

THE REPORT OF THE COMMISSION

Appointed by the Last Legislature to Look Into the Systems of Management in Vogue.

CONVICT LABOR ON PUBLIC ROADS

#### In Considered Desirable, but Selitary Confinement is to b Severely Condemned.

INPECTAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH. PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 27 .- Among the last items of business agreed upon by the Legislature before adjournment two years ago was the appointment of a State Commission for the purpose of inquiry and investigation into the various systems of management governing the charitable and penal institutions of Pennsylvania, where State aid is part of the support. The members of hte commission are John E. Reyburn, Amos H. Mylin, William McAleer, R. R. Dearden, James L. Graham, James W. Walk and A. A. Clay, and Mr. Reyburn was elected President of the commission.

Every member has been given a definite share in the multitude of duties that opened up from the start and the task has been found to be much greater than had been nuticipated. Congressman Reyburn said to-day at the Continental, where he met some friends as a sort of after Christmas holiday diversion, that the report of the commission was not ready as yet for publication or submission to the Legislature, but the recommendations and suggestions inspired by the common effort of the commissioners were about ready for embodiment in the proper papers, and would be prepared early in the new year.

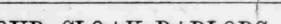
### System of Solitary Confinement,

About the first move of the commission wa the election of an inspector or special agent to visit the state asylums, penitentiaries, re-formatories and public institutions. The duty was delegated to Allen J. Wagenhorst, o Scranton. A feature of his report bears upon the employment of convict labor, and comments in severe terms on the system of solitary confinement that prevails in the Eastern Penitentiary. The investigation of the commission shows the members united and decidedly against solitary confinement for any long period. Mr. Reyburn does not believe that it was ever the intention to subject long-term prisoners to this swful punishment, but the commission found that the wording of the law indicates solitary confinement as the strict interpretation of the act, even where it relates to such inmates as Shellenberger, the Bucks county embezzler, whose sentence covers the next 21 years, and Ted Brimmier, the Lancaster

embezzler, who is there for 17 years. A special study was made of the employment of convict labor, especially as it was and throughout Virginia, North Carolina, Georgia and Mississippi. There is no hesitation in condemning it where such labor onte s into competition with any considerable amount of other labor, but the report of the commission finds much evidence to recommend the employment of such labor on State work, particularly in connection with the much sgitated question of road building and repairs.

### Convicts on the Roads.

It is found that in the Southern States visite.] the State roads were maintained and



## REDUCTIONS

All along the line we will manage to keep our store crowded now the same as before Xmas. In every department the knife has been active. It has cut down prices right and left. Fortunate, indeed, is the man or woman who may happen to buy the goods now offered. They will effect the biggest saving on record. We are determined to close out the remainder of our stock, and WE'LL DO IT. Losses will be no obstacle to us. The question with us now is not what an article is worth, but what it will find a buyer for.

KAUFMANNS.

# HATS AND FURNISHING GOODS.

Walk in, gentlemen, and note our reductions in the prices of headgear and fixings. Fine Derbys, formerly \$4 and \$3, are now \$2 50 and \$1 75. Fur Caps of every style and quality have taken a clear drop of 15 per cent. Boys' and Children's Hats and Caps, too, have tumbled about 20 per cent. In Furnishing Goods the reductions are amazing. Dress Shirts, Night Robes, Underwear, Hosiery, Neckwear, Handkerchiefs, Mufflers-all have been reduced from 15 to 25 per cent. Rely on it, it will pay you to come a big distance to take advantage of this sale.

KAUFMANNS.

## OUR SHOE DEPARTMENT

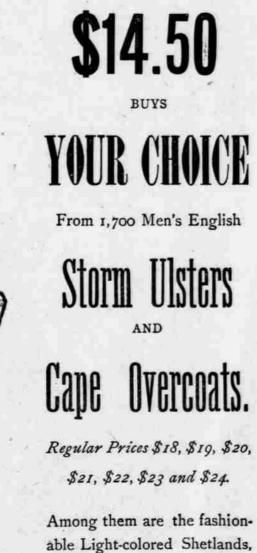
Has not been exempt from this slaughter of prices. The biggest cuts have been made on Christmas Slippers. Over 3,000 pairs are yet on our bargain tables, and half the usual price will buy any pair. While the reductions we have made on Ladies', Gentlemen's and Children's Shoes are not near as large as on Slippers, they are big enough to make it worth your time and attention to investigate without delay. If you're shrewd, you'll lay in a shoe supply that'll last you for a year. Rubber Boots and Shoes, too, have gone several notches lower, and this right in the face of the present big demand.

# YOUR CHOICE From 2,100 Men's First-Class AND Overcoats

**\$7.65** 

Worth \$9, \$10, \$11 and \$12.

They are made of extra weight Cassimeres and Chinchillas, are lined throughout with warm flannel, and are cut full length. They are just the right garments to keep the cold out during thes stormy winter days. Indeed, for men who are out of doors a good deal, these comfortable coats are almost indispensable. Now, remember, this sale commences in the morning, and will continue until the last garment has been sold-a few days at the furthest. Don't delay. Come quick.



able Light-colored Shetlands, Irish Friezes, Montagnacs and best Chinchillas. They are as fine and perfect as any custom tailor can make. Tourists and travelers will find them the very height of style and comfort. The same garments have never before been retailed at such a phenomenally low figure. Any one in the line for \$14 50. If you're wise you'll take no chances by waiting, but call at once.

### OUR CLOAK PARLORS.

Have joined in the big downward movement of prices. Read\_these few examples: 25 genuine Astrakhan Fur Capes, marked from \$20 to \$15. 19 fine Astrakhan Capes reduced from \$18 to \$12. 6 Astrakhan Fur Capes reduced from \$14 to \$10. 12 French Seal Capes reduced from \$16 50 to \$12. 3 Dyed Oppossum Capes reduced from \$15 to \$10. 20 Black Coney Capes reduced from \$6 50 to \$4 50. 26 Plush and Plush and Astrakhan Combination Capes reduced from \$12 and \$10 to \$7 50.

# KAUFMANNS.

### CLOAK DEPARTMENT-Continued.

Three genuine Alaska Seal Capes, with long points, reduced from \$50 to \$35. Three extra quality Alaska Seal Capes reduced from \$70 to \$50. Fifty Astrakhan Fur-trimmed Reefer Jackets, with deep collar and facings, reduced from \$20 to \$15. Seventy-five Imported Fur-trimmed Reefers, satin lined, reduced from \$25 to \$18. Fifty highly elegant Fur-trimmed Jackets reduced from \$30 to \$20. But why continue. Suffice it to say that reductions on the same scale have been made throughout the department.

# KAUFMANNS.

## HOUSEFURNISHING GOODS.

Our basement will be crowded every day this week, if low prices will attract the ladies of Pittsburg and Allegheny. Thousands of pieces of pretty Bric-a-Brac, all kinds of fine China in full sets or open stock, all styles and makes of Lamps and Glassware, as well as everything in the line of Wooden Ware, Tinware, Hollow Ware, etc., will be offered, commencing to-morrow morning, at away below the true and actual prices. Ladies, this is a chance you cannot afford to miss. Furthermore, you will consult your own interest by coming as quickly as possible, as the best things are always the first to go.

IMPORTANT !--- Next Thursday, New Year's, Store Will be Closed All Day. KAUFMANNS, KAUFMANNS. FIFTH AVENUE SMITHFIELD STREET.