

The Dispatch

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PITTSBURGH, SUNDAY, JAN. 1, 1891. A RIFT IN THE CLOUD.

Out of the haze into which city officials, contractors and property owners were thrown by Justice Williams' decision on street improvements, there has within twenty-four hours been a gradual return to something which looks like a lucid interval.

It is true Justice Williams seemed to censure severely the provision which permitted one to sue for a writ of mandamus to call for an improvement, but he did not say that this was illegal. He rather brought it forward as an added reason why recourse should be permitted to the ordinary law processes for correction of fraud or injustice, in place of leaving the matter to the city's own tribunals, the Board of Voters.

It seems so entirely reasonable that the denial of one form of assessment as illegal should not prevent the adoption of other methods of assessment which would be legal, that this aspect of the case might ordinarily be taken to carry the solution of the problem. It is certainly the best that offers, though we suppose the lawyers with recent experiences in their mind will go slow before affirming or denying anything with certainty until the Legislature shall have acted and the case is again heard from.

A SERIOUS SITUATION IN LONDON. A very serious condition of things exists in London. Thousands of hungry people are suffering from the cold, and there are multitudes of destitute.

A PRACTICAL DEMONSTRATION. A very satisfactory report on profit-sharing is given from the Bourne Mills, at Fall River, where that system has been in operation for several years.

HYPNOTISM BY WHOLESALE. The latest development of the new theories of hypnotism has made its appearance in Baltimore. The cashier of a bank in that city permitted a speculative customer to overdraw his account to the tune of \$100,000.

demie. Whoever committed a crime, particularly of the capital degree, was discovered to be subject to temporary and violent states of mind, in which the perpetrator was far from responsible for any little acts of murder which his emotional insanity might dictate.

It was reserved for the best decade of the century to develop a theory which covers all grades of crime. Hypnotism explains everything. The subject of hypnotic influence may be forced without his volition to pick a pocket, rob a bank, forge a note or entice a victim to murder.

It is in this instance, however, we have an unusually remarkable example of hypnotism in the fact which appears from the statement of the case, that several persons must have been hypnotized. Besides the cashier, the hypnotic influence must have extended to the teller and the bookkeeper, to prevent them from noticing the remarkable disproportion between checks and deposits necessary to cover an overdraft of \$100,000.

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prophetic remark. They took it as a recommendation of Cameron for Senatorial timber.

THE inquiry by a Texas paper as to whether "any editor of surplus cash" wants to bet that Cleveland will get the Texas delegation in 1891, calls for the response that there is no editor of surplus cash because surplus cash is the one thing in the world that does not require editing.

PHILADELPHIA'S sugar refineries sell nothing to Camden. The bridal couples which visit that place far outnumber those that visit Camden for any purpose.

SOME of our legislative leaders should be warned that the importation of American political methods into Kilkenny will not be necessary to bring about a change in the United States Legislature.

THE politician of to-day cares not who elects the members of a State Legislature, so that they have the clerk of the previous one.

ALLEGHENY is now judicially declared to be a city of the second class, and can join Pittsburgh in the struggle to find out how in the world a business enterprise can be carried on in a way that will hold water.

WHILE the Dolomiers will occupy no public office this year, there is a possibility they may get into a public institution.

JOAQUIN MILLER waxes trespasser on his premises on penalty of being shot. If he would put a few columns of his poetry about his domain it would have more effect in rightening people away.

GOVERNOR-ELEKT Russell of Massachusetts, was 54 years old last Tuesday.

EVERYBODY who knows Mr. C. G. Egan, Co. Adjutant-General of the Treasury, is not only sorry that he is involved financially in the recent failure of Bateman & Co., but wonders how it is that so good a fellow and so well known a gentleman should be so involved in such a business connection.

MISS CHAUNCEY M. DEWEY is one of the best dressed women in New York. Her tastes are magnificent, but her attire is faultlessly becoming. She has also one of the best appointed homes in the city.

ALLAN ARTHUR, son of the late President, was in England for some time, where he is very popular in society. He has grown portly, and is as handsome a man as his father was.

QUEEN VICTORIA spends much of her time every day at the writing desk. Not a day passes in which she does not carefully edit and correct with her own hand the Court Circular, and the amount of correspondence she disposes of is enormous.

R. P. HUTCHINSON, the big Chicago grain speculator, is about 70 years old. In all his mental characteristics he is a Yankee of Yankee descent, but in his habits and most unconventional and democratic in his ways.

Candidates are wonderfully numerous for Councilmanic positions over in Allegheny, considering that each ward can only have one Select Councilman. The budget of the Board of Health is a very interesting document.

THE first of Mr. Rudyard Kipling's articles on America, published elsewhere, it is evident that the talented Anglo-Indian writer will deal with our national peculiarities in much the same vein as Dickens did a half-century sooner.

STILL, if this were the only objection to the proposed measure, it would not be insuperable. There are a good many people who omit to vote simply from indolence, and who, if they were made to vote, would vote in favor of the measure.

THE Central Trades Council has made a good move in taking up the matter of archways over the entrance to Schenley park. It is fitting about all things that in this life of industry, labor should be represented in such a work.

THE electric railroad barons of the East have been buried under snows here and there for several weeks past, and the lines are not getting their heads out of the snow and out in the barns.

MURRAY'S MUSINGS.

Looking Down on a Basket of Fog—Definition of a Flash-Banker—Why Slagers Are Usually Flash—The Soldiers and the Indians.

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THE MOUND BUILDERS.

A Belief That They Were the Ancestors of the Red Indian.

SIoux FALLS, S. D., Jan. 10.—W. P. Westcott, who has spent much time investigating the works of the Mound Builders, has reached the conclusion that they were not a distinct race, but merely the progenitors of present races of Indians.

THE most prominent and interesting of these mounds is located in the village of Moundville, Alabama, occupying for the most part a high point of prairie overlooking the surrounding country.

TO obtain a correct diagram of the village of Moundville, the excavations were made by measurement was able to place the but and the mound in a good state of preservation.

THE village of Moundville, located on a prairie about two miles in extent, was surrounded by a wall of earth, the height of which was about 30 feet across and 4 feet high.

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CONFEDERATES IN CONGRESS.

Not So Many Southern Military Men in Public Life Now.

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THE TOPICAL TALKER.

A Memory of Mulligan. "My honeymoon," said a Pittsburgh clergyman to me yesterday, "was marked by an odd incident, and one that I was reminded of today when I heard a hand playing the March of the Mulligan Guard."

A Grave Subject. "Unless when you die, and when you will, for he's a smile so grim and chill 'Till I take away your breath."

Terrapin in Dreamland. "Last night I had a very singular dream," said a rather unusually respectable gentleman yesterday. "I dreamt that I met a very pretty girl, in fact, one of the prettiest I ever seen—and she was so lovely that I was almost overcome by her beauty."

Justice and the Lambs. "Justice, when you babes chat, Give us the law, and we'll obey it, Remove the bandsage from your eyes! Don't use the leaden heel!"

Are't We All Actors? "As Mr. Ben Stern was pursuing the path of righteousness, he was engaged in the study of the actor's art."

A Truthful Mirror. "It gives you smile for a smile, But if you frown at it, alas! 'Twill scowl in sorry guise."

Better Than a Lodge. "I know why so many men want to be Councilmen, said a philosopher last night. 'Why?'"

HILL'S ROAD SCHEME. The New York Governor's Plan for Good Country Highways.

THE National Exposition at Tokio, which is now in progress, is one of the most interesting and profitable of the kind.

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CURIOUS CONDENSATIONS.

The cotton crop of Alabama is valued at \$50,000,000. A large oak tree known to be 140 years old has been felled at Flint, Mich.

The Justices of the United States Supreme Court pay \$100 each for their silk gowns. Geneva, O., think it has the only horse in the world that can turn a complete somersault.

A London 1 woman in every 20 is a pauper, and in every 13 is illiterate, and in every 10 is a gin drinker. Fourteen Germans and Russians living in Hamilton, Ont., took out naturalization papers this week.

There are in use nearly 50,000 gas stoves which are set on fire by the gas companies who supply the British metropolis. The wife of Mr. C. Beaupre, of St. Raymond, Quebec, has presented her lord and master with a diamond necklace worth \$100,000.

Grand Rapids leads the world in its percentage of divorces to marriages. This year the ratio was one to five and last year one to six. A runaway horse attached to a meat wagon dashed through the plate-glass front of a drugstore at Toledo, O. The horse was badly cut by the glass.

Hundreds of weavers in Thuringia are emigrating to America in the hope of obtaining employment in New York mills, where they expect to be well paid for their services. A very explicit Connecticut statute provides that no woman shall use a woman against her will, and behind it is a most recent old law that says a man shall kiss his wife on the cheek.

Several ministers of the Methodist Episcopal Church, South, have been suspended by their conference for becoming candidates for political office, and leaving their churches to go to the polls. At Portsmouth O., Ray Lyon, of Corning, that State, visited a physician to find out the exact location of his heart, and then proceeded to eat a large quantity of roast beef, and deliberately shot himself dead.

Carrie Lane Chapman Gatt said in her recent speech at the suffrage convention in Des Moines: "But it isn't so easy to get a husband as it is to get a woman's vote."—at least decent ones. Now, they are a great many thousand-dollar women now. They can't be so easily won.

Each of the Justices of the Federal Supreme Court is a body servant, who is paid out of the contingent fund of the court. These servants report promptly every morning as to the residence of each justice, and when they attend court on the day they attend the Justices, do their errands and accompany them to the office. The Justice of Justice is also furnished with a private secretary.

Returned from 308 districts of the Methodist Episcopal Church of the vote on the question of changing the constitution so as to admit women as representatives to the General Conference have been received at the Methodist Episcopal office in New York. The 308 districts in all, of which 198,728 were cast in favor of the change, and 109,272 were cast against it, showing a majority of about 79,500. The districts heard from comprise about three-fifths of the districts of the United States.

Bettie Lewis, of Richmond, was the wealthiest colored person in Virginia. There are a few of her race in the State credited with being worth \$50,000. Just what portion of this she has is not known. She was employed by Bettie Lewis is not known. None of the attorneys nor John Lewis will say how much she was worth, but it is thought to be \$100,000 which falls to the heirs-at-law of Thomas will no doubt; nearly all of it is in the hands of the heirs-at-law.

There are many people who, about this time of the year, make a trip to the Sandwich Islands, which is a very interesting place. The trip from San Francisco to Honolulu can be made in about a week, and the trip from Honolulu to the Islands has been discontinued since they found that there were American sailors on the islands who were not allowed to land. It is thought that the sailors had hoped to get far away from their own race of mankind.

The peculiar and pungent odor that arises from the habit of smoking a habitually clear-cut smokers is offensive to many ladies, who discern it when passing those smokers in the streets, or when sitting near them in a public place. The odor is not only offensive to the nose, but it is also offensive to the eyes. The odor is not only offensive to the nose, but it is also offensive to the eyes.

Dr. Orsi has closed his campaign at Lochs by excavating the whole front of the ancient walls facing the sea, the line of which was the present one. The excavations have shown the remains of the ancient city of Lochs on the heights overlooking the city. If the Italian Government would return to the work, he thinks it might be rewarded by discovering the remains of the ancient city of Lochs.

The variety audiences in America are gradually being educated up to the point of the people who attend the music halls in London. They now join in confidently in choruses of certain songs and speak the replies which are expected from them by the singers and the orchestra.

The Window Glass Trade is dead, and singularly enough, is said to have died a painless death. It didn't die like that last line in your article. Editor—Well, the public did. Critic—Because it was the last line.—Atlanta Constitution.

Some of the very best comedy is butchered tragedy.—Dallas Tex. News. The strongest poet in the Indian question is the poet of the day.—Buffalo Times. Senator Hoar is so mad about the defeat of the force bill that the services of Pasteur may be required to guard against animal rabies.—Boston Globe.

Whenever it rains the cold may snap. In the winter days or nights, It stops just there, for the fact remains It's always the frozen rain.—Philadelphia Times. "May I not aspire to your hand?" he asked earnestly. "Permit me," she said positively, "to assure you that this is a one hand."—Washington Post.