THIS IS THE SEASON
TO SELL AND RENT HOUSES.
BUYERS AND RENTER
LOOK FOR BARGAINS
IN THE EVERY MORNING DISPATCH.

The Pittsburg Dispatch.

DO YOU WANT A SITUATION?
NUMBERS OF GOOD OPENINGS
ADVERTISED EVERY MORNING
IN THE COLUMNS OF
THE DISPATCH.

FORTY-SIXTH YEAR. PITTSBURG, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1891---TWELVE PAGES. THREE CENTS.

IT WILL NOT DOWN.

An Attempt to Drive the Nails in the Oil Bill's Coffin Unsuccessful.

BURDICK SCORES A POINT.

By an Overwhelming Majority He Secures One More Chance for His Pet Measure.

A BLACK EYE FOR THE STANDARD.

The Check, However, Is Claimed to Be Only Temporary, and Due to a Manifestation of Courtesy.

POSITION OF ALLEGHENY'S MEMBERS.

A Measure Prepared by the Insurance Commissioner That Is Intended to Wipe Out All Suspicious Schemes.

THE PROPOSED PLAN IS A VERY STRINGENT ONE

[FROM A STAFF CORRESPONDENT.]

HARRISBURG, Feb. 27.—Representative James, of Venango county, seems to be haunted with the idea that the passage of the Burdick silver bill would be followed by a disastrous panic in the oil regions, and to-day he took snap judgment of the author by calling up the resolution offered by Burdick to place the bill on the calendar. The overwhelming defeat administered to the bill in the Senate had inspired in him a lively hope that the House would follow in the footsteps of the higher branch of the Legislature, but the House sat down on him heavily.

Representative Stewart, of Philadelphia, was quickly on his feet to show that under precedents established by the Senate the bill could not be considered in that body again this session. Speaker Thompson promptly declared his position untenable because no official information of the action of the Senate had been received by the House.

One of the Standard Converts.

Representative Capp, of Lebanon, sought to give the bill a black eye by stating that he had been converted from a supporter to an opponent of it, because the disposition of it in the other chamber had rendered its passage impossible on account of insurmountable parliamentary obstructions. He has been anxious for its consideration, but under existing circumstances it would be folly to consume time on the bill.

Representative Lytle, of Huntingdon, said as there was no chance of the bill becoming a law, there was no justification for a waste of time in discussing it. It was a dead issue, and in the interest of economy further agitation of the subject should be stopped in the House. The remarks of the gentleman from Huntingdon were followed by the offering by him of a motion to indefinitely postpone the consideration of the whole matter.

Representative Marshall, of Allegheny, who has been opposed to the bill all along, quickly seconded the motion.

Burdick Pleads for His Pet.

Representative Burdick said he had offered his resolution in good faith and that the proposition to take it up without his consent was unfair. Some of those who were opposed to consuming any further time on the bill had covered page after page of the *Legislative Record* with their speeches, while he had abstained from any extended discussion during the session. While there was life in the bill the Senate might repent of its folly, and if messaged to that body its action might be reversed.

In calling up the matter at this time he was unjustly treated, as a number of friends of the measure had gone to their homes with the understanding that it would not be considered until Monday evening next. The argument that the Senate could not consider the bill at this session because it had refused to place it on the calendar was met by the statement that no precedent had been established by that body compelling it in the line of consistency even to refuse it admission into that chamber. The subject was of such great importance that it should be accorded a wider discussion than it could receive in a committee room.

The Author Proposes a Postponement.

Representative Lytle withdrew his motion to indefinitely postpone and Representative Burdick followed it with a proposition to postpone action on his resolution until Monday evening. Representative Stocking, of Washington, thought the courtesy asked should be given. Three-fourths of the members of the House would go to their homes to-day, and an opportunity would thus be given them of consulting with their constituents as to their sentiments on the merits of this bill, and ascertaining if the numerous telegrams received at the State capital were genuine or cooked up for the occasion.

Representative Skinner, of Fulton, suggested to the author of the measure that there was a fuller House to-day than there could be on Monday next. He believed there was no reason for consuming any more time in considering it, because it seemed beyond resurrection, in view of the decisions against its consideration in the Senate.

Representative Burdick replied that he was willing to stake his chances on the session on Monday evening, and Representative Wherry remarked that the House should not be governed by the precedents set by the Senate. The body was empowered to reconsider its action on the bill when it came to it again this session. The House could do as it pleased, as it was a perfectly independent body.

A Point Gained for the Bill.

The vote on the Burdick proposition was then taken, with the following result: Yeas, 100; nays, 62. C. N. Payne, of Titusville, was looking out here for the interests of the Standard Oil Company, and ex-Senator Lee, who represents the oil producers, were in the House when the vote was taken. Of the 79 Democrats in the House, 55 voted with Burdick and 10 against him, and half of the latter were from Philadelphia. Fifty-one Republicans stood by Burdick and 52 opposed him, the three Fusionists from Bradford county ranging themselves with the majority. The Philadelphia delegation was evidently apprised of the intention of Representative James to call up Burdick's resolution. On Friday the members from that city generally avail themselves of the first opportunity to present itself to take the earliest train for Philadelphia, but to-day they remained in their seats as if glued to them. Of the 39 members from that city only Richmond and Schick were absent. That the Standard Oil Company can rely on a big lift from that city may be inferred from the fact that of the 37 who voted on the motion to postpone the consideration of the Burdick resolution until Monday evening, only three voted with Burdick. All the five Democrats in the delegation cast their lot with the minority.

Representative Fletcher says the few votes cast for the postponement of the death of the bill went that way out of courtesy to Burdick, and that on Monday night the delegation would be solid against putting the bill on the calendar. The Allegheny county members split even. Graham, Weaver, Cotton, Nesbit, McCullough, Krossen and Stewart voted with Burdick, and Muehlbroner, Marshall, Lemon, Richards, Kearns, Lafferty and Culbertson against him. Rynd and Jones were absent.

HENRY HALL.

A THOROUGH MEASURE

DIRECTED AGAINST ALL THE BOGUS INVESTMENT COMPANIES.

Insurance Commissioner Forster's Bill to Root Them Out—The Whole Business to Be Banished From the State—Severe Penalties Provided for Offenders.

[FROM A STAFF CORRESPONDENT.]

HARRISBURG, Feb. 27.—Insurance Commissioner Forster has prepared a substitute for the bill requiring bond investment and kindred companies to deposit with the Auditor General a bond for half the amount of the maximum sum promised the aggregate membership at a stipulated period. The title of the substitute refers to these associations as delusive and fraudulent, and the bill sets forth that all companies, associations, co-partnerships, mutual benefit and finance associations, bond and investment companies and companies or associations of every class and description, by whatever name they may be known, whether the same are unincorporated or incorporated by this State or any other State, which promise to their members stipulated sums of money by written or printed contract, or otherwise, at the end of a stipulated period of time, other than the beneficial and fraternal association, who pay to their members sick or funeral or accident benefits in accordance with authority conferred upon them by existing laws, are prohibited from doing business in this Commonwealth.

Any person, persons or agent, officer or member of any company, association or co-partnership aforesaid, maintaining an office or place of business, or soliciting membership, or receiving payments, or issuing or distributing circulars to persuade persons to become members, or in any manner securing, helping or aiding in the business of any company, association or co-partnership, directly or indirectly, within this Commonwealth shall be guilty of a misdemeanor, and on conviction shall be sentenced to pay a fine of not more than $1,000, and on conviction of a second offense shall be sentenced to pay a like fine and undergo an imprisonment not exceeding one year, or either, in the discretion of the Court.

In preparing this bill Insurance Commissioner Forster has been charged with an attempt to root out such organizations as the Royal Arcanum, but he says the measure does not bear such an interpretation.

IN MODIFIED FORM.

The Bill Aimed at Candidates for Office Reported Back Amended.

[FROM A STAFF CORRESPONDENT.]

HARRISBURG, Feb. 27.—The bill of Representative Johnson, of Luzerne, making it a misdemeanor for candidates or political committees to pay naturalization expenses or taxes, was reported from the Judiciary General Committee this morning, amended, so as to confine its operation to naturalization expenses.

Mr. Johnson was compelled to submit to the modification of the bill, because of the opposition to the prohibition of the payment of taxes by committees from the Philadelphia Republican members, who think such an arrangement would greatly diminish the Republican majorities in that city, owing to the indifference of the people on the subject of paying their taxes.

BILLS FAVORABLY REPORTED.

A Number of Important Measures Among the Collection.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

HARRISBURG, Feb. 27.—The anti-discrimination bill was recommitted to the House General Committee on Judiciary to-day, as was the Allegheny County Court bill. A resolution was passed to hold two sessions a day on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday after Monday next.

Among the bills reported from committee were the following: The Baker act, relating a ballot reform; to establishing an additional Court of Common Pleas in counties having 300,000 population and less than 1,000,000; the revenue commission bill; to provide for uniformity of text books in public schools; Senate bill to repeal prohibitory liquor law in Jefferson township, Allegheny county; to prohibit sale of tobacco to persons under 16 years of age, except on written order of parent, legal guardian or employer.

The Senate resolution indorsing the Congressional shipping bill was concurred in.

BILLS IN THE HOUSE.

A Measure to Keep Bogus Investment Companies Out of the State.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

HARRISBURG, Feb. 27.—In the House today the following bills were introduced:

By Marshall, Allegheny, requiring foreign building and loan associations to deposit with the State a guarantee indemnity bond of $100,000.

By Leeds, Philadelphia, to prevent bond, investment and other companies which promise enormous and unnatural profits to investors from doing a business in this State.

By Cotton, Allegheny, for the supervision of plumbing and drainage in cities of the second class.

By Shillitto, York, to punish minors for misrepresenting their age for the purpose of procuring liquor.

FAVORABLY INDORSED.

A Bill and Two Resolutions Approved by the Governor.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

HARRISBURG, Feb. 27.—Messages were received from the Governor announcing his approval of the bill providing for the appointment of a commission to revise the anthracite, ventilation and mining laws, and the resolutions thanking all people who contributed to the relief of the Johnstown sufferers and asking the United States Government to detail two engineers to examine the Lake Erie and Ohio Ship Canal Commission report.

BUSINESS Men will find THE DISPATCH the best advertising medium. All classes can be reached through its Classified Advertisement Columns. If you want anything you can get it by this method.

PLACED IN THE ASYLUM

UPON THE AUTHORITY OF THE BOARD OF POOR DIRECTORS.

Anna Dickinson Is Not Only Insane but Penniless—Visited in Her Place of Refuge—She Is Violent and Promises an Appeal to Governor Pattison.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

DANVILLE, Feb. 27.—Miss Anna E. Dickinson, the famous lecturer, authoress and actress, is now an inmate of the hospital for the insane here, and her case is regarded as a very doubtful, if not a hopeless one. A visit was paid to the institution to-day, and everything possible was learned as to her condition from Dr. Shultze, the head physician of the asylum. She was brought to the institution on Wednesday afternoon at 4 o'clock accompanied by Dr. Hileman and Mr. Eggleston, of West Pittston. She was committed to the asylum by the authority of the Board of Poor Directors of West Pittston, and Mr. Eggleston is one of the members of that board.

On her way down she exhibited some tendency to violence on the train and at the asylum depot again offered some resistance, and it was only with difficulty that she could be persuaded to enter the grounds of the institution. She was highly excited when she stepped into the building and was met by Dr. Shultze.

"What does this mean?" she cried, advancing to him. "What authority have you for bringing me here. I demand your authority." It was in vain that efforts were made to calm her. Her excitement was great. "I will write to Governor Pattison at once," she said. "I will see by what authority I am brought here."

When at last she was given in charge of Mrs. Frost, the matron, she went sullenly to the quarters provided for her. They are among the best in this great institution. Physically she is in a very bad condition, weak and emaciated. The first course of treatment will be in the way of restoring her physical health. At present Dr. Shultze would offer no opinion as to the outcome of the case. It is generally believed that Miss Dickinson's insanity was brought on by physical disturbances, aggravated by the worry caused by financial embarrassment and the strain of severe literary labor. There is no question but the two sisters have been in very straightened circumstances for some years. Miss Susan made desperate efforts when the insanity first made itself apparent to keep her sister with her and conceal her affliction. But at last she grew so violent that it became necessary to place her under proper restraint. She was unable to place her in any private institution and hence she was compelled to apply to the Poor Directors.

"THE COSMIC BEAN," by Frank R. Stockton, begins SUNDAY, March 8. The old and the young will thank THE DISPATCH for this coming literary treat.

AFTER THE BOOK TRUST.

The Opening of the Inquiry by the Joint Legislative Committee.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

PHILADELPHIA, Feb. 27.—The special committee appointed by a joint resolution of the Legislature at Harrisburg to investigate the so-called text book trust, if they exist, arrived here this afternoon. They located themselves at the Lafayette, and at once commenced business. The party consisted of Senator W. H. Hines, Chairman; Representative E. W. Tool, Secretary and Representatives Elwood, James, Cochrane and Seely. Two Senators, Upperman and Thomas, were absent. With the committee came Representatives Weller and Seyfert and Senator Robbins, of the Legislative Educational Committee, who watched the proceedings and listened intently to the evidence. The inquisitorial court, having been duly opened, John Hancock, State Commissioner of Public Schools of Ohio, was first sworn. He said he had been an educator for 40 years. He thought that uniformity of State text books was not good, because different sections of the State preferred to select their own text books, and he was decidedly against the State publishing text books. The text book was a growth and the result of the best thought of those engaged in compiling them. For the last 15 years there has been a constant improvement in the literary value and mechanical construction of text books. He did not think it was good to get cheap books. Commissioner of Education of the United States Wm. T. Harris and ex-Superintendent James McAllister, President of the Drexel Institute, expressed similar views.

Then came a lot of savants, who all agreed that free text books must come, and that State uniformity was not advisable. None of them knew of any book trust, but they had all heard of the American Book Company.

CARPENTER has learned of some odd superstitions of statesmen. His charming letter will appear in THE DISPATCH tomorrow.

A WOMAN OF NERVE.

She Saves Her Daughter From a Horrible Death by Fire.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

BALTIMORE, Feb. 27.—Mrs. Louisa Murphy, a middle-aged lady, exhibited a remarkable degree of nerve last night. She was dusting a mantel over the kitchen stove, when suddenly a section of the hearth gave away. She escaped by jumping to one side. Just then she heard screams from the cellar and recognized the voice of her daughter, Mrs. Mary Scrambach, who was getting coal. The brick work had pinned her to the floor, and the hot grease from vessels on the stove which had upset were streaming on her neck and arms. At about the same time more brick gave way, and Mrs. Murphy saw that in a few moments the stove must fall.

Screaming at the top of her voice for help, she gripped the red hot stove at the base and tipped it back until another lady in the house had so propped it that all danger of falling was avoided. But for her presence of mind the stove would have fallen on her daughter below. Mrs. Murphy's wrists and hands are horribly burned, while her daughter, who was afterward released, was scalded and severely bruised.

AN ACTRESS' DIVORCE SUIT RECALLED.

Mrs. Leslie Carter Sued by a Physician for Medico-Legal Services.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

OMAHA, Feb. 27.—Mrs. Leslie Carter, who is now filling an engagement at the Boyd, to-day had a forcible reminder of her famous divorce case by the beginning of a suit against her in the County Court for $1,000 for medico-legal services. The plaintiff is Dr. Clark Gapen, the city physician, and in addition to the suit he secured an attachment against Mrs. Carter's wardrobe and the receipts of last night's performance.

At the time of the divorce case Dr. Gapen was called to Chicago by Mrs. Carter's attorneys to assist them as medico-legal counsel and expert in insanity in the preparation of the case. He was engaged in that capacity for more than a month, and the suit commenced to-day is for the purpose of recovering a balance due for services in that case.

SHOWING ITS HAND.

Allegheny's Committee of Fifty Declares Its Wishes at a Council Meeting.

A COUPLE OF ITS DESIRES

Presented and Adopted Without Very Much of a Discussion.

BINDING THE BOARD OF AWARDS.

Salaries and Positions Maimed Beyond Recognition.

THE CHARTER ORDINANCES SLASHED

The Select branch of Allegheny Councils was filled with reformers last night and this morning, considering the charter and appropriation ordinances.

The mysterious committee of fifty was present and showed its hand. Salaries and positions were knocked in many instances clear out of sight—so much so that the charter ordinances are hardly recognizable as the ones submitted by the Finance Committee. The appropriation ordinance came up and was knocked aside until the positions within the gift of the city were decided. As a result that ordinance will have to be reconstructed, and the millage will be reduced below the 13 mills now estimated as being necessary.

In addition to this the whole work of last night may be thrown out as illegal on a point of order raised by Dr. Gilliford, of the Sixth ward, which charged that the charter ordinances were created by the Finance Committee and could not be acted upon by Councils until they had been presented to that body, referred back to the committee and then presented again to Councils.

A Court Test Is Threatened.

The Chairman ruled against this point of order, which is one of the pet measures of the committee of fifty, and several members of that body stated the decision would be tested in the courts.

A glimpse of the crowd before the fight showed that while almost every member of this branch was in his seat, the seats and aisle in the rear were filled with Common Councilmen and a number of the solid citizens of Allegheny, a few of whom confessed to be living under the colors of the committee of fifty. The greatest stroke intended to be made by this mysterious political body last night was to place two additional sections in the charter ordinance regulating the departments, etc., and they succeeded without much difficulty. These sections read as follows:

Hereafter no head of any department, chief of bureau, superintendent, clerk, fireman or policeman, or any other employe of the city or any department thereof, shall be a candidate for delegate to any primary or nominating convention, and a violation of this provision by any such person shall subject him to immediate removal from said office.

No Police Work at the Polls.

Hereafter no member of the police force shall be present at any polling place except the polling place of his own district, unless directed by the head of the Department of Public Safety, and the said head of said department shall not direct or permit more than one member of the police force to be present at any polling place in said city, except upon the petition of 25 voters of such election precinct, presented to said head of said department at least 24 hours before such election; but on the day of said election, in case of any riot, breach of the peace, or threatened riot or breach of the peace, said head of said department shall send a sufficient number of officers to said polling place to preserve the peace, when so requested by a majority of the Election Board of said election precinct.

The only oath spoken aloud was that administered to Peter Born, who fills the unexpired term of Charles Muehlbronner, and the others that were muttered are known only to the individual members. The Council chamber was a scene of uproar from that time on. President Lindsay gave up the chair to Mr. Cochrane. Mr. Wertheimer presented the report of the Finance Committee. In rapid succession the following ordinances were passed finally: Authorizing the payment of $8,000 for the retaining wall on Howard street, and $4,977 93 for paving on East Ohio street; also authorizing the issue of $160,000 worth of electric light bonds, and $75,000 worth of street bonds.

The Appropriation Ordinance Called Up.

The appropriation ordinance was called up. It fixed the city tax at 13 mills, with a total of 14¾.

The business tax was placed at 1 mill, while vehicle licenses and water rents remain the same as last year. The total amount to be raised was put at $1,036,467 50.

Mr. Lare wanted the appropriation ordinance laid over until the charter ordinances had been fixed, for he prophesied that after the changes were made in these pieces of legislation so much money would not be needed. He believed a number of offices would be abolished and salaries cut down and it would not be well to establish a high tax levy when so much money would not be needed. Arthur Kennedy, William Kennedy, Dr. Gilliford and Mr. Wertheimer became involved in a hot discussion in which Mr. Wertheimer contended that if the ordinance was passed now the city would borrow money and pay off the salaries that are due.

William Kennedy made a motion that the appropriation ordinance be laid over, and it was carried.

Mr. Henricks moved that the house go into a committee of the whole to consider the charter ordinance. The idea was to save the necessity of sending the ordinance back to the committee as would have to be done if Councils made any amendments.

An Important Point of Order Raised.

Dr. Gilliford raised a point of order. He said that the ordinance was out of order because it had never been before Councils until that night. Under the rules an ordinance must be referred by Councils to the committee and referred back by the committee and printed for use of Councils. It also contained more than one subject matter. He asked the Chair to rule the ordinance out of order.

In support of his position he quoted from the rules as follows: "Every ordinance presented, before it can be considered, must be referred to a committee, returned therefrom and printed for the use of Councils. The same course must be pursued with ordinances originated by a committee."

It was claimed that as Councils had authorized the Finance Committee by joint resolution to draft the charter ordinances, all the point of the rules could be considered carried out.

Chairman Cochrane ruled the point not well taken, and at the request of Mr. Gilliford both the point and the decision were spread on the minutes.

Mr. Henricks' resolution was called up and passed easily. Then the first of the charter ordinances was taken up. The first section passed the fire bravely, and the Chief of the Department of Public Safety slipped through with a salary of $3,000 a year. Mr. Lare wanted the two inspectors stricken out because he deemed them useless appendages save to draw salaries. Dr. Gilliford and William Kennedy joined in this. Arthur Kennedy, however, said that he would rather have an Inspector McAleese than the whole department. Mr. Lare's objection carried and the two inspectors were stricken from the list together with $2,400 a year in salaries. Mr. Lare offered a motion to cut down two police captains. There was a fight, but the number was reduced from four to two, and $2,000 more stricken from the list.

Mr. Gilliford tried to cut down the lieutenants from eight to four, but when it was learned that there were already seven lieutenants they were left alone.

The Fire Bureau came next and the Superintendent, who had already been cut $500, was allowed to pass with $2,000 a year, but one Assistant Superintendent was cut from the list. Mr. Lare declared that ten more firemen were employed than were needed, but his motion was lost.

A Couple of Departments Escape.

The bureaus of electricity and health slipped through unscathed. The next fire was caught by the Superintendent of the Bureau of Lighting, who suffered the loss of $200 in his salary.

Mr. Gilliford claimed that big salaries did not improve the quality of Allegheny officials, but only increased the size of the political pull. Both he and William Kennedy attacked the lights and the management of the plant. According to the estimate furnished when the plant was bought light was to be furnished for $21,000 a year, and now the light department demanded $60,000 for the present year. As a result the salary of the chief engineer was cut from $1,500 to $1,200, one assistant at $1,200 was knocked out, and two remaining ones were reduced to $80 a month. As a number of members could not understand the necessity of a large number of the other employes, the entire remainder of the list was sent back to be clipped.

Just after this Arthur Kennedy called Mr. Lare down for obstructing the work by continual interruptions and a scene followed.

In the Water Bureau the salary of the Superintendent was cut to $1,800 from $2,000. Mr. Gilliford wanted the salary of the Superintendent of Parks cut to $1,500. Arthur Kennedy declared this was asked for personal reasons and Mr. Gilliford declared the statement was false. Mr. Kennedy replied by stating that Mr. Gilliford's statements were childish. The salary was fixed at $1,800.

Dr. Einstein tried to raise the salaries of the Poor Board physicians from $400 to $600, but it was lost.

Merely a Question of Veracity.

Mr. McAfee remarked that many people were talking on subjects they did not know anything about. Mr. Gilliford took this up and said the gentleman from the Eleventh ward was not telling the truth.

When the ordinance governing the Board of Awards came up Mr. Lare amended it so that bids should be presented by the bidders in person, and not through the Controller, which would remove all suspicion of unfairness. The amendment was accepted. Mr. Lare further stated that it was not meant to reflect on the present Controller.

In the Department of Law an attempt was made to knock out the Assistant City Attorney. More duties were placed on him and he passed, but this department will not have an office in City Hall.

The librarian's salary suffered in the excitement, and fell from $2,500 to $1,800.

The terms of the heads of departments were fixed at two years instead of four, and the salaries of all clerks were cut to $75 per month. The sections prepared by the Committee of Fifty were then presented by Dr. Gilliford and adopted after a mild fight, but the wording was not changed. The ordinance as a whole was adopted, and the meeting was adjourned.

THE RIVAL CONFERENCES.

EACH WILL APPOINT MINISTERS TO ALL THE CHURCHES.

Contests for Possessions of Church Property and Funds Must, Therefore, Ensue, Which Secular Courts Must Decide—The Excitement Subsides in a Measure.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

ALLENTOWN, Feb. 27.—There was a marked subsidence of the excitement which was a feature of the opening yesterday of the Evangelical Conference, though there still is considerable feeling between the parties, which crops out every now and then in the proceedings of the two bodies. At the regular Conference to-day Rev. A. M. Sampsel objected to the name of Thomas Bowman being called on the roll. He based his objection on the action of the General Conference of 1863, which declared Bishops to have no memberships in Conferences.

The newly elected officers of the Church Building Society were instructed to demand the Cooke funds and papers from the former officers of the society. This will likely not be acceded to by the old officers, and a breezy time is expected.

An address to the seceding Conference was adopted to-day, in which the members were requested to make known what circuits preachers are willing to travel in, in order that their fields of labor be assigned them. This was presented to the Bowman Conference too late for it to act upon to-day. The laymen of the anti-Bowman Conference organized a "defense bureau," to pay lawyers and court expenses in lawsuits that may grow out of their ministers' efforts to secure possession of the churches to which they are appointed.

Two sets of ministers will be named—one from each Conference. Both will try to get possession of the churches, and the courts will consequently be appealed to.

The meeting was enthusiastic, and while most of the laymen present are not rich, they signify their willingness to make sacrifices for the purpose of protecting themselves "in the possession of the right which the law of the church and the law of the land grants them." In the Bowman Conference most of the business was of a purely routine character. Rules of government were adopted, committees appointed and advisory members received. All the 31 clergymen who seceded with Bishop Bowman joined in a paper expressing their willingness to serve unconditionally wherever they may be assigned.

ENGLISH Potteries is the subject of Edgar L. Wakeman's letter to THE DISPATCH tomorrow. He describes the ceramic art at its best.

BACK FROM EUROPE.

Miss Smith and Mr. Merrill After Lecturer French's Scalp.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

NEW YORK, Feb. 27.—John N. Merrill and Miss Helen Frances Smith were among the passengers on the steamer Spree, which arrived from Southampton to-day. They left the city as soon as possible thereafter, en route for Boston, where, according to a cable dispatch, Mr. Merrill will seek a personal combat with Lecturer Harry W. French, and afterward will marry Miss Smith.

Miss Smith is the daughter of Deacon Smith, of Roxbury, Mass., and is the young lady who has caused the church deacons there, her family and Lecturer French so much trouble of late. Mr. Merrill is her fiancee, and when it was announced that he was to accompany Miss Smith to this country it was said that he left his business in London to thrash his lady-love's traducer. When Merrill was seen by a reporter on the dock to-day about the trouble, he said: "I have no intention of seeking a hostile meeting with the former suitor of my fiancee's hand. I am going to Boston on business, and not to seek any one's blood."

DROP IN THE BUCKET

After a Hard Fight the Shipping Bill is Abandoned in the House for a

POSTAL SUBSIDY MEASURE,

Which Only Appropriates $1,200,000 a Year to Revive Commerce.

EVEN THIS TINY SLICE IN DOUBT.

Prince Russell Harrison Refused Admission to the Floor.

A PLACE FOUND FOR SENATOR BLAIR

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27.—After an all-day heated discussion, no end of proposed amendments, the employment of all the tactics for delay and defeat that could be invented by the opposition and the final "knocking out" of the shipping subsidy bill at a late hour this evening, the House passed what is known as the Frye postal subsidy bill by a small majority.

It was nearly 10 o'clock when the managers of the shipping tonnage bonus bill realized at last that their pet measure had no chance for passage and reluctantly consented to the substitute, which merely gives a subsidy for carrying mails, but no bonus on freight. The back-down of the champions of subsidy by wholesale was received with cheers by the opponents of the bill, and the other side in a disheartened way set about to save all they could from the wreck.

Points of the Measure Passed.

As the only feasible thing they took up the Frye postal subsidy scheme, and after a fight of two hours got it through at nearly midnight. The bill provides an appropriation of $1,200,000 a year for carrying the foreign mails, the contracts to run not less than five nor more than ten years, the service to be equitably distributed among the Atlantic, Gulf and Pacific ports. The mail must be carried in American-built vassels, owned and officered by American citizens, and a constant increase of American citizens in the crew from one-fourth the first year until the crews are all American.

The rate for first-class ships is not to exceed $4 a mile, for the second class $2, for the third class $1 and fourth class 66⅔ cents a mile. This is a reduction from the Frye bill from $5, $3, $1 50 and $1 a mile. It is expected that the Senate will accept the bill as it passed the House, and that a general mail subsidy will at last be made an experiment.

Must Go to the Senate Again.

As this bill is radically different from the measure passed by the Senate it must go through that body, and at this hour of the session its fate is very uncertain. The following is the vote by which the shipping bill was refused a third reading and practically killed:

Yeas—Adams, Anderson (Kan.), Arnold, Atkinson (Pa.), Atkinson (W. Va.), Baker, Banks, Beckwith, Belden, Belknap, Bergen, Biggs, Bingham, Bliss, Boothman, Boutelle, Bowden, Brosius, Brower, Browne (Va.), Buchanan (N. J.), Burrows, Burton, Caldwell, Cannon, Carter, Caswell, Cheadle, Cheatham, Clark (Wyo.), Cogswell, Comstock, Culbertson (Pa.), Cummings, Cutcheon, Dalzell, Darlington, Delano, Dollivar, Dorsey, Dunnell, Evans, Evarts, Farquhar, Findley, Flick, Flood, Funston, Gear, Gifford, Grosvenor, Grout, Harmer, Haugen, Edward B. Hays, Hermann, Hitt, Houk, Kennedy, Kerr (Ia.), Ketcham, Kinsey, Knapp, Laidlaw, Langston, Lansing, Lodge, Mason, McCormick, McDuffie, McKenna, McKinley, Miles, Miller, Millikin, Moffatt, Moore (N. H.), Morey, Morrill, Morrow, Morse, Mudd, Niedringhaus Nute, O'Donnell, O'Neill, of Pennsylvania; Osborne, Owen, of Indiana; Payne, Payson, Perkins, Pursley, Quackenbush, Raines, Randall, Ray, Reyburn, Rife, Rockwell, Rowell, Russell, Safford, Sawyer, Scranton, Scull, Sherman, Simonds, Smith, of Illinois; Smith, of West Virginia; Smyser, Snyder, Spinola, Spooner, Stephenson, Stewart, of Vermont; Stivers, Stone, of Pennsylvania; Struble, Street, Sweney, Taylor, of Illinois; Taylor, of Tennessee; F. B. Taylor, J. D. Taylor, Thomas, Thompson, Townsend, of Colorado; Townsend, of Pennsylvania; Vandeever, Vanschaik, Waddill, Wade, Walker, Wallace, of Massachusetts; Wallace, of New York; Wheeler, of Michigan; Wickham, Williams, of Ohio; Wilson, of Kentucky; Wilson, of Washington; Wright and Yardley—142.

Bayne Helped Defeat the Bill.

Nays—Alderson, Andrews, of Mississippi; Andrew, Bankhead, Barnes, Bayne, Barwig, Blanchard, Bland, Blount, Boatner, Breckinridge, of Arkansas; Breckinridge, of Kentucky; Brackner, Brookshire, J. B. Brown, Brunner, Buchanan, Buckalew, Bunn, Butterworth, Bynum, Carlton, Campbell, Candler, of Georgia; Candler, of Massachusetts; Caruth, Catchings, Chipman, Clancy, Clements, Clunie, Cobb, Connell, Cooper, of Indiana; Cothran, Covert, Cowles, Crain, Crisp, Culber, son, of Texas; Dargan, Davidson, Dibble-Dickerson, Dingley, Dockery, Dumphy, Edmunds, Ellis, Fitch, Fithian, Flower, Foreman, Forney, Fowler, Geary, Geisenhaner, Gest, Goodnight, Grimes, Hatch, Haines, Heard, Hemphill, Henderson, of N. C.; Herbert, Holman, Hookar, Hookins, Kelley, Kerr, of Pa.; Lacey, Lafollatte, Lane, Lanham, Laws, Lawler, Lee, Lehlbach, Lester, of Ga.; Lester, of Va.; Lewis, Magner, Maish, Mansur, Martin, Ind.; Martin, Tex.; McAdoo, McClellan, McComas, McCord, McCreary, McMillin, McRae, Miller, Montgomery, Moore Tex.; Morgan, Mutchler, Norton, Oates, O'Ferrall, O'Neal, Ind.; O'Neil, Mass.; Outhwaite, Owens, Parrett, Paynter, Peal, Pennington, Perry, Peters, Pickler, Pierce, Pindar, Post, Price, Quinn, Reilly, Richardson, Roberson, Rogers, Rowland, Sayers, Seney, Shively, Skinner, Springer, Stewart, of Texas; Stockdale, Stone, of Missouri; Tarsney, Tillman, Tucker, Turner, of Georgia; Turner, of New York; Washington, Whitelaw, Whiting, Whitthorne, Wike, Wiley, Willcox, Williams, Wilson, of Missouri; Wilson, of West Virginia; and Yoder—138.

After this repulse the friends of the measure fell back upon the postal subsidy bill, with the result above announced. A most interesting incident of the stormy day, however, occurred while the debate was raging most fiercely, and was known only to a select few.

A Rebuff for Russell Harrison.

Access to the floor of the House is something highly prized in the last days and hours of a session. The congested condition of legislation and the wild hope of everyone interested in any particular bill that they can, by hook or crook, get their scheme through, no matter what becomes of other folk's bills, lends a special value to a place where the members can be collared and buttonholed with promptness and dispatch. Ex-members who "practice the committees" reap a little harvest during the last week of the session, while this state of things continues.

For some reason Prince Russell Harrison to-day wanted to get within the highly prized precincts, and his failure was amusing. Of course no doorkeeper could be found who was willing to risk his head by letting the President's son in, and Russell finally called out Congressman Tom Carter.

"Carter," he said, "I don't want much this time. Simply get me in on the floor some way."

"I can't do it," said Tom, "unless you get in my pocket, or crawl in under my coat tails."

"Can't you shove me through one of these glass doors on the corridor?"

There are a number of ground glass doors opening from cloak rooms and barber shops into the corridor, running around the House. Members often make their exit through them and sometimes, by tapping on them, get the colored messengers within to let them smuggle friends in.

It Looks Very Much as Though March Would Come In Like a Lion.

The Failure of the Plan.

Carter said he guessed he could make that scheme work. He and Russell hurried up to a glass door and the Congressman tapped on the pane. A mulatto opened to him and the two started in.

"Hold on there, boss," exclaimed the colored fellow, "who's this gentleman? He's no member."

Carter had got in all right, but Russell, in his best clothes, silk hat and clean shaven cheeks, was stopped.

"That's Mr. Harrison, the President's son. He's all right," said Carter.

"No, you don't," insisted the mulatto. "You can come in, Mr. Carter, but this gentleman can't."

Carter whispered to the door, but to no purpose. The average man at the door here in Washington is better than to magnify his duty and importance when he sees a good chance. It is not every day that he gets an opportunity to snub a President's son. You could not bribe him on such an occasion with a yoke of cattle. Russell had to step down and out with a look of supreme disgust on his face and Carter came following after, looking a good deal tickled. Russell contented himself a little later with a front seat in the ladies' gallery, from whence he watched the shipping bill drift to its doom.

NEW MINISTER TO CHINA.

EDUCATIONAL BILL BLAIR NAMED BY THE PRESIDENT.

The Nomination Was a Great Surprise to Most of His Senatorial Colleagues—At Least One of the Defeated Statesmen Cared for.

[FROM A STAFF CORRESPONDENT.]

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27.—President Harrison furnished the Senate with a surprise to-day in the nomination of Senator Blair, whose term expires on the 3d of March, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the court of His Imperial Majesty, the Emperor of China. Only two or three of Mr. Blair's most intimate friends knew of their colleague's ambition and of the President's intention, but after the shock of the first surprise was past they paid him the compliment of going into executive session and confirming without discussion or reference.

Senator Blair.

It is admitted that the appointment is a recognition of one of the ablest men who have ever sat in the United States Senate. Never was there an abler or readier debater, and in a war of words not even Ingalls dare attack Blair with immunity. What was merely dry humor or attenuated irony on his part, was often even by his astute associates taken for crankiness.

Mr. Blair was the firm, sincere and brilliant advocate of all that was just and sensible of the claims of the classes who practically are without sincere representation in Congress, and while his retirement is regretted by those classes throughout the length and breadth of the land, they will rejoice that Mr. Blair's great worth is recognized by the President, and the latter will have a warmer feeling from those classes than he has hitherto been blessed with.

A SENATE SUBSCRIPTION

Is Being Arranged for the Benefit of Secretary Windom's Widow.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

WASHINGTON, Feb. 27.—Senator Washburne, of Minnesota, is circulating in the Senate a subscription paper for the benefit of the widow of Secretary Windom. The paper was started in New York, where it is understood something like $15,000 or $20,000 was subscribed. Senator Stanford was the first of the Senators to put his name down, and his signature was accompanied by a check for $1,000. Senator Sawyer followed with $500 and other Senators with similar or smaller sums. Notwithstanding the statements made here a few days ago by friends of the Windom family, to the effect that Mrs. Windom has been left in good financial circumstances, and in spite of the statement telegraphed from Minnesota that the late Secretary's will, bequeathing from $100,000 to $200,000 has been probated, Senator Washburne knows that