







THREE CENTS

S Local Employers and

100 'es on the May-

Move Move

Practicability.

TWELVE PAGES

FORTY-FIFTH YEAR.



A Talk About Mortgages, and Several Reasons for Their Increase of Late.

NOT A SIGN OF UNTHRIFT.

On the Contrary, They Are Very Frequently an Evidence of Surplus Capital and

OF IMPROVEMENTS UNDERTAKEN.

Agricultural Profits Somewhat Reduced. Owing to Inability to Compete With the Great West.

BUT THERE'S NO GENERAL DEPRESSION. And Many Thrifty Titlers of the Soil Make

Good Living, Save Money and Are Well Content.

OLD-FASHIONED VEESUS MODEEN ECONOMY

THE DISPATCH commissioner presents in his letter to-day some very interesting talks with farmers and county officers on the subject of debts and mortgages. Some of the tillers of the soil complain that it is hard to compete with the West, while others say they are able to make a comfortable living mill labor. without covering their property over with mortgages.

FROM OUR SPECIAL COMMISSIONER.] THE PITTSBURG DISPATCH COUNTRY ROAD EXPEDITION, RICEVILLE, PA., April 27.

Just as we are leaving Crawtord county I want to sum up the agricultural situation as I have found it in the counties of the western tier.

One day last week THE DISPATCH printed a communication from "H," on the alleged agricultural depression. In it occurred this paragraph:

If farmers would live as they did in the good old days there would be no "agricultural depression." But neither they nor the rest of us are content to live in that way. Think of it, you who are 50 to 60 years of age. How did your father and mother live? How did you live when a boy? I could make this article about a mile long on this very topic, but what good man. would it do? You would only grunt and turn on your heel and say "Do you suppose I am

farmer of Moon township, Beaver county, whom I have slready mentioned as being our host over night once. "Western beet has hurt us much," he said, "but it is not all to blame. All products have been reduced in value too by this huge over-production in both West and East. Forty-five years ago I remember seeing flour bought at Canton, O., for \$3 per barrel, transported by Conestoga wagons east of the mountains and sold in Philadelphia and Jersey City at \$10 and \$11 per barrel. Besides all this farm labor costs so much these days that it

ness. Most of the farmers in my neighbor-

hood are selling their hay. I think they are making a mistake. I would still try to

put it into cattle raising if I was one of

them. I believe a reaction is coming.

Forty years ago I drove steers to Cambridge

and sold them for \$10, and yet higher prices

ruled afterward. They will again. De-

pression comes in waves, and the West

cannot always depress the Eastern farms,"

Robert Trotter is the same typical Irish

Agricultural Over-Production.

swells our expenses. "I well remember when the market price of a bushel of wheat was accepted as the day wages of a laborer on a farm. That



III III III IIII IIII III Built by Oil Money would never work now-a-days. There are

Pennsylvania coaxing our men away from us at better wages for the meanest kind of

too many mills and factories in Western

Wages Sixty Years Ago. "I came to this country nearly 60 years

ago with only a pack on my back. A farmer offered me work and said he would pay me in grain. I replied by asking of what use grain would be to me when I had no place to put it. He said I could take it to the store and trade it for clothes, and that he would grind it for the storekeeper to help me along. But finally he agreed to employ me at the rate of \$8 per month, none of the money to be paid me for one year, but nec-

essary clothing to be furnished me on account as I needed it." "How long did you work for him?" I asked.

"Just one year and four days," replied Mr. Trotter. "Exactly three days after you got your

salary," we laughed. "Then farmers have even deserted their calling to accept better paying work in iron

mills these days," continued the old gentle-Farms Without Tenants.

dried meats, etc. The great open fireplace still burned cord wood. The mantel, cell-ing and walls were black from its smoke, Our feet grew cold on the uncovered but "I can point from my window here to four farms that are going begging for

all about it.

more. The Western cattle spoiled the busi-ness. Most of the farmers in my neighbor-think you will find to be the happy medium. A CAPITOL SENSATION Lawrence county farmers are nearly all well-to-do. They have, in very many in-stances, retired from actual tilling of the soil and turned their attention to the fancy Alleged Tampering With the Mail

PITTSBURG, MONDAY, APRIL 28.

Matter of the Congressmen.

soil and turned their attention to the lancy lines of agriculture, such as raising fine poultry, fine hogs, blooded sheep, blooded cattle and horses. Holstein cattle are a favorite in our barnyards. "All this condition of things indicates a surplus of farmers' money in banks-not in the bar W POSTMASTER WHEAT IS CHARGED debts. We have a good home market for With All Manner of Irregularities by farm produce on account of the manufactur Number of Employes.

ing towns in Lawrence county. Thus, where we can't ship grain or hay in competition with the Western shippers, manufac-turing interests furnish our farmers with a SERIOUS ACCUSATIONS AGAINST A SON. home market at full values. Farmers in

Lawrence county are well organized for ag-ricultural education, too."

Evidence of Improvement.

mortgages are accounted tor.

That was only a gain of one."

ford county, along the road from Franklin

An Old-Style Farm House.

Modest, but Comfortable

Chromos-not paintings-ornamented the

Evidences of Thrift.

yard at noon, not far from Meadville.

In Weful Ignorance.

Rond to Ciarion.

PEPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.

heautiful and comfortable home.

like summer.

two minutes.

Sealed Letters Addressed to Members Said to Opened Every Day.

The Recorder of Mercer county, J. H. Chandler, said: "I have filed 46 mortgages The employes of the postoffice of the this month, several more than were filed in House of Representatives have formulated April of a year ago, but how many of these were on farms I do not know without inves-tigating. March was also unusually large. charges against Postmaster Wheat. The House will be asked to investigate at once. A son of the postmaster is accused of open-However, the number of mortgages does not indicate increased indebtedness by any ing letters addressed to Congressmen, with the knowledge of his father. Many other If they do in some instances it also allegations are made.

shows how property is becoming improved. For instance, this morning a mortgage was filed by a young farmer for this reason: His ISPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH. father had died, dividing the original farm among his sons. Only one house existed WASHINGTON, April 27 .- Some serious there. This particular son I speak of wants to erect a residence on his part of the farm, so he mortgaged it, just as the building and charges are preferred against Mr. James L. Wheat, Postmaster of the House of Repre sentatives and a resolution will be introloan associations in your large cities en-courage people to do. In this way many duced in the House in a day or two calling for an investigation of the office. The charges are brought by Mr. C. J. McCord and the other employes in the postoffice. Mr. McCord, is the son of Congressman McCord, of Wisconsin. - The formal charges against Mr. Wheat, which are

sides Mr. McCord, are as follows: We, the undersigned employes of the House of Representatives postoffice, make the follow-ing charges: That J. L. Wheat, Postmaster of

the House of Representatives' Postoffice, has H. A. Gamble, clerk to the County Combeen guilty of gross irregularities in conduct-ing the business of the said office, to wit: His son, Walter R. Wheat, is receiving the pay of missioners of Mercer, said that money is now loaged on mortgages rather than judgments, which accounts for any increase that son, watter R. Wheat is receiving the pay of two positions, while it is impossible for one man to do the work connected with those two positions, and in consequence the work falls upon some other employe or employes in the office. Circulars and other publications ad-dressed to members argument and employes may occur. Between 1876 and 1879 about 700 judgments were filed every term in the Prothonotary's office. Now they will not average more than 300 or 400 every term. Exactly the same answers as above were made me at the offices of the Recorders of dressed to members, ex-members and employes have been thrown into the waste-paper baskets. Every day Wheat's son has been Venango and Crawtord counties. In Craw-

GUILTY OF OPENING

to Meadville, there is a class of farmers who at least one sealed and postage paid letter ad-dressed to a member, and J. L. Wheat was aware of the fact within an hour after it was piled away soug fortunes in the time of the pioneer oil excitement by hauling petro-leum in wagons from famous Oil Creek, in Venango county, to Linesville, Crawford county, where it was shipped West by raildone. He has compelled, through fear of dis-missal, the route men to the number of three each week to do work entirely foreign to their regular work, viz: One in the postoffice to On this solid financial basis their farms work which his son should do, and two to ac have been brought since then to high per-fection, and although Rouseville, Petroleum nent room work, which should not be Center and Pithole are no more, their for-

document room work, which should not be document room work, which should not be done by any employe of the postoffice. We be-lieve that J. L. Wheat receives pay from the document room for this work. We further charge that he has shamefully imposed upon us in many ways; that he is sub-ject to violent outbursts of temper; is arrogant, mean, tyrannical, despotic, overbearing and insulting; that, in our judgment, he is entirely unfitted in every way for the position he occu-pies, lacking dignity, executive ability and a proper sense of justice. In conclusion, we wish to say that the employes of the House of Rep-resontatives postoffice are poor men, and have stood these impositions simply because they could no: afford to lose their po-sitions, about half of them being married men. Most of us resigned good paying positions, which we cannot return, to accept a positions, which we cannot return to accept a position in the House of Representatives. Wore specific CHARGES. tunes still remain, and they do not seem to be bothered by economic evils. The barn illustrated in this article is from a photograph. You can tell "an oil money barn" the moment you see it in Crawford or Venango counties. It has a substantial look One farm house we stopped at on our journey among the woods of Butler county was typical of the 60-year-ago period which "H" suggests should be resurrected. The kitchen where we ate our meals was in the

basement. The rafters above were bare and barn-like in their roughness. They were hung with paper bags containing herbs,

MORE SPECIFIC CHARGES.

He Charges That Governor Campbel Helped to Defeat the Ohio Demo cratic Ticket Three Years Ago -How He Did It. (SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCE.) COLUMBUS, April 27 .- The arbitrary renoval of W. S. Cappeller, Commission of Railroads and Telegraphs, without the formality of a hearing, is creating a great deal of comment and

CAPPELLER'S REVENCE.

has been the ground work of a number of charges which are made against Governor Campbell. In the discharge of Cappeller and the appointment of J.

Norton it is insisted that he did it for the purpose of boosting his car coupler and patent heating apparatus on railroads, and also to secure a corrupt campaign fund for two years hence, which is usually collected through this office. The office of Railway Commissioner pays \$2,000, and Norton re-signs the office of County Auditor, which

1890.

pays \$4,000, in order to accept. During the Gubernatorial campaign three years ago, when T. E. Powell was the can-didate on the Democratic ticket and Cap-peller was chairman of the Republican State Committee, Campbell and Cappeller were close friends and it has been privately close friends, and it has been privately charged many times that Campbell did all

he could to defeat the Democratic candidate. The following talk was had with Cappeller this evening: "You have been summarily removed for dereliction of duty, etc., Mr. Cappeller?" "Yes, and I hardly expected that Mr. Camp-bell would cut the guillotine string himself. I had supposed that the remembrance of our former association would have restrained him."

him." "To what association do you refer?" "Well, I let slip the word association. It may not call for that friendly word, but our inter-ests were identical during the Powell cam-paign, and we worked harmoniously together."

"Please explain." "Please explain." "Pete Schwab and Congressman Campbell wanted to run General Powell 1,000 behind his ticket in Butler county, and I helped them to. do it, or rather they assisted me in electing Forsker, so far as that county was concerned, at least."

t least," "Are you understood as stating that Governor "ampheil deliberately plotted to run the head of the Democratic State ticket, General Thomas L. Powell, 1,000 votes behind his ticket in butter comtry"

P. Powell, 1,000 votes behind his ticket in Batler county?" "I hope you will always report as accurately. The programme was to defeat the Democratic candidate for Governor and run him 600 votes behind his ticket in Butler county. This ex-actly suited me as Chairman of the Republican State Central Committee, and between Schwab, Campbell and myself by arrangement we de-livered the goods."

AN INSANE CLOCK

Has a Collar and Elbow Wrestling Match With a Coal Hod.

MERCER, April 27 .- This community is greatly excited over the story of a haunted house near Jackson Center, about five miles northeast of this place, and hundreds of people visited the spot yesterday and to-day. Jesse Harrison, owner of the farm, died about two months ago, leaving his wife, son and two daughters living in the house. About a week ago strange noises were heard about the house, sometimes sounding as if someone would walk downstairs, when the

sounds would cease and no one appear. On Wednesday evening the supper table started off without any apparent cause, and didn't stop till it reached the corner of the room.

To THE DISPATCH correspondent Mr.

A Wealthy Owner of Anthracite Property Weds a Poor Girl to PREPARE FOR THE RAINY DAY When He May Be Obliged to Earn His Living by Hard Work.

THE FAMILY OBJECT VERY DECIDEDLY. His Uncle Blacks an Eye, and Insanity Proceedings are Instituted.

McDonald Shoemaker, of Wilkesbarre, has just married a poor girl, after breaking

an engagement with an heiress. He is wealthy, but airaid of reverses, and wants a wife who will be of assistance in poverty. The family is an aristocratic one, and the to be seen excepting on the street cars and protests against the match are very vigorous.

SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH. 1 the seats. In the quarters inhabited by the colored people the scene was at once comic WILKESBARRE, April 27 .- The Shoemaker family is one of the oldest and and dramatic. Many believed that the world was coming to an end and leaving their houses they dashed into the streets and with their heads exposed to the elements wealthiest in the anthracite coal region. Their income from coal royalties alone reaches \$250,000 a year. One of the begged for mercy. "Salvation come at last," "de Good Master is here," "mercy, on us family is Mr. McDonald Shoemaker. He is about 30 years old. His income from coal sinners," and similar expressions rent the royalties is about \$20,000 a year. Six air.

nonths ago it was given out that he was about to wed a daughter of a rich and aristocratic citizen residing on River street. His family viewed the match favorably, and saw in an early marriage a new career for the young man. All at once young Shoemaker said he would not marry a girl that was raised in the lap of luxury. He had a terrible dread that he would one day become poor and then his wife would be no help to him.

A ROMANTIC DETERMINATION.

A ROMANTIC DETERMINATION. He proposed to marry a poor girl, who, in the hour of adversity, if such an hour came, could assist him in earning his daily bread. Annie Lannon was the girl he proposed to marry. She was formerly employed as a house-keeper. When the Shoemaker relatives heard of his intention they became highly indigenerate and the Court may partitioned by

indignant, and the Court was petitioned t appoint a commission to examine into the young man's sanity, and the request was ISPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH. NEW YORK, April 27 .- Minnie W. Lewis, The action of the relatives made Sho

maker more determined than ever to marry the girl of his choice. One day last week he and the Lannon girl took a train for El nira, where they were quietly married. On Saturday Shoemaker returned with his bride. His purpose was to install the latter in his mother's home on Union street.

is the young wife of Captain W. H. Lewis, and her aunt said to-day that she had Shoemaker's uncle, John Harrower, was Shoemaker's uncle, John Harrower, was in waiting. As soon as the bridal couple put in an appearance Harrower took the baggage, fired it into the street, and, when Shoemaker attempted to enter the house the uncle knocked him down, blackened his eyes and kicked him into the gutter. Shoe-maker at once went before Mayor Sutton and had his uncle arrested. vounger one, Florence Henshaw, was on her death bed they had words. "You will die a horrible death," were Florence's last words, so her sister says.

CAUSED GREAT EXCITEMENT.

"This idea of a curse seems to have dis-turbed Minnie's mind," said her aunt. There is great excitement in aristocratic circles over the affair. Uncle Harrower says Mr. Snoemaker can degrade himself, but not the Shoemaker family. The wife will not be admitted to the family circle un-"She has an idea that somebody is going to kill both herself and her friends. I was to be killed, too, and she wanted me to go the der any circumstances. THE DISPATCH correspondent interviewed young Shoe-maker this evening. His left eye is still black and swollen from the beating he re-ceived at the hands of his uncle. He said : ceived at the hands of his uncle. He said : I don't see why the public or my family should be so much interested in my affairs. I am 32 years old and able to take care of myself. I married the woman of my choice, and that is all there is about it. She is a good woman, re-gardless of what the gossips say. My uncle wanted me to marry some lady of fashion and means. Well, now, I know all about such women. I was born with a silver spoon in my mouth myself, and I tell you if the spoop is once withdrawn the patient is helpless. That is the reason I married my present wife. You know money has wings, and I don't know how long I may be as wealty as I am at present. If misfortune as wealthy as I am at present. If misfortune comes I want to have a woman who can help me to row against the tide. The daughters of

HARD COAL ROMANCE. THE END OF THE WORLD. FIGHT HOURS A DAY. Terrified Residents of Baltimore Thought That the Time Had Come-Ball Stones as Big as Baseballs -A Severo Storm. ISPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH. BALTIMORE, April 27 .- A hailstorm struck this city this afternoon, which, though lasting only 15 minutes, did more damage in that time than has any similar visitation in many years. It came without the slightest warning, the hour just prior to FOR FEWEN .JURS OF TOIL the down pour being pleasant, while the sun was shining brightly. The air suddenly grew black as midnight, and the storm burst in all its fury. With the rain that fell in blinding sheets came hail stones like baseballs, which plowed through space like a shell, and striking an obstruction, split into pieces, the tragments Great Diversity of Opinion as to Its flying in every direction. While the storm lasted there was no cessation in this terrible SOME THINK THE IDEA TOO NEW. bombardment. Such hurrying for shelter was never seen before. The streefs, as usual on Sunday, were filled before the storm broke, but

A SISTER'S CURSE

Woman to Inennity-She Attempts

ing in a Prison Cell.

to Commit Suicide by Hang-

some shopping.

to be Arrested.

the sum of about \$5,000. Soer said he was

schamed to deliver himself to the authori-

JACK THE RIPPER'S RIVAL.

Some Against McKinley's Bill.

Born to Bad Luck.

1.5

years old.

While Others See Great Advantages in Its within two minutes not a human form was Adoption.

then only the drivers, the passengers being huddled within and many crouching under EIGHTY-SIX CITIES TO TRY FOR IT

> The views of a number of employers and workingmen on the move to be made in many places, Thursday, for an eight-hour working day, have been collected. They show a great diversity of opinion as to the practicability of the propoposed shortening of the laborers' hours of toil. No concerted

The damage to property, especially glassmove is to be made in Pittsburg. ware, was immense. Scarcely a house in the city with a western exposure escaped having windows broken, and in many of

The eves of the nation, or at least that the cheaper buildings the roofs were split portion of it that takes any interest in trade wide open and the rain poured through, destroying carpets and furniture. The singular spectacle is presented throughout the city to-night of paper coverings, movements, are turned toward next Thursday, May 1. Upon that day there will be a general movement in no less than 86 cities blankets, rags, etc., answering the purpose of window panes. During the height of of the United States for shorter hours, and in 23 of the leading cities, exclusive of the storm the fire bells sounded an alarm, but the horses, shaking in every limb, re-fused to budge until forced. Pittsburg, demands will be made that eight hours shall constitute a day's work. The Government has set the example, which the workers of one of the country's greatest industries are now endeavoring to follow. Going on the principle that by the adoption Upon Her Death Bed Has Driven a Young of an eight-hour working day employment will be furnished to thousands of idle men, the carpenters are taking up the fight with the determination of winning, if it can be done. They have quietly organized under

the jurisdiction of the American Federation who was locked up in the police station late of Labor. The industrial conditions in the on Saturday night on a charge of insanity, various cities have been fully considered, was found unconscious in her cell at midand stamping grounds have been selected night. She had tried to commit stricide by where it was thought victories would be tying a handkerchief so tightly about her casiest.

throat that it nearly cut through the skin. It was at the St. Louis Convention in She was taken to the Harlem Hospital. She 1888 that the American Federation of Labor. then representing a membership of 500,000. mani/ested symptoms of insanity for only a few days. Her sister died two months ago. decided upon the date for the inauguration of the movement. This decision was ratified by the Boston Convention last De-The aunt said that the sisters had never got cember, and the work of agitation began. along well together, and that when the

The Plan of Campaign.

An executive council was selected, and after a consultation the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America was chosen as the trade to make the first demand. Atter this the United Mine Workers are to take the step, and so on until the movement embraces the entire industrial

police station with her and surrender our-selves for protection. She hid her hus-Literature was circulated and mass meetings were held all over the country for the purpose of educating the public mind on band's razor under her pillow one night, but he discovered it before she got a chance to use it. On Saturday the got up at 6 A. M. and went to make a visit and the importance of the question. Capitalists and employers of infor, however, did not regard the move with favor, but no great had not reeffort was made to calm agitation or to preturned at 6 P. M. and her husband went vent a suspension of business at the ap after her. She would not return with him, but sent him home, saying she would take pointed time. The working hours in all departments of the industrial field may be said to range from 8 to 18. That this great gap can be closed with one step, the Federation seems her own time. She did not come and we heard at midnight that she was locked up. She had lucid intervals and she was all right when she left in the morning." to regard as practical. Manufacturers and others argue that the object could have been It was said at the hospital that she would be over the effects of the attempted stranguattained with less effort and fewer disas lation by to-morrow and she will be taken to court. She was very well behaved and trous effects on business by asking for a reduction of half an hour each year, until the eemed anxious to get out. At times she desired point be reached. seemed perfectly sane, but she was laboring However, the move has been made. The ander strong mental excitement. She is 28 generals have given the command, and the battle has begun. The following are the cities in which a re-SHATTERED BY A BALL OF FIRE. duction of hours was demanded April 1: Lynn, Mass.; Des Moines, Ia.; Uniontown, A Mysterious Electrical Appenrance Which Pa.; Nyack, N. Y.; Nevada, Mo.; Tiffin, O.; Buckhannon, W. Va., and Roehester, Pa. On April 7 Chicago demanded a strict enforcement of the eight-hour rule and 40 Was Not Like Ordinary Lightning. IMPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.1 LONG BRANCH, N. J., April 27 .- Durcents per hour. On April 15 Indianapolis ing this afternoon's storm the 55-foot flagasked for 35 cents per hour for eight hours. staff about 50 feet away from the life-saving Battle Grounds for Thursday. station on Sandy Hook, was struck by a The cities in which demands for eight ball of fire as large as a barrel head. The ours will be made on May 1 are: Detroit, topmast and main span were shattered from Boston, Winona, Minn.; Crawfordsville top to bottom. Surfman Joseph Riddle sat Ind.; Portland, Ore.; San Francisco, Cal.; Oakland, Cal.; Louisville, Ky.; Knoxville, at a window and saw the ball shoot from the eastern sky, preceded by a bright white light which illuminated the vicinity of the Tenn.; Worcester, Mass.; Jeannette, Pa.; Seattle, Wash.; Whatcom, Wash.; East St. station. Riddle noticed a black streak run Louis, Ill.; New Albany, Ind.; Springfield, down the topmast, and the shell of fire Louis, In., New York City, Almeda, Cal.; San Jose, Cal.; Omaha, Neb.; Duluth, Minn.; Dorchester, Pa., and Bridgeport, O. The nine-hour day will be inaugurated in Bayonne, N. J.; Toronto, O.; Lafayette, struck the mast with a report like that of a It did not linger as balls of electric light sometimes do, but disappeared like a flash of lightning. No thunder or lightning had Jayonne, N. J.; Foronto, O.; Lanyette, Ind.; Youngstown, O.; Elmira, N. Y.; Binghamton, N. Y.; Fort Wayne, Ind.; Lancaster, Pa.; Salem, Mass.; Poughkeen-sie, N. Y.; New Haven, Pa.; Rochaster, N. een heard or seen be ore or afterward, and this did not resemble lightning. Captain Jack Edwards and his crew were dumfounded. The former believes it was a meteor, but it Y.; Olean, N. Y.; Colorado Springs, Col.; Lincoln, Neb.; Washington, Pa.; Lowell, left no trace. Two surfmen say they have seen such fire balls at sea but never here-Lincolu, Neb.; Washington, Pa.; Loweli, Mass.; Ottawa, Canada; Asheville, N. C.; Portland, Me.; Atlantic City, N. J., An-burn, N. Y.; Punxsutawney, Pa.; New Rochelle, N. Y.; St. Joseph, Mo.; New Cumberland, W. Va.; Taunton, Mass.; Salt Lake City; Kearney. Neb.; Cleveland, O.; Yonkers, N. Y.; Vicksburg, Miss. (with eight hours Saturdays); Schenectady, N. Y. St. John New Reunswick: Montreal The flagstaff was so thoroughly shattered that it was easily pulled over by GAVE HIMSELF UP. A Postoffice Clerk Goes Away From Home

granted. ISPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.

Miss Roberts, Mr. Shannon and Mrs. Harrison left the room for a few minutes, and on returning found the clock, vases and everything on the mantel piled on the floor and all the furniture upset. Shannon put the clock back and on turning around a moment after found it again on the floor. The coal in a hod behind the stove flew around

"Mercer county farmers are not running in debt. Our fine horses are still famous, prices are as high as ever for our products, and Sharon and other manufacturing communities here still prefer to deal with home producers. Why, see here in March my records show that 26 mortgages were satis-fied by the farmers and 27 new ones filed. signed by five of the House employes be-The Increase Accounted For.

live that way now and I am not going to, I'll die first." Very well, you will not die, but you will assist in keeping up the "agricultural depression."

going to live as my father did? People don't

Causes of Farmers' Debts.

Before this expedition left Pittsburg a lady, now the wife of a wealthy business man, but who in her girlhood had been the daughter in a secluded tarm house, said to me: "You will find that farmers live extravagantly in these days. You will find carpets upon their floors, pianos in their parlors, their sons and daughters attending city schools and colleges instead of the oldtime country academies. All these things have put them in debt."

In all honesty, would either "H." or the lady wish to see the farmers of the United States go back to the primitive customs and rude lives of 60 years ago? Does not a carpet on the farmer's floor indicate advanced civilization? Do not pianos and paintings show more refined tastes? Is not the desire for education at city schools and colleges a proof of that higher grade of intelligence that they used to say was so much needed in rural life? Has not the farmers' family a right to all these things? Then, why should he not have the money for them?

Where Blame Should Rest.

If there is only money enough outside of the cities to support the farmer as he lived 60 years ago, and if the farmer must go deeply in debt to live just a little bit more comfortable than his grandfather did-yes, and if the farmer, longing to rear his children in the ways of modern civilization, does mortgage his farm for that purposesurely the blame should not be upon him for doing it. The blame should rest with those economic conditions which prevent the farmer from having money. What are they? Well, A. S. Mawhin-

ney, a farmer of Sugar Creek township, in Venango county, said to me the other day: "Five years ago I bought cattle in the fall at 3 cents per pound; fed and cared for them through the winter, and in February sold them for from 5 to 514 cents per pound. Now, I could buy cattle in the tall for 2 cents per pound, must bear the expense of feeding them, and yet in April I cannot get 314 cents per pound for them.

No Prefit in Live Stock.

"So I don't raise cattle any more. It is profitless. The vast quantities of dressed beef shipped here from the West is responsible for this fall of prices. If the Western people would only send East their beef alive, even then we could hope to compete loaning. with them, but this thing of having it all slaughtered and ready dressed for lower prices than we can feed the cows, has paralyzed the business. No. I can't sell the hay that I used to feed the cows, because, again, Western hay, through the very low railroad freight rates, is brought into competition

with us." Mac. Lupher, a neighboring farmer in Canal township, stopped shearing sheep in his barnyard long enough to say to me: "We have not enough protection in cattle raising. There are more cattle imported by the United States than exported.

Knocked Out by Western Beef.

"I was once a large cattle raiser, but the Western beet business completely knocked me out. There is a good tariff on sheep, so as you see I have bought some blooded merinos and am trying to raise wool." The eastern section of Crawford county was once a celebrated region for fine cattle. "But," says Alonzo Wheeler, of Cooley village, "it has declined to small propor-

lessees or purchasers. Their value has depreciated. Land is lower to-day in rural ning wheel in one corner and an ancient regions of Western Pennsylvania, I venture, churn in the other suggested a repugnance than it was 20 years ago. Oh, yes, I have something laid by for a rainy day. But the

reason is, I have four big boys of my own at ome here to help me, and even they sometimes have wanted to go to the cities to get oetter paying work." Yet with the general admission that there s not much profit in farming these days as 5, 10 and 20 years ago, I have not yet found any farmers in the western tier of counties

who are willing to call it a "general agricul-tural depression." Nor will they admit that mortgages are increasing ou We may not be making profits, property. they say, "and we may be only living from hand to mouth, or we may find it hard work to purchase some of the luxuries of life, yet it s untrue to say that our debts are increas-

ing. In many counties we may not be dimin-ishing them very rapidly, but certainly we are not adding to them." No Increase of Mortgages.

The Recorder of Beaver county, W. H. Bricker, says that to his certain official knowledge there has been no noticeable increase of mortgages in the last six years in that county. The farmers of Beaver are of a careful, conservative class, and with more





the Churning by Dog Power

or less sheep raising you will find most of them backed by snug bank accounts. On the official dockets of the Butler county Commissioners I counted the num-ber of mortgages filed, in like periods, before and since 1886. Up to a month and a halt ago these dockets showed 519 mortgages filed before 1886 and 997 since then. County Commissioner John Humphreys

did not believe this increase in the numbe of mortgages meant an increase in the total indebtedness of farmere. Rather, thought, it meant a consolidation of d The development of petroleum in Butler county has thrown a large amount of noney into the town of Butler ready for

It's So Easy to Borrow.

People want mortgages. Therefore, a farmer, finding it so easy to borrow money in Butler, says to himself: "I owe John Smith \$100, Jacob Kroutz another hundred, and several other parties smaller sums. Why not borrow \$500, and pay them all off? It is more convenient to owe one person than half a dozen." So he secures a \$500 mort-gage. Yet his indebtedness is the same. mmissioner Humphreys had also found

that people are now preferring mortgages to judgments. He contessed, however, that with Western grain, Western hay and Western beef, Butler county farmers, as well as others, were forced to renew mortgages from time to time. "Land at \$10 an acre in the West can grow so much more corn, and hay, and feed so many more cattle than our higher-priced

land that the farmer here has much to con tend with," he concluded. Not an Indication of Debt. The Recorder of Lawrence county, J. T.

"Any increase of Gleason, said to me: "Any increase of mortgages here (and it is trivial) would nually. rather indicate conveyances than growing debta. The great increase in farm morttions. There is no money in cattle any gages that you read about is in the far West | gage on hand for future wants.

charges: "I've been employed in the House Postoffice since December, and during that white-scrubbed flooring boards. time I've seen enough of the Postmaster to convince anyone that he is not only unqualto labor-saving machinery. None of the ified for the position by reason of a lack af executive ability, but he is not straightforrooms upstairs had carpet. The plastering in the walls, where it was broken, was ward and is guilty of acts that makes his removal imperative for the honor of the Repatched with cheap picture prints filled with age-stained representations of men and women dressed in the style of 40 years ago. We all saw that kind of pictures when we publicans in the House, who elected him. The Postmaster is entitled, I understand, to

were children. Yes, this quaint old ramshackle of a habthe proceeds derived by the sale of waste paper that accumulates in the office. Now itation looks picturesque. It would make an ornament for a New England fair in Wheat has an eve to business and he sees to it that every scrap of paper is collected and town, but are there many who really could sold. enjoy living in that way now?

"The investigation will disclose the fact that newspapers, periodicals and circulars, etc., that have been mailed them are thrown We stopped another time over night at a into the waste basket. One day Wheat came to me and laid: 'McCord, all the paper modern farm house in Mercer county-per-hans it only could be modern with the help that comes for members who are out o a mortgage, I don't know. Rag carpet city, ex-members and members who are cheap, but of pretty pattern and warm in texture, covered the floors of dining room and kitchen. On the parlor and spare beddead you need not distribute, but tear the wrappers off them and throw the papers into the waste basket.' I supposed it was all right, and every day I threw away a room were the economical ingrain carpets, Weekly newspapers and cheap editions of dozen papers. standard novels filled tables and a bookcase

ANY AMOUNT OF IT.

"The other men had the same instructions walls. In the parlor was a cottage organnot an upright grand. I saw extravagance so you can imagine how many papers were thus thrown away. There is a lot of mail received every day, which we call 'crank stuff.' Now, although the postage is paid and it should be delivered to the members, nowhere, but taste I saw on all hands-a taste to live within means and yet have a The sitting room was almost a conservatory with its boxes and pots of oxalis, wan-Wheat orders that it be thrown into the waste basket, and it goes to increase the dering jew and trailing ivy. Outside the vellow crocuses already made the yard look revenue he receives from the sale of waste paper. The wrappers are always, as a rule, torn off. He has that doue to make it ap-pear as though the members had thrown it

The churning was done by "Tom," the big Newtoundland dog, and every where I saw much go-ahead spirit, intelligent ideas and yet withal a sensible estimate of the "Walter R. Wheat, the son of the Postmaster, is employed in the Postoffice. Wheat, Sr., went to Congressman Caswell worth of money that I found I was asking wheat, Sr., what to Congressman caswell and asked that he recommend Walter for appointment, which Mr. Caswell did, and Walter was appointed at once. The force of the office is 20, including the Postmaster, myself, "and why shouldn't they have brussels for ingrain carnets, paintings instead of chromos, a piano instead of an organ-why shouldn't they? Why can't they have them? but only 19 are working. The twentieth man, W. E. Bradley, who has been borne on Why are they so poor when city capitalists with no more money, invested in many in-stances easily earn larger interest? Why?" the rolls for the past month or more, has not put in appearance, but he draws the money just the same. Waiter Wheat has been "And so you Crawford county people want to send your fellow townsman to the doing the work supposed to be done by Bradley, and half the latter's salary goes to Walter. A letter addressed to Hon. W. H. Governor's mansion?" I remarked pleas antly to a farmer's boy about 23 years of age as he took charge of our team in a barn-H. Cowles, was not long ago broken open by Walter. His father saw the opened letter in Mr. Cowles' box, and on inquiry he was informed that his son had opened the letter, "Deed if I know," he answered slowly whereupon he lectured Walter. after looking at me wonderingly fully

OTHER INTERESTING ALLEGATIONS.

"Delamater, you know-Senator Dela-"I heard Walter acknowledge to his father nater, of Meadville?" I continued, taken that he tore the letter open, but I don't back somewhat. "Never heard of him," gulped the boy as know that he gave any excuse for doing it. About five weeks ago two mail sacks and a halt, containing a copy for each member of the advance sheet of a book entitled 'Monewhose fault was it? Delamater's or the tary Science' was received at the office. On boy's education at one of those old-time country academies which you may still find the cover of the pamphlet was the following here and there among the valleys of Western Pennsylvania? inscription: 'Advance Sheets-Interesting to the Pan-American and United States L. E. STOFIEL. Congress.' These pamphlets were enclosed in a large envelope, not sealed, addressed to the members. The pamphlets have never been taken from the racks, and the other FOUR MILLION WORTH OF BONDS day when one of the employes called the Postmaster's attention to the racks and said fold for the Purpose of Building a Branc the pamphlets ought to be distributed, Wheat replied that he didn't intend dis-DuBois, April 27 .- A circular has been

tributing them." Mr. McCord said an investigation will issued informing the stockholders of the disclose many interesting facts, of which the other employes are better posted than he was. He said the investigation will also Buffalo, Rochester and Pittsburg Railway Company that Adrien Iselin, Sr., has sold \$4,000,000 worth of the stock he owned, and show Wheat imposed upon the Grand Army and the Republican caucus by leading memthat he no longer controls the company. bers to believe that he had lost an arm in The conditions of the sale are that \$1,250,000 battle fighting for the Union, when the facts are to be placed in the hands of a trustee for the purpose of building a road from Howard Junction to Clarion Junction, by are he lost his arm celebrating a political victory some years after the war. which the Rochester and Pittsburg Coal and Iron Company obligates itself for 100 years

Couch's Murderer Caught.

to ship all of its product over the new branch; also a contract with the Bell, Lewis OKLAHÔMA CITY, April 27. - J. C. Adams, the murderer of Captain Couch, the and Yates Company to a like deal, for five late noted Oklahoma "Boomer," was brought years, to ship not less than 500,000 tons anhere to-day. He will have a preliminary The railroad has \$1,250,000 reserved for examination to-morrow. A strong force o

building the line from Howard to Clarion Junction, beside \$750,000 of general mort-United States troops escorted him from the station to the guard house to prevent mob violence. He is strongly guarded.

promiscuoualy without any visible cause. Stones without number have been thrown into the house and against the house and barn, and all watching has failed to discover the thrower. Mrs. Runkle, a neighbor, who hooted at

the manifestations at first, now fully be-lieves that Harrison is back in the spirit, while James and John McElra, brothers of Mrs. Harrison, have been present three or four days watching events, but claim to be entirely at a loss to account for the strange roceedings.

WINDOM WILL CALL A HALT.

The Administration Alarmed by the Large Importations of Contract Labor.

ISPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH. NEW YORK, April 27 .- Word has been eccived that Secretary Windom, if not exactly alarmed, is certainly agitated over the importation of contract labor immigrants There is scarcely a labor organization in the country which has not complained that this administration is altogether too loose in the methods by which the importa tion of foreign contract labor has been con

trolled at New York City. These labor unions have made it a question of politics with the administration. They protest that there must be enough men appointed to protect their interests or they will make warm for the Harrison administration.

Secretary Windom has issued orders that vigilance must be exercised in scanning the cargoes of steerage passengers who arrive at this port every day in the week. From this hour the Federal official who does not attend to this matter strictly will have a hot time with the Secretary. Mr. Windom himself is expected here almost any day to give his personal supervision to carrying out these instructions. From all that can be learned, Harrison is alarmed at the free importation of contract labor, and Secretary Windom will be doubly vigilant because o

instructions from the White House.

POLITICS IN PAYETTE.

Things as Yet Are a Little Mixed-The Leading Candidates.

ISPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH. UNIONTOWN, April 27 .- The contests for the various party nominations for the county tickets are becoming exceedingly warm up here, especially for County Treasurer on the Democratic side, and for Register and Recorder on the Republican side. The fight for the nomination for County Treasurer is not well defined, and is between Silas Provins, of German township, and R. L.

Miller, of Springfield township. John B. Miller, the present incumbent, is again a Republican candidate for the nomi-nation of Register and Recorder, but his opponent, L. E. Angell, of New Haven, has the lead by long odds so far, and will in all probability be the Republican nominee Mr. Miller was elected on the one term ba sis, and although he has made a good offi-cial, his party thinks he should step down and out.

The Gubernatorial contest is fought very shy of by both parties, both parties believ-ing it is not good policy to force their can-didate to the front for fear of trouble this fall. But there is a strong un ercurrent a work, and there may be trouble yet.

DEATH IN THE MINE.

One Killed and Three Fatally Injured in a Michigau Shaft.

MARQUETTE, April 27.-Tamarack shaft No. 3, near the Red Jacket mine, was de stroyed by fire this morning. John Will iams, a pump man, the only one at the foo

of the shaft at the time, was burned to death. In attempting to rescue Williams John Rowe was sufficiented and John

Thomas so badly burned that his recovery is very doubtful. Thomas was rescued by the bravery of John Pentrost, who descended after him into the burning shait and also brought the body of Rowe to the surface. Williams' body was not recovered until 3 o'clock this

afternoon. The origin of the fire is a mystery and incendiarism is feared,

our rich men are no help to a man who must struggle for a living. THE TEXAN FLOODS.

The Aspect of Affairs is Growing Daily Worse on the Trinity River.

DALLAS, April 27 .- The most destructive flood ever known in the history of North Texas is now passing through the Trinity. The great rain on Friday raised every tributary of it far out of their banks. Yesterday and last night it rose rapidly and at 10 o'clock this morning passed the highest water mark in 50 years. In front of this city it is two miles wide, extending to the boot of Flander's Height west and to Oak Cliff south of the city. On the north all residences from a 100 yards beyond Cochran street are submerged, some to the second

floor and others to the attic. Trains on all the railroads, the Pacific, the Missouri Pacific, the Santa Fe and the cannon. Greenville, were not running west, north or south of the city to-day. Washouts are south of the city to-day. Washouts are reported all along their lines, but the worst are immediately around the city.

News from the surrounding country bad. Small bridges have been destroyed by the deluge. Indeed few are left. The destruction of crops will amount to little or nothing, for as soon as the water goes down they will grow again. The storm of Friday will be a memorable one. It extended means of the halyards. the Indian Territory to the and from Marshall to ne. There was not a stream, from Gult

Abilene. however small or great, that was not raised

high above its high water mark. At many points thers were hurricanes of wind and one genuine cyclone. Many houses were blown down, but so far not a single life has been TRENTON, April 27 .- United States Comnissioner Rowe was called upon at his reported lost. To-day a norther is blowing and fires are quite c ufortable. To-morrow hotel here at a late hour last night by Caspar Soer, chief clerk in the money order dewe look for several feet additional water in the Trinity, and, thank God, it goes into the partment of the Newark postoffice, who Gulf direct and not down upon unfortunate came to surrender himself as a defaulter in

HUNGARIANS IN A ROW.

ties in Newark, where he has a wife an child, and where he has many friends who hold him in esteem. His peculations date back only to August last. of Them Narrowly Escapes Being Killed by His Fellows.

SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH. BELLEFONTE, April 27.-What was near

v another murder occurred here this after His Victims Turn Up by Installments, but He noon. A few Hungarians, living in the Remains Hidden. house of the Bellefonte Furnace Company,

LEAVENWORTH, April 27.-The missing leg of the mutilated body of Mrs. Mittman, who was murdered a month ago, was found

in the river to-day near the Planters' Hotel. The police are still hunting for Charles A. Benson, the supposed murderer. The investigation of his career shows that he is an exile from Germany, whence he escaped to America several years ago. He was charged with blowing up his sister's house and killing two of her children.

Resented by a Political Organization in

ISPECIAL TELEGRAN TO THE DISPATCA. WASHINGTON, April 27 .- The corre-

mondents of the New York Press have ERIE, April 27 .- There is a movement of foot in Erie City and county to form a politi-

made a canvass of the Bepublican Congress-men, finding that only 141 out of 169 will vote for the McKinley tariff bill. The number of bolters is more than sufficient to cal party designed to control nominations and elections to offices in this county. The lefeat the measure.

to the dissatisfaction among the soldier element, and then Governor Beaver's ad-NEW YORK, April 27 .- Pullman Canton ministration in Pennsylvania and failure to recognize old soldiers' has had something to Fisher, aged 21 months, who was born in a Pullman car near Canton, O., upset a cup of boiling tea upon his head to-day and died from his injuries. do with the movement. The organizers are working secretly and are taking in the sons

Y.; St. John, New Brunswick; Montreal, Canada; Leominster, Mass.; Scottdale, Pa.; Winnepeg, Manitoba; Svracuse, N. Y.; Buffalo, N. Y. (mill men), and Bradford,

The unions in Wheeling and Philadelphia ask for an advance of 20 per cent.

STUDYING THE MATTER.

LOCAL EMPLOYERS QUIETLY AWAIT. ING EVENTS.

Its Importance Not Forgotten, Though No. Local Move is Being Made-An Eye Open to the Future-Some Think It Can't be Done.

A number of leading manufacturers and mployers of labor were interviewed by DISPATCH reporters. While there is no particular local importance attached to the movement, all manifest an interest in it, and evidently feel that sooner or later it will be a foremost question in Pittsburg. The majority are alive to the importance of the question, and are studying it from every standpoint.

The manufacturers spoken to were a unit on one point. They seem to regard the eight-hour rule as an impractical scheme, and various reasons are given, including a lower rate of wages and an increased cost of living. Most of them would be willing that the men work eight hours a day if the pay be regulated accordingly, but they would not concede to the proposition if it carries with it the old rate of wages. Census Supervisor George T. Oliver ex-

pressed some new ideas on the subject. He said: "If the movement becomes general, and an eight-hour day is established, I do not see how it is going to benefit the working classes to any great extent. As I un-derstand it, men now working nine hours a day only want to work eight, but will not

got to quarreling, when two or three jumped got to quarrenting, when two or three Jumped on one of them and began to purnish him frightfully. One of those hammering him drew a knife and saying, "Let's kill him," started after the fellow. The victim struggled, broke away and ran, and notified the police offi-care. He was hattened up, pratic well becers. He was battered up pretty well, but was not daugerously hurt He was locked up to save him from his companions.

NEGLECTING THE SOLDIER.

Louisiana.

Erlo County. STECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.

canvas shows 2,000 in Erie county. The removal of Corporal Tanner first led