suicide:

We sat up last night keeping Dr. Palmer company, as he intended taking the 1:57 train for New Brunswick. When we left, Dr. Kniffin said that being fatigued, he thought a bath would do him good, and he went to the bath room and I retired. We were to sleep together. As I passed afterward, Dr. Kniffin, on entering the bathroom, put a horse blanket against the window and spread another one on the floor. He then took an old razor and drew it across his throat, but gashed his wrist slightly. He sat down on a chair then, and allowed the blood to trickle down on the blanket, holding his elbows on his knees, and hands along his jaws. Sometime later I heard him in bed alongside me. He was rolling uneasily, and I went to another bed. This was along toward 3 o'clock.

LIKE A GORY SPECTER.

A few minutes later I heard him vomiting, and returned to the room, finding him sitting up and covered with blood. He said he had cut himself while in the bath room, and swallowed the aconite there before coming to bed with me. He also told me he had thrown the poison off. I sent for the doctors, and meantime asked him why he had attempted his life. He said: "I have nothing to live for." "You have your boy and your reputation to live for," I answered. "My boy," said he, "will be well cared for; and as for my character, I am satisfied to let it rest with my friends."

The doctor who made the post-mortem examination of Mrs. Kniffin's body states:

My examination shows that Mrs. Kniffin's death was painless and sudden. She died instantaneously. There can be no doubt of it. The cavities of the heart were entirely empty, and, in fact, every indication

POINTED TO INSTANT DEATH.

It is a very difficult matter to state positively that death in any case was caused by chloroform. The indications are not positive enough. I also want to say why death came so quickly. While making the examination I found a fatty substance about the heart, and I believe that Mrs. Kniffin was troubled with her heart. Where a case of that kind exists, neither physicians nor dentists dare to use anæsthetics, for fear of a fatal ending. In her case an anæsthetic meant instant death. It was administered and she died at the moment. When I made my first examination, the day after the murder, the hands were not clenched, as reported by several newspaper correspondents, nor were her features distorted. Her face was as peaceful as though she was asleep."

The Coroner's inquest was deferred from to-day until Wednesday.

AN ACTOR MURDERED FOR MONEY.

Henry Buchanan Found by His Company Poisoned and Robbed.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

CHILLICOTHE, MO., January 6.—Henry Buchanan, a member of the Buchanan Comedy Company, was foully murdered at Stanberry, Mo., Saturday night. A member of the company was here to-night, and gave to THE DISPATCH correspondent some of the particulars. The murdered man met at Stanberry a stranger named Wallace, and the two took in the town together and became intoxicated. When the company met for rehearsal, Buchanan was found sitting on a chair on the stage. Supposing him to be drunk, they paid no attention to him.

During the progress of the rehearsal Buchanan suddenly fell from the chair, and when picked up was dead. An examination showed that he had been poisoned. No money was found on his person, and a clear case of murder and robbery was revealed. Wallace was arrested, and circumstances point strongly to his guilt.

SILK AND SUGAR.

The Two Topics of Discussion at Yesterday's Tariff Hearing—Arguments For and Against the Duty on Sugar—Tobacco to be Tackled Next.

WASHINGTON, January 6.—The gentleman to appear before the Ways and Means Committee this morning was F. Cheney, of South Manchester, Conn., President of the Silk Association of America. While the Senate bill, he said, made an average reduction of 10 per cent on the duty on silk, it was acceptable to him. A number of other witnesses, all interested in the attempts to grow cocoons and produce raw silk in this country, were heard.

The committee next passed to the sugar industry. John Dymond, President of the Sugar Planters' Association, read a memorial of that association asking for protection sufficient to the sugar industry to enable the United States to produce its own sugar. Mr. Dymond said free sugar from the Sandwich Islands did not affect the price of sugar in this country, and was not, therefore, detriment to the sugar industry of the United States. The industry is being extended in Louisiana; sugar makers leasing more land every year for the growth of cane. Louisiana produces, he said, one-eighth of all the sugar consumed in the United States.

Governor Warmouth, of Louisiana, was the next witness. He said it was strange to find representatives of protection interests in the North and West crying aloud for a "free breakfast table," which does not mean free pork to us. "I speak feelingly upon this subject," continued the witness, "because I have conducted some political campaigns in my State. Everywhere I went I was met with Representative So-and-so's speech from Pennsylvania, and Ohio, and Michigan, in favor of a reduction of 50 per cent of the tariff on sugar. I must say that in the face of these speeches, I have not been as successful in converting my Democratic friends as could have been desired.

Mr. LaFollette—Would not a bounty suit you?

Governor Warmouth—The effect of a bounty, after a year's experiment, would be the destruction of the sugar industry.

Mr. LaFollette—Why so?

Governor Warmouth—For the reason that the country can see that a bounty is a tariff, and it we are singled out for the receipt of a bounty, a demand will arise for its abolition that cannot be resisted.

Representative Peters, of Kansas, called a bounty on sugar a contemptible thing. Mr. Henry T. Oxnaat, of Grand Island, Neb., made an argument in favor of protection to the beet sugar industry, predicting that within 20 years beet root would outstrip the the sugar cane and sorghum in the production of sugar.

The committee adjourned till to-morrow, when representatives of the tobacco interests are to be heard.

TALKS FROM THE SHOULDER.

Inspector McAleese Says Some Significant Things About Wishart and Speak-Easies — Disorderly Houses on Grant Street.

The war upon the speak-easys is a determined one. John Sterling was held yesterday on three charges of selling liquor on Sunday and without license in $1,000 each. Peter Harnahan is in jail on the same number of charges on $500 each by Alderman Warner, and Inspector McAleese says there are some more to come, but holds the informations back until catching the delinquents in the act, as he did Sterling, Mrs. Conolly and others.

In reply to a statement said to have been made by Captain Wishart yesterday that he had raided the same places classed by the police action of Sunday, Inspector McAleese says:

We are not going into the fining business. We propose to land those people in either the workhouse or the penitentiary. I do not antagonize Mr. Wishart, nor do I desire his assistance. The Sunday selling must be suppressed independent of his efforts, even on the eve of an election as has been said. I shall see that I have sufficient evidence from the officers who have a right to procure it to place a very great number behind the bars, but you will not find a compromised case in the number, and I shall bring no case before the grand jury, against which a true bill will not be found, even if I have to bring a good many unwilling witnesses into court.

Referring to the closing out of disorderly houses the Inspector said:

We have made a prohibitory district on Grant street for this kind of business and two or three instances within the last few weeks which have been quietly manipulated will show it. A woman named Annie Fleishman was a few weeks ago furnishing a house on the corner of First and Grant in fine style for such purposes and Coulson and I visited the place a few nights ago and told her to vacate. She wanted to make terms, but no terms could be made, as we are bound to keep that thoroughfare clear, and no promises of hers to keep quiet and so forth would avail. She turned over the house and furniture to Annie Fisher. We warned her and she said she had not bought the furniture and we locked her up. The place will be closed by dinner time to-morrow. We shall hold Mrs. Powers, of Chartiers, the owner of the property, accountable for the tenants she rents to hereafter, to which effect she is notified to-day.

Edna Wallace, who tried to open up at 111 Grant street, is now in jail and held for court, her former record at 18 Liberty street being enough to convict her, if nothing else. W. A. Herron & Sons made her vacate that place. The agent for that property is Mr. McFarland, the attorney. There are two or three other places which will be made vacant this week, and you will find that we will make Grant street for respectable people to live in from end to end.

Another thing I notice is that Musgrave's places are being filled with undesirable tenants, and I wish to remind him that his last sentence may be increased unless his Liberty street property is kept clean.

A RUMPUS AT JEANNETTE.

The Citizens Exercised Over the Erection of the School House—Discharge of a Glassblower.

Feeling is at high tension at Jeannette over the location of the new school house. The Directors of the School Board, who number seven, are divided on the question; one section favoring the erection of the building on a site some distance from the town, which would necessitate the children crossing and recrossing the railroad tracks and walking for a portion of the way along the line. The others are decided on having the school house built in the middle of the town, where these disadvantages would not exist.

William Taylor, a glassblower in the Chambers & McKee factory, is a member of the board who favors the town site, and because he would not withdraw his opposition to the counter scheme, he was notified on last Friday, by Superintendent George Moore, of the Chambers factory, to seek work elsewhere. Mr. Moore is a strong advocate for the hill site and it is charged that, finding he could not win Taylor over to his plans, decided to dispense