THE TOPICAL TALKER.

HE was desperately in earnest, and she was as

liked and could talk about. She was a pur

and large brown eyes spoke of intellectuality; she was dressed in excellent taste; a modest sil-very gray gown not cut too low, and the ab-

sence of jewelry confirmed the promise of her face. And yet he had tried her on books, on

the opera, on the culture of orchids—their hostess was famous for her orchids—and her

responses had shown neither enthusiasm no

knowledge. Above the corner of the music

room in which they were sitting hung a small

in the background. He called her attention to the soft twilight effects which the great painter

lowed his description of the paintings with evi-

"When I was in Philadelphia in October."

car floating among rosy clouds, the loveliest woman I have ever seen. Do you know it?-

it is a famous picture, I believe; I've seen en-

"I don't know," he said. "What is

called ?"
"Let me see—it was sunrise and the horses

were white—" she said, and the big brown eyes seemed to be looking at something at least a

"Yes I" she cried. "That's the name-'Auro

That settled it. He allowed her to turn the

Poetic Justice

I SHOULD like to repay the editor of Carper's

"Easy enough to do that," said Mr. Akates.

Coolness Under Fire.

THE night of the big fire on Liberty street one

of the guests of the Seventh Avenue Hotel was awakened by the arrival of the fire engines.

He did not lose any time in getting up, and running to the window from which he could

look into the burning building opposite. The

fire looked very threatening even then and be

called to his wife to get up and dress. In a few

minutes they had donned their clothes, and she was preparing to go down stairs when she ob-served that her husband was coolly taking off

his coat and vest again.
"Why, Henry," she said, "what are you

"I guess I may as well save my best clothes

if they're all I can carry away," he replied,

and I'm going to put on that new suit I got

last week," and there and then he made the

This suggested another idea to her, and she

proceeded to put on over the walking dress she

sealskin coat and a valuable Indian shawl

Thus attired, and it took but a minute or two, they descended to the office where they happily

discovered that the hotel was not in danger

A Subtle Instruction.

Do you think Dr. Preechus was justified

"Why, I thought he was very complimenta

in speaking of Mr. Sloman in that way?"

had first donned a couple of fine silk dresses,

"Don't send him any more poetry."

Magazine for his courtesy," said Mr. Son

thousand miles away,
"Was it 'Aurora ?" he ventured.

dlewinks without a murmur.

gravings of it."

"How "

zling sort of a girl. Her low, broad forehe

had tried in the hope of finding someth

attentive listener. All sorts of subjects he

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PITTSBURG, SATURDAY, DEC. 1, 1890.3

A QUESTION OF FACT The plans for improving the rivers of the

Mississippi and controlling the floods are so far developed in the third paper of the series, printed on the first page of this issue. that a clear general idea of their nature can be formed, and intelligent discussion begun as to their practicability. The plan briefly stated is this: To convert the water courses into storage reservoirs by movable dams, to supplement the storage so obtained with small basins at the heads of the streams. The idea of controlling floods by means of reservoirs is not new, having been proposed for the Ohio river in 1849 by Mr. Charles Ellet, and later by Mr. Elwood Morris, disreservoirs, however, were not to be in the streams themselves, but to be reservoirs in the ordinary sense of the term. The plan when proposed was vigorously assailed and ally abandoned, the estimate of its cost being \$215,000,000 for the Ohio river alone. to control the outflow, then estimated at only one-third of what is now known to be neces-

The plan of movable dams to improve the river for purposes of navigation we believe to be approved by the best engineering talent of the time, its estimated cost as an plied to the Ohio being \$70,000,000. The new combination of the old ideas, as set forth in these papers, appears plausible to may the least, and reduces the problem to a question of fact, which may be considered under three heads.

(a) Is it practicable to obtain the neces sary storage capacity in the way proposed? The volume of water necessary is determined by General Greely, from the gauging of the Mississippi River Commission, at something over 18 cubic miles for the Ohio Valley alone, in which the great floods of the Mississippi originate. This question can probably be settled from surveys already made, which ought to give the cubic volume of water courses.

(b) Is it practicable to construct and operate movable dams of the great size necessary to accomplish the object? The papers are to contain drawings of dams which the author believes to be practicable, and no more expensive than those proposed to give six feet of water only in the Ohio, to render that stream navigable. It is hoped that these designs or others will meet every requirement, and criticism is invited when they are so far unfolded that they may be intelligently comprehended.

(c) Can the improvement be made at a cost commercially possible? The solution of the mechanical problem will probably solve this also. It is well to bear in mind, in this connection, that the plan is not alone to control the floods, but also to so deepen and improve the water courses that they will float ships of the heaviest tonnage, this controlling the floods, its great value in decorporations.

TO ENFORCE THE LAW. The decision of Judge Gresham in the Counselman and Peasley cases affirms the right of the legal authorities under the inter-State commerce act to req ire evidence from those cognizant of its violation, such as the officers of the corporations or the recipients of preferential rates. The Judge points out that both the provisions of the act and of statutes protect a witness against prosecution on his own testimony; while the plea on his testimony would not incriminate him it remark that the inter-State commerce law are not only very interesting, but quite flat ment on that famous class of organisms which have neither bodies to be imprisoned

nor souls to be damned. to be something like a real enforcement of The growth of the last city was only about the law. The fact that there have been gen- a thousand greater than the growth in Pittseral violations of that enactment has been fully disclosed of late, not only by the cases only a little over half as much. before the courts at Chicago, but by the re-port of the Inter-State Commerce Commis-sion, which stated the fact of general viola-gives it even a far higher position. Other

tion more broadly than any other authority has yet done. This widespread attempt to nullify the law was plainly founded upon a belief that its penalties would not be enforced. If the law is to be of any value whatever in checking the evils of discriminating rates, that idea must receive the convincing disproof of the imposition of the penalties on every railroad official who undertakes to violate it. The pleas in the cases decided by Judge Gresham were interposed to prevent the enforcement of the penalties, and that Judge with his usual directness has swept away the legal cobwebs which were spun to prevent the enforcement of the law.

As these cases will go to the United States supreme Court on a writ of habeas corpus, it may be hoped that an early decision will be obtained that will make it possible to enforce the law. But the United States Supreme Court has of late years come to be a very uncertain body.

NEW POLITICAL INDEPENDENCE. A novel development in State politics is afforded by the Philadelphia Press, which comes out in a formal declaration that Pennsylvania is misrepresented by both its Senators. A good many other people have made assertions to this effect; but when we discover the journal which only a few weeks ago was in the forefront of the fight as a Republican organ, attacking the political attitude of both Senators Cameron and Quay, it awakens in the mind distinct reminiscences of the days of 1882.

The reasons why our Senators are regarded by the Press as misrepresenting the people of Pennsylvania is the rather unique one that they do not support the Federal elections bill and that Senator Cameron supports free coinage of silver. It might be supposed that issues could be raised on which the appeal from the Senators to the people could be taken more successfully. The little matter of corporate supremacy in this land, the questions of conducting public affairs in the interest of the people and not of favored classes, and the removal of the offices from politics, are all matters on which an outspoken journal could criticise its own party leaders with the assurance of party | principle. support. But our Philadelphia cotempo rary is not jumping on Messrs. Quay and Cameron for any such barren idealities as

this. The counts of its indictment are that (1) "the elections bill was defeated at the last session through the machinations of Mr. Quay and Mr. Cameron, and (2) Mr. Cameron not only supports free coinage, but is reported to be co-operating with free coinage Senators to defeat the elections bill and get through a free coinage measure." On these THE DAILY DISPATCH is delivered by carriers at grounds the Press jumps at the leaders and proprietors of Pennsylvania Republicans, in the following savage style:

> Is this the leadership which the foremost Republican State in the Union accepts as representing its interests? Is it not enough that Pennsylvania is silent in the Senate when the tariff question is up, and that Senators from other States are left to defend its interests! Are our Senators to go further and actively conspire to defeat a measure to which the party is solemnly pledged, and which the Presi dent of the United States has earnestly ecommended in two messages? It is time for the Pennsylvania Senators to halt.

The first criticism which we have to make on the Press' deliverance is as to the fitness of its concluding figure of speech. We do not think that even from its own view i really wants the Pennsylvania Senators to halt. They have been halting on the elections bill, and that is what the Press is tinguished engineers of that time; these pitching into them for. If our cotemporary will select its political metaphors a little more carefully, we will consent to let i fight out with Senators Quay and Cameron the question whether there is that passionate hankering for the Federal elections bill or that indignant repugnance to free coinage that it imagines to exists among the Republicans of Pennsylvania. But we must urge upon our cotemporary

the reflection that it makes this arraignment of Pennsylvania's Senatorial representation at the wrong time of the year. If it really believes that Quay and Cameron are representing the State of Pennsylvenia a vers effective time to have said so was last fall when one Senator was trying to win a victory for his personal and political machine and the other was seeking to secure State legislators in favor of his re-election. Other junctures of the same sort have occurred at biennial periods for the last six years or so when an outspoken paper could have impressed its disciplinary views with reference to the Senators very forcibly on the public. But the insurrectionary Republican organ has been faithful to the work of preserving the Quay and Cameron power, and only delivers itself in this fighting style after the battle is over. If the article quoted from had been published last October, it would have been very much more

effective. Our cotemporary in this way assumes colitary, gloomy and peculiar position. It has recently abjured Independent Republic anism, forsworn the Mugwumps, and always reviled the Democracy. Now it turns around and jumps with both feet impartially on the leaders of both wings of Pennsvivania Republicanism. We do not assert that there is anything derogatory in its insbility to find anyone of the politicians of this State to whom it can tie. We always had a feeling of sympathy and admiration for the man who found eleven obstinate men on the jury with him.

A YEAR OF PROSPERITY.

It is worth while to look back over the year now drawing to a close. Such a year feature being a natural sequence of the plan of prosperity and progress has never been of forming the storage reservoirs and adding known in Pittsburg before. A review of the to the value of the system as a means for year in detail which appears in another column is most pleasant reading. It veloping our internal water ways to their shows that everybody who wanted greatest possible carrying capacity, so pro- to work found it and at fair tecting us from the destructive violence of wages. There have been no disastrous natural forces, and at the same time freeing | strikes, no profitless conflicts between capita us from our present thralldem to greedy and labor; harmony has reigned in all the relations of men in this community for a year past. Among other gratifying signs of the period is the purchase of building lots by workingmen. It is safe to say that more Pittsburgers own their own homes to-day than there were renters twenty years ago. If 1891 makes no violent departure from the

A COMPARISON OF GROWTH. The figures given elsewhere, on the sub

record of 1890 in Pittsburg we shall be more

than content.

ject of the relative growth of population of behalf of a corporation official that while the leading centers, as shown when municipal lines are disregarded and the entire would his corporation, is swept aside by the communities are included in the population, does not attempt to impose criminal punish- tering to Pittsburg. It appears from this statement that the actual growth of the manufacturing community, known as Pittsburg, was exceeded by only four cities, New This certainly looks as if there was going | York, Chicago, Boston and Philadelphia. burg, while the percentage of growth was

cities of smaller population have exceeded the 35 per cent of Pittsburg's growth during the past decade; but among the larger cities only Chicago and Boston show a greater growth than Pittsburg has enjoyed. With the additional presumption that our population is actually larger than the census credits us with, the display of growth for

our city is extremely gratifying. The value of this method of comparison, and at the same time the injury done to our standing as a city by the present division of our community into the great municipalities and half a dozen suburbs, appears very strikingly in the fact that when the comparison is made by counties Pittsburg ranks n the same class as Boston, Baltimore and St. Louis; while when the comparison is made by municipalities we are ranked with Buffalo, Cleveland, Detroit and New Orleans.

PRAISE DUE THE POLICE. The police force of Pittsburg is a more efficient body to-day than it has ever been. The public can see this for themselves. It The public can see this for themselves. It the machines oiled, the fires bright is a fact that the official figures and statereason to be proud of the showing made by his department during the past year, and Pittsburg's guardians of the peace as a body may fairly felicitate themselves. It is also right that Inspector McAleese should have recognition for his share in the good work. Over two-thirds of the arrests made by the police department go to the credit of the First district, over which Inspector Mc-Aleese presides, and over two-thirds of the revenues, which exceed the estimate by fifty per cent, from police business emanate from the same district. The extinction of the speak-easy in the downtown precincts seems also to have been due to Inspector Mc-Aleese's energy, and it is only just that he should receive full credit for the thoroughness of his work.

REPRESENTATIVE MASON, of Illinois, said in debate the other day that "General Grant needs no monument." This remark may not have been inspired by the New York mil onaires: but they are acting on exactly that

An interesting expose of the relative value of real and nominal authority was recently afforded in Philadelphia, where the City Councils passed a resolution directing its Rail road Committee to report at the next meeting the Belt Line ordinance. The committee had carefully kept that measure on the shelf thes many months, while the Pennsylvania Railroad was maturing plans to head off the new enter prise. The committee, after prolonged conferences with the representatives of the Pennsylvania Railroad, reported the ordinand down with amendments designed to defeat the easure. It is a wise Council committee which knows its own master.

A FIGHT with fatal results as an outcome of the West Virginia coal miners' strike is an unfortunate but impressive demonstra-tion of the dangerous method of settling in-

THE Governments of the South American republics are sending commissioners to Europe to induce immigration to their countries. Since the United States has no longer any desire for ssisted or contract immigration it might turn its surplus in that line over to its South Amer ican neighbors, under the policy of reciprocity.

SOME people never are satisfied. Two years ago a large and enthusiastic element was declaring its readiness to fight to get into Oklahoma. Now the same people are begging to get out of it.

Two and a half millions in gold are coming across the Atlantic, the tide of exchange having turned the flow of the precious metal in this direction. This will do more to relieve the stringency than any quantity of legislation the first effect of which would be to make the gold go out of the country.

IF the Point is to be transplanted to Reliefield, in accordance with a current rumor, it is to be hoped that some effort will be made to improve its architectural appearance while

THE fight between the Irish factions was appropriately begun in Kilkenny; but the proverbial Kilkenny method of warfare seems to have been transferred to the Dublin office of that journal which bears the name hardly in harmony with the present condition of affairs,

HOTELS and newspaper offices as the fields of active hostilities are likely to furnish more amusement to the public than profit to

THE announcement that the custodians of the Irish parliamentary fund, raised in this untry, will hold on to the money until the pending differences are settled, is referred to by cotemporary as "locking up the Irish money, It may produce a financial stringency among

By the way, was there not a little of the ex post facto prophecy in the Signal Service's prediction of yesterday morning's cold wave?

Curry AGO is now calling on the President to issue his proclamation inviting foreign gov-It is certainly to be hoped that the proclamation will get out within a year from the time when the bill was passed locating the fair at

THE British Consul at Galveston seem to be anything but persona grata to the Gov-

A NEW ORLEANS professor of what he calls "the new astronomy" predicts that at some time in the future, the sun will rise in the West. Possibly even this will take place when Pittsburg gets her streets cleared of telegraph nasts and over-head electric wires.

PERSONAL INTELLIGENCE.

Frw people are aware that Prof. Summer, o Yale College, is an Episcopal clergyman. APROPOS of the Ames-West wedding Boston, the father of the happy groom, Mr. F. L. Ames, has settled the sum of \$1,000,000 upon

his son as his share in the joyous occasion. NATHAN MATTHEWS, JR., Mayor-elect of oston, is a lawyer who gives special attention to equity cases, and has the care of some large st funds. He studied at Harvard and Leipsic, and is 37 years old.

MR. GLADSTONE is arranging for a grand family gathering at Hawarden for the Christ-mas holidays, and, incidentally, the guests will celebrate his birthday. The G. O. M. will be 8 years old on the 20th inst.

MR. R. W. GILDER, the editor of the Cen tury Magazine, commenced his literary career as a reporter at a small salary on a Newark newspaper. He is the son of a Methodis clergyman, and was for a time employed in connection with one of the New Jersey railways in a subordinate position. THE widow of General Custer says that h

was the first of American army officers to experiment on the rattlesnake as an entree. His cook prepared the dish under protest, and as the General was eating the dainty he saw the alarmed negro cautiously peering in through a crack of the tent, doubtless expecting to see his master drop down in a fit,

THE new novel, on which Thomas A. Edison and George Parsons Lathrop have been working conjointly, will probably be ready for the press in January. Mr. Edison has taken the reenest interest in the work, and in drawin on his imagination has hit upon a number of clever electrical devices which he has consid-ered it worth while to patent. The book will contain a number of aketches made by the in-ventor to litustrate his predictions.

Dublin. Ink slinging and mud slinging may be fun for the Home Rulers, but it's death for SNAP SHOTS IN SEASON. WITHOUT doubt Charles Stewart Parnell

It's in the air, isn't it. Not the frost, b Christmas, of course. You feel it, don't you? And so do you, and you, and you. Can't help but feel it. You can see it, too, in the faces of the children, in the features of the aged, in the looks of the youths and maidens, in the eyes of fathers and matrons. But the surest sign is in the big bundles in the arms of the smiling contented looking people who dodge in and out the doors of shops and steer their way through the swift moving crowds on the pavements Again you see it in the anxious gaze of th groups standing before the big windows filled with the handiwork of the men and women wh ply the tools and the looms, stir the fires and feed the machines the world over. How they do look through the big frost-streaked plate glass windows, to be sure. Some, many, more's the pity, must be satisfied with a look, A wall glass. Still their faces seem pleased enough to warrant the hope that they are satisfied. Others go inside and gratify their every wish. That's all right, too. The dollars they spend keep the tools bright, the shuttles flying ments which we publish elsewhere golden shower the brighter the toil sbundantiy establish. Chief Brown has mas tree. So spend away, you of the dollars, Don't be niggardly about it. And you of the dimes drop a nickle here and there, too. Get something for the tree or the stocking. If you can't afford a piano be satisfied with a musi box. If we all wore dimonds some of us would want to wear flints so it's merely a matter of taste and scarcity, after all. Keep up the purchasing procession; and don't ask the window gazer to move on. This is the time for looking at the world's wares, not at the world's cares.

PHOTOGRAPHERS manage to make a living by making faces.

THE fellow between two fires gets the best o the blizzard. THE careful tidy housewife who keeps he

tchen utensils shining is a woman of bright THE Senate is out of Plumb on account o

PARNELL has given the world a first-class

It All Depends.

Let the blizzard sing loud as it pleases, Let it blow from morn until night, We don't mind the ice or the breezes So long as the fire shines bright. When the snow flies the merry bells jingl And jollity everywhere reigns; But, heavens! how frosty airs tingle When there's not any gas in the mains!

An optical delusion-A glass eye. WE wonder what Succi would give for a disl

NEW YORK has certainly secured Grant's emains. Now she should put something over them to let the people know where the hero's

THE worst thing in the mince pie is the

Money is so tight now that a great many SOMEBODY has figured that London's smok

cloud weighs 300 tons, and that the materials i contains are worth \$10,000,000. But the calcu lations end in smoke for all that.

HARD CASH-That turned out at a mint. IF the weather could be passed through the learing house it might be improved.

Laughing Water Clearest, Work without murmuring day atter day, Play when you can get a chance, Laugh with the laughers who strive to be gay, Smile when they ask you to dance. Children soon grow to be men:

The muddlest water runs clear, you know, After rollicking thro' the gien, Don't mind if your palms are covered with stains

Put there by hard, honest toil: They can be washed until nothing remains But traces of grime and oil. The heart can be light tho' the hands hard grow Music's writ with an inky pen, The muddlest water runs clear, you know, After rollicking thro' the glen. Don't worry because your coat is threadly And your shoes don't hold a shine Let your step be as light as those who wear Clothes cut from cloth superfine. Contentment robs life of sorrow and woe, Past shadows can't come again:

The muddlest water runs clear, you know, After rollicking thro' the gle Then whistle and sing when the day is dark Partake of what joys you can; The rain doesn't silence the singing lark, Why should it the song of man? Look square at the world with your face aglov Dismiss the wherefore and when:

The muddlest water runs clear, you know, After rollicking thro' the glen. Ir's hard to tell whether the black dot unde

In winter time, when society amuses itself in the drawing room, the bow window becomes a

A FLIRT is the girl who takes desperat hances of becoming an old maid.

Woman may be frail, but she can hold up he end of a depate with a glant. Work develops the muscle and study de-

relops the mind. Football, develops lumps of various parts of the body. IP liars were branded like cattle a great many people would carry scars.

ORANGE belts are as popular in Florida as rost belts are up here.

In Ireland if a man wants to secure votes he must first serve a few terms in jail. It's no hard to enter a jail there either.

Some fork imagine they lead a blameless life if they manage to lay the blame for their own faults on the shoulders of others.

SMALL change—The baby's extra clothing.

Winter's Way. He asked her for her hand and heart, Her little hands she clapped, And then he saw the big tears start, Because her hands were chapped

JAY GOULD has been fined \$100 for refusing to serve as a juror. He paid his lawyers several hundred dollars for trying to get him of Funny, isn't it? work and the performers, unless it be to re-HIGH livers-The family on the sixth floor.

THE only gift which can be disper at Christmas time is the gift of gab. What's in a Name, Anyhow? Snobbs-I've received an invitation to dine at Cooke's to-morrow, old fellow. I can take a friend along, too.

Bobbs-What Cooke's? Snobbs-Jay Cooke's, of course Bobbs-No. thanks. I'd rather not. Snobbs-Why, old fellow, the Cookes are nice people, and the dinner is bound to be a Bobbs-Oh, they're nice enough, but I don't care about dining at a house run by a jay cook,

THE wind is a persistent blowhard. Do the mediums use wrapping paper to produce the rapping they talk about?

gestion of the bowels. Judge Mitchell was the only Democratic member of the Bench, and was re-elected for a second term at the recent election. His age was about 5. THE skunk is stronger than the elephan THE galleries are not the only things full during hot debates in Congress,

PEOPLE are too often judged by their wealth,

HEIRESSES are blooming out in Allegheny county. They are ripe enough to pick, too. BUFFALO BILL has been called off in time to

prevent bloodshed out West. Bill wouldn't mind killing a few Indians for the sake of securing a first-class advertisement. WELL posted-The theatrical paper on the

An oil pool is perfectly legitimate. The more

OUR MAIL POUCH.

The South American Correspondent of The Dispatch Heard From-A Lady's Long Journey. The following interesting letter from Fanni

R. Ward, the correspondent of THE DISPATCH in South America, contains some information which will be read with interest. Here it is: Now and then a copy of THE DISPATCH

To the Editor of The Dispatch: reaches me in our wanderings, and always affords a great deal of pleasure. I suppose there have been several breaks in my ser South American letters, but only when we found ourselves in out-of-the-way places, where there were absolutely, no postal facilities. For example, we have crossed the Andes at several different points, on our way to remote districts, each time almost living in our saddles three o four weeks, and hardly seeing a house in all that time (except the Government tambos erected for nightly shelter), much less a postoffice. Our recent journey through Smyth's Channel and the Straits of Magellan included a fortnight's cruise among the islands of the Tierra del Fuego group, and the innumerable a forthight's cruise among the islands of the Tierra del Fuego group, and the innumerable other islands (each one a mountain, the last remnants of the great Andean chain) that are scattered all along the Western coast of what used to be Patagonia till Chili gobbled it: besides a stop at the most southerly town on the globe, and a run to the Falkland Islands. Then we had a long trip up the Rio de la Plata, the Parana, and the Paraguay rivers; another to some ostrich farms, sheep and cattle ranches in the far interior of the Argentine country, and a visit to Asuncion, the capital of Paraguay, about 1,700 miles above Buenos Afres. And we are soon going on another expedition, to the remote regions of the upper Amazons. I shall always do my best toward sending the mauuscript as regularly as possible; and when it is slow in coming, or does not come at all, you may be quite sure that it is not the fault of my agent at home, or of the printer who sets up the first copy, but because we are temporarily "stuck" in some benighted section, from which we are certain to emerge all right, in time. I can safely promise that from this time on the letter will increase much in interest, for I have at last waded laboriously through all the more prosy parts, not feeling justified in printing them, yet conscious that the manuscripts were sometimes dull and by no means up to the mark. There is little yellow fever now in Rio, but the weather is excessively hot, Yesterday, after a regular scorcher, we went out to ride, between 4 and 6 o'clock P. M., and within the mark. There is little yellow fever now in Rio, but the weather is excessively hot. Yesterday, after a regular scorcher, we went out to ride, between 4 and 6 o'clock P. M., and within not less than two hours' time we saw eight funeral processions, and one uncoffined corpse being carried to the cemetery on a stretcher. The first Congress of the new Republic convenes next Saturday, November 15, and preparations are in progress for a grand celebration. This alleged Republic will die young, like the good little boys in the Sunday School books—but not from the same reason. The people are too lazy and unstable to govern themselves, and if poer old Dom Pedro were to return to-morrow he would be welcomed with open arms. The present Government seems to have gone crazy under the stress of its "brief authority." and continues to hand out appropriation after appropriation, and concession after concession, to whoever asks for one, utterly oblivious of a limit; though within only the last month about 20 times as much money as the whole country is worth has been thus promised. There will come a crash by and by; but meanwhile the few knowing ones will have made fortunes and gone safely away with them. The Argentine Republic is now worse off, having been literally "boomed" to death. Its army is completely demoralized, and war is threatened by Chili; exchange is at such a rate that for every one of our American dollars we received at the Argentine banks \$\$1 of their paper; business failures and suicides are pitifully numerous, and the hordes of emigrants who spent so much money to secure and settle well are rushing away by shiploads. One year in these countries has taught us many things—not least among them being a better appreciation of the United States of the North than we ever felt before.

Franner B. Wahd.

According to Hoyle.

In a late issue of your paper, "Constant

Reader," of Wheeling, makes an inquiry about the privilege of the "lone hand" in the game of

permit me to refer him to the several editions

of "Hoyle's Games" as published by Dick and

Fitzgerald, from 1868 to 1890. Referring to the

Fitzgerald, from 1868 to 1890. Referring to the fourteen edition of "The American Hoyle," page 69, we find the following law: "41. A player may play alone when he adopts, orders up, or makes a trump; or when his partner assists, orders up, or makes a trump." "Constant Reader" is in error when he assumes that a player can order up his partner; he can only order up his adversary.

B. B. B.

A Political Inquiry

Please let me know through the columns o

THE DISPATCH what this "force bill is."
A READER,

[The so-called "force bill" is a measu

esigned to give the Federal Government

ing and particularly the certification of the

lections for members to Congress. Its advo

eates admit that it is designed more especially

for the South, and say that it will protect the colored man's ballot.]

C. Wins the Wager.

Please inform me through your paper which

rease inform me through your paper which is right. A. bets in case a national bank breaks that the Government would pay the depositors a dollar for a dollar. C. bets that it would not.

CONSTANT READER.

PITTSBURG, Dec. 11.

AN HISTORICAL LANDMARK.

Walking Purchase.

Bucks County Historical Society, says the

Philadelphia Inquirer, have set up a memorial

stone at the starting point of the famous "walking purchase" of lands from the Indians

by the sons of William Penn. On one of the

large boulders that surround the base of the

To the Memory of the Lennt Lenape Indian

Ancient Owners of This Region,

These stones are placed at this spot, the starting

point of the

September 17, 1737.

This Land Given by Martha Chapman

Miss Corden in Robin Hood.

The delightful comic opera of "Robin Hood

was repeated before a splendid audience at the

Duquesne Theater last night, There is noth-

ing to add to the praise already given to the

mark the exquisite quality of Miss Juliette

Corden's voice, which was displayed in th

numbers falling to the lot of Maid Marion, Miss Corden has improved in every way since her last appearance here, and she now holds easily a very high position among the younger operatic stars.

DEATHS OF A DAY.

Joseph W. Steel, Millionaire.

GREENSBURG, Dec. 12.-Joseph W. Steel, on

of the wealthiest and most widely known men in this county, died at his home in this place this

this county, died at his home in this place this morning, aged 70 years. Mr. Steel was said to be worth \$\text{\$\}

Judge T. A. S. Mitchell.

INDIANAPOLIS, Dec. 12.—Judge T. A. S. Mit-chell, of the Supreme Court of Indiana, died sud-denly at his home in Goshen this morning of con-

Henry C. Noble. COLUMBUS, Dec. 12.—Henry C. Noble, a promi-ent attorney, and brother of John W. Noble, greatry of the Interior, died last evening,

rough hewn obelisk the inscription reads:

Henry C. Mercer, of Doylestown, a

suchre. For full information of this

To the Editor of The Dispatch :

order up his adversary. PITTSBURG, Dec. 12.

To the Editor of The Dispatch:

SHARON, PA., Dec. 10.

To the Editor of the Dispatch:

"Perhaps he was, but he need not have al luded to him so often as the late Mr. Sloman even if he was always behind time." Laid It to Lightning. A UNT BELINDA visited Pitteburg for the first

asked she.

in his remarks," said ne.

time in twenty years last week and she bas passages in the city ever since.
"Your Cousin George took me to ride on them cable cars," she says, "and the way them me a bit, but I never let on till the car stopped one time awful sudden. Threw me sideways and I grabbed George's arm. We had to lay

there a good while, for they'd run out er light nin' !" Electricity gets the blame as

credit for most things these days. COMMERCE OF OUR LAKES.

A Greater Tonnage Than That of Lond and Liverpool Together.

The commerce of our great Northweste lakes, says the Chicago Inter-Ocean, both as to the volume and value of business, overshadows the combined traffic of all the rivers in the world, is greater than the commerce of the Gul of Mexico and Carribean, Mediterranean and all other seas and the arrivals and departures a the port of Chicago outnumber the port of New York for eight months in the year, and of all the other American seaboard ports of entry for

the entire 12 months.

Here are some figures which will tend to give an idea of the real greatness of the business transacted on the great unsalted seas for the season which came to an end on December 1

Annual tonnage of entries and clearances of Annual tonnage of entries and clearances of the great seaports of the world for the year 1889: New York, 11,051,236 tons; all other seaports in the United States, 26,863,315 tons; Liverpool, 14,175,200 tons; London, 19,245,417 tons; tonnage passing through the Detroit river (inter-lake connection), 36,203,606 tons.

It will tune be seen that the lakes carry 10,000,000 more tons than the entries and clearances of all the seaports of the United States, and 3,000,000 more than the combined foreign and coastwise shipping of London and Liverpool ports open to craft from all over the world.

GETTING CHRISTMAS TREES.

Pennsylvania Supplies Them to Nearly All the Large Cities. The Pocomo Mountains, in Lackawanna cou ty, says the Philadelphia Inquirer, supply the

stmas trees for nearly all of the cities. Over\$100,000 spruce and tamarack trees will be shipped from that locality during the next few weeks. Most of them go to New York and Philadelphia. The trees vary in height from 6 to 16 feet, and

they are now lying in huge heaps and rows near the side tracks at the Pocomo Summit and Pabyhanna Mills stations, on the Delaware. Lackawanna and Western road, Scores men worked all through November to cut the trees in the woods and swamps and haul them out to the log roads. They were then loaded bark-rigged wagons and drawn to the The shippers pay the land owners at the rate of \$7 per 100 for the trees as they stand in the woods. Between 600 and 700 are packed in each

car. Last year about 70,000 Christmas trees vere shipped from the same vicinity

OF LYNN'S BEAUTIFUL PARK Very Suggestive Facts About

History and Extent.

Many years ago, writes Edward Everett Hal in the New England Magazine for December, a private society of geotlemen in Lynn took every chance which offered to buy land which seemed fit for park purposes, for the common good. ood.

Of all this, the upshot is that Lynn has now

what I call the finest park in America. Has any other city a park, close on the ocean, rising often to points more than 400 feet above it, with precipitous descent, perhaps, so that the nere measurement of acres, what other city has in one enclosure 1,660 acres, of which you would not willingly spare one inch?

ATTENTION. VERMONTERS An English Collector Rates One of You

Stamps Very High Indeed. From the Pall Mall Budget.] According to Mr. Palmer, the well-known

llector in the Strand, he has acquired a wonierful specimen of a stamp, which he does no hesitate to describe as the rarest in the world It is an American stamp—Brattleboro, 1846— and he says, "I have heard of this stamp, but in the whole course of my experience I have never seen it before. A specimen of it unused is rare enough, but I take the liberty of thinking that my Brattleboro is the only used specimen of its kind in existence. I want \$250, no less, for my used Brattleboro, "

AT THE GERMAN CAPITAL.

The Emperor's Futile Attempt to Make Knee Breeches Popular Once More-Simplicity of the Menu at Princess Victoria's Wedding-Other Matters.

(CORRESPONDENCE OF THE DISPATCH,) REELIN, Dec. 1.-Princess Victoria's wedding developed the fact anew how proud the Kaiser is of his English relations. The Queen's Lancers were ordered to act as the odyguard of the young and lovely fair sex, though a detachment of Hussars from the bridegroom's own regiment would have been more appropriate, but the Emperor evidently desired to pay a compliment to the Queen and the many English princes present, and so other rations had to remain in the back

Corot—a little bit of meadow with big trees sheltering a woodman's hut and a dense forest Knee Breeches Are Not Popular. THE English fashion of wearing knee had reproduced, and from this drifted into a talk about some pictures he had seen at a New York sale the week before. To his delight the dark eyes lit up for the first time and she folbreeches at court found fewer adhe than the Emperor had wished for. Only four gestlemen of civilian character among the wedding guests appeared in the proper costume. Profs. Anton von Werner, Becker and Menzel, the great artists, who ought to have known better, especially distinguished them-selves by appearing in the same costume which she said presently, "I saw a picture that I would dearly like to own. It was so full of light and delicious color-a goddess in a golden at 10 o'clock in the morning or at a luncheon This seems to be a particularly unfortunate in cident, as the Emperor, in his memorial on the proper court dress, made a direct appeal to artists on the ground of the picturesqueness and the gracefulness of the Englist court dress. But then German genius has always been the companion of boorishness and a lack of sayor faire.

The Business of a Minister.

THE Bayarian Minister in Berlin, whose bust ness during the last few months has chiefly consisted in converting some ten-pfennig postage stamps into cash for a stranded Munich citizen, will shortly more into new and palatial quarters in Vess strasse. A huge three-storied building has been placed at this gentleman's disposal, and the ferocious Bavarian lion, familiar to us all on "echte" Bavarian beer kega, stands guard over the entrance. conversation to the intellectual game of Tid-

A Traveling Passion Play.

THE many thousand English and Americans who attended and grew enthusiastic over the Passion Play during the last summer will be interested to know that the identical Oberammergan performance is now being given by a company of so-called "Old Bavarian Passion Players" at popular prices in many of the smaller towns. The province of Posen has smaller towns. The province of Posen has been selected as the first trial grounds by these imitators. If the Polish dog takes kindly to it this new version of the "Great Play of Life" may probably be seen on a larger scale in all the capitals of the world. I may add here that none of the original Oberammergau cast is con-nected with the new undertaking, which is

Discovery of A Real Rubens

REAL Rubens is reported to have passed into the Cassel City Gallery. The picture is said to have been in a Hanoverian noble family for many hundred years, and was offered for sale by the present proprietor only on ac-count of great penury. It remains to be seen if this piece of news, which is almost too good to be true, is corroborated by the art connoisseurs.

The New Court Chaplain.

DASTOR DRYANDER'S appointment as Court Chaplain in place of Dr. Stocker has caused a great deal of excitement, which has not yet entirely disappeared. It is unquestionably a popular appointment. Dryander is an extreme by handsome man and a very good preacher, and it is said that his sermons at Boun made a lasting impression on the Kaiser, who was at that time a student at the university there. He has, in addition to his personal attractions, a very beautiful voice.

The African Disputes.

THE week has brought us among other things a temporary settlement of the affairs of the East African Society and the Government. by which it was settled that the company hould pay the Sultan of Zanzibar 10,500,000 marks, while the Government collects the Cusom House duties, paying to the company 600,000 marks per annum. This, of course, means the public must again put its hand in its pocket and fish out 12,000,000 or 15,000,000 marks to enable the East African Society to fulfill its contracts with the Government, for the society is perpetually bankrupt, and a wit once truthfully said: "The only money the company ever made was from the sale of its queer coins by idlers on Friederick strasse and Unter der

But the African humbug doesn't stop there. A company calling itself, "German Colonial Society" petitioned the Government for a slice of land in Damara country, situated between the possessions of the Herreros and Namas, which it proposed to populate with 50 German families including 70 men able to wear arms, and butcher the natives as occasion demands. Nobody knows who the projectors of the company are, but it may suffice to say that we have nearly two dozen similar companies in Berlin nearly two dozen similar companies in Berlin alone. I think Herr von Caprivi will not fall an easy victim to any of them

A Royal Wedding Menu. THIS is a literal translation of the bill of fare at Princess Victoria's wedding:

Speise-Karte Menu.
Beet sonp with vegetables. Ovaters. Patties.
Trout. Deerhack and Tomatoes.
Alsace chicken with mushrooms. Lobsters (fresh).
Pheasants with fruits and salads. Artichokes.
Apricot pudding. Cheese sandwiches.
Ices and dessert.

This speise-karte was printed in the German anguage, in German letters and there wasn't a pit of French flavor about it. A Literary Princess.

R. H., the nereditary Princess of Meiningen, sister of the Kaiser, is the first Prussian Princess who has ventured to drop into print since the Markgravine of Bayreuth wrote her never-to-be-forgotten memours. The Markgravine was a sister of Frederick the Great. The literary efforts of William II.'s sister are, it is hardly necessary to state, of quite a different type from that of this lady, for Princess Charlotte, as she is called here, is one of the sweetest and purest of women, and a true daughter of her lamented father. The Princess combines her efforts with those of her husband in translating German classical works nto the new Greek language. Schiller's "Roters." immortalized by Fechter & Lessing bers," immortalized by Fechter & Lessing, "Emelia Galotti," have just been adapted by the royal pair for the Athens stage, and the Princess is at the present time busy with the adaptation of "Romeo and Juliet." Some classic French dramas are to follow.

LONGFELLOW'S MONUMENT.

Delay Here, as in the Grant Mo Produces Similar Results.

From the Brooklyn Standard-Union.] The wide, open lot in Cambridge, on which the Longfellow statue is to stand, is partially graded. Some curbstones are laid for the driveways, and there is a half-finished air about the whole which betokens plans feebly pushed and disappointed expectations of funds

One of the residents of the city recently remarked that the enterprise of erecting a statue to the memory of the poet had dragged badly, and that the money had not been contributed as freely as had been hoped. The same trouble was found as existed in the case of the Grant monument and in regard to other similar en-

The time for doing anything is when the name of the distinguished person is fresh beforethe public. Immediately after the death of Longfellow the entire matter of raising money for a popular testimonial should have been put in the hands of some energetic person who would have made a prompt effort and have raised the funds at once. "Strike while the iron is hot" is just as true of honoring tead men's memories as it is of making ho

SCORPIONS FOUND IN CANADA. The Scientists Are Strangely Contradicted

by This Anomaly. Messrs. Bullock and Webster have, through

fr. Ashdown Green, presented to the British Columbia Natural History Society, says the Victoria Times, a specimen of a scorpion, the first of its kind ever found in Canada. It was taken at their place at Sheep creek, Simil-kameen, and is nearly two inches long. Its sting is a victous looking instrument. ety will consider what species it is, but as says that there has never been discovered in this country any such species, it is expected that the B. C. society have secured a curiosity.

From the New York Press.1

The old lesson that Americans make the best The old lesson that Americans make the best husbands for American girls is once more enforced by the sad experience of the unfortunate Kentucky heiress, whose worthless Spanish husband has just fied with the fortune she confidingly intrusted to him, leaving her impoverished and friendless in this city.

CURIOUS CONDENSATIONS.

-There are 2,750 languages and dialects, -The first lucifer match was made in

-The first theater in the United States was at Williamsburg, Va., in 1752.

-On January 1, 1883, snow feil in San Francisco for the first time in 17 years. -R. L. Hicks, of Covington, Ga., claims that with one dog he has captured 110 'posums

-Six boys of one Augusta, Me., family drew their pensions last week, they all having served through the late Civil War, being now gray-headed old men. -There are a dozen bathrooms in Wash-

ngton that have cost all the way from \$1,000 to \$10,000 apiece. One Senator's house has nine bathrooms, all of which are finished in malogany. -The tax on spirits for the year 1889 brought the Russian Government 275,000,000

roubles, about 10.000,000 more than the preced-ing year and 33,000,000 above the average in-come of the ten years previous. -The gardener of the Kew gardens, after

numerous failures, has at last succeeded in growing the Coco de Mer, or double cocoanut, which often attains a height of 150 feet, with a smooth trunk about a foot in diameter. -Among the 35 richest millionaires in the United States there are only two who made

their money by manufacturing articles pro-tected by our tariff laws, and out of the 122 who are worth \$6,000,000 and upward, not more than 29 made their money in that way. -In the year 1772 John Wilson planted a pear tree upon his tarm in West Virginia, a few miles above Wheeling. Judge Gibson L. Cranmer, of Wheeling, says that the lower branches of the tree are still in bearing. It is still in the possession of the Wilson family.

-The debt of a Reading, Pa., church has just been paid off in 80,000 pennies. The children of the community are the principal suf-ferers, most likely, and one can imagine their bitter grief as they look into their empty money oxes and contemplate the advent of Christ

-It is said that the largest church income raised in the United Kingdom is the £10,000 anmually contributed by the congregation of Dr. Whyte, St. George's Free Church, Edinburgh, and the largest in the world that of Dr. Hall, of New York, which amounts to nearly £30,000

-Certain New York firms have been trying good-looking women as bill collectors. So far the scheme has been unsuccessful. Three of the women married inside a week, and four more are engaged, while the balance sympathize with the poor fellows who have run into debt, and have not collected a cent.

-Aroostook, Me., makes some pretenions as a wheat country, says the Aroostook Times. As an instance of success may be men-tioned the family of Cyrus Shaw of Mars Hill, which though it consumes 10 barrels of flour yearly, has bought only four barrels of flour in 11 years, all the remainder being raised on the -The news from Connecticut is that the

the cramberry crop is big and of fine quality, and that it will be profitable to its raisers, There is similar news of this crop from Massa-chusetts and from some parts of New Jersey. The American cranberry is a wholesoms and rich-flavored fruit, especially the bell, the bugis, and the cherry varieties of it. -In the Volkov fields, near St. Petersburg, the Ministry of War has instituted ex-ercises in flying kites. If experience shows

that kites can be made to fly with a certain regularity, small electric lamps will be at-tached to them, and the cords will be provided with metallic wires, to be used as air telegraphs between distant camps in times of war. -The Russian Ministry of Education has appropriated funds for a central meteorological bservatory in Odessa. All the meteorological

observatory in Odessa. All the meteorological stations of South Russia will be connected with it by wire, and private persons throughout that region will be requested to report their meteorological observations to that station, which will issue daily bulletins, as the central station of St. Petersburg does. -With the ensuing year the Imperial Labrary of St. Petersburg will begin publishing a catalogue of all the Russian books it contains which was issued from the press since the art of printing was introduced into Russia. The catalogue will be published in periodical installments, under the editorship of a learned commission appointed for the purpose by the Ministry of Education.

-The Ministry of Imperial Property ha prohibited the manufacture of oleomargarine only in exceptional cases, and then it will have only in exceptional cases, and then it will have to be kept in vessels painted a certain color, so that everybody should at once know what it is. A fine of 500 roubles will be imposed on the merchant who sells oleomargarine for butter; at the repetition of the offense his license will be revoked.

T-Some of the most valuable processes have been discovered by the merest chance, That of whitening sugar is one of them. A hen tramped through a clay puddle and then got into a sugar house and walked across the sugar. Somebody noticed that wherever her feet had been the sugar underneath the tracks way whitened. This was a hint, and after con-siderable experimenting wet clay came to be used as a sugar refiner.

-The first ancestor of the bievele and tricycle, the velocipede, was born in France, in the stormy days of the Revolution. The machine was a very simple and even clumsy one. There were no pedals attached to the wheels; these were not invented till 1855. The rider struck each foot in turn against the ground with force enough to set the two low wheels of the machine rotating, and by this fatiguing mode of progress attained a considerable speed.

-Upon the 700,000 acres of land embraced in the counties of Belmont, Harrison and Jefferson, Ohio, devoted to agriculture, there was produced in 1888, 3,500,000 bushels of grain, 2,000,000 bushels of fruit, 2,100,000 pounds grain, 2,000,000 bushels of fruit, 2,100,000 pounds of wool, 77,000 tons of hay, 853,000 bounds of to-bacco, 1,100,000 bounds of butter, 500,000 bushels of potatoes, 1,300,000 dozen of eggs, 370,000 gal-lons of milk, 21,000 gallons of molasses, 30,000 pounds of honey and 470,000 pounds of grapes. It produced and sustained withal an aggregate of 500,000 head of live stock and millions of fowls.

-It is a matter of surprise that no attempt has ever been made to utilize for foreign commerce the immense quantities of bamboo which grow spontaneously on the margins of the rivers which flow into the Bay of Bonduras. These beautiful trees—many of them 60 feet high, 4 to 7 inches in diameter, and straight as arrows—bend gracefully from either side of the stream, their brilliant foliage interlaced with flowering creepers and vines, forming archways under which man and beast find a grateful retreat from the sun.

POINTED AND WITTY.

A young man who married a "butterfly of schion, " was unable, a year later, to provide "grub" for his butterfly. - Norristown Heraid. Ernestine-What is the one fault you have

to find with Charile?
Celestine-None of the other girls are in love with him. - Munsey's Weekly. "Are you a suitor for Miss Brown's "Yes. but I didn't."

technical display at the dedication of the New York World building on Wednesday night sur-passed anything that had been seen since the last edition of the paper came out.—Philadelphia "I can't imagine why men's pockets are so easy to get at and women's so hard," he re-

"It's plain enough," was her reply. "It's a sign men have no business with a woman's pocket, but a woman has with a man's, "-Philadelphia Mr. Cates (of the moonshine district)-You started t' marry us this morning', parson, an' got as far as askin' us whether we'd hey each

her when her ole man came up. The Parson-I did. Mr. Cates-Well, we've swum Snake river, clum over Bald mountain, an' waded Simm's swamp; an' now that we've shook him, we wanter say 'yes' an' wind up th' ceremony, -Judge. Mr. Bloobumper-Did you enjoy the ser-

mon, love?

Mrs. Bloobumper—Ob. it was exquisite, but I would have enloyed it better if I'd had as pretty a bonnet as Mrs. Gimp's to wear. Mine's a per-fect fright, and so old fashioned. Mr. Bloobumper—I guess you didn't notice

Mr. Bloobumper—I guess you didn't notice what the minister said about envy.

Mrs. Bloobumper—Well, I don't care! One can't cuitivate the Christian virtues with only two bonnets a year.

Mr. Bloobumper—Well, if I made my money as unsersepulously as Gimp makes his, I could afford to let you get all the bounets your heart could desire.

sire.

Mrs. Bloobumper-I guess you didn't notice what the minister and about love and charity.

Munesy's Westly.

"Didn't what?" "Sultor."-Munsey's Weekly, It is generally admitted that the pyro-