FIGHTING THE FLOOD

Strengthening the Levees.

ENTIRE COUNTIES UNDER WATER.

to House in Skiffs.

Is the Opinion of an Expert, Who Predicts Still Greater

The situation in the flooded districts is

still one of great gravity, although the peo-

ple are working hard and hopefully to keep

rivers within their banks. It is predicted

that the Arkansas levees will be unable to

MEMPHIS, TENN., March 14.-The river

rose one-tenth to-day, and is now 36.4 on

the gauge-the highest point ever re-

corded-and is still rising. The consensus

of opinion here is that the levees on the

Mississippi side will be able to withstand

the pressure of the great flood. The splendid

levee and equipment of the Mississippi

Valley Railroad are contributing in a ma-

terial degree to the preservation of the levees

in the Yazoo Delta. Nothing is being left

Arkausas City is far from reassuring, although the damage, should the levees give way, would be slight if comparison were made with the destruction which would

THE COUNTRY DESOLATED.

Passengers on the Louisville, New Or-leans and Texas Railroad, on trains leaving New Orleans last night and arriving here

this morning, were treated to novel scenes

along the road. The lowlands and lagoons in the Mississippi delta are flooded until

the dry land visible is the ridge on which

tion. Huts and cabins in lower lands are

submerged several feet in water. Tied at

their doors are skiffs and dugouts, which

afford the occupants their only means of

transit from one place to another. Every-

tion. The railroad embankment is still 12 or 15 feet above water and in no imminent

danger. The scene is picturesque in the ex-treme between Vicksburg and Lula, Miss.

In that district the water is highest, and

farmers who have not already moved are

BUSINESS SUSPENDED.

without warning. Fences and everything movable are gone. The country south of Newport, which embraces some of the finest

farms in the State, is also inundated. The

losses at Newport are very heavy regardless

A Helena special says: The river rose two

inches during the past 24 hours and is now four feet below high water mark. Mr. J. B.

Miles, an authority on river matters, says:

AN EXPERT'S OPINION.

The present indications are that the river

will go to or over the high water of 1886—48 feet

above that at Friar's Point, Miss. Below Old Town the water will be but little above 1886.

Above the Arkansas river the highest point

Above the Arkansas river the highest point will be reached about the 25th. The Arkansas river is now more than two feet higher than ever known and the levees on the Arkansas side will have to give way. When the fall reaches New Orleans many will suppose the danger is over, but the overflow of the Tensas swamp will return at the mouth of the Red river in two or three weeks and with the additional water here will raise the river below Baton Rouge until there are one or more crevasses. The east side of the river must be held until the weat side gives away.

intii the west side gives away.

Between Helena and the mouth of the St

Francis river there are very few spots of dry land and a rise of two feet will certainly

cover everything. Quite a number of houses have been abandoned by their tenants who have either removed to Helena or the high

ands. In some places the river is from five

LOUISIANA WILL GO UNDER.

A special from Vicksburg says: The steamer Helen Mead, under charter to Louisiana Levee Board for the past few

days, returned here last night. Her master

reports weakest places on the Louisiana

ide are Wilson's Point, Alsatia and Long-

wood levees, but conditions critical every-where. At Willow Point, La., he found

water running over levee. He is an ex-

perienced riverman and considers that

Louisiana will inevitably go under even if

the Mississippi levees were down.

President Maxwell, of the Louisiana

Levee Board, is in the city to buy material

He takes a more hopeful view of the situa-

tion and says his people are still hopefu

and working, though owing to rains in the

Louisiana line and the one where a crevasse

would do the most damage. Barges and 100 men are at work there. He regards the

situations very alarming on account of the rise in the upper rivers. He says the peo-ple of Louisiana are determined to hold

HOPFFUL AT NEW ORLEANS.

to seven miles wide.

of the loss of business.

making every preparation to do so.

levees and prevent disaster.

ensue should the east bank break.

withstand the pressure.

CANAL COMPETITION

A Powerful Factor in Persuading the Railroads to

GIVE LOW FREIGHT RATES.

Morgantown Would Like the C. & O. Extended to That City.

TOW PATHS TO BE ABOLISHED.

Practicability of Overhead Electric Wires Suggested

TO SUPERSEDE THE MULE AS A MOTOR.

The citizens of Morgantown would be ticability of the scheme there is, however, a difference of opinion. The value of water decreased railroad rates since steamboats began running on the upper Monongahela.

PEROM A STAFF COURSEPONDENT. MORGANTOWN, W. VA., March 14 .-"And so your trans-Allegheny towpath would end here?"

"No. sir." "Where, then? Possibly in the glades of Laurel Hill over yonder on the Cheat river?"

"No, sir." "Why, sir, I certainly could not have misunderstood what I read about this scheme. It was to be a canal from Cumberland to Morgantown to connect the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal with the Monongahela river. Is not that right?"

"Yes, sir, it is," "Well, of course, then, the towpath would end at Morgan-

"No sir. That is where you make the mistake. It is true the canal would end at Morgantown, but the tow-path-I think you said the 'tow-path,' sir?"

"Certainly, I said the tow-path! How in the name of common sense are you going to bring the canal to Morgantown without laying a tow-path beside it?"

CANALS OF THE FUTURE.

CONALS OF THE FUTURE.

"Ah, I see now. I was afraid your thoughts were clouded by the darkness of the early canal days. No, the tow-path will not end at Morgantown, neither will it could be much better spent by the Governbegin at Cumberland. In fact, there will ment for the development of this country.

The Monongabela river is finely slackbe no tow-path at all, but there will be no tow-path at all, but there will be a canal all the same. Edward Bellamy failed to look backward on the subject of canals. He could get out a second edition of all the year around. Now, it the his famous book on this alone, telling about money proposed to be spent on a trans-Allehow screw-propeller steam canal boats were gheny canal were put into the erection of how screw-propeller steam canal boats were successfully used on the rock-walled canal over the Alleghenies before all the mules of the Erie Canal had yet died off And then he could sketch the decay of the steam canal boat and describe the operation of electric boats climbing the briery mountain from the Potomac valley, and sizzing and whirring down the western slope to the

the friction of iron wheels and steel rails, the people of the year 2000 may ask why were we so long about erecting overhead wires for the softly-gliding canal boat. You are quite sure you used the word towpath in connection with the proposed trans-Allegheny canal, are you, my friend?"

MORGANTOWN'S UNIQUE POSITION. My traveling companion's imagination might have taken higher flights, but the supper bell of the Wallace House just at that moment gave the cynical holder of Baltimore and Ohio Railroad stocks and bonds a convenient means for escape.

Leaving the canal to the future (and the Maryland Legislature) and the problems of its construction to the engineers, I interviewed Morgantown business men as to what they desired most, railroads or waterways, and their answer-"We want both"brings us down to the things which exist to-day.

Since last December Morgantown has been a striking example of the influence which water navigation has upon railroads In that month the dam highest up the Monongabela river was opened to navigators, and ever since then steamboats have been plying between Pittsburg and Morgantown. The river voyage is 105 miles.

LOW FREIGHT BATES.

The shortest possible railroad route from Pittsburg to Morgantown is on the Baltimore and Ohio via the Wheeling division, and that is 173 miles long. Notwithstanding this great difference between the two routes, just as soon as the Monongahela packets began to discharge Pittsburg treight at Morgantown the railroad company low ered its treight rates one-third, meeting the river tariff. Now the business men of Morir freight, which they did not have prior to December, and those who preter railroad carriage have much lower rates.

I asked Captain Adam Jacobs, master of the packet James G. Blaine, it the steady maintenance, year after year, of the line of steamers on the Monongahela river, in face of the railroad development in that valley as far south as Brownsville, had not operated to keep railroad rates down, and in this way benefited the shippers of the valley. A STRIKING ILLUSTRATION.

"Undoubtedly it has," replied Captain Jacobs. "Here is a forcible illustration of that fact. Some time ago the Secretary of the United States Treasury notified the officers of this packet line that we would have to stop carrying oil barrels to and from Greensboro. It was purely a technical point he raised, these being passenger steamers, and in a few mouths he modified his order. But just as soon as we stopped carrying the oil barrels, up went the rail-road freight rates on them. We had carried them for 8 cents. The railroads instantly raised from 8 to 18 cents. I have no doubt that were the railroads to have a opportunity on other lines of freight which we carry they would increase rates just as

"As it is now, rates by either rail or river are about the same, and yet we carry the bulk of the treight between Pittsburg and to Washington, D. C., good to visit Balti-more, on Thursday, March 20, at rate of \$9 Brownsville, and all of it for points above Brownsville where railroads do not exist. A trans-Allegheny Canal would bring into the Monongahela Valley enormous com-

THE RIVER COULD STAND IT. These grand locks and dams, planting the head of Western river navigation in the heart of the mountains, are too periect and extensive for a merely local commerce. The whole United States should use them. Money can lift that proposed canal over the mountain peaks from Cumberland. It is

thoroughly practicable,' When the Pittsburg, Virginia and Charleston was completed to Monongabela City it charged 25 cents per hundred for drygoods freight. Now it carries it for 12

These recent examples of a water way

broadened the views of business men in Morgantown. They will not object to being made the terminus of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal instead of Cumberland, "Give us the canal," said Mr. T. Pickenpaugh, "and also build us a railroad from here direct to Ditthey Control of the Co Pittsburg. Then increase our river facili-ties still more. We can stand them all. We have been starved so long we are now eager for everything movable, either by water or dry land. The Fairmont branch of the Baltimore and Ohio railroad—our only railroad outlet—was only given us three years ago. Before that we reached but the statement of the state Pittsburg by stage coaches to Fairchance.

FREIGHTING IN OLD TIMES. We hauled our freight from the Pitts burg steamboats at Greensboro by flatboats, rafts and horses to Morgantown. We did this until navigation was completed this winter to this point, for the Baltimore and Ohio route to Pittsburg was away round by Wheeling and their freight rates were high until the Monongahela packets made them bring them down. Now, if a railroad was built from here to Pittsburg by way of Uniontown and a canal from the railroad to Morgantown we would secure both increased railroad and river accommodations, and Morgantown could measure arms with Pittsburg as 'the head of Western naviga-

Judge J. A. Dille hailed the canal The citizens of Morgantown would be glad to have the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal extended to that place. On the practicability of the scheme there is however. ganized a company up here to slackwater the Monongahela in West Virginia. That competition is forcibly illustrated by the decreased sailors and in the decreased sailors and in the decreased sailors and upper dams on the Monongahela, and now we have the slackwater. It may take time for a trans-Allegheny Canal to reach the Monongahela, but it will come.
"Such a canal might find an entrance to

Morgantown by way of Coburn's creek, which cuts its way through the Laurel Hill mountain, or it might come down the valley of the Cheat. One of George Washington's early canoe schemes was along the Cheat."

A VERY MOUNTAINOUS COUNTRY. Prof. I. C. White, of the University of West Virginia, in Morgantown, has a per-fect knowledge of the mountains of West Virginia, between here and Cumberland, on account of his geological researches among them. I asked him if he thought the trans-Allegheny project practicable. "It is possible," he replied, "but hardly practicable, I think. Between here and Cumberland it would have to cross the summit of the mountains at an elevation of about 2,600 feet. The Will's creek route I imagine would be best for a canal, if it is true summit-level there would be only a little over 1 900 feet. And yet a tunnel of the same size as there contempleted would reduce the altitude of a Morgantown route very materially also. And if the Will's Creek Valley is practicable for a canal, cer-tainly the Chent Valley would be. "A canal from Cumberland to the vicin-

down the Potomac to the Cheat, and down the Cheat to the Monongahela. The Cheat pied by railroads. A NOVEL PROPOSITION. "No," continued Prof. White, "I believe

ity of Morgantown would have to come

dams on the Ohio river between Davis Island and Cincinnati there would be more general benefits result. I like Colonel Merrill's recommendation to Congress this

"Another way money could be spent to advantage would be in building storage reservoirs along the Youghiogheny, Cheat and Allegheny rivers. Dams for such purdisaster. The Tygart's and Buckhannon rivers are two tributaries of the Cheat, and on each of them dams 40 to 50 feet high might be erected. These streams are really nothing more than mountain gorges. Out of their native rock the dams could be cheaply thrown across the narrow valleys. All our floods come from the mountains. These big dams would catch much of the surplus water of a freshet, thus lessening the damage along the big rivers. In dry seasons gates in these storage dams could let out the water to keep up navigation along the larger rivers. The millions of dollars lost in one flood alone along the three rivers joining at Pittsburg would build these dams.

TRIUMPH OF BOODLE.

By a Close Vote the Maryland Sonate Gobbles the Canal for a Railrond The Case Will New Go to the Courts.

PERCHAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH. ANNAPOLIS, MD., March 14.-The bill to lease the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal to the Cumberland and Washington Railroad Company was passed in the Senate to-night by yeas 15, nays 11. The act now awaits the Governor's signature to become a law. He will undoubtedly sign it, as he proposed the lease to the Legislature.

The canal is now in the hands of the courts, and there is a belief that the proposed act is futile.

A Rattler for To-Day.

To-day we hold a genuine bargain sale of men's fine suits and overcoats at \$10 each.
The garments we will sell are far superior to anything ever before shown at that price, being goods worth \$16, \$18 and even \$20. With one big sweep we place them all within your reach at \$10. There are fine cassimere cheviot and worsted suits, and beautifu spring overcoats, made from costly meltons and kerseys. Price \$10. P. C. C. C. Cor. Grant and Diamond sts., opp. the new Court House.

Remodeling Sale.

On account of remodeling we will offer for the next 20 days our complete line of decorated table and toilet ware, fancy odd pieces for table use; also our immense stock of handsome ornaments at greatly reduced is a bona fide sale.

CHAS. REIZENSTEIN, 152, 154 and 156 Federal, Allegheny.

Ludies' Gloves.

Our line of mousquetaire suedes at \$1 25

Penn Avenue Stores Excursion to Washington City. B. & O. R. R. will sell exension tickets

the round trip. Trains leave at 8 A. M. and 9:20 P. M. CHALLIS-The fivest and best qualities 50c a yd.; a beautiful assortment of both light and dark colorings.

TTSSU HUGUS & HACKE.

Ladles' Sait Parler.

Early spring opening Thursday, Friday and Saturday, March 13, 14, 15, of street, carriage and traveling dresses. PARCELS & JONES, 29 Fifth ave.

New lace curtains from \$1 a pair up to the finest at Arthur, Schondelmyer & Co.'s, 68 and 70 Ohio st., All'y.

THERE'S no other make of beer so These recent examples of a water way lar as the Iron City Brewing Co.'s. All regulating the treight tariffs of railrods, have

BIRCHALL TALKS.

He Claims to Be a Victim Instead of a Victimizer-His Experiences as a Pupil Farmer-His Defense to Be an Alibi.

WOODSTOCK, ONT., March 14.-Birchall was induced last evening to make a statement concerning the purpose of his coming to Canada, but could not be persuaded to say anothing that would throw any light on | Farmers Compelled to Travel From House Benwell's murder or his own movements on the fatal day. Birchall said he came to Canada as a pupil farmer, and continued:

The firm of Ford, Rathbun & Co. took £70 from me and promised to secure me a first-class place on a fine Canadian farm. I came here with my wife. We came through to Woodstock and I met Pupil Farming Agent McDonald. He said he would fix me all right, and in a few days sent me out to a farm near Springfield. I could not stand it and stopped there only one day and a half. We then took up our residence at Woodstock. Pickthall is also one of the pupil farmers and was sent out by the same agency. I think the firm has now changed, and is Ford & Co., and their address is New Wall Brook. They hold a big position in England, and to an applicant they will show a stack of original recommendations from bishops, canons, peers and others. They are making piles of money out of the business. They have also agents in Ohio and some other Western States. About that bank book, I see it stated that the authorities suspect that I have no such amount as £4,000 in the Imperial Bank, and that I simply used that book to decoy dupes. Now this is a fact, I deposited the amount with the bank in stocks and bonds, and when the time comes the deed will be made clear. I will bring a number of witnesses from England, but I am not at liberty to say what I intend to prove by them.

It was learned from Birghall's counsel the fatal day. Birchall said he came to

It was learned from Birchall's counsel that the principal line of defense will be that the prisoner could not possibly have walked the distance from Princeton station to the place where Benweli's body was found, committed the murder, looked over the clothes, cut out the name from them and returned to the station between the hours of 11 A. M. and 3 P. M., during which time it appears that Benwell lost his life.

A GAMBLING DEBT LEGAL.

The Pool-Selling Law Makes it a Valld

Contract in New York. (SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.) NEW YORK, March 14.-A decision of mportance to the sporting community, construing the Ives pool bill was rendered today by the general term of the Supreme Court. The point at issue was whether a person buying a pool ticket on the race track upon a horse which turned out a winner can bring a legal action to recover the amount won. The case was that of ex-Assemblyman Michael Brennau against the Brighton Beach Racing Association to recover \$773 winnings on Elsie B. on Angust 10, 1887. Brennan with a party of friends went to the race track and called for tickets on Elsie B, for which he paid \$100. Elsie B won, but when Brennan went to cash his tickets he was told they represented a horse called Belvue, which had lost. Brennan brought suit through Fromme Bros., to re-

cover the amount won.
Judge O'Brien dismissed the complaint, holding that the transaction was a gambling one, and that at most Brennan could only recover the amount he paid for the tickets in the same manner as if he had lost at cards. The assemblyman appealed to the General Term, claiming that the effect of the Ives pool bill was to put gambling at the race track on the same level with any other contract. This view is sustained by the General Term, which holds the purchase of pool tickets to be a contract, and enforcable in law by either party.

FLEECING AMBITIOUS AMERICANS. Lady Mandeville's Plans for Introducing

Them to London Society.

[BY DUNLAP'S CABLE COMPANY.] LONDON, March 14.-The sensation created by the publication of an offer by a lady of title to introduce Americans into the and whirring down the western slope to the Monongaheia.

"If overhead wires pull ponderous street cars up hills and around curves against all the frieding of iron wheels and steel rolls."

Along the Cheat they would be by the discovery of the identity of the so-called "Countess." She the frieding of iron wheels and steel rolls danger of a repetition of the Johnstown danger of a repetition of the Johnstown and Allegneny rivers. Dams for such purposes are built to an immense height in highest London society has been revived by the discovery of the so-called "Countess." She turns out to be no less personage than the well-known Lady Mandeville, formerly Miss Florence Yznaga, and sister to Fernando Yznaga, who recently married Mabel Wright. Lady Mandeville's plans were for Americans to provide themselves with letters of introduction from her Lady-

ship's agent in the United States, which were duly presented in London. The Americans were then introduced to her ladyship's bankers, modistes and circle of acquaintances. The Mandeville balance at the banks was increased by gifts from the visitors, and her bills at the milliners regularly paid by her proteges. In addition to these returns a system of presents was established of which the Americans were quickly made aware, and were expected to live up to.

A THOUSAND COMPLAINTS.

errest of a Porter for Stealing Jewelry From the Mails.

PEPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH. NEW YORK, March 14 .- John Hogan, sorter employed on the mail cars running between this city and Boston, was arrested at the Grand Central station to-day by Postoffice Inspectors, on a charge ot stealing jewelry from the mails. For several months there have been omplaints of the loss of jewelry sent from the manufactories of Attleboro and Providence to Chicago houses. The inspectors said that the packages were stolen at the Grand Central station at the time that they were to be transferred to the westbound cars. They said they had traced some of the stolen jewelry to Hogan's house, and that he had

onfessed the the t.

A dispatch from Chicago says that the news of the arrest was telegraphed to Inspector Stuart, of that city, who said: For months I have been in receipt of com-plaints from all the wholesale jewelry houses of this city about the loss of jewelry rom the mails. Here on my books are the complaints, 1,000 in all, with the amount of jewelry taken."

SUSPENDING OCEAN TRAVEL.

In Memory of Chief Crow.

Lost night the Alteghenv Fire Committee

accompanied by Clerk Dilworth and Chief

Jones, visited the house of Mrs. James E.

Crow, wife of the late chief, and presented her with the handsome memorial volume prepared by Councils. The presentation was done in a quiet manner, no speeches be-

ing made. The book contains a record of Chief Crow's life and services.

The School Principals' Meeting

held in the Central Board of Education

rooms this afternoon to discuss the question.

'Should Promotions be Based on Class

Twenty Thousand Engineers Strike.

engineers in the northeastern part of Eq-

gland have gone on strike. They demand

LONDON, March 14 .- Twenty thousand

A meeting of school principals will be

out of Liverpool.

The Condition of Affairs Felt to be More Stevedores' Strike Prevent Vessels From Satlafactory.

their side.

Leaving Liverpool. NEW ORLEANS, LA., March 14 .- The NEW YORK, March 14.- The agent of the condition of affairs on the river front this Guion Line of steamers in this city to-day vening is much more satisfactory than at received a cable dispatch stating the same time yesterday. The city authorithat the Arizona would not sail from ties, aided by the railroads, have strength-Liverpool on account of the strike ened the weak places in the levee, and have This strike is among the stevedores, and it constructed a temporary levee of bags filled affects all the steamers sailing from Liver with earth, from St. Louis to Hospital pool as far as is known. It is thought that this strike will extend all over the British streets, and at other points, but from St. Louis street to Canal, where so much water Isles if not the whole of Europe. The strike came in yesterday, nothing has yet been has caused excitement.

All engagements for freight have been declared off and passage tickets have been called in and the money refunded or engagements made for the tickets to be used The city authorities will, however, con tinue the work of constructing a temporar levee along the river front until the city i at some future date. The Guion Line has not had a ship in here for two weeks. The secure from overflow, even with a still highe Inman Liner City of Paris, which arrived here on Wednesday, had a hard time to get

GLADSTONE WINS ANOTHER VICTORY.

Interest in a Bye-Election Brings Out Large Vote. LONDON, March 14 .- An election was neld at Stoke-Upon-Trent to-day to fill the Parliamentary seat made vacant by the resignation of W. Leatham Bright. The poll resulted in the return of Mr. Gower, the Gladstonian condidate the Gladstonian candidate, who received 4.157 votes against 2,928 cast for Mr. Allen, the Unionist nominee. In the election of 1885 Mr. Bright, who stood as a Home Ruler, received 3,255 votes and Mr. Corser, Conservative, 2,093.

Herman Sorg's Birthday.

A pleasant birthday party was given at the residence of J. H. Sorg, President of the lefunct F. & M. Bank, on the Southside, ast night, in honor of Herman Sorg's 21st birthday. There were 30 of the young riends present. A supper was served and

BUSHELS OF JEWELRY.

Enormous Stealings of a New York Postal Employe-One Thousand Complaints Thousands of Men Kept at Work Made by Chicago Jewelers Lend to His Arrest.

CHICAGO, March 14.-Postoffice Inspectors Harris and Stoddard arrested this morning a man for whom all the postal inspectors between Chicago and New York have been searching for six months. The man, John Hogan, was employed as transfer agent at the New York Central Depot. It was his duty to see that all mail consigned to Chicago was properly loaded in the mail cars. The news of the arrest was telegraphed to Inspector Stuart this noon. Mr. Stuart said in regard to the arrest: THE ARKANSAS LEVEES CANNOT STAND

It concerns Chicago business men alone. For months I have been in receipt of complaints from all the wholesale jeweiry houses of this city about the loss of jeweiry from the mails. Here on my books are the complaints, 1,000 in all, with the amount of jeweiry taken. Our inspectors worked all along the line toward New York until they were satisfied the thefts occurred at that end. After watching Hogan for several days, the officials secured conclusive evidence of his guilt. Hogan has confessed, and will be held for trial.

The robbor he said hed here seiging and

The robber, he said, had been seizing and unloading whole bags of packages of jewelry sent from the manufactories at Attleboro and Providence and assigned to the jewelry houses in Chicago. Nearly every wholesale jeweler in the city was made a victim of the fellow's stealing. Mr. Stuart gave it as his opinion that Hogan had stoler jewelry, as many empty boxes that had originally contained shipments or goods had been received here.

CREATED A SENSATION.

undone by the railroad to maintain the Important Testimony Elicited at the Bay The situation on the Arkansas side below

View Accident Inquest. BUFFALO, N. Y., March 14.-The Bay View inquest was continued this afternoon. Mr. Minnick testified that he was a saloon keeper at No. 1700 Fairmount avenue, Philadelphia. He had noticed the jerking of the cars but paid no attention to it, and next observed the breaking of the bell cord. He heard some-body say! "Stop the train." The bell was pulled and the train went on for a minute or two, and those in the rear of the car went two, and those in the rear of the car went out. The train then rapidly stopped.

I put on my rubbers and overcoat and went out just in time to get caught. I hung to the rail of the sleeper till it stopped, and then dropped to the ground. I am positive that it was a trainman who sat opposite me, a seat or two to the rear who pulled the bell cord. They told us not a word of the danger. If they had everybody could have got out. After we knew the train was broken in two, there was from five to seven minutes before the collision. Nobody said a word of danger that I heard. I put on my coat leisurely and might have got off easily. the track runs and a few promontories, whose black hulks protrude above the water now and then. These places afford shelter for hundreds of squirrels and small game driven to them by the inunda-

leisurely and might have got off easily Mr. Minnick's testimony created something of a sensation and it was the general verdict that the brakemen have not been adhering strictly to the truth in their testi-

mony. The inquest was adjourned to next Tuesday for developments. FIFTY PER CENT OFF.

The Deficit for Next Year Will Not be More A special from Newport, Ark., says: The river commenced running over the than Haif the Last. levees at 10 o'clock last night, and the whole town, except Fort street, is new from Yesterday the Board of Assessors con cluded their work on the city taxes and 4 inches to 2 feet under water. Business is entirely suspended. The White and Black turned their books over to the City Treasrivers commenced falling this afternoon and it is hoped the worst is over. The damage to urer. The foeting up of the books shows the total taxes levied to be as follows: City the adjacent country is immense. Oil Trough county, containing 75,000 acres of taxes, \$2,724,114; special tax, \$48,430; subschool tax, \$297,878. cultivated land, is now under water from Compared with last year the levy shows a inches to 20 feet. The rise was sudden and

decrease of nearly 50 per cent in the special taxes and slight decrease in school tax. Last year special taxes levied were \$96,494 and school tax \$289.348. Last year's city tax levy was \$2,138,978, of which \$1,912,699 13 was collected up to January 31. The Controller's accounts show that from 12 to 15 per cent of the taxes levied are not collected within the year, but that

last year the proportion uncollected was a little less than 12 per cent. Estimating that the same percentage of this year's levy will not be collected there will be a deficit of about \$150,000, according to the levy, but the Controller thinks that the revenues from other sources of the city will almost cause the accounts to bal-

ance at the end of the year. PREMIER TIRARD RESIGNS.

The French Cabinet Follow Their Leader and Give Up Their Portfolios. PARIS. March 14.-The adverse action of

the Senate yesterday, on Prime Minister Tirard's demand for the adoption of the order of the day, when the matter of the commercial treaty with Turkey was brought up, has caused the downfall of the entire Ministry. An interpellation was submitted during

yesterday's sitting regarding the treaty, and in response to this M. Tirard moved the adoption of the order of the day. The Senate, by a majority of 78, refused to adopt M. Tirard's motion, which was tantamount to a refusal to vote confidence in the Government. M. Tirard then ten red his resignation to President Carnot, but the latter persuaded him to remain in office until after Easter.

A Cabinet meeting was held to-day, to liscuss the matter, at which Premier Tirard reconsidered his decision to remain. After the meeting was over he went to the palace of the Elysse President Carnot's residence and tendered the resignations of all the members of the Cabinet.

INVESTIGATING MAYOR GRANT.

Senate Committee Wants to Know About past few days have done little beyond patching levees. He considers Alsatia levee the most dangerous point on the Bla Conduct as Sheriff. ISPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.

NEW YORK, March 14.-Mayor Grant has been subponaed before the Senate Committee on Cities for to-morrow morning, and ordered to bring with him all the books and the meeting in the evening the records of the Sheriff's office kept when he was Sheriff. It was reported to-day that the investigation was being directed toward the conduct of affairs in the Sheriff's office during Mayor Grant's term. It was said that Sheriff Flack had busied himself and some of his deputies in a search of the ecords of the office during Mayor Grant's term, and that he had supplied data to the District Attorney's office.
Assistant District Attorney Lindsay, who

has charge of the grand jury's investiga-tion, said to-day: "Whatever investigation is going on before the grand jury is not com-pleted. As to the nature or scope of the in-vestigation I cannot speak. All that I can say is that the investigation is still going

OPENING OF THE LABOR CONFERENCE. The First Day to be Devoted to Addresses and Examining Credentials. BERLIN, March 14 .- The time of the

Labor Conference to-morrow will be taken up with opening addresses, the verifying of delegates mandates, and the arranging of business for the session. The debates will not be published until the conclusion of the conference.

A Farmer Assassinated. ATCHISON, KAN., March 14 .- Henry Rutter, while returning to his farm in back the arrested correspondent for all he Phillipps county yesterday from Kirwin, was shot and killed by an unknown man. against him, he was released, but not before There is no clew to the assassin. Thunking the Paraci Commission.

LONDON, March 14 .- Lord Salisbury, in the House of Lords to-day, gave notice of a motion approving the report of the Parnell Commission and thanking the Judges for their just and impartial conduct.

Civilizing the Savages. PARIS, March 14.-The French gunboat Emeraude has bombarded Abomey-Kalavy, a village of Dahomey, near the coast. The Dahomians were panic stricken by the

FIVE AGAINST HIM.

Two of the Jury in the Mansell Trial Stand Up for the Doctor.

A DAY OF DRAMATIC EPISODES. The Stenographer's Notes Attacked and

Vigorously Defended. GREAT CROWDS AROUND THE CHURCH.

An All-Night Secret Session of the Committee That Had a Leuk.

FROM A STAFF CORRESPONDENT.I MCK EESPORT, March 14 .- To-day was the most exciting one in the now famous Mansell trial. It opened with a fight between the defense and the official stenographer. Its ending was even more dramatic. Policemen were guarding the committee room and officers were hunting for newspaper correspondents on a charge of house breaking. In the excitement the representative of one newspaper was ar-rested on suspicion, and a McKeesport editor offered to put up his whole establish-

made to preserve the session's secrecy.

ment to detend him. The committee went into secret session at 7:30 o'clock, and will probably continue until daylight. The committee is divided. Five of them favor a verdict of guilty, and two are standing out for Dr. Mansell. On the outside all was excitement, and the members of the alleged ring waited anxiously for a verdict. Beside this, an immense crowd was congregated about the church, and they declare they will stay there until a verdict is given out.

A PLEA IN REBUTTAL. The morning session of the celebrated case was opened to-day in the presence of the usual large crowd. After a prayer by the Rev. J. C. Gourley, Dr. Wright gave his rebuttal plea. He said: "This brother published certain rumors against persons who are present at to-day's trial. It is in evi-dence that they were injured both in char-acter and business—"

"That's not in the testimony," interrupted Dr. Wheeler. "It is there," responded the counsel for the prosecution. "By the testimony of your own witnesses Mr. Coursin was defamed.

Beside this, it was proven that Dr. Mansell said he had taken legal advice, and could send certain preachers to the penitentiary.

How, then, in the face of these facts, can the defense continue to claim the trial is a persecution, and that a 'ring' is fighting He then referred to the fact that Dr.

He then referred to the fact that Dr. Wheeler had classed certain preachers as tricksters, ringsters and rogues. "There may possibly be a ring in the conference, for all I know," he added, laughingly. For that matter the honorable Chairman may be a member of the ring."

The laugh expected did not follow this sally, but instead, a voice from the audience ring out.

rung out:
"Yes, and you are the tool of the ring!" The doctor, however, paid no attention to this, but continued. "The defendant has told a bare-faced lie, and no one wants a man of that character in the conference. Should Mansell be declared free, it will be a sadday. The present time is too liberal. Under the present way of explaining everything, even adultery becomes less sinfull, and is classed as a mistake of love. Gambling loses its vice under the names of dealing in longs and shorts, and a lie is only a mistake. I now

submit the case." STILL AS THE GRAVE.

Then came a speech from Dr. Wheeler, followed by another storm. He suggested that the witnesses should have their testimony read to them, as there was a great chance for a possible change while in the hands of the stenographer. It brought the stenographer, the Rev. J. F. Hill, to his eet like a flash.

"That's an insinuation I won't stand!" he exclaimed. "I leave it to you, Dr. Wheeler, as a man and a brother, that you made a misleading statement."

Dr. Wheeler promptly apologized, but it was decided to read the testimony. The morning session then closed, and most of the

afternoon session was taken up in reading the testimony. But few of the witnesses At 4:30 o'clock the case was given to the jury. They adjourned until after supper. They reconvened at 7 o'clock in secret session and then began a seance which ended in having your staff correspondent

hased by a gang of policemen and in the arrest of another correspondent on sus-As soon as it was decided to have a secret session and shut out the reporters, some of the reverend doctors, remembering what dismal failures previous secret church sessions had been, they became alarmed.

PRECAUTIONS FOR SECRECY. They then wanted to know whether the re porter was in town who caught the Danks trial through a register. As soon as it was learned that he was they took every precau-tion to preserve secrecy. Henry DeLong was delegated to look a ter the newspaper men, and he was ably seconded by Mr. Janeway and a number of other members o

the church. gentlemen named emphatically denied that the committee was in the church. In the meantime, however, your correspondent had dropped into a dark corner, and, when the other reporters retired, Mr. De Long and the others congratulated themselves on how they had beaten the reporters. They laughed over the fact that the committee was meet-ing in the next room. When they found they had been overheard their faces were ong enough to eat outs out of a churn. Then the reporters found a window, and by hanging to the sill managed to catch some of the proceedings. They discovered a window in the back, opening into a kitchen

in the rear of the committee room. Your correspondent crawled through this and unlocked a door leading into the alley. The reporters were then admitted, and up to 9:39 The List of the Illegal Liquor Dealers in heard all that was going on. At that time only your correspondent was in the room, and the outside door was locked. Something aroused suspicion, and the members of the jury burst open the door, just in time to see the reporter take a leap into the mud, and by the vigorous use of his legs he escaped. Then the officers and the men on watch began the chase. They did not get their game, but on their way caught another correspondent, and arrested him or caught and her the their states.

him on suspicion. He was taken before the AN OFFER OF ASSISTANCE. Just then James L. Devinney, of the McKeesport News, appeared and offered to

one of the brethren took occasion to tell him to "go and sin no more." The real work done by the committee was quiet. In a general way they were going all over the testimony. Two of the com-mittee was much in favor of Mr. Mansell's side of the case. As soon as they would quote some testimony on the side of the plucky parson, Dr. Cox and the other mem-bers of the committee would at once produce some testimony from the other side and they would talk over the relative charcters of the witnesses. Though the medium of a keyhole and a crack, it was apparent that five favored conviction and two stood up for Mr. Mansell.

At 11 o'clock the committee had become

much louder in their talk, and they had not taken a ballot. The indications were that they would be out all night, with all the probabilities favoring a verdict against Dr. Mansell.

A CALL FOR PURE WHISKY.

Dr. Christy After a Law to Prevent Adulteration-He Has Interested Senators Mitchell and Fanikner-Physicians Wil Not Prescribe it for Invalids.

Dr. S. S. Christy, of Penn avenue, has received a letter from Senator John Mitchell, of Oregon, in reply to a request made by the doctor, in regard to the adulteration of wines, liquors and other beverages. Several weeks ago, the doctor who has always taken an active part in the efforts to remedy this abuse, wrote to Senator Mitchell, who is a close personal friend, asking him to use his The ministerial jury is out considering influence with the Committee on Pure Foods the Mansell case at McKeesport. Five of and Drugs, and secure the passage of a law the members are reported against the doctor making it a misdemeanor to adulterate liquors. Senator Mitchell says he turned and two for him. A vigorous attempt was the letter over to Senator Faulkner, who is chairman of the committee. The last named Senator replied that he would do everything

Senator replied that he would do everything he could to have such a law enacted.

A DISPATCH reporter called on Dr. Christy yesterday and questioned him in regard to the matter. The doctor said:

"Before President Arthur died he was interested in this question and promised me he would do all he could to have such a law made and enforced. He had several talks with the German Minister shout the such with the German Minister about the sub-ject, and from the latter had secured much data as to the operations of the law in Ger-many. When the President died the matter, of course, was dropped by us. I have now taken it up again with Senator Mitchell. "People do not understand the extent of the adulteration business. You cannot buy

any pure liquors in this city, and everything of an alcoholic nature put into medicines nowadays is adulterated. I have lately re-ceived notice that Cognae brandy, which is supposed to be pure, is now made from 'rot-gut' whisky. Pure whisky cannot be pur-chased for less than \$3 per gallon, and the fact that the ordinary stuff sold over a counter costs 15 cents per drink, shows that it is not pure. When one takes a drink of the latter, he has a craving taste for more. In less than five minutes after taking the drink, the effect of the liquor dies out. The appetite craves more and more until the system becomes diseased. Then it is called delirium tremens, which is the cause of so much misery and many deaths.

"I remember the time when pure whisky was sold. Delirium tremens was unknown in those days. The whisky did not stimu-late the blood, as the stuff now being sold does. I have seen men in the harvest field on a hot day drink a tin cup full of whisky without any evil effects afterward. It did not make them reel and stagger, but was beneficial in its effects. I have seen whisky lately, sold at high prices, which I would be afraid to prescribe to be taken in moderate quantities. The same can be said of beer. There is no lager beer in this country, and an analyses of the slop now being sold ated. If we had pure beer and whisky there would not be so much business done in criminal courts."

Dr. Christy favors a law in this country similar to the one in Germany. He wants a chemist and inspector appointed in each district to analyze all liquors made and sold in this country. If the stuff is bad it is con-demned. The doctor is one of the best known men in the oil country. He left this city in the spring of 1860, when the first well was struck in the vicinity of Oil City. He opened the first drug store and many the city, the other side. opened the first drug store and was the first Mayor of that town.

SPENT HIS BROTHER'S ESTATE. Serious Charge Preferred Against Prominent Lancaster Citizen.

LANCASTER, PA., March 14 .- Frank A Diffenderfer, a former banker and ex-Alder man and prominent in social and sporting circles, was brought here to-night by a Pinkerton detective. He was ar-At the close of his argument the room was rested in Brooklyn whither he fled Lewiston Journal wonderfully still, and although Dr. Wheeler a few days ago, charged with the looked troubled the plucky little parson embezzlement of \$10,665 61 from the estate looked as pleasant as if returning from an of his brother, J. Leno Diffenderfer, for whom, by reason of mental weakness, he had acted as truster, under deeds of trust executed by their father and grandmother They are children of the late Dr. William Diffenderfer, of New Hol-land, who, prior to his death several years ago, gave the greater part of \$60,000 to his son Frank and the remainder to his other, whom he required to execute a will

leaving it in trust to Leno. After the doctor's death, Frank, it is alleged, induced his grandmother, then 86 years of age, to destroy the will and make him the sole trustee of his brother's inheritance. He then entered up-on a career of extravagance. When the court enforced an examination his accounts, the Auditor found him to be short \$10,665 61. When the court began to investigate he removed to Philadelphia, where he became connected with the Kennel Club and recently returned to Lancaster, when his brother's wife's relatives instituted proceedings for embezzlement, for which he

will be held for trial.

THE NEW STAMPS TEAR, Clerks in the Postoffice Complain of Poor Paper in Them.

The new stamps have not yet won the affections of the postoffice clerks, who have to handle them. One of the clerks, instead of handing out a stamp for 2 cents yesterday, said to the customer: "Let me take your letter, please,"

When he got the letter he carefully pasted ipon it two fragments of a toru stamp, seeng that the ragged edges joined so perfectly that the ragger edges joined so perfectly that the stamp looked all right. Then he handed the letter back saying: "That's the seventeenth one of those darned rotten things I've had to stick on this morning." "What's the matter?"

"Oh, these new stamps are no good; they tear too easy; you've got to handle 'em like Inquiry showed that, either because the elerks have not yet had practice enough to enable them to rip off a row of the new stamps with the same dexterous twist that used to work safely with the larger stamps formerly used, or because the paper of the new stamp really is poor, the clerks are having a deal of trouble. It is thought that

the ink used on the new stamps may affect the paper. THEY WILL SPEAK EASIER.

the Hands of the License Judges.

The license question is now looming up in a prominent position and becoming especially interesting to the applicants. To those who have been doing a free-for-all speak-easy business it will be very interest-ing to learn that yesterday Judges Ewing and Magee were furnished with duplicate typewritten copies of the names and ad-dresses of speak-easy proprietors up to the Twenty-fifth ward. The list will be finished and furnished to-day,

The information was furnished by the De-

partment of Public Safety at the request of the two Judges who will preside next week in the License Court, and will be used by them in determining what law-abiding citizens will be permitted to purchase a \$500 chromo entitling them to quench the thirst of Allegheny county. The police officials say this information will have the effect of making a number of applicants

Insured While In Ireland. James Duracy and wife, of the Tenth ward, yesterday sued Superintendent H. S. Kay, of the Pittsburg office of the Metropolitan Insurance Company, to recover pre-miums on a policy illegally issued on the life of Mrs. Durney's father, who lives in Ireland. The suit will be heard next Tuesday by Alderman Burns. Mr. Kay says the best of i that the policy was written by an unscrupn-lous agent, who had not been retained long. to Murphy.

ITS RIGHT DISPOTED.

The Pittsburg Traction Company Takes Action Against a Rival,

The Attorney General Asked for a Decision

Secret.

has been made to the Attorney General by the Pittsburg Company. The purpose is to contest the charter. A big fight may result. There was considerable stir yesterday in railroad circles over the report that the Pittsburg Traction Company had filed documents with the Attorney General against

the Larimer avenue, Duquesne and Craig street railways, showing a priority of right of way. This was given only as an indication that a big fight would be commenced, although it is recognized by the people spoken to on the subject that there are many stockholders interested in each organization. and whether an effort to create a freezeout is in prospect or not cannot be determined from the statements made by those interested. BIGELOW IS 5" TNT.

ot wish to say anything at present.

Charles McKee, attorney for the Duquesne Traction Company, said that an application for a writ bad been made to the Attorney General, but had been refused, and would have a harrier through constant within have a hearing through courtesy within a

lew days.
Attorney Wilson professes the utmost ignorance of the matter, although acting in a legal capacity for the traction company, and G. W. Elklngs, the President, professed to know nothing about the matter while wait-lng for one of his company's cars at the cor-ner of Fifth and Smithfield.

A HEARING NEXT WEEK. A telegram from Harrisburg says that a hearing was fixed before the Attorney Gen-eral for to-morrow in the matter of the application for a writ of quo warranto against

question of the priority of right of way. This will have to be decided by the records of Councils, and will require an overhauling of the City Hall Library, which has

A WONDERFUL MARKSMAN.

He Cuts Off the Four Feet of a Sly Reynard at Long Range.

Andrew Hutchins, of Gardiner, was or deck last night with a fox story, which was almost as marvelous as his memorable shot at the partridge on Iron Mine Hill.

grist mill to the New Mills. I? One morning he looked out of the winhalf a mise away, was a fox. He was so far off that you could just tell what he was. Mr. Burnham saw at once that it would be use-less to try to get nearer, for the fox was looking right at him, so he up with the old gun and let her go, and down went the fox. It was one of the prettiest shots I ever heard tell off. That fox lay right there until Mr. Burnham went up and stooped to pick him up, when, whish! he was up an' out o' sight micker'n lightnin'. But he didn't get off in very good shape, for the shot had cut off all four of his feet and they lay right there. Thatgun was a ripper an' you don't find 'em

Birmingham Conductor Tried for Eject.

ing a Man From His Car.

considerable interest was manifested in the case. The testimony given by the various witnesses tended to show that Lang, who had been ejected from the car, had monopolized space enough for two passengers and that the conductor was justified in putting

reserved his decision until this evening. TALMAGE'S TABERNACLE.

A popular-price theater manager has

THE RIVERS STILL RISING.

Conl Operators Expect the Water to Reach 17 Feet. The river last evening registered 14 feet 6

nches. The coal operators expect that the stage of water will reach 17 feet before it begins to rall. The Nellie Walton started with a tow of barges. There is no coal to The coal men have loaded boats located at various points along the river near Cincin-nati, but as the winter has been warm, the

demand for coal is not good. Murphy Wins the Fentherweight Fight. SAN FRANCISCO, March 14 .- Billy Muroby, of Australia, and Tommy Warren, of California, tought here to night for \$1,800

and the featherweight championship. Three good rounds were fought, Murphy having the best of it, and the fourth round the men clinched, and the referee awarded the fight

ALLEGING PRIORITY OF CHARTER. That Will Prevent

THE JUMPING OF A GREAT CLAIM.

All the Officials are Mum, but Lawyers Disclose the

Application for a writ of que warrante against the Duquesne Traction Company

T. M. Bigelow, Vice President of the Pittsburg Traction Company, was as eloquent as the traditional oyster on the question. He thought that the proceedings before the Attorney General would be heard on Wednesday next. He thought that there were some charters secured before those of the Duquesne Traction Company, but he did

the Duquesne Traction Company, contesting the charter recently granted to several companies under its control, because the streets proposed to be traversed by them are the same outlined by charters issued to companies incorporated last summer, but owing to the inability of some of the counsel to be present the argument has been postponed until next Wednesday at 11 A. M. D. T. Watson and Walter Lyon represent the ap-plication for a writ and Attorney Wilson,

recently been placed in order to some extent by H. H. Bengough.

"Boys," he said, "you youngsters don't emember Tom Burnham who owned the land around there, but I do. He had the greatest shooting gun you ever heard of, Why, he could shoot a fox dead from the "It wasn't the gun altogether, but he had something to do with it, for no one else could make such shots. Well, I was going to tell you about his shooting a fox, wasn't dow and away down on the flat, much as

now days, no, sir !" M'GOVERN GIVEN A HEARING.

The hearing in the case of Patrick Mo-Govern, the Birmingham street cars conductor, charged with putting a passenger off his car because the latter rejused to "move up," to make room for passengers who were standing, was held before Alderman Flach, of the Southside, last night.
The office was filled with spectators and

him off the car.

Alderman Flach said he desired time to look up some legal points on the case and

The Site, Which Has Had a Novel History, Bought for a Theater.

purchased the site of the Rev. Dr. DeWitt Talmage's Tabernacle, and will erect upon it an immense house of amusement. The property is almost as large as that covered by the Metropolitan Opera House. It has undergone any number of changes in the past 40 years. During that period it has been the site of a circus, a boxing ground or pugnacious youtns, a coal yard, of a lot of hovels, and of two churches. Both the latter were destroyed by fire.