THE DISPATCH wishes all a HAPPY

cirs 1891 with a charming New Story, writ-

ten for its columns by JOAQUIN' MILLER,

the Poet of the Sierras. It is a CHARM.

ING SERIAL, and will be read with inter-

est by all. Other NEW FEATURES will be found in TO-MORROW'S MAMMOTH

ISSUE. THE DISPATCH will continue to

add to its staff of correspondents and

special writers the best thought in the lit-

erary market. Letters of travel out of the

newer branches, Setion of the freshest

beaten paths, scientific research in the

schools, humor of the purest sort, reading

for the youth, hints for the home, pleas-

ure for the fireside will be the aim at all

times. THE DISPATCH TO-MORROW

will carry the usual special CABLE LET-

TERS, covering all the news from

EUROPE'S CAPITALS. It has correspond-

of getting itself denounced as hated muc

THE ice machine which cannot make ice

as cheaply as nature freezes it, with the cost of housing and hauling added, is likely to take a

rest next summer. Concurrently therewith the hope that prices will take a tumble.

THE fact that the other day when a Demi

ratic Senator attacked the integrity of ele

ions in Philadelphia "there was no Senato

from this State to reply," seems to the Phili

or ready and vigorous champions on the floo

of the Senate. The need is unquestionable but the best defense of Philadelphia agains

NEW YORK doctors are not satisfied wit

IT is interesting, in view of the suppose

ight between Governor Hill and Mr. Smith M

Weed in connection with the New York Sen

completed by which the Governor awards to

of the State printing settled, it will possibly b

ound that no minor matter like the Senato

MR. INGALLS is still engaged in the

ate. His determination is worthy of a better

cause.

ccess attend all of their efforts.

Women are more stuck up than men simply scause they know how to handle pins. THE female spiders rule the males, but, then

hey do most of the spinning, too.

PEOPLE who steep themselves in scent should take inquiry about their olefactory machinery Perhaps it is out of gear.

GAMBLERS, like sailors, can live between

THE order of Shefkat has been conferred ipon Mrs. Whitelaw Reid by the Sultan. When omes a mother-in-law the "shef" will be dropped and "old" substituted.

BIG FOOT is not the only kicker now.

## TO TAX RAILROADS.

The Farmers' Alliance of North Care Wants a General Change. RALEIGH, N. C., Jan. 2.—A bitter fight is im-ninent in North Carolina between the railroads and the Farmers' Alliance members of the Legislature. The fiat has gone forth that an ronclad Railroad Commission must be estab-lished with authority to fix passenger fares and freight rates.

The question of railroad taxation is also up-The question of railroad taxation is also up-permost in the minds of the Alliance members. They argue that the people of North Carolina are living under a Constitution that requires that all property shall be assessed for taxation according to its value and shall pay taxes ac-cordingly. The entire railroad property of the State is only assessed at \$10,000,000, whereas the total taxable property is nearly \$250,000,000. They cite that the Western North Carolina Rail They cite that the Western North Carolina Hailroad is valued at \$1,600,000 for taxation and is capitalized at nearly \$18,000,000, and urge that such great inequality between the rich corporations and the poor land owners should be corrected in some way.

The make-up of the commission has always been a bone of contention in the Legislature, some wanting the Governor to appoint and others insisting that the Legislature shall elect the members of the commission. It appears to

some wanting the Governor to appoint and others insisting that the Legislature shall elect the members of the commission. It appears to be generally agreed now that the Legislature shall elect. A circular has been sent out over the State suggesting that the commission be made up of the State Treasurer, State Auditor, the Commissioner of Agriculture, and the Chairman of the Finance Committee of each House of the General Assembly. The argument in favor of the commission made up in this way is that it would not create any new offices. The Alliance people are denouncing the proposition as having emanated from the railroads. They say that the Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee will be appointed by Lieutenant Governor Holt, wife is President of the North Carolina Railroad, and that Bain, State Treasurer, and Sanderlin, State Auditor, are both very friendly to the railroads. The battle ground will be in the Senate. There are 50 members of this body; 43 are Democrats and 7 are Republicans. The Republicans can be relied on to a man, and the railroad men hope to be able to control 19 Democrats, which would give them a majority of 2.

The charter of the Petersburg and Weldon

The charter of the Petersburg and Weldon Railroad Company expires in a few months and must be renewed by the Legislature during the session which convenes on the second Wednesday of next month. This road runs from Weddon, N. C., to Petersburg, Va., a distance of 60 miles. It is now under the control of the Atlantic Coast Line. By its present charter it is exempt from taxation. It will not get a renewal with this feature in it. The new charter will carry taxation. We other charter will carry taxation like other property and no special privileges will be granted.

## LYMPH FOR LEPROSY.

New York Doctors Still Enlarging the Field for Koch's Remedy. New York, Jan. 2.-Experiments are being

made with Koch's lymph in a case of leprosy in this city. The patient is a young and wealthy. New Yorker, who contracted the disease while on a trip through South and Central America. The case is of considerable development, and is being watched with great care by the attending physician. The reactions have not been very pronounced, but still they were noticeable Of course the case is under private treatment not being of a character to take into any of the hospitals. Several inoculations have been made, and there is thought to be an improve-ment in several of the sores.

While leprosy is anything but a common disease hereabouts, it is not so rare, doctors say, as is popularly imagined. Not taking into account cases at various times reported to ex-ist in the Chinese quarter, there is said to be a respectable number among the rest of the population. One obysician's estimate is that there are perhaps 100 sufferers from leprosy in and near New York. Naturally, he says, little

is heard of the cases, for whenever the pa tient's friends' means permit it, the sufferer are kept carefully isolated, while the greates secrecy as to the nature of the malady is main tained. Cases of beriberi are said to be coming m

Cases of beribert are said to be coming more frequently to the notice of New York practitioners. The disease, as a rule, follows residence in tropical climates, and when it appears in this latitude is generally found to afflict persons who have lived in hot countries. It is classed as a more acute disease than leprosy, although very frequently it has been put under the head of that malady. It may appear in either an acute or chronic form, but it does not ttack persons under 15 years of age.

## RUSSIAN PETROLEUM ormous Increase in British Markets a

Compared With the American. Chambers' Journal. ]

A perusal of the sources from which our sur plies are obtained shows that the increase ob tained from the Russian oil wells in the neigh orbood of the Caspian is enormous. In 1883 the Muscovites supplied us with 500 barrels. Last year the imports from the same quarter amounted to 771,000 barrels.

During the same six years the supply from the United States had but increased from 1,329,000 to 1,355,000 barrels. That in the short space of six years Russian snipments should increase from practically nothing to more than half of those from America is most remarkable. Such phenomenal developments as these naturally call into existence the provision of means for adequate transit and storing of such enormous quanities.

Mr. Brice's Comprehensive Residence. Youngstown Telegram.

Senator-elect Brice is certainly in luck goo or bad as you please, in the matter of resi dences. The New York Press calls attention to the fact that the Senator-elect from Ohio, of which latter State the constitution requires that he shall be a resident, and resident of New York, has been elected a director of a Georgia railroad, the charter of which requires that di-rectors shall be residents of that State. It would be interesting to know whether or not

Mr. Brice will qualify. Good Wishes for All

New York Herald.] And here's to Senator Hoar in a bumper o good New England cider. When the force bill dies may he bear up under the affliction which deprives him of his offspring and not swear too uch over his loss

Turning the New Leaf. Tonawanda Review.1 Resolved, That during 1891 I will not be smi

ing in public and snappy at home.

FIRELIGHT FANCIES. I am sitting to-night by my hearthstone,

The fire has smouldered low, But I stir the perishing ember And catch their dying glow.

When, out from the dim, deep shadows

Strange visions come to me; Scenes from the vanished life-past,

Tossed on the surging sea.

Youth sends its golden echoca

From the land of laughter and song; Ah, the faces, the merry faces. That to-night my fireside throng!

Now there are words in the moonlight, And now the blush of a bride, Then the voices of little children And a mother's matronly pride.

The years, with their ghostly mem'ries, Glide on through the darkened room, Mow cheering my heart with their presence Now casting a deeper gloom.

I strive to detain the phantoms But, also, they have quickly fied, The spell has passed beyond me,
And lo: my fire is dead.
—Ida Estella Crouch in Toledo THE TOPICAL TALKER.

In the Carnegie Library. The Carnegie Library, in Allegheny, is be-coming rather rapidly what a library should be-a place of books. It is a great deal easier, by the way, to found a library, appoint a libra-rian[andidebate]about libraries in Councils than to create the library, get the books unpack them, put them on the shelves, catalogue them and do all the other things, and their name is legion, which go to distinguish a library from a book store. Well, Librarian Stevenson and the four ladies assisting him have accomplished a great deal in the last tow weeks. There are some six thousand books in the library now, and nearly all of them are classified, though

position he had made of the books so far ob-tained. The books are classified broadly in sections, such as history, geography, science, poetry, fiction and so on. The standard authors in all the principal departments are already on hand, and as far as a cursory examination reveals, the editions chosen, as well as the character of the literature are well suited to the needs of a popular reference and reading library. The fiction which is likely to be handled most of all, is for the most part remarkable for plain but substantial binding, and good paper and print. Another handy point in a novel is reasonably small size, and I noticed that most of the editions were of the convenient form that fit the pocket.

ection upon one of the shelves. There are several editions of Shakespeare; that of Rolfe, in which a play and the annotations thereon take up a single volume, the most satisfactory probably for students' use. A number of critical works on Shakespeare, and other Shakespearians, complete a valuable corner of the library. Ignatius Donnelly's works, it is satisfactory to note, will not find a refuge where

"Tin plate will be manufactured in this coun try in large quantities before this year is out," aid a maker of iron and steel yesterday, and several days ago another iron manufacturer told me that he intended to have the invitations to his tin wedding anniversary, the tenth, engraved upon American tin plate, and had placed the order for the plate already. He gave me to understand, also, that the tin plate would be made in this country. The financial stringency which came with last fall undoubtedly strangled many new enterprises, in cluding a tin plate manufacturing plant which was planned for Pittsburg. With reviving

A Season of Spoon

Society in general is suffering from a surfelt of bonbon and almond spoons. Of course the delicate little silver spoons designed for use at dessert are not in themselves a trial, but hundreds and hundreds of well-to-do people in Pittsburg have been regretting since Christmas that they had ever laid eyes upon them. The afflicted understand exactly what the spoons have been responsible for this season, but for the sake of the comparatively few who are in blissful ignorance it may be explained that too many people hit upon the artistic but cheap Some families were swamped with spoons on Christmas day, and by actual count one lady of extensive acquaintance in the East End received fourteen spoons out of a total of thirty

wo presents. The spoon gift took on extra unpleasantnes when, as happened in many cases, it was simply a matter of exchange. For instance, Mrs.

A sent her dear friend Mrs. B a silver almond spoon; and Mrs. B--, putting her friendship for Mrs. A--- at the same figure, sent a similar spoon to the latter. You see the little notes of thanks under such circumstances proved singular difficulties. Mrs. - could not thank Mrs R-"lovely little spoon," nor could Mrs. Bthank Mrs. A --- for her "exquisite spoon," with the cheerfulness and grace the occasion

sold more little spoons than anything else this Christmas. He could make money if he were to offer to buy all of them back at half price,

canvases. One Man's Poison, Etc.

not preach worth a cent. They were blunt, sneaking men, the deacons who carried to the pastor the verdict of his flock, and they did not mince matters or clothe the unflattering intimation with taffy of any kind. The pill wa bitter and the young divine choked a little and came uncomfortably near using unclerical lan-guage before he swallowed it and resigned. He did not shake hands with the deacons, and with very few of the congregation when he left. Since then, as far as the small congregation in this city is concerned, the young preacher whose sermons were below par in their eyes has not

been heard of. mas the folks insisted that he must acco

eccived with high honor. A Profitable Chance for Mediums

General Spinner being dead, his autograph is now more of a prize than ever. By the way, if any of the spiritual mediums wish to prove the

Boston Herald, The wife of Mr. Justice Brown is said to be a most beautiful and accomplished woman. Of course. That is the way they describe every roman whose husband gets boosted to Wash

But Have They? It speech is silver, some of the United States Senators must shed a halo like a polished Bland

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Bleents per week.

PITTSBURG, SATURDAY, JAN. 3, 1891,

SOLVING THE RIVER PROBLEM. The sixth paper upon the work of river improvement, published in this issue of THE DISPATCH, attacks one of the most difficult branches of the subject, namely, the treatment of the delta swamp lands, on the lower Mississippi. This is a subject which has heretofore been apparently beyond the power of engineering control, the only partial success in connection with it having been won by Capt. Eads' jettles at the South

Without undertaking a scientifically acits bed and relatively raise the surrounding prizes to be won by the successes of this work are the splendid one of reclaiming 4,000,000 neres of swamp land at a cost of less than \$4 per acre, and the more incalenlable one of establishing a permanent river nearly a hundred feet deep from the mouth of the Mississippi up to the vicinity of Baton Rouge. No one can doubt that these results would be well worth a far greater

expenditure than the estimated cost of the work. Of the engineering practicability of the work expert minds must decide, as especially in relation to this especial branch of the ques tion the problem is beyond the knowledge of all but experts. But it is well known that the principle has worked well in one instance, and there is good reason to think the operation would continue to be the same on a larger scale. Beyond this, as the full scope of our contributor's plans for improve ment are brought out, they become more and more impressive as constituting the most comprehensive, and far-reaching project for restoring the utility of the rivers that has

vet been formulated. OIL WELLS MAY PUMP ON SUNDAY.

Judge Stowe's decision in the case of pumping oil wells on Sunday is in the same line with decisions previously rendered in Washington county and some of the other oil producing counties, and it should finally settle the question. It would be very difficult to get an experienced oil operator or pumper who would give any other opinion than that pumping wells on Sunday is necessary work. Of course they would make exceptions to this rule for particular wells, which have practically no salt water to contend with. But where there is any considerable quantity of water shutting down must be injurious. There are also other conditions which render it inadvisable to shut down certain wells one day each week. This being the case, it would be unjust to compel them to stop operations, and it would be almost an equal injustice to compel their more fortunate neighbors to do so. In fact, a medification of the old blue laws would be a very appropriate thing for the Legislature to bring about this winter.

INTELLIGENCE IN PARTY DIVISIONS. In an article on the political situation in the Atlantic Monthly, Mr. Henry C. Lea, of Philadelphia, bases his reason for the belief that the Republican party will find itself stronger for its reverses, and at the same time explains the susceptibility of the party to independence upon the following assertion: "Containing, as I believe it does," says Mr. Lea, "the major portion of the insellect and culture of the land, it necessarily also contains a larger proportion of voters who e allegiance is lightly held, and whose support may be purchased by deserving." There is no doubt that the support of a large element that could recently have been a dead stop. counted among the Republicans must, as Mr. Lea says, "be purchased by deserving." But the question whether the Republican party contains the majority of the intellect and culture of the land is an interesting one in the abstract, which probably might be be necessary. Thus it requires about \$600,000 discussed till doomsday without arriving at to start a Bessemer steel mill. One man any agreement. In the South, it will be or firm may have enough capital to do that, agreed upon all sides that the intellect and | but, on the contrary, it may be necessary and culture is to some extent outside of the Re- desirable to unite the capital of two or of Texas, is it not indanger of the dire disast

tellect and culture is to be found on the side of the most numerous party. But in the de-batable States it is decidedly an open quesintelligence than the party of Lincoln and Summer, or to put it in more modern form, whether the party of Blaine, Reed and Harrison includes more intellect and culture

than the party of Carlisle and Cleveland. While this issue can be settled by no obtainable tests, one thing must be taken as certain. If the Republican party contains the majority of intelligence and understanding, those qualities must be allowed to assert themselves in shaping its policy. By raising the party management above the level of stupid and machine-like partisanship to the level of a policy that aims at the benefit of the whole country the Republican party may make good the ciaim to possess the majority of intellect and culture, and at the

DEAD MOTHERS AND FROZEN BABES. It is hard to imagine a more impressive detail of the horrors of the Indian warfare, than the statement of the dispatches that the scouts from the Pine Ridge Agency discovered two Indian babes whose lives had been preserved as they lay beside their dead mothers through the snow storm that raged in that region between Monday and Thursday. Of course the war contains many other details just as harrowing. There is no doubt that whenever the rebellious savages get the opportunity they will subject white women and children to far more merciless and indescribable treatment than is exemplified in this incidental loss of life among the Indian mothers and exposure of their babes. But the horrors of the conflict which subjects women and bes to the

cruelties of war are shown by this minor detail of the reports from the scene of conflict. The nation is already pretty well advised that the Indian outbreak was stimulated, if not directly caused, by mismanagement at their agencies. The bargains made with the Indians were not carried out; the supplies due to them were cut down or withheld to such a degree as to reduce them to actual want. That the final revolt was a sudden freak of desperation is proved by the fact illustrated in this discovery of the dead bodies of Indian mothers with their infants beside them, showing that the savages had not observed the first rule of Indian warfare

to place their squaws and children in safety before beginning to fight. Of course, when hostilities have broken out, there is no course left for the Government and its army but to resort to warrare to bring the Indian under control. The troops whose shots killed Indian mothers with their babes in their arms are not to blame for it. But the men whose mismanagement and inefficiency have brought that stain of cruelty on the record of a great nation are responsible. The horrors which are produced by this unnecessary outbreak ought to induce an energetic overhauling of the Indian management, and the complete removal of the Indian agencies from the field

of spoils politics. THE POSTOFFICE REPORT. Perhaps nothing so accurately indicates the growth and business activity of a city as its postal business. Gauged by this standard curate summary of the plan proposed by our Pittsburg has every reason to be proud. The contributor for the treatment of this part of business of the Pittsburg postoffice has inthe river, it is enough to point out that the creased rapidly for the past ten years, and is article claewhere proposes the adoption of now crowding that of Philadelphia. The the principle used in Capt. Eads's work, to past year was no exception to the rule, the establish a single deep outlet. In carrying gross receipts being nearly \$65,000 in excess out that idea, the jetties would be employed of 1889, by Postmaster McKean's report. to make the current do the work of Material improvements have been made in scouring out a single deep stream so the service and the change will be welcome, thoroughly as to permanently deepen indeed, when the business is taken to the building, though that has been so long swamp lands above the flood level. The under construction it will hardly accommodate the greatly increased business.

THE RULE OF CORPORATE GRANTS. In a paper read before the American Economic Association by Prof. H. C. Adams he brought out a series of novel conclusions upon grants of corporate privileges. It is not material to trace the process by which Prof. Adams in studying the question of "statistics as a means of correcting corporate abuses" reached the following results, but

1. The granting of corporate privileges should be limited to those businesses in which the inerests of the public predominate over the interests of the individual corporators. 2. All businesses in which the interest of the

these are in themselves interesting:

public predominate over the interests of the in dividual incorporators should be obliged to asume corporate form. 3. All corporations should be required to nake such reports as will enable the Government, acting under rules prescribed by law, to

direct their policy and control their administra-4 All businesses, other than those organized as corporations, should be subject to inquiry. though not to control, the purpose of the inquiry being to determine whether or not a business in any case should be required to assume

corporate form. While these rules may have a foundation in an original theory concerning the granting of corporations, they work out the theory to such lengths as makes it practically a new one. It is evidently based on the idea that the grant of all corporate privileges should be united with strict governmental regulation. But the regulation which it proposes is evidently of the kind which raises the alternative already presented in the proverbial antithesis, whether the Government shall own the corporations or the corporations shall own the Government.

The best measure of the accuracy of the theoretical process which works out such conclusions is afforded by its practical results, and Prof. Adams' theories can be readily judged in that way. A reasonable construction of it would exclude from corporate organization all banks except, perhaps, those issuing circulating medium, insurance investment and trust companies. Or if there is any doubt whether the financial corporations involve a greater public than private interest it would establish a rule of supervision by which either they would be excluded or private banking firms or individuals conducting an investment would be forced to assume corporate form. In addition there is no doubt that Prot. Adams' rule would place outside the corporate limits the entire bulk of manufacturing corporations, from rolling mills to dry dock companies, and would prevent the almost universal practice of associating capital under the corporate organization for such

would bring a large fraction-probably more than half of the enterprise of the nation-to There is much more practical sense in the more generally received idea that corporate of "what-are-we-here-for" Flanagan has been privileges should be granted for the assoarrested in Texas for highway robbery, the ciation of capital to carry on legitimate en-New York Press remarks: Well, highway rob terprises for which individual capital may bery is the spoils system in the second legiti-

enterprises. It is plain that such a rule

publican party of that section. In the strong | three score in such an enterprise. It would Republican States of the North it is also be a distinct retrogression from the pracnot improbable that the majority of the in- tical workings of our corporate laws to forbid the association of capital in corporate form for such enterprises. On the other hand, it is by no means certain that this tion whether the party of Jefferson has more | rule might not be more strictly drawn in some respects than it is at present. The adoption of corporate organization by one or two great mercantile firms recently, has no other assignable object than to escape the personal liability which furnishes the corner-stone of mercantile credit. It may well be questioned whether legislation should permit the charters granted for it to be used for such a purpose.

Had Prof. Adams stated his conclusion to be that the Government shall grant no franchises involving the exercise of governmental power, such as the right of eminent domain, or establish any exclusive privileges creating a complete or partial monopoly, except where the public interest predominates over the private, and that all same time measure the fealty of that element | such grants must earry with them the strict supervision of the Government, he would simply have expressed a well-settled princtple of constitutional law. But in view of the fact that governmental supervision is likely to be either a farce or a vexation, there is much better foundation for the principle that THE DISPATCH has always upheld, that no franchises should be permitted to carry any exclusive privileges whatever, and that all classes of corporate or private business must be regulated by the universal force of free competition.

AN INTERESTING DISCOVERY. The finding of a city, of comparatively recent date, buried under virgin soil where cattle have grazed for centuries in England, may lead to a modification of generally accepted ideas about the changes of time. The city is identified as Silchester, which was inhabited about 1,000 years ago. For the past 500 years British history is quite connected, so this city was, in all probability lost and buried that long ago. There is no record of any convulsion of nature which could have buried this ancient town, and the inference is that natural and existing causes work changes in the earth's surface more rapidly than they are commonly supposed to. The late Dr. Schlieman's explorations about the site of ancient Trey tend to confirm this theory. That eminent archeologist found a city supposed to be Troy, but it proved to be of much more modern date. Going deeper he found another buried city, and yet below that he finally discovered Troy. In that case, at least, the mold of the centuries was found to accumulate more rapidly than expected. And we may yet have to revise our geology and our speculations on the antiquity of prehistoric ruins, such as have been left by the mound-builders and cave-dwellers.

THE UNSOLVED TAX PROBLEM. It is foreshadowed that the Legislature at Harrisburg this winter will make a serious effort to improve our tax system. There has been endless commission-work and individual suggestion to sead up to some tax system that would distribute the burden evenly. Yet the conclusion of the whole matter is that neither in the State, county nor city has the result been obtained. Of all the laws, that which imposes a three-mill tax upon certain classes of personal property is the most defective in its operation. From the very first it has worked against those who voluntarily make full and honest returns, and to the benefit of a great many more who make no returns at all. Such as have investments in mortgages and other debts of record are of course compelled to pay, since the Recorder's and Prothonotary's books exhibit the obligation. At the same time money in private loans and personal securities can only be reached by an inquisitorial process said to be even half-attempted, and which is no less objectionable than the methods of arriving at the national income tax, which was abolished about 20 years ago. Its practical working is that lenders upon mortgages add the three mills to the interest they would otherwise take, and the borrower and his encumbered real estate in the end bear

the burden. No single function in the domain of political economy is so beset with complications and difficulty as this of raising revenue for State, city and county, in such a way as to approximate equalization fand uniformity. The genius who can point out some sure and simple system whereby fairness can be secured with certainty and without the risk of loppressing or disturbing special interests, would be entitled to monumental fame upon the roll of statesmen. Until such an one does arise, tax-tinkering is sure to continue a source of biennial con-

fusion and agitation at Harrisburg. TRENT HEIM, who brought the Galatea over here and pluckily sustained defeat in a contest for America's cup, is in the country again with a proposition for a new internationa yacht race. Heim is such a game seacock that the yacht owners of the country should do their

THAT report about the Farmers' Alliance of Wichita, Kan., driving away the tenant on a farm that has been sold out at mortgage foreclosure seems by further advices to have been the loan says the Farmers' Alliance had nothing to do with it; that the only foundation of the report was that some of the neighbors, acting under a misunderstanding, persuaded the tenant to leave, and that "now that the facts are known no resistance will be made to the execution of the law." This also reveals the fact that some of the reports from Kansas are inspired by a visible desire to misrepresent the

PITTSBURG'S New Year's resolution to stimulate and encourage the development of a gas fuel that will take the place of gas and escue the city from the smoke nuisa that must not be abandoned with the ordinary class of reformatory determinations. .

Farmers' Alliance.

IT is rather irregular to find, going the rounds of the press a verse containing a version of that ancient juvenile jingle, "You Are Old counts for "the muscular strength of his jaw, by the fact that in his youth he "took aw" and "argued each cause with his wife." This is credited to "Mortimer Crossley" as "a new version of Father William." Who Mortime Crossley may be we do not know, but as the verse was published word for word in that juvenile classic "Alice in Wonderland," about wenty years ago, it is hard to see how it can be called a new version.

AN ESTEEMED illustrated cotemporary plunges a hero into the raging flood with his shoes on to rescue a drowning girl, and has him emerge, in the next picture, bearing his unburden and wearing high top bo

In connection with the report that the son

mate generation, for if "to the victors belong the spoils," then "might makes right." But when the esteemed Press talks in this out-spoken way about the offspring and ideas of

SNAP SHOTS IN SEASON.

LET us take a peep at the alecpy, peaceful, snow-clad little village and see how our old friends spent Christmas and began the New Year. Over it yet hovers the odor of turkey, goode and plum pudding. Lattle fingers are still glued by the snapping threads which stuck to them after the "any pulling." The good

leiphia Press to indicate the need of this State attacks on the integrity of her elections is to so onduct the elections that the attacks will be the promise of destroying the "white plague" with Koch's lymph, but are already trying it or eprosy and the terrible eating cancer. May torship, to notice that an arrangement is just the firm of Weed, Parsons & Co., the State printing of New York. With the great issue creaky old bell swung swiftly under the stron the morn-good wishes for all, old, young, rich, poor. It was a village holiday that ended with greatest effort of his life—namely to make a minority re-elect him to the United States Senslept again. Then it rubbed its eyes once mor leaves in the village—only back to the same way with a hopeful heart and a helpful hand In the smithy the anvil sings and the bellows blow, the shoemaker pegs and whistles, the children go back to the books, the old folk

JOHN R. FELLOWS, the retiring District Attorney of New York, was congratulated by a newspaper of that city because "he is no longer called upon to prosecute his fellow-men." The further subject of congratulation, that he no longer called upon to use the District Attorney's office to preserve boodle aldermer gather at the store and compare notes, the tinker makes the tin crackle and rattle. Only rom conviction, was not expressed, oubtless none the less heartfelt. chalk marks on the weather boards and fence palings tell them that the figures have changed THE suspicion may be aroused that Jerry only a glance at the cold white shafts which look like marble mile stones against the steel-blue sky that dips to earth behind the little graveyard on the hill reminds the elders that simpson goes without socks that he may ge nto Ingalis' shoes the easier.

BESIDES the depredations of bandits in Mexico, word comes from Cuba that organized gangs of kidnapers there are carrying off cople and holding them for ransom. Perhan he people who are anxious to have the Unite States Government purchase Cuba would regard the bandits as adding to the value of the purchase by reason of the lively and profitable haracter of the industry.

Young Mr. 1891 seems to be howling with colic induced by exposure to a very chilly

THE anxiety of the Republican leader that Vice President Morton shall go to Florida for his health, in order to let a President pro tem of the Senate be chosen who will force the new rule through, exhibits a tender solicitude on the part of the Republicans that Mr. Mo ton's health be worse, and develops an unpre cedented desire on the part of the Democrate that he may continue in vigorous health with a very strong spinal column.

PROMINENT PROPLE.

RUDYARD KIPLING completed his 25th year on Tuesday. He was born December 30, 1865. ALEX. WILLIAM KINGLAKE, the historian of the Crimean War, who is 79 years of dying.

ARCHBISHOP FABRE has left Rome for the South of France, and will embark for Canada early in February. DR. W. H. MILBURN, the blind chaplain of the House of Representatives, is writing a book on the pioneers of the Mississippi Valley. He has a collaborator.

IDA LEWIS, the famous life saver, has been ffered a chance to go on the stage as the herome in a life saving scene, but she prefers her station in the Newport lighthouse. FANNY DAVENPORT'S first stage appearance was in February, 1857, at the American Theater on Chambers street, New York, of which her father and Harry Watkins were the managers.

in winning the favor of the King of Coren, and has been made Deputy King. AMELIE RIVES CHANLER has completed an ther novel, of which Richard Henry Stoddard who has seen the manuscript, says, senten tiously, he thinks the pruning knife will be used

pointed to a Japanese Consulate, has succeede

before the book is published. EDWIN B. WINANS, who will be the firs Democratic Governor that Michigan has had in 80 years, is a conservative, bald-headed old farmer, with a neatly trimmed beard, and kindly eyes beaming out of gold spectacles. ONE of the most prominent traits of the late selah Chamberlain, of Cleveland, was his ten der feeling for all his relatives, especially thos who had not been so fortunate in business a he. He did much for those who needed help. MRS. HARRISON never touches wine, punch or liquor of any description, and if her wishe were carried out the strongest beverage served at White House state dinners and banquet

would be Apolinaris water. On the President' private table wine is never served. SIR JOHN POPE HENNESSY, who was re turned to Parliament from North Kilkenny in spite of Mr. Parnell's opposition, has a fellow and kindly feeling with the latter on one ac count, at least-they have both made the Lor

don Times pay handsomely for the privilege of ibeling them. UNITED STATES TREASURER HUSTON is levoted horseman, and at his place at Conner ville, Ind., he has handsome stables, the stall of which contain valuable horses of aristocratic lineage and noble records. Mr. Huston is a student of the trotting horse and his stables in variably carry off prizes when they are ex

hibited at fairs and horse shows. Abolish the Property Qualifiction. Boston Globe. ]

The knowledge that Governor Russell barely escaped being disqualified for the office to which he has been elected, because he did no intil a few days before his election po estate "to the value of £1,000," as required by the Constitution of this State, is enough arouse an almost unanimous sentiment in favor of taking that ridiculous anachronism out o he fundamental law of the Com

Peculiar but Indescribable Fitness Philadelphia Times. 1 "Small stove" coal is to be banished from th trade and "chestnut" take its place. When we look at the past stories told by the pleasant parlor fire play in the welding of young hearts ogether, the substitution of "chestnut" as

egular fuel has a poetical fitness peculiar bu Bluffers Esteemed in Washington. Vashington Post.] An Iowa man has brought suit for \$20,000 for the loss of two fingers. Such a man would be rare game behind a full hand.

DEATHS OF A DAY. Charles Bamford. CHICAGO, Jan. 2.—A private cable dispatch an-nounces the death at Liverpool of Charles Bam ord, founder and senior member of the great firm ford, founder and senior member of the great firm of Bamford Brothers, the most extensive dealer, in American hog products in the United Kingdom, and among the nioneers in introducing hog prod-nets to the English public. Nearly 39 years ago the brothers cut and put up English meats in New York, but after the business moved West they closed out and went into the commission business exclusively.

Owen McMahon Owen McMahon died yesterday at his residence at 210 Penn avenue, after an illness of 14 months. Deceased was aged 65 years, and was for 30 years employed as delivery cierk at the Duquesne freight station. He leaves three grown-up children, Harry and W. J. being of the firm of McMahon Horthers & Adams, Mr. McMahon was highly esteemed by all who knew him.

Mrs. Catharine Sawer Biair. wife of Kinder Biair, the well-known Allegheny baker, died last night at her husband's residence, No. 94 Ohio Alexander William Kinglake LONDON, Jan. 2. - The death of Alexander King ake, the historian, is announced.

Catharine S. Blair.

IF you changed your will the other day see

blacksmith let his fire die out and his bellows take a breathing spall. The shoemaker shot up his shop and laid aside his leather-scented breeches for the rusty broadcloth pantaloons. The schoolmaster has been boarding 'round among the parents of the happy little folk whom he dismissed over a week ago. The doctor is busy if the Christmas was green, because the super stition connected with such an event would be sure to make some feel poorly. The minister is in full possession. He has been on "double turn," and feels tired after watch night, But it has been a season of feasting and resting—of fel-lowship and frolic, of peace and good will, of recreation and reminiscence in the little vil-lage. Santa Claus came and went, leaving a trail of joy which was distinct at the service in the little church on the morn of his departure. Diversions of the most innocent and vatura sort filled the time in between the burial and the birth. Then the watchers sang a dirge for the dead and an anthem for the living-the pulls of youthful arms, the few lights which shot red gleams across the snow went out quietly, and the village slept on the threshold of the day and the year. Greetings came with the setting stars, and ere the moon was looking squarely down upon the quiet homes the village stretched its pleasure-oiled limbs and went out into the old world—little but broad enough for its simple life. Not much turning of new

time has dragged them closer to the clay, A REAVY purse does not always mean a light

Love's labor is always lost on a coquette. Ir costs about as much to shoot Indians as i loes to starve them. THE first figure is the last now, and don't you forget it.

IF you have started to keep a diary of course you are trying to do what is write.

AMERICANS admire pluck. Poor Lo wil profit by the bravery of Big Foot's band. IT is some satisfaction to know that one Pitts burger with murder in his heart went to New York to kill his man. He will be electro there. Here he would be fed, clothed and

BRADDOCK FIELD is keeping up its war record. Huns instead of Englishmen are biting the snow there now. THE downward current of trade in Pittsburg

The Back Numbers. Sometimes we hear the old fogies exclaim That times like the old times will ne'e again. And then they repeat from the page of th past Some peculiar condition that never could last-

now is confined solely to the rivers.

Some law or some notion, some pioneer view, Which the world in the course of events out Then they sagely remark they are sorry to see That the times are not what they used to be. They seem to imagine that life is all wrong: That the harmony ends with the old-time song That a step in advance means disaster dire; That a wish gratified breeds a fresh desire. They relish the fruit of the tree that is dead,

Press the dry leaves when the odor has fled. CLARENCE V. GREATHOUSE, formerly a Sigh when you do not with them quite agree San Francisco newspaper man, after being ap-They forget in their musings that this old Would be clogged by the moss if it wasn't whirled; That the freshest voice will lose its ring

If it follows the notes on the same old string. Still they pull the same bow while they sadis See naught but stale cheese in the laughing If the earth is not earthy, and salty the sea,

Then times are not now what they used to be. Ture snow in the far West does not seem have blockaded the warpaths.

THE doctors have at last discovered that con sumption is contagious. Isolation and inocula-tion may eventually stamp out the "great white

You will seldom pick a quarrel if you pick

your company. A NEW YORK woman, who is the victim of two much mother-in-law, says her father-in-law is so stingy that he sows buttons on his clothing by moonlight in order to save gas. She is tur ing on the light.

MILES' motto-Good riddance to had Reds. THE fellow who is always exaggerating is only serving his apprenticeship as a liar. Ir your tongue is loose you run the risk of

Ir you want to restore business confidence settle your little bills promptly. Could Not Keep Cool. He sat beside her, and the arm That swung the fan seemed lame:

osing your reputation.

ome are heavy.

market.

But he still fanned the flame Rossa is no longer an exile from Erin. All he needs is passage money. Some one should start a subscription immediately.

Our of sight out of mind-1890. JUDGING from the manner in which the statesmen are reaching for the Harrisburg gavel it must be worth a great deal. MORTGAGES do not vary in weight, even i

Ir General Brooke retreats before the brave he will undoubtedly be called a running Brooke. DISEASE deposits germs in the snow banks. NEWSPAPER workers frequently have to write the wrongs of others.

PARNELL says he is willing to retire. When a man is defeated he usually feels that way. Some men win high honors in America by being expert fly-catchers THE doctor cannot always cure a han

MR. SPEER talks forcibly about Allegheny's

police force. He evidently believes they would make good tobacco signs, as he called them wooden men. Mr. Speer is sharp-tongued. NoveLists frequently deal in false heir. THE machinery for the protection of rogue is about as costly as that provided for their

Some soaps are made without lye, but the lie

s introduced when they are placed on

Love seems to be the only genuine hypnotic influence, judging from the crimes and the follies perpetrated under its spell.

MARRIAGE engagements are conducted or

WHEN the old die only the young need on

the process of cataloguing them has yet to be completed.

Mr. Stevenson showed me yesterday the dis-

Some of the Books. Students of Shakespeare will find a great deal to interest them in the Shakespearean col-

Shakespeare is honored.

The historical department is well equipped, both with the standard works of America and England, but with good authorities on other countries and the latest and best works on the history of all the Americas from the earliest times. Mr. Stevenson has tried to provide for the general reader principally, but the histories

of particular periods or epochs are sufficiently numerous to satisfy the specialist. In the poetic line Mr. Stevenson has suceeded in collecting editions that are particularly notable for good print and decent mar-gins. How much charm a fair margin and good type lend to poetry the poets would be displeased to admit, but they know it best of all. Of course, it was not possible for the Carnegle Library to cater to the fastidious taste of the man who will be satisfied with nothing less than a narrow rivulet of text in a broad mead of fair white paper, but such of the poets as I glanced at yesterday were good examples of bookmaking in all respects. In short, wherever I went among the convenient alcover and their laden shelves, I found good promise of a feast for all who love good books in Alle-gheny. It looks now as if in two months' time the feast might begin. At present the reading room, with its supply of periodicals, is well

A Tip on Tin Plate.

confidence some of these frosted plants may biosaom yet.

A fashionable jeweler informs me that he

The Frames Are Grand. If the pictures in the Verestchagin collection upon which we are shortly to feast our eyes are on the grand scale indicated by their frames, which are already here, they will surpass anything in the way of an exhibition that this com munity has seen. Great sections of the gilt frames lay all over the halls and staircases of the Carnegie Library yesterday, looking for all the world more like pieces of some great proscenium decoration than the setting for

In a retired part of town a year or two ago a little church congregation compelled their pastor to resign, because, they declared, be could

This Christmas one of the deacons, in fact. the one who had been most active in procuring the young pastor's resignation, went out to some distant relatives in an adjoining county to spend the holidays. The Sunday after Christthem to church to hear the wonderful preacher about whom half the county was crazy, and all the older clergy jealous. He went and the young man who came upon the platform and afterward entered the pulpit and preached to deeply interested audience was the man the city congregation had considered not good igh for them. The city man had to confess to himself, too, that the sermon was a good one, and he was honest enough to declare it openly. He did not say anything about the prior acquaintance he had with the preacher. nowever, and the little church in town is still unaware that the prophet it rejected has been

Philadelphia Inquirer. ]

genuineness of their manifestations, let them eproduce that wonderful signature. All Beautiful, Some More Than Others.

ington. farriaburg Telegraph. ]

CURIOUS CONDENSATIONS.

-Fortune telling by the foot instead of the hand is the latest.

-Calvary Episcopal Church, New York,

-Forty-eight languages are spoken in

Mexico-and telephone girls are scarce. -The native population of Alaska num-ers only 40,000, of whom 17,000 are Esquimaux.

-Uranium was unknown a century ago, but a lode has been found in a mine in wall, England. It sells for \$12,000 a ton. -A prize worth winning has been offered by the East Indian Government, The prize is \$25,000 for a practical machine for decorticating

-The number of telephones now under rental by the American Bell Telephone Com-pany is 478,725, an increase of 38,885 over the

me time last year. -Miss Fordham, a well-known English bicycle rider, has ridden a safety wheel 1,900 miles at the rate of 76 miles a day, and hopes to cover 2,000 miles before the season closes.

\$1,750,000 clear profit into the treasury during the last financial year, despite the unusually heavy expenditures for new gas houses and -The only Chinaman in the regular army of the United States is Edward Coh

-The city gas works of Berlin brought

private in Company H, of the Fifteenth In-fantry, at Fort Sheridan, Ill. He served through the war as a volunteer. -Four hundred out of every 1,000,000 of the residents of Saxony, in Germany, commit suicide. In Leipsic the proportion is the highest in the world, reaching 450 per 1,000,000. In London it is only 85 per 1,000,000.

-Mrs. Belle Wooster Higgins, of Sullivan, Me., has had 19 years of sea life and has sailed to every part of the globe. She is an ex-pert in navigation, and could take a ship to any part, foreign or domestic, should it ever become

-A recent invention is an electric mineral ore detector, by which it is claimed that the presence of ore may be instantly detected. By this means a comparatively inexperienced person is able to tell whether the sample con-

-New York City has 1,357 electric lights at an annual cost of \$90 each; New Orleans has 1,010, at \$130 each; Philadelphia has \$90; at \$177 each; Toledo, O., has \$00, at \$100 each; Scran-ton, Pa., has \$32, at \$90 each, and Springfield, Mass., has \$90, at \$83 30 each. -The phenomenon of latent heat was first

inquired into by Dr. Black, of Scotland, nearly 130 years ago. His attention was directed to the subject by observing that a mixture of ice and water, though absorbing a measurable amount of heat, did not rise in temperature until all the ice had disappeared. -The cotton mill industry is progressing

in Maine, as, indeed, are nearly all kinds of business. Returns of assessors to the Valua-tion Commission show that during the decade from 1880 to 1890 the number of spindles in cat-tor mills has been increased from 640,566 to 850,890, or a gain of 219,324 spindles. -In order to get the benefit of the maple sugar bounty, 58 persons have reported to the Internal Revenue Collector of the Fourth division of the Fourteenth district in the State that they are manufacturers of maple sugar to the extent of 500 pounds or more. A large amount of maple sugar is made in Delaware county.

-The company for cutting the Perekor Canal has now been constituted in Russia, and the work of joining the Azoff and Black Seas between the Crimea and the mainland will be commenced shortly. The channel will be 70 feet wide and 12 feet deep. Ports will be made at each end. The work has to be fluished in six years. -A short time ago a band of 20 Arnauts

entered Prisrend and coolly attacked the house of the Chief Justice in broad daylight. The Judge and several of his servants were mur-dered, and the house, after being sacked, was burned to the ground. The Zaptiehs, or Turk-ish policemen, did not attempt to interfere, and all the brigands escaped. -Miss Lilian Baird, aged 9 years, is becoming famous as the youngest problem com-poser in the world. She has a fine instinct for chess, which has been cultivated by much

chess, which has been cultivated by much practice and an hereditary talent for problem composing. Her first problem, composed be-fore she was 8, has been printed in about 20 chess columns in England, Germany and America. -The 2-year-old son of Ben Caudell, of Banks county, Ga., about sundown on Decem ber 19 was eating goobers, or peanuts, when the young sister, who was playing with him, exclaimed: "Brother is choked?" He had inhaled a goober with the hull on into the windpipe. Dr. Thomas Hayden was called in, but when he came the cuild was too far gone for

ny operative measures. -It is not impossible to find ladies of not more than fifty years old who let their pianos stay unopend because, they say, they are to old and their fingers are too stiff to play any more, But the people who pass along Winthrop street, says the Lewiston, (Me.) Journal, it is reported, often hear music from a piano fingered by Mrs. Matilda Sewall who though 96 years old, plays

with the skill and energy of a girl. -It is related of Henry H. Norcross who died in Somerville, Mass., last week, that when a boy in Charleston, Me., he entered the store of a Levant merchant as clerk. The second morning he said to his employer that he could morring he said to his employer that he could not remain if he was to be required to sell liquor. Some men would have told him to go, but Mr. Benjamin B. Vaughan was a man who could appreciate a conscientious clerk. He could appreciate a conscientious clerk. He kept the boy and at once went out of the liquor

-Vera Sassulitch has been the cause of nore alarm to the Czar than'all the other Russian anarchists combined. In her early years she was a pretty governess in a little country village of Russia, and she still possesses traces of beauty. She is a woman of iro stern resolution. At one time, finding it im-possible to conquer her, the Russian govern-ment is said to have offered her a bribe of 10,000,000 roubles to quit the cause and quit the country.

-Something new in the line of entertainments is upon the tapis at York Beach, Me .- a frost carnival. The hall is to be decepresent the Arctic regions, with grottees, snow caves and icicles. The audience are exsnow caves and icicles. The audience are expected to appear in costume suited to the appearent condition of things, toboggan, Esquimo, or anow and frost covered suits. The children are in training for appearance as snow fairies, frost spirsts, etc., and a sleigh bell chorus and drill, with 164 sleigh bells, is on the performance. The supper is to match the rest of the programme. It the weather continues to behave as it has done for the last four weeks, there is no doubt that the out-door accessories

there is no doubt that the out-door ac will be in proper trim for the occasion. WISPS OF WIT.

"Wee Lung" is going to try Dr. Koch's ymph on his name .- New York Evening World. "I shall certainly call and see the old year out with you," said the young man.
'Well," she said, resignedly, "even the calen-

dar makes 1850 end with a cypher. "- Washington

Proprietor-James, it is about midnight,

tan't 11?

Clerk—The clock has just struck H, sir.

Proprietor—Then it is 1891. You may now sandpaper those maple-sugar bricks, put the sign over
them: "Positively the first lot for the season." and then you may go. A happy New Year to you, James - Chicago Tribune. Ignatius Donnelly, as President of the

Ella Wheeler Wilcox says that "while the eagle screams above the housetops the wolf howls at many a door." We should think the howis at many a door." We should think the howis of the wolf would frighten off the scream-"I stand upon the threshold of a glad New

Minnesota Farmers' Alliance, ought to give a boom to bacon. - Chicago Inter-Ocsan.

Year!" She said unto her lover, with a rosy, winsome "Which you'll find in time," he answered, "is better far, my dear,

Than standing on a measly, little bob-tail

-St. Paul Globe.

Stippers will be much used this winter. For grown-up persons the stippers will be accord-ing to the latest fall fashions on ley pavements. For naughty children the slippers will be feit -Sitting Bull's language was a conglomera-tion of pure Sloux, impure English and decayed French. When he swore, he used all three lan-guages so thently that the Recording Angel with his stenographer and typewriter could not take down and charge up all his oaths. Fact,—Grand Ropide Herald.

There is said to be a serious falling off in the supply of Maylayan gutta percha, but in offset to the loss it may be note that the boardinghouse teak is as plentiful as ever .- Chicago Times, Simmons-I've got a chance to start a newspaper. Some men are willing to back me. Timmins—Which style of paper-readable or re-spectable?—Indianapolis Journal.