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The Dispatch.

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PITTSBURG, SATURDAY, APR. 25, 1891.

## AN IGNORED PLEDGE.

After several days of attempts to prevent it by filibustering speeches, Mr. Seanor's anti-discrimination bill was placed on the House calendar yesterday. There is therefore a chance of its coming to a vote in that branch of the Legislature; but there is not much likelihood of its getting past the Senate.

The House has shown rather more disposition than usual to be governed by a decent respect for the public rights and interest. It has passed the ballot reform bill, and, notwithstanding the maneuvers of the corporate leaders, has placed the anti-discrimination bill on the calendar by a very strong vote. The pledge of the Republican party to pass such a measure has been neglected so long that it may be regarded as practically outlawed. The bill itself only gives effective force to the provisions of the Constitution, and does no more than bring the statutes up to the Constitutional standard. But that presents no obstacle to the quiet suppression of the measure; and if it comes to a vote in the House there is little reason to expect that it will get any better treatment than a quiet but effective strangling in the Senate.

This is one of the blots upon Republican legislation in this State. With the Constitution plainly stating the requirements, and with party platforms pledging both sides to legislation against discriminations, the subservience of the Legislature to the corporations has reduced both the Constitutional provisions and the party pledges to a nullity.

## A CHANGE IN BASEBALL.

The opening of the baseball season may not appear to the superficial observer to be full of encouragement to Pittsburg's enthusiasts. But, to those who look beneath the surface and are able to draw encouragement from variations or the precedents of a disastrous past, the recently unsatisfactory record holds out a disguised promise of future glories.

Heretofore, it has been the custom of Pittsburg representatives on the field to start out by winning a few games. After they had raised the hopes of the contingent irreverently styled baseball cranks to the wildest pitch, and possibly contracted the disease known as enlargement of the cranium on their own account, the other teams would step in and proceed to wipe up the diamond with them both at home and abroad. This year a more subtle policy governs their action. They are content to let their rivals have fun with them at first, but after sufficient experience of this sort, when they have mastered the antagonistic curves, they will proceed to assert themselves in a superlative degree. This is at least the optimistic view to take of the present baseball situation. Through trial to triumph is the motto of success in baseball as well as in more obscure fields of effort.

All Pittsburg will join in the hope that, after its representatives have sufficiently explored the depths of defeat, they will profit by experience and proceed to play ball with the result of a complete reversal of the record of former years.

## CAUSES OF BANK FAILURE.

The failure of the Keystone Bank in Philadelphia was for a long time regarded as the exceptional case in which a solvent bank, conducted according to conservative and legitimate methods, was weakened by an unreasonable lack of public confidence. The run upon it was represented as without reason, and the reduction of its cash assets was stated to be so heavy as to force it into liquidation. This looked like an exception to the rule that no bank disasters were occurring except where there had been a clear departure from conservative and sound methods; and in that light its failure assumed a serious significance.

It now comes out as part of the gossip of banking circles in Philadelphia that the failure was caused by large loans to be used by the President of the bank in personal speculations. The story, as published by the *Record*, is that his operations with the bank's funds amounted to nearly $1,000,000, which was in direct violation of the national banking law. Half this sum is said to be tied up in real estate ventures in the line of building up the watering places of Spring Lake and Sea Girt, which is as obvious a case of speculative ballooning as any stock speculation. If these assertions are corroborated—and one of the directors of the bank is quoted as drawing the fine distinction that these sums were not "loaned by the bank," but were "borrowed from the bank"—there will be no wonder that the subsequent disaster followed.

It is evident that such use of banking funds has no relationship to the banking business conducted on the sound principles outlined in the national banking act. In the first place it is worth while to remember that every bank failure recently shows a wholesale transgression of the provision of the law that no bank shall loan to any one borrower an amount in excess of one-tenth its capital stock. This is a very rigid rule, and one that is often transgressed. Its transgression does not always mean insolvency, but experience warrants the conclusion that its observance means solvency. Next, the rule requiring loans to be made on legitimate commercial paper is a sound one. Of course, loans to be spent in building up watering place speculation cannot be so classed. When these provisions are violated the wonder is not that they should send the bank into liquidation, but that they should have been permitted at all.

It is still an uncontroverted assertion, with regard to the recent bank failures, that no bank which has kept within the limits of conservative and legitimate banking has been at all weakened in its stability by commercial events the past year.

## WORK FOR NEW YORK POLICE.

The signs that the mysterious assassin, whose crimes produced such a sensation in London last year, has turned up in New York, as presented by the murder discovered there yesterday morning, are very positive. It is possible to hold the theory that some criminal has been inspired by a craze to commit a similar crime. But the interval that has elapsed between the last of the London butcheries and that in New York is strongly in favor of the theory that they were perpetrated by some sailor who, after his successful career of slaughter in London, has gone on a voyage and reached New York, where he has resumed the satisfaction of his murderous mania.

It now remains to be seen whether the New York police will be more successful in unearthing this murderous monomaniac than their London brethren. The failure of the London officers to discover the criminal, who pursued his butcheries almost under their surveillance for months, has been the subject of many sarcasms; but the most effective sarcasm will be the arrest and conviction of the murderer, or his imitator in this country, by the New York detectives. It is not creditable to civilization in either country that women, even of the most degraded class, can be slaughtered like wild beasts in the metropolitan slums without any punishment of the assassin. It will be gratifying to the national pride if the New York police succeed in laying hold of Jack the Ripper, and it will be humiliating if they succeed no better than their English rivals.

## THE VALUE OF PLATFORMS.

Indications continue to be in the direction that the Senate will refuse to pass the ballot reform bill, and will in its place send back to the House Senator Robinson's remarkable provision for a Constitutional convention.

The Republican platform in the last State campaign promised a prompt and effective measure of ballot reform. It did not say anything about a Constitutional convention. If it had it is an open question whether the reverse the party sustained in the election for Governor might not have extended to the Legislature. But it is not open to dispute that to fail to give what was pledged, and to present in its place what was not, will be a new demonstration of the political idea that platform pledges are only to be regarded as a means of hoodwinking the public.

It is to be hoped, if this course is taken by the Senate, that the House will reject the bill for a Constitutional convention. The people don't wish any expensive tinkering with the Constitution; but they have the right to expect the plain and effective measure of ballot reform that is practicable under it.

## THE CHARITIES APPROPRIATIONS.

The complaints from the managers of the various charitable institutions of this city that the amounts appropriated for them by the Legislature are insufficient, are sustained by facts. The several institutions could use more money than has been appropriated, and yet keep within the bounds of the strictest economy in their expenditure. Particularly is this true of the hospitals. So many indigent invalids and injured persons apply daily for admission that the wards are always full; and as the care of the sick or maimed is not a matter that can be slighted with justice to the principles of humanity, a parsimonious policy on the part of the State would not be proper. The other institutions also require money to keep them in good working order.

The only question about the matter is, can the State afford to come to the views of the managers in making the appropriations this year. It was known that there would be difficulty in meeting the various demands for money, but it was hoped that the Pittsburg institutions would not be slighted in making the distribution. The amounts set aside by the Legislature may be increased by the Senate, and it is hoped that that body will, if possible, prove more liberal than the House has been.

## A GREAT GENERAL GONE.

Count Von Moltke, who died yesterday, was Germany's greatest military strategist. No European General of his time equaled him in ability to plan a campaign. His system, which consisted mainly in making different army corps advance separately and operate simultaneously in grappling with the enemy, was the evolution of a mind of singular clearness, wonderful logical powers and unequaled capacity of patient research. He, of course, believed in war, but always held that prolonged struggles were unnecessary, and, as a General, bent his energies to achieving the greatest results in the shortest possible space of time. The Franco-Prussian war was a striking illustration of his abilities to put his beliefs into practice. Having long foreseen the contingency of the conflict, he was ready with his plans when it suddenly broke out in 1870, and their execution resulted in the most rapid and uninterrupted series of stupendous victories ever achieved by one great nation over another. This war is without parallel for magnitude of results in proportion to duration of hostilities, and to Von Moltke more than to any other man is due the Prussian victory. Though he was 70 years of age when it broke out, he personally directed the campaign, and the other German generals were but subalterns.

It has been said that to Von Moltke and Bismarck the German Empire owes its existence and this is true. Without the latter to plot in the council chamber and the former to fight on the battlefield, United Germany would be as yet nothing but a hope. These two men did more for their country than can ever be repaid, but Von Moltke alone remained in favor with the successive monarchs. He died in the knowledge that his country appreciated his services, and that his name was honored all over the world. History will speak of him as one of the greatest generals that ever lived.

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THE Brooklyn *Standard Union* turns out an editorial of a column and a half, bearing the earmarks of the fiery Murat, on the expressions approximating a backdown in Cleveland's alleged silver interview. The fact that it got out this smashing criticism just in time to run up against the denial both of Mr. Cleveland and the man to whom the remarks are reported to have been made illustrates the rough parts that make the way of the organic editor a tough one.

SOME of the expressions reported from the coke regions indicate an idea that the purpose in life of sheriffs is to be shot at, but without the privilege of doing any shooting themselves.

ITALY has undergone a decided streak of bad luck since she undertook to quarrel with the United States. First, a financial crisis attacked her monetary system, and then an explosion of her own munitions of war shook her capital instead of being reserved to terrorize our seaports. That Government had better hasten to make peace with the United States before Vesuvius breaks out into a universal eruption.

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"THE plan of campaign" which has been on trial in Ireland for years is now reported to be finally abandoned. The new plan of campaign is for the Irish leaders to fight each other as hard as they can.

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AN intimation comes from Washington that the managers of the Republican League Club pyrotechnics may find out that there is such a thing as a fellow being hit on his head by the stick of his own sky-rocket. Does that mean that the head hit by the boomerang sky-rocket will be decapitated by executive order?

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THERE is this consolation for progressive American newspapers in the shifting of Jack the Ripper's quarters from London to New York. They will save cable tolls.

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THERE is an evidently false story abroad that Postmaster General Wanamaker keeps a file of all the lies printed about him. This is probably untrue, for if the Postmaster General did that he would have time to do nothing else. And Mr. Wanamaker has made out to do several other things.

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HAJJI HASSEIN GHOOLY KHAN will hasten to join a defensive alliance with Rudini against the excessiveness of the unlicensed and ribald American press.

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IT is worthy of notice that the division of honors at the Cincinnati gathering was what THE DISPATCH suggested in advance. Harrison got the resolutions, Blaine got the shouting, Alger, in Clarkson's person, got the Presidency of the League, and McKinley seems to have got left.

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THAT was a shocking affair at Rome the other day. Between Yankee diplomacy and Yankee gunpowder the Romans are trembling on the ragged edge.

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THERE are about 50,000 Americans in Italy and 500,000 Italians in the United States. But the Americans spend more money in Italy than the Italians do in the United States, and the thrifty Italians will not thank their Government to deprive them of that source of revenue.

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THERMOMETRICAL permanency would be appreciated by the public, especially that portion which has been gripped.

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THE judicial antagonist of Ben Butler was much put out by the latter's description of him as "an inferior judge of an inferior court in the inferior State of Rhode Island." To make things even worse, he had Ben Butler put out—out of court.

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THE delusion is abroad to a limited extent that the Pullman car may prove mightier than the log cabin.

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A COLLISION on the Pittsburg and Lake Erie road yesterday, which destroyed two lives, seems to furnish a new demonstration of the dangers of insufficient precautions. Eternal vigilance is the price of safety in railroading.

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THE building strike continues to hold out very promising prospects for a summer vacation.

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ONE hundred thousand dollars, collected for General Sherman's daughters in New York, makes a better record for the metropolis than the omission to raise the money for the Grant Monument fund.

## PERSONS PARAGRAPHED.

MADAME JANAUSCHEK says there is no legitimate tragedy on the stage because people would rather laugh than think.

EX-GOVERNOR EVANS, of Colorado, has presented the University of Denver with $100,000 for its further endowment.

D. G. LOVEL, of Tacoma, at the Washington State Encampment of the G. A. R., was elected Department Commander.

MISS GRACE HEBARD, of Cheyenne, and Mrs. A. V. Quinn, of Evanston, are appointed regents of the State University of Wyoming.

HON. JOSEPH G. CANNON who, with his daughter Miss Ellen, is visiting Mexico, is thought by the natives to be a very big gun, judging from the courtesies they lavish on him.

JUDGE GRESHAM not infrequently rides on the front platform of a Chicago street car; and at least one driver has admitted that the Justice knows vastly more about a horse than he does.

EX-CONGRESSMAN LA FOLLETTE, of Wisconsin, has accepted an invitation to speak before the American Protective Tariff League at the annual banquet in New York on the 29th inst.

MR. CAVENDISH-BENTINCK, who died recently, was an authority on art matters and a collector of objects of vertu. He usually spent many weeks of the year in Venice, as being the home of everything artistic.

CLYATT, the veteran reporter of the Central Criminal Court in London, died the other day. In 50 years of service he had heard 90,000 cases tried, had seen 1,000 men sentenced to death and had seen 300 murderers hanged.

PHILLIPS BROOKS regards merely selfish protection a less important reason for restricting immigration than our duty, owed to other nations, to stand guard over our development, and thus insure the performance of our great mission in the world.

GENERAL ALBERT PIKE is said to have had the finest private collection of living birds in that city. He had nearly 150 songsters, which were kept in cages and not in a regular aviary. General Pike, at his death, left all the birds to his colored valet.

MR. JAMES W. QUINTON, the Chief Commissioner of Assam, who is at present a prisoner in the hands of the Manipuris, is an Irishman. He studied in the University of Dublin, was the first Irishman who obtained a writership in the civil service of India after the opening of those appointments to public competition, and has been for nearly 35 years in the service.

### The Revolting Grenadiers.

Boston Journal.]

It is tolerably well understood nowadays that it takes something beside social prestige to enforce obedience, and that it is wholly unnecessary to treat the private soldier as if he were of different clay from that which his officer is made of to secure good military discipline.

### Politics This Spring.

New York Recorder.]

The shrewd politician goes forth to bucolic labor in these blithe spring days, with one eye upon the soil and another upon the Alliance vote. Sherman is building a barn, Ingalls planting potatoes, and Uncle Sawyer, of Oshkosh, has bought an ox-gad and is asking the price of steers.

## MAIL MISCELLANY.

**Short, Smiling, Serious, Snappy and Satirical Selections—Anecdotes and Literary Odds and Ends—Idiosyncracies of the Human and the Brute.**

In traveling by railway it is always interesting to note the greetings and good-bys indulged in by the goers and comers at the stations. They range all the way

From grave to gay
From lively to severe.

Some are pathetic and some are amusing. A commercial traveler told a Chicago *Herald* reporter of one of the latter he witnessed quite recently on a business trip. It happened at a little town in Iowa. A respectable elderly gentleman had accompanied his daughter, who was going away to college, to the train. He secured a seat for her and then, expecting the train to start, he went out and stood on the station platform to wave his daughter a good-by. As the train did not start promptly the daughter raised the car window and chatted with her papa. Presently she saw some one she knew at the other end of the car and hastened to greet her. At that moment a prim old maid came in and took the daughter's place in the unoccupied seat. The conductor shouted "All aboard!" and the father, unaware of the important changes that had taken place inside, hurriedly put his face up to the window and said: "A parting kiss, my pet!" In another instant the point of a cotton umbrella was thrust from the window, followed by the passionate interjection: "Scat, you old gray-headed wretch!" The old gentleman scatted, and as the train pulled out he stood looking wonderingly at it as though at a loss to know whether he had lost his mind or had been kicked by a mule.

### Japanese Matrimonial Ad.

The following advertisement appeared recently in a Japanese newspaper, and suggests that the land of the Mikado may be a good place for a matrimonial agent, also that the ideal she of one man at least has her distinct limitations:

WANTED—A Wife—If she is pretty she need not be clever. If she is rich she need not be pretty. If she is clever she need not be perfect in form (provided always that she be not conceited). Her station in life is no object; neither is the remoteness of her place of abode, whether in country or town. She ought to be in the neighborhood of 20 years of age, more or less. The would-be bridegroom is an artist of Osaka, occupying a medium position in society. Ladies desiring a union are requested to attend at the office of the Osaka Maiichi Shimbun by the 25th inst., where full particulars will be given.

### Swedish Real Estate Methods.

An article on real estate and real estate methods in Stockholm, in the Chicago *Real Estate Bulletin*, says the most valuable land in Stockholm is worth from $10 to $16 per square foot. The value of improved property is based on what it rents for, and it is considered that it ought to yield a yearly gross income of 6 or 7 per cent on its value.

Annual taxes amount to 1 or 1¼ per cent on the value of the property. In selling real estate "a contract of purchase" is generally drawn up, as with us, and a "letter of purchase," so-called, is used instead of a deed.

When a party buys real estate, in order to defend his right against previous owner and all others, he applies for so-called legalization, and a "certificate of legalization" is issued by a court of the city, where the records are written up. Before said court the buyer exhibits the documents by which he claims rights of ownership, and after examination, if found correct, he receives the above-mentioned "certificate of legalization."

A stamp tax is levied, amounting to six-tenths of 1 per cent on the price paid for the property, and for the extract of the minutes a charge is made varying from $5 to $10.

These costs are paid by buyer and seller alike, each paying one-half, unless otherwise provided in the contract of purchase.

The owner of real estate desiring to borrow money on his real estate executes a bond to the lender, which runs something like this—viz.: "Six months after either side giving notice, I agree to pay the bearer so much money, with 6 per cent interest per year, payable semi-yearly from this day until paid, value received, which is certified, and I give consent that to secure this obligation mortgage may without notice be taken out against my property." Said bond is thereafter exhibited before the proper court, where it is entered and certified to be in force after such a mortgage, or whether it is a first lien, etc.

For making said indorsement a stamp tax of ¼ per cent of the amount involved is paid; also a fee of about $1 25 for the minutes.

A mortgage is for the period of ten years, during which time it can be renewed for another ten years from the date of renewal. Mortgages are foreclosed much the same as with us.

In case of death, unless a will has been made, the surviving husband or wife receives one-half of the property, while the other half is divided equally between the children. Husband and wife generally have a half interest in the real estate of their consorts, regardless of whether there are children or not.

### Women in Street Cars.

It was on a Fourth avenue car that it happened, says the Minneapolis *Journal*. The recent snowstorm had made the traffic unusually heavy, and the line was only running single cars. The one on the car had all risen but one, and he sat next the stove unmoved. The other side of the car had been filled by ladies, most of whom had been given seats by the prompt sacrifice of the men who now filled the aisle. The ladies were loosely distributed along the seat; one sat sidewise gazing out of the window; a second allowed her child room enough for a good-sized man by clambering around with his face to the pane; a third, dressed in silk, sat as though afraid of the touch of a woman next to her.

A lady entered and looked around for a seat, and there was none. The men all looked at the man by the stove. He was a stout, hearty fellow, growing just a little old. He sat still, apparently unconscious. All the ladies across the aisle looked at him; the lady in silk glared. He didn't move. The lady moved up opposite him in the car and took hold of a strap, and he sat still.

"Madam," said he at last, courteously enough, but in a voice heard plainly all through the car, "Madam, I do not feel inclined to give you my seat when so many of your own sex on the opposite side of the car make no move to make room for you."

And maybe there wasn't a shuffle on the opposite side of the car. The lady in silk jammed up against the plainly-dressed woman, the child was hastily deposited in its mother's lap, and the woman who gazed out of the window saw something to attract her attention straight ahead of her. The lady who was standing and two elderly gentlemen occupied the room made.

### A Horse With a Mustache.

There may be seen at the corner of Montgomery avenue and Kearny street, at San Francisco, at frequent intervals during the day, a horse that would make a comfortable living for its owner if placed on exhibition in a dime museum. Neither horse nor master, however, seems to be imbued with a desire for fame, and the latter is content, apparently, to serve out his days at his allotted task of drawing an express wagon about the city.

He is an ordinary-sized gray horse, with a most amiable cast of countenance and with nothing remarkable about him except the possession of a large and well-shaped mustache. The latter is kept carefully trimmed and brushed by the owner of the horse, but the possessor of this unusual appendage seems to pay but little attention to it. He has never been known, at least, to stroke it as men do, but by watching him closely it may be observed that he eyes it occasionally in a critical sort of way.

He is 6 years old, and was born in Mexico; but, so far as can be learned, he is the only member of his family who has ever been blessed with either mustache or whiskers. On the contrary, his father's lip was without suspicion of a hair, and his mother, of course, was a stranger to such a thing.

### The Turks and Rose.

"It would give a genuine and religious Turk a fit if he saw how little appreciation Americans show for the rose, and what little reverence they have for it," spoke a florist to the St. Louis *Post-Dispatch* man as he wrapped the foil about the stem of a buttonniere.

"The rose is beyond question the prettiest flower that blooms, and it was so considered by the Turks many years before the conquest of Grenada. There is a religious legend generally believed in throughout Turkey that the red rose sprang from a drop of the great prophet's Mohammed's blood. Everything beautiful in nature is ascribed to him. The Turks, therefore, have great reverence for the flower, and allow it to bloom and die untouched, except on state occasions, and for the purpose of making rose water.

"After the conquest by the Turks they would not worship in any church until the walls were cleansed and washed with rose water and thus purified by the blood of the prophet. It is used on the body for the same purpose. A Turk whose conscience is stung by some act or deed he has committed will caress and pay reverence to the rose to appease the wrath of the prophet and Allah.

"With these ideas inculcated in him from youth it would shock him severely to see the pretty flower strewn in the path of a bridal couple, thrown on a public stage or banked up in hundreds at a swell reception or party to be crushed and spoiled in an evening."

### Natural All Around.

A fellow felt partionlarly rich, and he took Katie to dinner at—well, one of the best places, says the Philadelphia *Press*. The dinner came to $8 64; a nice little bill, you see. To pay for it he produced a $50 bill—just the very same bill that had come from his publisher's check, the cashing of which had made him feel rich.

"Dear me," said Katie.

In course of time the waiter brought back the silver heated up with the change in paper and silver, with a gold piece or so.

"Going to count all that?" said Katie.

"Business is business," said he. "It's mere self-protection to count it."

"It's a first-class place, and they don't make mistakes as a rule."

"But they do sometimes. They count for themselves and I count for myself."

Whereat he counted. It transpired, oh wonder! that there was $50 on the plate, $8 besides, and nothing out for the dinner.

"Say," began he, but Katie stopped him.

"It isn't your affair," said she; "they count for themselves and you count for yourself."

"Nonsense!"

"Not a bit of it. They give a cashier a big salary; why should you do his work?"

"But Katie, the poor fellow would have to make it good out of his own pocket."

"That cashier commands a salary and confidence in proportion to the degree of honesty and accuracy he displays. It will be just about worth his place to be exposed in no heavy a mistake. Neither business nor justice demands your pointing out the error he has made and charity forbids it."

He began to get muddled, but he ended by returning the excess of money. And the cashier was discharged.

## THE CHINESE TO MAKE IRON.

**Very Complete Works of a Modern Character Will Be Erected.**

Age of Steel.]

The Chinese wall was prohibitory of imported labor and foreign ideas. It was isolation on an imperial scale, and a big patch of the planetary crust inclosed in a fence and made secure with a padlock. British cannon made a crack in the old barrier, and the arts, sciences and industries of the outside world followed the redcoats into the Mongolian inclosure. The yeast in the dough has been working ever since. Western civilization has inoculated an empire, and the pigtails of Confucius are coming under the headgear of European hatters. China is not now the stagnant pool of the past centuries. It is being permeated with new ideas, and vivifying energies of alien descent are percolating through its institutions and industries. A shrewd, prudent and thrifty race are copying the figures of the Western slate, and in commerce and enterprise are making radical and rapid advances. Iron and steel works on European plans are included in the new departure.

On the slope of the Hamyang hills, opposite the native city of Hankow, a series of works, are in process of erection that promise to be complete and of considerable importance. They will comprise two large blast furnaces of the Cleveland type, with the appurtenances, apparatus and machinery capable of producing about 100 tons of pig iron daily. A complete Bessemer plant will be added, including two five-ton converters, with cupolas, casting cranes, blowing engines, etc. The specifications also include a large rail mill, with necessary machinery and apparatus. A Siemens-Martin plant will complete the steel work. The iron department will include 20 puddling furnaces and a plate and bar mill. These works will cover 20 acres. A foreign technical staff has been secured, and in the course of a few months steel rails for Chinese railways, soft steel for ships' plates and special metals for small arms and a gun factory will be home productions.

These industries are initial but preliminary, and, circumstances favoring the supply of crude material and native aptitude, it is but a question of time when the Mongolian demand for foreign metal will be measured only by the limit of native supply.

### Our Idea, Exactly.

Philadelphia Press.]

What the people of Pennsylvania want is ballot reform this year, not some other year. With only a Constitutional Convention to rely upon, we might get the reform some time in the future, and we might not.

### Ingalls Unforgotten.

New York Press.]

While Mr. Ingalls, late Senator from Kansas, is tilling the soil he might wisely take a rake and part his hair on one side of his head. It was trying to part his political views in the middle like his hair that floored him.

### His One Good Point.

Philadelphia Times.]

No political economist will attempt to justify the principles of the tramp, but, whether to his credit or not, it must be said that his efforts to get work do not necessitate the calling out of the military.

### More's the Pity.

Philadelphia Times.]

The Butler episode in Boston will hardly end with his ejection from the courtroom, for the doughty General will have his say out with the Judge if he has to address him from the dock.

### Good Advice.

Chicago Inter-Ocean.]

Gentlemen, adjust your differences and get down to business on the World's Fair grounds. There is no time for nonsense. Kick the walking delegate into Lake Michigan.

### An American Consul for Parliament.

CARDIFF, April 24.—Evan R. Jones, United States Consul here, will be nominated by the Liberals as their candidate for the vacant seat in Parliament for Carmarthen.

### This Is Awful.

Buffalo Express.]

The reason why a certain people in South Africa fight so hard for their country probably is that they have a mash on a land.

## DEATHS OF A DAY.

### Alfred J. Rankin.

Alfred J. Rankin, the well-known proprietor of the Rankin Pharmacy, at the corner of Penn avenue and Sixth street, died at his Western avenue residence about 6:15 o'clock yesterday morning. Mr. Rankin had an attack of grip some days ago, which rapidly developed into pneumonia, and finally caused his death. He had been in the drug business in Pittsburg for years. He was born in Shippensburg in 1811, and was a younger son of Dr. William Rankin, one of the leading physicians of the Cumberland Valley. His medical education was acquired in the Philadelphia School of Pharmacy, and in 1832 he settled in this city and opened a drugstore at the corner of Market street and Fourth avenue. Subsequently he moved to the site of the Hotel Anderson, and thence across the street to where the Rankin pharmacy now stands. Mr. Rankin leaves many brothers and sisters, among whom are: Rev. W. A. Rankin, of Warren; Dr. D. N. Rankin, of Lincoln avenue, Allegheny; James M. Rankin & Rankin & Holdship, Allegheny; Joseph P. Rankin, the Pittsburg real estate agent; Mrs. Carrie Miller, of Carlisle; Mrs. Judge Moody, of Shippensburg; Mrs. George S. Johnston, of Shippensburg; Mrs. A. C. McCune, of Sharpsburg, and Mrs. Annie Hayes, of Shippensburg.

### John Carlin.

John Carlin, who died Thursday morning at his home in New York City, was an excellent painter of miniatures, as many examples of his work in the possession of old New York families attest, and was a poet of no mean merit. The latter gift is all the more remarkable because Mr. Carlin was born deaf, and never in all his life heard a sound or articulated a syllable. No other person, deaf and dumb from birth, has ever mastered the art of putting words into rhythmical phrases. Mr. Carlin was born in Philadelphia in 1813, and was educated in the Pennsylvania Institute for Deaf Mutes. He began painting at the age of 12. He did not learn articulation, which was not taught then, nor did he learn it in after years. From his boyhood he was a lover of poetry, and was especially fond of Milton and Shakespeare.

### Obituary Notes.

THOMAS N. HELLY, a leading wholesale grocer of Erie, died Thursday afternoon, aged 59 years.

EX-MAYOR B. S. MERRIMAN of Keokuk, one of the most prominent politicians in Iowa, died Thursday, aged 80.

MRS. HANNAH FOSS, the oldest resident of Brewer, Me., died on Wednesday at the age of 93 years and 7 months.

MAJOR PEYTON RANDOLPH, Third Vice President of the Richmond and Danville Railroad, died Thursday night at his residence in Washington.

MRS. ANNIE B. CHANAHAN, a well-known resident of the Fifth ward, died yesterday at her home, 32 Federal street, aged 55 years. The funeral will take place to-morrow afternoon.

H. T. HANFORD, Vice President of the Louisville Board of Trade, died suddenly yesterday of heart disease. He was a member of the firm of Lewis & Hanford, wholesale seeds and implements.

NICHOLAS BOUN, one of the oldest and most respected citizens of Newark, O., died there yesterday morning. He was 82 years of age, came to that city in 1835 and has lived there ever since. From 1852 until 1860 he served as Postmaster.

MAJOR GEO. W. BARTER, a well-known newspaper man of the Northwest, died Thursday at the Steilacoom Insane Asylum, State of Washington. He served in the Civil War, and was afterwards engaged in the newspaper business in Washington, D. C.

AUGUSTUS HATFIELD, a well-known architect, died suddenly Wednesday at his home at Richmond Hill, L. I. The cause of his death was gangrene, following the amputation of both legs and one arm, which the surgeons had performed with the hope of saving him from a wasting disease.

## STRAY CITY LEAVES.

**What Men Will Wear This Season—How Men's Fashions Are Made—The May Festival Hall—A Cheery Outlook—The Point and the Exposition—License Court Disturbs Trade.**

Surely it must be indicative of general prosperity that the tailors are cheerful. When a tailor is cheerful, his customers are plenty, and when men buy new clothes—in spite of the prevailing opinion that man is a desperately selfish animal—they have provided as a rule for their families. Well, the Pittsburg tailors wear spring smiles, and a good many of their customers wear spring suits. Yesterday a fashionable Fifth avenue tailor said to me: "Business is brisk enough to suit me, and March was decidedly a good month. There are no very radical changes in fashion, but the prevailing tone of goods will be quieter than last year. The large blocks which have been so popular for the last two or three years are entirely out of style, and in their place neat broken checks in light blues and grays have come in. The latest imported cloths for the season are mostly brown cheviots and black and white vicunas or gray checks. Trousers are to be cut a medium width—if anything, a little narrower than last year. Gray stripes and checks in quiet colors are in favor for trousers, and an especially fashionable combination for occasional wear is the frock suit of some modest gray goods—a fad of the London clubmen this season, I hear."

### The Setting of Men's Fashions.

Who sets the fashion for men?

I put the question to a leading tailor yesterday, and he said: "Well, at present we get our fashions from a single New York source, to which every tailor in the country has equal opportunity to resort. Merchant tailors, wholesale manufacturers and every one in the trade knows the fashions for the season therefore at the same time. It is proposed by the Merchant Tailors' Exchange, however, to change this and establish an organ of their own, which shall set the fashions for the members alone. The fashion plates will be issued to members only, and the wholesale manufacturers will be prevented from duplicating cheaply clothes of fashionable cut. The scheme will be in operation, I believe and hope, before next year. At present London really sets the fashions in men's attire for the world, although they are more or less altered to suit American ideas before they are adopted here. It is somewhat singular that English fashions should prevail when it is admitted even by English tailors that American tailoring is, as a general thing, superior to the English. The reason for the superiority in the American fine custom-made clothes is that they are cut and made by a more intelligent class of men at higher wages than is the case in England.

### The May Festival Hall.

You would not recognize the interior of Mechanical Hall in the Exposition buildings these days. In place of the maze of machinery there has arisen in the last fortnight an inner shell of white pine boards, the concert hall wherein the May Festival will occur in a very little while. The work has progressed sufficiently for one to form an accurate idea of the hall's lines and accommodations. The parquet extends from the platform a distance of exactly 100 feet, and the gallery rises from this point to the east end of the hall. The boxes are arranged about the parquet in a well designed curve, and a perfect view of the stage will be had from every one of the 4,000 seats in the auditorium. The hall is immeasurably superior to the temporary structure erected in the main Exposition building in 1889. Mr. Carl Retter has tested the acoustics of the hall and he says that they could hardly be improved. To illustrate this satisfactory feature Mr. Retter went on the stage, shouted like an infuriated Apache for my benefit yesterday afternoon, and the sound waves seemed to travel in proper proportion and clearness, without echo, to the extreme limits of the auditorium. At the central entrance and extending the west end of the building there is a vacant space between the walls and the rear of the boxes for a splendid foyer, and it is proposed to make this a really pleasant promenade, with tropical plants and carpeted floor. The prospects seem to be more cheerful on all sides than it was before the last May Festival. The memory of the bleak cavern of the winds, wherein Seidl led his shivering musicians against an audience with chattering teeth and cold feet is still green, and I think it is safe to say that the experience of 1889 will not be repeated in Mechanical Hall this year. When the boards are decked with bunting and the seats are in place the hall will be the handsomest temple of music, temporary though it may be, Pittsburg has had.

### The Point and the Exposition.

Looking up at the hall of glass and iron as I left it, it struck me as somewhat remarkable that in a neighborhood where throwing rocks is a legitimate sport and a favorite exercise so few signs of breakage should be seen. The glass walls are as solid and unbroken as if they were stone. Superintendent Johnston explained this somewhat when I asked him. Said he: "The Exposition and the people of the Point have always been good friends, and I can cheerfully testify to their kindly attitude toward us. Perhaps we should have had less perfect harmony and more broken windows if Father Sheedy had not always assisted us with his persuasive and pacific influence. Father Sheedy has done much for the Exposition in explaining its purpose to the people of the Point, and they have always been friendly to us as a result."

### The License Lull.

Now that the retail liquor licenses have been granted in the two cities, the brewers and dealers in liquors and cigars are able to see daylight ahead. The License Court every year creates a profound disturbance in the whisky and cigar trade. No saloonkeeper in these days can feel certain of his fate in the License Court, and consequently, as the time for the latter's session approaches, he cuts down his orders to the lowest point.

"There is a general revival in trade," said a dealer in wet goods and cigars yesterday, "as soon as the License Court gets through, and it is as marked as usual this year. It is very annoying to us to have the business grow so dull in the early spring and suddenly jump into excessive activity after the License Court has adjourned. If the practice of the Philadelphia courts to allow saloonkeepers to hold their license undisturbed so long as no remonstrance was filed against them, were adopted here, it would be very beneficial to the business generally and to the wholesalers as much as any.

H. J.

## A QUESTION OF HERESY.

**The Case of Prof. Briggs Discussed by Ministers at a Dinner.**

SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

NEW YORK, April 24.—"Is Prof. Briggs a heretic?" was the question discussed at the one hundred and ninety-first dinner of the Twilight Club to-night. The Rev. Madison C. Peters, of the Bloomingdale Reformed Church, said that he believed in the Bible, a whole Bible, from cover to cover. But creeds were only men's interpretations of the Bible, and, as knowledge increases, there must be a change. If all the creeds went with McGinty to the bottom of the sea it would be a good thing for Christianity. Christianity was not Christianity. People must be judged by their act and deeds.

Prof. Grey, of Stevens Institute, an Episcopalian, did not think it was common sense for a man to change his views and remain in the denomination which held these views. The Rev. Mr. Harris, an Episcopalian clergyman, said that from the standpoint of the Westminster Confession the Professor was not a heretic. "Has Prof. Briggs," inquired Mr. Harris, "said anything against the summary of the Ten Commandments, 'Thou shalt love thy Lord with all thy heart, mind and strength, and thy neighbor as thyself?' Just such heresies as Prof. Briggs are the life of the Christian church.

## HORACE TO LYCE.

(*Odes. IV., 13.*)

Lyce, the gods have heard my prayers, as gods
will hear the dutiful,
And brought old age upon you, though you still
affect the beautiful;
You sport among the boys and drink and chatter
on quite aimlessly,
And, in your cups, with quavering voice you torment Cupid shamelessly.

For blooming Chia Cupid has a feeling more than brotherly—
He knows a hornshaw from a hawk whenever winds are southerly!
He pats her pretty cheeks, but looks on you as a monstrosity—
Your wrinkles and your yellow teeth excite his animosity.

For jewels bright and purple Coan robes you are not dressable;
Unhappily for you the public records are accessible;
Where is your charm, and where your bloom and gait so firm and sensible,
That drew my love from Chiara, a lapse most indefensible?

To my poor Chiara in youth Death came with great celerity—
Egad, that never can be said of you with any verity!
The old crow that you are, the teasing boys will jeer, comp