

A HUNDRED MILLIONS

The Amount Pension Commissioner Raun Signs Away This Year.

GREATEST OFFICE IN THE WORLD.

Letters Four in at the Rate of Ten Thousand by Every Day's Mail.

LARGEST BUILDING MADE OF BRICK.

Pensions Paid to the Widows of Illustrious Soldiers of Three Wars.

Frank G. Carpenter has drawn for THE DISPATCH a pleasing pen picture of General Green B. Raun, the pension commissioner...

WASHINGTON, March 1. SHORT, broad-shouldered man, with a big, half-bald head and a long beard of black mingled with gray...

THE pension commissioner's room at the Pension Office yesterday. Every surrounding of the man was that of business.

A big desk at his back was littered with letters waiting to be taken to the little stenographer who was rapidly transcribing notes in one corner of the room...

At the end of the room was a desk at which the stenographer was sitting, and in another corner of the room the click of the typewriter went merrily on.

About the room, seated on the red cushions of chairs backed against the wall were a score of noted congressmen from every part of the Union...

These men, and the pension commissioner, were sitting around a table, and in the center of the table was a large map of the United States...

The pension commissioner, General Green B. Raun, was sitting at the head of the table, and the other members of the pension committee were seated around him.

A moment later the senator was gone and Senator Springer, of Illinois, took his place. He was disposed of in the same easy manner, and I noted that the returns of the stenographer were accepted quite as pleasantly as his own.

A HUNDRED MILLIONS TO PAY. This stout, broad-shouldered, dark-whiskered, hazel-eyed man was General Green B. Raun, the pension commissioner...

At 10 his doors are open and the crowd is let in. He has about 300 callers a day and he makes it a point to see everyone.

Many applicants have to be refused and there are now and then stormy times. General Raun makes it a principle not to lose his temper about business matters and he is as diplomatic as possible.

He promises what he can and refuses what he cannot, and he disposes of the crowds very rapidly. His calls continue until 2 o'clock. He then takes a lunch if he has not had his before.

Then he is in his office. It consists of a piece of breakfast and a biscuit, with a glass of hot milk. He is very careful of his health and he watches his diet.

THE COMMISSIONER'S HOME. After 2 P. M. he receives the chief of his department, considers knotty pension cases and remains at work until 5 o'clock when he drops his papers and goes home.

General Raun lives here in Washington on Rhode Island avenue near Iowa Circle. He has a house worth at least \$25,000, and this is very comfortably furnished.

A part of his income is derived from rents, and he has a sideboard, which came from Grand Rapids, Mich., took a number of prizes at State fairs before he purchased it.

The business of the Pension Office can hardly be appreciated. The files of its cases would carpet a state if the papers were spread out. The old documents and records would make a strip as wide as a wagon road and long enough to reach around the whole world.

It has settled millions of claims, and there are now more than 400,000 cases in the office awaiting settlement. General Raun believes that the cases should be made complete by the claimants, and at the present rate of progress, if the lawyers and claimants could have all these 400,000 cases ready for action to-day, he thinks that in seven or eight months the bureau would stand even with the world and everything would be finished up to that date.

MILLIONS OF LETTERS. His mail is immense. The Pension Commissioner gets fully 3,000,000 letters a year and 2,000,000 of these require prompt answers. Think of 3,000,000 letters! Each one will contain at least a foot of note paper and if you would paste the letters together, the mail received by this man in a single year would make a ribbon six inches wider than the world.

Estimating each letter at two cents stamp it makes \$60,000 for postage, and when you figure up the labor and brains, the worry and trouble, you have embodied a number of lifetimes in this one letter.

Ten thousand letters a week! More than 3,000,000 letters a year! This is what the Pension Office mail amounts to. The most of the letters are, however, managed by clerks, and the Pension Office postoffice and distributing room is the big street of many a village postoffice.

Nearly every letter requires research and many of them consume several sheets of note paper. Nevertheless about 10,000 are answered every day.

letters received from Congressmen amount to about 1,000 a day and Congressmen's letters must always be answered. More than 2,000 pension cases are settled every week and during the last six days 1,018 invalids have received pensions and 548 pensions have been granted to widows, 613 men have been granted an increase of pension and 1,783 new claims have been admitted.

BIG BUSINESS AND BIG BUILDING. At present there are nearly half a million claims pending in the Pension Office and the department is paying out more than a million and a half of dollars in pensions every week. It is the biggest business of the kind in the world and it grows bigger every year.

Let me tell you something about the building in which this immense business is transacted. It is the biggest brick building in the world and its mighty roof covers two acres of ground. It is made of red pressed brick, a mighty three-story structure with a great glass roof rising tier by tier over it.

The biggest brick structure of the past was the baths of Diocletian, the ruins of which stand by the Via Nazionale, in Rome. These baths were a mile in circumference, their interior was finished in marble and Egyptian granite and they had 3,000 mosaic seats for bathers. Wonderful mosaics covered its floors, hot and cold water continually flowed to the use of the bather and the driblets of pipecleaners could have access to them for one-eighth of a cent a time.

It may be that General Meigs had this immense structure in his mind when he modeled the baths of Diocletian, the ruins of which stand by the Roman palaces of the fifteenth century and it consists of a series of big rooms around a great central court.

CONCRETE AN ACRES. This court is much like the court of St. Mark's in Venice, save that St. Mark's has only the Italian sky to roof it, while the Pension Court is protected from the cold by a sky of glass and its immense glass roof is upheld by 80 mighty brick columns higher than any city house outside of a flat and taller than any tree in America outside of California. Each of these columns contains enough brick to build two good-sized houses, and in the ages of the future they may stand here like obelisks when the rest of the building has crumbled into ruins.

Around this great court are areades rising gallery above gallery and opening out from the three stories of rooms. Some of the columns of these are gilded or bronzed, the finish of the court, the columns and the walls, is in white, the great diamond glass roof is set in framed mosaic of yellow and the great acre of floor is of colored tiles.

In the center of the whole a great fountain sends up a silvery spray and the whole is one of the curiosities of architecture. It was in this building that the last two inaugural balls have been held and it is here that all the great balls of the future President will be celebrated. At present the floor is filled with great cases of files and you may walk for a mile in and out through the aisles surrounded by these great cases of pension papers.

SOME ILLUSTRIOUS PENSIONERS. In these old papers may be found the names of the great men of our history. Blaine's great-grandmother got a pension, President Grant and Lincoln received land for their services in the Mexican and Civil Wars. Robert E. Lee got 100 acres of land for the work he did as a soldier, and General Sherman, General Meigs and Jefferson Davis received the same amount for their services. The Mexican War pensioners are fast dying out and there are at present but few left.

At present only 7 years old at the beginning of this century and the war closed 17 years before that. The youngest Revolutionary widow is Mrs. Grant and Mrs. Garfield are the only Presidents' wives who now receive pensions. They get \$3,000 a year by a special act of Congress. Mrs. President Lincoln got \$2,000 a year from 1850 to 1863. Her amount was then increased to \$5,000 and it continued until her death.

WIDOWS OF NOTED SOLDIERS. The daughter of President Zach Taylor gets \$30 a month, and she receives this for her services in the Mexican War. Among the noted widows of General War are those of E. D. Baker, Whipple, Sumner, Robert Anderson, an Indian woman of T. L. George H. Custer, the Indian fighter; of Daniel McCook and Frank P. Blair. Mrs. John A. Logan gets \$40 a week by a special act of Congress, and the widow of Admiral Farragut receives \$2,000 a year in the same way. Phil Kearney's widow did get \$30 a month, but I am told she has married again, and the sum now goes to her children. Mrs. General Hancock gets a pension, and there are a number of other soldiers' widows who have been pensioned by a special act of Congress. FRANK G. CARPENTER.

AS A NERVE TONIC. Use HERRING'S Acid Phosphate. Dr. S. I. Williams, Clarence, Iowa, says: "I have used it to great effect in cases of neuralgia, headache, and in uterine difficulties. Also, in general debility, and it has given me a new nerve tonic. I think it is the best I have ever used, and can recommend it most confidently."

Never Too Late to Mend. Mend what? you will say. Why, your old clothes, to be sure, and Dickson, the tailor, of 67 Fifth ave., cor. Wood st., second floor, is the man who makes old clothes look like new for a trifle. Telephone 1558.

LACE CURTAINS.—Our assortments were never so large nor prices so reasonable in this season. See our new designs and values from 75c to \$5 per pair.

HUGUS & HACKE. Call at 47 Lewis block, Sixth ave., and examine our late arrivals of styles and fashions. TTSU.

AT THE OLD STAND! BARGAINS GREATER THAN EVER

OUR PRICES DID IT!

Our elegant assortment of goods did it. Our easy terms did it. The courteous treatment of our customers did it. Good goods at living prices did it. They will always do it. Competition cannot live under such a strain. They either break up or go out of the neighborhood in which we do business. People appreciate the fact that when they deal with us they will be treated more like human beings than victims of highway robbers; and now that we have ALL Wood street to ourselves, we will show the public such a series of

Bargains in Bedroom Furniture, Parlor Furniture (our own make), Axminster, Moquette, Velvet, Body, Tapestry and Ingrain Carpets,

With suitable Rugs, all-Chenille and Lace Curtains, Folding Beds, Sideboards, Wardrobes, Children's, Hall Racks, Parlor Cabinets, etc., etc. Specialties in odd pieces of parlor goods. Specialties in Easy Chairs for Gents. Specialties in Ladies' Rockers. Estimating each letter at two cents stamp it makes \$60,000 for postage, and when you figure up the labor and brains, the worry and trouble, you have embodied a number of lifetimes in this one letter.

Examine some of our bargains before buying elsewhere.

HOPPER BROS. & CO., 307 WOOD STREET. 307 NEAR CORNER FOURTH AVENUE N. B.—Baby Carriages now ready for inspection. mh2-wsu

LATE NEWS IN BRIEF.

—The fire at the Cameron Colliery, at Shamokin, Pa., is thought to be under control. —Ex-Governor Oglesby, of Illinois, denies that he is a candidate for the United States Senate. —The builders' strike at Wheeling is expected to be settled soon by mutual concessions. —Broomers are congregated around Armstrong City awaiting the opening of the Cherokee Strip to settlement. —State Senator R. H. Olay has been appointed Librarian and Adjutant General of West Virginia. —The missionary steamer Glad Tidings, reported to be lost at sea, has arrived safely at Port Simpson, B. C. —Mortgages to the amount of \$1,100,000 on the Jacksonville and Southeastern Railway Company have been foreclosed. —A man named Holmes, his wife and two children were murdered for a few dollars in the Indian Territory by outlaws. —Brookly Smith has been convicted of murder in the first degree for the killing of Mrs. Brown at Cincinnati. Smith pleaded insanity. —Six men got into a fight Friday at Ritzville, Wash., over the ownership of some hay. Four were wounded, L. C. and Virgil Wilson fatally. —Rev. Barker Shields, a revivalist at Danville, Ill., has been threatened with violence, and he conducts meetings guarded by armed disciples. —Thirty-four applications for liquor licenses were made at the next term of the (Pa.) County Court. J. U. will remonstrate. —A land dispute at Sausalito, Cal., resulted in the killing of George William and D. Cook by W. A. Gardner and W. E. Carmichael. A Russian posse is hunting the murderers. —Several thousand employees of the cotton mills at Lancaster, Pa., will work hereafter but ten hours a day in compliance with the recent act of Legislature. Eleven farms has heretofore constituted a day's work. —Chauncey M. Depew declined to be a candidate for President of the New York Central Railroad to prepare as a candidate for the presidency in 1892. Mr. Depew says there is no truth whatever in the report. —Three men were probably fatally injured in a wreck on the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul fast mail train and a freight train at Oakwood, Wis., yesterday morning. The injured ones are Eugene Carroll and his fiancée of the passenger train, and the rear brakeman of the freight. The damage will exceed \$50,000. —At New York John Grierson was found dead in bed yesterday morning, having committed suicide with illuminating gas. He had attached a rubber tube to the gas burner, turned on the gas and buried his head under the bedding with the end of the tube in his mouth. The suicide was a man of some prominence in the scientific world and in railroad circles. —John L. Spencer, a well-known farmer of Somerset county, N. J., has disappeared from his home, and it is reported that startling irregularities have been discovered in his business and personal accounts. A number of cases on which he has secured money from Plainfield and Newark banks are said to be bearing indications. Speculation is supposed to have led to his downfall. —The large number of English horses exported to this country has created a demand for them abroad is unabated. Over 14,000 were sold away from the country last year, and fears are expressed that the English stock is in danger of deterioration by the loss of its best blood. The London Eves assures its fellow countrymen of a fact which may be interesting to buyers, that although the condescending foreigners pay for the best, they by no means get the best. —ONE of the requisites of a pleasant stay in the city of New York is a comfortable hotel which is centrally located where moderate prices are charged. The Warwick House, Broadway and Twenty-ninth st., fulfills these requirements.

For To-morrow We offer the finest line of men's suits at \$10 ever shown in Pittsburgh. You know our superb make of clothing. Call Monday and Tuesday, P. C. C. Grant and his son, Cor. Grant and Diamond st., opp. the new Court House.

MR. W. M. STARZ, 334 Beaver ave., Allegheny, has a large stock of diamonds and jewelry, four years standing by Prof. Wandram's Herb Powders. Druggists 25c.

CASH paid for old gold and silver at Hauch's, No. 235 Fifth ave. wsu

FOR A good fitting suit go to Pitcairn's, 434 Wood st.

WM. GRABOWSKY, THE HATTER. Our new spring styles of Ladies' Straw Hats are made to order and will meet the demands of our many friends and customers. Our good work has established our reputation as first-class and tasty makers.

The New Galatea is extremely novel and will be a leader this season. Come in and see our many new shapes. We will renovate your old-fashioned hats to any of our new spring styles by our new electric process, rendering the hats as good as new in every respect. Bring your Hat or Bonnet now; do not wait for the usual rush. The leading styles are all in. Hatters and Hats dyed to any sample. Black a specialty. We will get your work done at the reliable old business stand of

WM. GRABOWSKY, 707 Penn Avenue, OPP. PENN BUILDING. mh28-wsu

J. DIAMOND, Optician. 22 SIXTH STREET, Pittsburgh, Pa. Spectacles adapted to every defect of sight. Optical, Ophthalmic, Electrical Instruments. Thermometers, Barometers, etc. Artificial Eyes Inserted. Jd25-TTSU

Call at 47 Lewis block, Sixth ave., and examine our late arrivals of styles and fashions. TTSU.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Good morning! Paris Exposition, 1889.

Pears obtained the only gold medal awarded solely for toilet SOAP in competition with all the world. Highest possible distinction.

HAIR ON THE FACE, NECK, ARMS OR ANY PART OF THE PERSON

DISAPPEAR AND QUICKLY REMOVED WITH THE NEW SOLUTION MODENE

AND THE GROWTH FOREVER DESTROYED WITHOUT THE SLIGHTEST INJURY OR IRRITATION OF THE MOST DELICATE SKIN. DISCOVERED BY ACCIDENT.

IN COMPOSING an incomplete mixture was accidentally spilled on the back of the hand, and on washing after it was discovered that the hair was completely removed. We purchased the new discovery and named it MODENE. It is perfectly pure, free from all but purest water, and so simple any one can use it. It acts quickly but surely, and you will be surprised and delighted with the results. Apply for a few bottles and you will see the hair disappearing as if by magic. It has no connection whatever with any other preparation ever used for a like purpose, and no scientific discovery ever attempted to remove it permanently. The hair grows such as the beard or hair on moles may require two or more applications before all the roots are destroyed, although all hair will be removed at each application. IF IT CANNOT FALL, IF THE GROWTH BE HELD IN CHECK, AND THE HAIR DESTROYED, IT MUST BE REMOVED BY THE ACTION OF MODENE. It penetrates the hair follicle or sac and dissolves the life principle, thereby rendering it incapable of growing again, and it is so harmless to the skin. Modene is sold in a safe mailing case, postage paid (secured from observation) on receipt of price, \$1.00. Largest size bottle, containing three times as much Modene, and sufficient for any case, \$2.00 per bottle. Send money by letter, with your full address written plainly. Correspondence strictly private and confidential. (ADDRESS TO THE MANUFACTURER.)

AGENTS: MODENE MANUFACTURING CO., CINCINNATI, O. (GENERAL AGENTS MANUFACTURERS OF THE HIGHEST GRADE HAIR PREPARATIONS. [SEE ADVERTISERS WANTED.])

\$1000 REWARD. To assure the public of the merits of Modene, we send with each bottle a legal agreement to forfeit \$1,000 to any purchaser if Modene fails to permanently remove the hair, or disfigure or injure the skin in the slightest manner, or produces any unpleasant result on the face or feeling when applying or over afterwards. EVERY BOTTLE GUARANTEED. (Cut this out.)

Full lines now on sale.

Although it is early in the season, we are selling daily a number of those beautiful Flower Bonnets you may see in our windows. You will be surprised at their low price. We do the leading Millinery business of Pittsburgh, because our stock is the largest and best, and our prices the lowest.

Lots of new shapes in Ladies' and Children's Straw Hats, exquisite Flowers, Tips, Ribbons, Trimmings, etc.

Dress Trimmings. The latest fad is new Buckles, small and very long. Eiffel Points, Tinsel, Gold and Silver Gimps, Cut Steel Trimming, Zouave Frongs, Gold and Silver Soutache Braids, Colored and Black Grids, Scotch Plaid Braids, Silk Gimps, Colored and Black Fringes, etc.

NEW RUCHINGS. Pearl, Tinsel and Bead Ruchings, entirely new and in largest variety. 250 dozen beautiful Embroidered Ties at 10c, 15c, 18c, 20c, 25c, up to the finest at \$1.

TIDIES. Would you care to crochet a tidy for 25c? We have bought a lot on the other side, where money goes a long way, so we can sell you a beautiful hand-crocheted Tidy at 25c; and the same, larger sizes, at 38c and 50c. Flower Silk Tidies, fringed ends, plain and painted, at 68c and 75c.

OUR ART DEPARTMENT SHOWS FRESH ATTRACTIONS DAILY.

Spring Gloves. This department always crowded. Stock complete with fresh goods. Full lines of the celebrated Empress Kid Gloves at \$1. The Bon Marche, five hooks, 8c; seven hooks, \$1. The Alexander French Kid, \$1.25. Seven-hook Superieure, \$1.75. Fine Black and Colored Suedes, \$1 and \$1.50.

Extra values in New Spring Hosiery, Spring Underwear, White Goods, Corsets, Embroideries and Laces. All these in largest assortments.

Rosenbaum & Co. 610, 512 and 514 MARKET STREET.

LITERARY MARVEL—SIX 50 PER VOLUME.

We publish the Popular Reprint of the ENCYCLOPEDIA BRITANNICA from latest English edition, at \$2 50 per volume, being one-third the price of the original and one-half the price of the Scribner edition of the same work. We have reproduced all illustrations, maps and text, page for page and volume for volume. Complete sets of 24 vols. now ready for delivery on EASY payments. "The greatest work of the kind in the English language." A subscriber writes: "This is the best and the cheapest." All high-priced editions of this work in our office for comparison. The Circulars and sample pages mailed. Agents wanted.

THE HENRY G. ALLEN COMPANY, 708 and 741 Broadway, New York, and 17 SEVENTH STREET, PITTSBURGH, PA. Address all communications to Pittsburgh office. mh27

Most Desirable Goods In the Market, and we invite the ladies of Pittsburgh and Allegheny to call and examine.

R. P. Wallace & Co. 211 WOOD STREET AND 102 and 104 THIRD AVE.

OUR NEW HAT: THE CARNEGIE. The above cut gives a fair representation of our new hat, the CARNEGIE which is creating a furor in Europe at present. It is sold by Heath & Co., Lincoln, Ill. and by Heath & Co., of London; also, Dunlap & Co. and Youman & Co. of New York. SOLD ONLY BY Cor. Wood Street and Fifth Avenue. J. G. BENNETT & Co., mh28

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Decidedly Stylish and Popular RUBEN'S NEW SPRING SHAPE.

THE "PRESS" HAT \$1.50, \$1.00, \$2.00, \$2.40, \$2.90, \$3.40.

Although this handsome head covering has been before the public but a few weeks, we have already sold a larger number of them than any other shape whose sale has lasted during a whole season. We do not hesitate, therefore, to say that it will be a positive and unequalled success. We guarantee to all who buy one that they will wear the correct and stylish hat for the spring of 1890.

RUBEN, The Hatter and Furnisher, 421 and 423 SMITHFIELD ST. P. B.—Mail orders promptly filled. mh27-wsu

Spring Opening. SOUVENIRS FOR EVERYBODY

Easter SUITS: DRESSES:

Parents, whose boys will be confirmed this Easter or Spring, we're ready for you. We always show the finest assortment of Confirmation Suits in the city, but it has remained for this year to break all records in this respect. The suits we now display were expressly manufactured by us for confirmation purposes. They are made of the most exquisite imported materials, and are equal to the finest custom work turned out in Pittsburgh. Prices did you say? Well, just read: Short-pant Confirmation Suits, \$5, \$8, \$10 and \$12. Long-pant Confirmation Suits, \$6, \$9, \$12, \$15 and \$18.

These we display in our large and handsome Cloak Department. They are made of fine White Lawns and Swiss, plain or embroidered, and ranging in prices from \$1.50 to \$6. If your daughter is a candidate for Holy Communion or Confirmation, buy her dress now, while our assortment is complete. In this connection we wish to call your attention to our general assortment of Misses' and Children's Spring and Summer Dresses. The very latest and choicest novelties of the season are here. Dresses made of Cashmere, Jersey, Henrietta Cloth, Gingham, Challis, etc. And don't forget that in the matter of prices we always strike out for rock bottom. Beautiful novelties in Misses' Jackets and Reefers; have just been unpacked. See them.

MAGNIFICENT CONFIRMATION GIFTS. Every Boy or Girl getting a confirmation Suit at our store is requested to leave his or her address with the department manager, and several days before Easter, we will forward to every address an appropriate and costly Confirmation Present. ::

We Also Have the Pleasure ADDITIONAL ARRIVALS NEW SPRING STYLES IN

Children's Kilt Suits: Cute and charming designs, in one and two-piece Kilt Suits, in fancy, plaid and checked Flannels, Chevots, Mixtures, Cloths, etc.; sizes from 2 to 6; prices from \$2 to \$10. Many of these little garments are confined to us and cannot be found elsewhere in this city.

Boys' Short-Pant Suits: Although not half of our new spring stock has as yet been received, we nevertheless show even now a most dazzling and beautiful display of 2 and 3-piece Suits. The predominant materials this season are Fancy Chevots and Cassimeres, Scotch Plaids and Checks, large interwoven Plaids, etc.

Imported Woolens for our Custom Tailoring Department. Our sample display in window (on Fifth Avenue) will bare give you an idea of the excellence and vastness of our stock. Exquisite Suitings and Trouserings from England, Scotland, France and Germany. If you leave your measure we will guarantee you a perfect fit, faultless workmanship and a saving of about 25 per cent.

Jackets and Wraps: The continuous series of successes achieved by our Cloak Department has stimulated us to put forth our best energies for the coming spring season. We have laid in a stock as fine as it is fashionable, as large as it is gorgeous and tasteful. Our importation of Silk and Lace Wraps will fascinate every lady of taste, culture and refinement. As for Jackets, every one we show is tailor-made and trimmed in a most artistic and stylish manner.

LADIES' AND CHILDREN'S DRESSES AND SUITS. This is a new departure with us, and, if indications are worth anything a most successful one. Instead of following the footsteps of others whose very limited trade prompts their asking exorbitant profits, we started out on the broad gauge plan of big sales and small profits, so prevalent all over our house. This fact alone has already won for us hundreds of enthusiastic customers. Our Ladies' Jersey Dresses at \$2.75 and \$4 are still a drawing card, while our Cashmere Dresses at \$7 and our Ottoman Silk Dresses come in for a liberal share of admiration and patronage.

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CONFIRMATION CARD OF REASON March 2, 1890.

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