The Dispatch.

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PITTSBURG, MONDAY, SEPT. 21, 1891.

THE CONTROLLING ISSUE.

Puck's cartoon representing Napoleon McKinley as abandoning the tariff horse and mounting the silver horse—on the wrong side—presents a view of the Ohio campaign which has been taken elsewhere. Some Republicans, evidently under a weak impression that a party advantage was to be gained that way, have asserted that the tariff is not the issue in Ohio this year, but that the campaign is to be decided by the silver question. It is excusable for Governor Campbell to think that the Republican weakness is to be developed on the tariff question, and therefore to make his chief points on that issue; but for Republicans to even tacitly ignore the controlling question is an error of judgment as well as of principle.

Such a view is erroneous in a double sense. In the first place, as the DISPATCH has always maintained, the nomination of McKinley made the tariff the controlling issue in the campaign. It is true that the characteristic blunder of the Democratic platform on the silver question, makes that an important secondary issue; but the character and record of McKinley as the leader makes the tariff the main question by which he must stand or fall. We can be certain that there is no disposition on his part to ignore this issue; but those of his supporters who have been misled into alleging that silver coinage is the issue in Ohio, should reflect that Major McKinley cannot be dissevered from the protective policy.

The idea is erroneous in the further fact that the best and most lasting victory can be won for the Republican party by sticking to the tariff fight and making it apparent that the protective cause has triumphed. If the Republican party cannot win in Ohio on the policy represented in its tariff legislation, all its previous work for the past two years has been wasted. The policy of protection for home industries, reduction of excessive revenue by removing the duty on articles which the United States does not produce, and the extension of our commerce to countries with commodities to exchange for ours, should be and will be fully presented to the Ohio voters from this time on. There need be no fear as to the result.

THE CENSUS FAILURE.

The record of the census work begun last year is somewhat abruptly closed with the announcement that the appropriation of $6,400,000 is exhausted. As a result all further operations are suspended, and the agents engaged in making special inquiries are instructed to send in their work whether finished or not, and to close their offices.

The malign fatality which has presided over the taking of the eleventh census, reaches its climax with this step. The appropriation was one of the two largest ever made for a census. A rational apportionment of the money to the various branches of inquiry contemplated in the original plan, and a strict adherence to that apportionment, ought to have ensured a completion of the branches of the work that were really important. But the system of management which produced results on the increase of population that practically disproved themselves, has spent the appropriation on such topics as the prevalence of private diseases and the number of donkeys in the District of Columbia, and the work is now stopped without a single complete report on the manufacturing and industrial interests of the country. It was a fair criticism of the tenth census that it scattered its investigations over a needlessly wide field and did not complete many of its reports until they were long out of date. But it completed the work, after carrying it on for five or six years on an appropriation not much greater than that for the present census. With the scope cut down, the superintendent of the eleventh census has run through his means in fifteen months and leaves the work unfinished.

The lesson is a valuable one. In making plans for the census of 1900 the methods and personal control of the census of 1890 will afford an excellent example to be avoided.

THE OKLAHOMA INDICATION.

The fact that some 5,000 people are ready to make a rush for the Oklahoma district which is to be thrown open for settlement to-morrow evokes a variety of comment. One view that is taken in the East is that of utter reprehension. The Philadelphia *Inquirer*, as a specimen of the class, declares the proceedings to be "idiotic;" asserts that the expense of getting a homestead by joining in this boom would buy a farm equally good in any one of a dozen States, and says that the boomers do not want farms for their own use, but "merely wish to get possession of the land and sell out at a profit, either to actual farmers or, if possible, to people willing to buy lots and build a city."

All of which is condemning the boomers without evidence. The best possible proof that a desire for land for actual cultivation is at the back of the rush for new territory when it is opened is that the other portions of Oklahoma recently opened are now under general cultivation. Some of the boomers may have occupied claims and sold them out; but the vast majority of the settlers are actual cultivators. The demand for new and fertile lands is an exponent of the extent to which the Western territory has fallen into the hands of corporations and are held either out of the market or at prices which place them beyond the reach of the average settler. This phase of the case may explain the animosity of a certain class of Eastern journals for the boomers; but it does not detract from the significance of the indication that the days when the pioneer could go to the frontier and build up a home and farm of his own are rapidly passing away.

Of course, the assertion that it costs more to locate a farm in Oklahoma than to buy one equally good in any of a dozen States is dogmatic nonsense. If it were true, no one would go to Oklahoma. It may be true that a farmer with capital and skill for thorough farming could do better to take land in the older sections and bring it to a state of high cultivation. We believe it to be true in Pennsylvania. But the men who settle new farms and who have built up this country do not as a rule have the capital for that process. For those who have about enough money to take up new land and live till they "make a crop" the supply heretofore almost infinite is now getting scant.

CHILEAN NEWS ROMANCES.

In the last issue of THE DISPATCH a comment was made on the remarkable ubiquity of the late Mr. Balmaceda, displayed in the reports which placed him on the flagship of the United States squadron and on the borders of the Argentine Republic at one and the same time. The news which was received at the last moment for the same issue, that Balmaceda had committed suicide in Santiago, only increases the pertinence of that comment.

Indeed, this entire Chilean business has been redolent with instruction on the large part which imagination and invention play in the work of the South American newsgatherer. The statements a short time before the taking of Valparaiso that the Congressionalist cause was on the verge of dissolution was a mild case in point. The report from the closing conflict of a complete victory for Balmaceda, when the real result was the exact opposite, was another. These instances are not without precedent in other nations; but the publication of a story which tells how Balmaceda escaped to the vessel of the United States Admiral disguised in liquor and a suit of sailor's togs, must evidently have been out of whole cloth. The fertility of the news agencies in the Southern continent, in turning out this class of story, has displayed itself to a degree that even creates a faint wonder whether this detailed story of his suicide may not be a fabrication of the same sort as the drunken sailor yarn, designed to relax the search for him and to cover his escape.

When the next South American war breaks out the press of the United States will be justified by the experiences of the Chilean conflict, in providing for itself agencies of information which have at least a remote perception of the commercial value of truth in news.

WEAKNESS OF THE JAILS.

Some misguided person down in Virginia broke into the jail of Tucker county and took out his son who had been confined there. Circulars asking for his arrest and confinement in "some safe jail" have been received in this city.

The request as addressed to Allegheny county is calculated to reduce the officials of the law to desperation. A safe jail seems to be as scarce an article here as in Tucker county. Our jail probably has far more of that quality which Mr. J. Gargery describes as "architectooralural," than the Tucker county variety; but the jail that can be broken into is just about as useful for its purpose as the jail that can be broken out of, allegedly without external assistance.

Perhaps if the Tucker county jail and law breaker comes this way, our officers may be able to hold onto him by keeping him in the city lock-up, or some similar stronghold. Also, if Tucker county gets hold of Fitzsimmons we hope that it will give its jail a new chance to vindicate itself, and take especial pains to keep irreverent outsiders from coming along and breaking into their house of detention.

THE WRONG REASON.

The growing disposition of European investors to put their money into sound securities located in the United States is a legitimate and reasonable one. The exemption of the United States from the disturbances that threaten the Old World, and from the vagaries of South American financiering which cost the Barings so dearly, is a sufficient justification for the advice recently given by one of the Rothschilds to "buy good Americans." But the logic which puts that policy of investment on the large business which the railroads are going to do this year is a striking example of doing the right thing for an insufficient reason.

It is a general tendency of the stock market to predicate variations in values on conditions which are entirely transient in their effect. It is evident that the value of any investment is largely influenced by its earning power. But in determining the worth of a permanent investment the permanent earning power must be taken into consideration. Say that a railway has through a series of years demonstrated its ability to earn six per cent on its capital. If, during a favorable crop year, it is able to add a cubit or two to the stature of its dividend and earn eight per cent, the utmost addition to its value that can be properly made on account of the condition which will last only during that year is the additional two per cent. But the stock market on the false logic that an increase of 33 per cent in the dividend adds something like that to the value of the stock will boom the stock 20 or 25 per cent, at the cost of the investor who buys at the elevated prices. *Per contra*, the presence of a temporary failure of traffic will depreciate the stock far below the value which represents its steady and average earning power.

Of course, these fluctuations are largely exaggerated by the manipulations of stock speculation, But the erroneous estimate of values is illustrated by the statement that European investors are buying "Americans" simply on the strength of our good crops. They do well to invest their money in American enterprises, but they should do so on the general solvency and stability of our business, and not on the condition of things for a single year.

IT IS singular to find the idea advanced by such papers as the New York and Boston *Heralds* that the falls of Labrador are 200 feet high, and are therefore second class while Niagara is in the first-class. Are our esteemed cotemporaries under the impression that Niagara is more than 200 feet high?

THE nature of the campaign argument is abundantly illustrated by the following from the Philadelphia *Record*: "Flower and Fassett both have money. Flower started in life as a farmer's boy, and made his money by industry and intelligence. Fassett married his money." We do not suppose that there is any very vital difference between Messrs. Flower and Fassett as to the methods by which they would be willing to make money. But as to the above assertion, the biographies of Mr. Flower show that he rose from the position of a retail druggist to that of a financier by marrying the sister-in-law of Keep, the old-time railway magnate and stock manipulator, and that his fortunes have since been enhanced by his fortunate position on the inside of railway management. But, of course, an organ could not be expected to recognize such little facts as these.

"THE fact that the Iowa firm which made the lowest bid for the new torpedo boat has an establishment capable of building it, and accordingly gets the contract, brings up the old question in regard to naval construction on the lakes," remarks the New York *Times*. How does it? Does the Iowa firm propose to build the boat in Iowa and then cart it across Illinois or Wisconsin in prairie schooners to the lake? Or is our esteemed metropolitan cotemporary in such need of studying the geography of the United States as to suppose that Iowa rivals Chicago in the possession of a lake port?

THE New York organs on each side are each busily engaged in accusing the opposite party of defeating New York's World's Fair project. The evidence produced so far seems adequate to produce the conclusion that both sides tried to make a job out of it.

"Much credit is due to Postmaster Van Cott" begins an editorial comment in the New York *Tribune* and the expectant mind foresees the establishment of some new and valuable feature of the postal system. But a further perusal informs us that the public service performed by the New York postmaster was the formation of a Republican club. The day in which the New York postmaster was expected to give exclusive attention to the postal work of the metropolis appears to have become a part of the past.

"WE think that the Hon. John Dalzell is beaten," remarks the Philadelphia *Inquirer*. If blow and bluster can beat him, he is defeated. The Hon. Jack Robinson and his organ, the *Inquirer*, can beat the world at that political agency.

THE Chinese outrages should be sternly suppressed; but it is food for international reflection that China has lately executed six rioters for the last batch of assaults on foreigners. That is just six more than this great and civilized nation has ever punished for mobbing foreigners who are under the protection of treaty guarantees in the United States. It may be salutary to inquire whether the United States should not at least keep even with the Chinese example.

IBSEN'S son is to marry. This warrants the expression of the hope that he will not put into practice the paternal Ibsen's ideas, which may be tersely expressed as to the effect that marriages should not marry.

IT is interesting to learn from our esteemed and bright cotemporary the New York *Commercial Advertiser* that it contains all the news of the day and leaves all the morning papers to do nothing but warm over the news that it publishes sixteen hours before they get out. This impels us to the inference that the *Morning Advertiser*, published by the same enterprising management, is not worth the cent that it costs the public to buy it.

THE modest claim of the Western Irrigation Congress for $150,000,000 from the United States Treasury, may be considered when the irrigationists discover the $150,000,000 in the Treasury.

THE party that is violently opposed to silver in the East and is a rank free coinage party in the West seems to be fixing up a puzzle for itself in 1892. But its ability to deal with the subject on lines that would never occur to the ordinary mind is illustrated by its nomination of a silver man on an anti-silver plank in New York and of an anti-silver man on a free silver plank in Ohio.

SECRETARY FOSTER'S roseate views of the Treasury surplus will presently inspire some one to come along and ask him what the Treasury wants with more money than it has got any use for.

IT is interesting to observe that Sir Hector Langevin got a coat of whitewash while pending arrangements deny that luxury to Mercier. This looks like unjust discrimination. It may be said to make fish of one Canadian politician and fowl of another, if the disclosures did not warrant the opinion that both sides are exceedingly fishy and quite foul.

MR. VANDERBILT'S imported yacht is still tied up at the New York Custom House. As a pleasure vessel it is a success only in affording a picnic for the revenue officials.

REPRESENTATIVE MEN AND WOMEN.

It is improbable that the Duke and Duchess of Sutherland will visit their Florida estate during the coming winter.

MRS. SUSAN E. WALLACE is generally introduced to the public as the wife of the author of "Ben Hur," yet she is a writer of ability herself.

EDWARD KEARNEY, the New York millionaire, is, next to Judge Hilton, the largest property owner at Saratoga, and he is known as "The Earl of Saratoga," on account of his lavish hospitality.

SENATOR GORMAN'S life is a very simple one. He is a very devoted husband and father, and is never so happy as when he is in the family circle, and he manages so that politics will not take too much of his time from his family.

JOHN A. LOGAN, JR., is a notable figure at the racetrack nowadays. He is of medium height, and he has a natty, well-knit figure. His hair is as dark as was that of his father, but his mustache is far from being as martial. He has a fair stable of horses, and he is well liked among turfmen.

KING GEORGE, of Greece, was a recent visitor at Paris and Fontainebleau, where every attention was shown to him. He has grown bald of late years, but his figure is still trim and lacking in the extent of girth that afflicts most princes as devoted to the cuisene as King George is reputed to be.

MAURICE BERNHARDT, the divine Sarah's son, who is traveling with his wife in this country, does not look like a "cigarette athlete," as he has been described. He is a rather handsome specimen of the Frenchman, with a tall, wiry physique, a clear olive complexion and a small, dark mustache.

THE German Emperor is very much interested in autograph letters. During his recent visit to England he examined several documents in the possession of the family of Count Hatzfeldt, Ambassador to Germany. The Hatzfeldt family has decided to make a present of these letters to Emperor William. Many other great families will follow their example and will surrender to the Kaiser many interesting documents relating to Napoleon.

OLIVER WENDELL HOLMES takes infinite care of himself, and is particularly watchful against the approach of an attack of pneumonia. The rooms of his house are equipped with thermometers, barometers and aerometers, and he never rises in the morning without knowing the temperature of his bedroom, or takes his bath until the water has been accurately tested. He lives by inflexible rules, and strives to avoid the slightest risk of taking cold.

UNITED BRETHREN CONFERENCE.

Names of the Ministers Who Will Preach in Local Churches This Year.

BELLEFONTE, Sept. 20.—*[Special.]*—The fifty-third annual session of the Allegheny Conference of the United Brethern Church, met here this week. J. S. Fulton, A. M. Hong, J. E. Spangler and G. D. McIlenry were given licenses to preach. Thirty-two reports of ministers were passed upon, and the report on "Education" read by L. Keister, called forth a warm discussion and a resolution was passed requiring at least three years of preparation before applicants for the ministry could be admitted to the conference.

The following appointments were announced at the session this Sunday evening: Greensburg district, J. Metzger, Presiding Elder; Allegheny, Rev. Wayne Smith; Braddock, Rev. H. F. Shupe; Fairmount, Rev. E. James; Westmoreland, Rev. L. Scneff; Williamsburg, Rev. L. K. Kelster.

THINGS IN GENERAL.

The Experience of a Man Who Is Serving on a Jury for the First Time—One of Rudyard Kipling's American Criticisms Apparently Sustained.

[WRITTEN FOR THE DISPATCH.]

—People are mistaken who imagine that the whole duty of the Sheriff is to see men hanged. It is also the business of the Sheriff to summon unfortunate citizens to serve upon the jury. Jury service is not greatly sought after by people who have any other occupation for their time, nevertheless the juror may reflect for his encouragement that serving on a jury is vastly more comfortable than being hanged. His legal friends who wander into the courtroom and find him thus serving his country will not fail to say to him that they are glad to see him in this building rather than in the other over the stone bridge. And he will probably make up his mind before the day is over on which his term of service begins, that the jury box is a good deal better place even than the witness box. Serving on a jury is not the worst work in the world. It is much more agreeable to try other people than to be tried yourself.

The first distinct impression made upon the mind of a new juror is connected with the voice of the crier who opens the court. At 9:30 to a dot the Judge ascends his platform and seats himself in one of the three imposing leather thrones which are the most conspicuous objects in the furniture of the room. Then rises an official from a chair at His Honor's feet and proceeds to chant an incantation, sonorous, monotonous, and absolutely without meaning except to the initiated. It might be a prayer, it might be a formula in magic, it might be an invocation of the goddess Justitia, it might be a portion of the multiplication table. It sounds a little like the intoning of the service of the Prayer Book, and a little like the proclamation of the man in the railroad station who announces that trains for Dan and Beersheba are ready. It is all sound. There is no perceptible sense to it whatever.

Reflections of the Juror.

—The juror discovers presently that the purpose of this mysterious chant is to get silence, and, as silence speedily follows, it matters little what it is that is said. The juror finds that the largest part of his time is to be devoted to idleness and reflection (for which he is paid $2 50 a day and mileage), and he reflects upon the conservatism which is displayed in this mediæval fashion of setting about the business of a court. Why should a man in this very modern Pittsburg address a company of his fellow-townsmen in Norman French? Why should he desire them to keep silence and give attention by calling Oyez! Oyez! Oyez!

The juror, by the way, had understood that the crier opened court by saying Oh yes! Oh yes! Oh yes! That has a funny sound, but it does sufficiently represent the original. All foreign languages are of course absurd. The crier in Common Pleas No. 2, however, will open court this morning at half-past nine by crying Oh yea! Oh yea! Oh yea! That is, unless the juror misunderstood him, which is quite possible. There are a good many people, of whom the crier may be one, who have an idea that all French words end in ah or a. I heard a good lady speak the other day of bric-a-brah. Far be it from a juror to criticize a crier!

Thus the day begins with Norman French. You enter the Court House beneath an inscription in Latin, and you are addressed in Norman French. Well, let it stay. Modern law began with the Latins, and free representative government began with the Normans and their kinsmen. The Latins stood for centralization, the Normans and the English for representation. The Latins put the emphasis upon the ruler, the Normans upon the people. And the ruler in the judicial system was represented by the judge, and the people by the jury.

A Very Prominent Feature.

—So the jury represents the people. The jury in the Allegheny county courts appears to represent a people whose most obvious characteristic is an inordinate desire to spit. Next to the leather thrones the most conspicuous objects in the Court House are the spittoons. They meet you at the door, they accompany you up the great stone stairway, they ride up and down in the elevators, they line the halls, they seem actually to pave the floor of every court room, there is one for the judge, there are six for the 12 jurors in the box. You cannot walk ten feet in any direction in the Court House without falling over one of these legal conveniences. You could not heave a brick behind you or before, or upon either hand, without breaking a spittoon. They are of all materials, from the fine china of the judges' bench to the cast iron of the common hall. They are all of them large, generous in their proportions. Their name is legion. And every one of them is absolutely necessary. Outside, where the loungers lean against the iron railings, the pavement is foul and poisonous with the stains of the unfortunate spitters, for whom an inconsiderate Commonwealth provides no spittoons. The entrance to Richardson's great temple of justice is probably the nastiest flight of stone steps in the United States. It is the spitters' paradise.

The first act of everybody who enters the Court House is to spit. There is no law on this subject, except one printed in staring letters, which forbids spitting on the floor. This might be more persuasive if it were worded after the pattern of a sign which adorns the wall of a little meeting house in Wilkinsburg: "Gentlemen will not spit on this floor. Others must not." That such an announcement would not be considered beneath the dignity of the building is evidenced by a placard in one of the downstairs offices which reads: "The Lord helps those who help themselves; but the Lord help anybody who is caught helping himself here."

All in the Same Boat.

—Everybody spits again on the way upstairs. The new juror, having nothing to do but meditate, observes that four lawyers out of every five when they enter the courtroom at once take off their hats and spit. The Judge, walking up and down, exercising during the progress of the argument, spits by turns into each of the judicial spittoons. The jury box resounds with the splash, splash of the spitter.

Rudyard Kipling did not hesitate to say that this American characteristic made him sick. Every intelligent visitor, who comes over the ocean and looks about him here, remarks upon the prevalence of this curious habit. So far as I know, it is distinctively American. Englishmen do not spit, nor Frenchmen, nor Germans, nor South Sea Islanders. The American, of all men upon the planet, is the man who spits. It would seem as if our mercurial temperament had salivated us.

The new juror, having made these mental notes touching the crier and the spitter, falls to observing the course of the law. The course of the law, it seems to him, is unconscionably slow. But he finds several pretty good explanations. Chief of all, the inevitable uncertainties of examinations. It takes a good while to get at the real truth. Truth, in any department of it, cannot be guessed at nor jumped at. Even in mathematics you have got to set the figures down and add them up. And that cannot be done while the second-hand says three. And when you come to that most grievous and twisted of all tangles, the complications of human society, it is foolish to expect to untie that in 20 minutes. Anybody who has ever tried to mediate in anybody else's quarrel knows what an undertaking it is. The new juror sets down on his list of Facts Worth Knowing that justice is slow because justice is slow. That is the nature of it. And nobody can very greatly hasten it. The lawyers, perhaps, might hasten it a little. The new juror notices that most of the lawyers whose cases are called answer "unprepared." This, however, he is told is the first week of a new term and things haven't got to going rightly yet.

The Judge and the Jury.

—Finally, the new juror is impressed with the justice of the Judge. There is nobody in the courtroom who appears to be so profoundly interested in the case as the Judge. Not a word on either side escapes him. In half an hour he knows more about the actual facts of the case than either of the lawyers. As for the jury, confusion grows more confounded. But the Judge sees all the light there is. It seems to the juror that the Judge is desirous of only one thing, and that is to see justice done. The jury, for example, if the case is one of damages against a railroad, is ready to a man to decide for plaintiff. It was a jury, though perhaps a mythical one, which gave a poor tramp damages against a railroad because he had been made sick by a pie which was given him by a station master's wife. But the Judge wants justice. He is no more on the side of the poor than on the side of the rich. Nor is he for the rich and against the poor. The best Christian that the new juror discovers in the Court House is the Judge. And as no man in the whole county has more use for good religion than a judge, this discovery seems to the juror to be a valuable one. It is worth while to serve on a jury to get such an assurance of the justice of the courts of law.

CANADIAN OR AMERICAN.

Our Northern Neighbors Urged to Make Their Name Known.

Toronto Empire.]

The pushing, self-assertive, egotistic, yet in many ways patriotic, citizen of the United States has succeeded by a curious mixture of demonstrativeness and pride in his country in placing the name of American fully and fairly before the people of Europe. The great civil war advertised the term; the myriads of tourists in Europe familiarized it, and the constant "booming" of the Republic for emigration purposes made it in many places a household word. Consequently the "American" citizen has an advantage over the Canadian, who represents a new country, small in population though great in prospects. He has, moreover, the advantage of a somewhat widely diffused literature, which totally ignores the great Dominion, and of politicians at home and abroad who habitually speak of the continent as the property of the Republic.

In such circumstances it is evident that the first duty of Canadians, whenever and wherever they can, is to "boom" Canada. Praise of the country, its resources, position and prospects should be uppermost, and above all a sentiment of pride in the name of Canada and the designation Canadian. It is to be feared that, as a general rule, Canadians are not particular enough in bringing the name of their country forward. A case in point occurred recently, when, through carelessness or indifference, a large firm of Ontario exporters picarded their offices in London with the announcement of their goods as "American." Such an incident is to be regretted. The life and future of this, as of any young country, is in its name and reputation, and whoever willfully ignores his own land and adopts the name by which another nationality is known inflicts whatever injury is in his power upon the country of his home.

PEOPLE'S PARTY REPUDIATED.

The Alliance Cannot Affiliate With It in the State of Ohio.

Cleveland Leader.]

The circular which the officers of the Farmers' Alliance of Ohio are sending out, defining the political position of that organization, is one of the most significant documents of the campaign. It has been said many times by the officers of this organization that it was not political, but of late the self-styled People's party has attempted to make it appear as an adjunct of that hodgepodge aggregation. The circular is intended to correct all such errors. It states clearly and distinctly the purposes and aims of the Alliance as set forth in its articles of incorporation, and emphatically repudiates the People's party by declaring itself in no way identified with it.

It rightly says that "the proper attitude of the Alliance politically is to be prepared to criticise or admire the actions of any party." In other words, it stands as a distinct organization for other purposes than politics, and while striving to incite an interest in public matters among its members and educating them in regard to such matters, nevertheless holds itself free to support whichever party most nearly meets its views. This is undoubtedly a very strong as well as an entirely safe position for the Alliance. By maintaining it, the Alliance arouses no direct political enmity and holds its membership intact. It compels every party to prove its professions by its works, and will accomplish vastly more in the end than it would as a separate party. The Alliance is to be congratulated upon its independence, and particularly upon its repudiation of the absurd People's party aggregation.

ONLY A LITTLE WORLDLY.

The Pastor Was a Good Man, but He Forgot Preaching Time.

PARKERSBURG, W. VA., Sept. 20.—*[Special.]*—The sessions of the Conference of the Methodist Church south, now being held here, are of the lively sort, owing to the trials of members for their peculiar conduct. Three members are now on trial, others having been disposed of, or referred back to the General Conference. The three members on trial are Rev. G. W. Mays and Rev. W. H. Patterson, of Cattlettsburg, and Rev. Giles K. Dauson, of Huntington. The charges against Rev. Mr. Mays are, that having been assigned to a pastorate charge, he neglected it by giving his attention to secular matters, which occupied so much of his time that he could not properly attend to his church work. Evidence was adduced showing that frequently his congregation would assemble and wait patiently for him until long past the regular hour for services, and usually no minister appeared. Later in the day, or evening, however, he would be seen returning from some sort of work in no way connected with his ministerial duties.

It was also shown that some members of his congregation never saw him on his pastoral rounds, and that he had been guilty of various acts unbecoming a minister. No charges of immorality were made, and no evidence was brought forward that showed him to be other than a man of excellent character, but rather worldly. After considering the evidence, the committee decided that no evidence had been brought forward demanding his removal, and he was allowed to resign his charge.

Germany's Taste the Best.

Leadville Herald.]

Tastes differ. While Germany prefers American pork, Russia prefers Turkey.

DEATHS HERE AND ELSEWHERE.

Rev. B. F. Bunting.

The Rev. B. F. Bunting, D. D., a prominent Presbyterian minister, died very suddenly Saturday on a railroad train at Lebanon, Tenn., where he had been attending a meeting of the Nashville Presbytery. He walked to the station to catch a train for Nashville, entered the smoking car, which was unoccupied at the time, and sat down. In a short time it was discovered that he was sick, and he died in a few seconds. Dr. Bunting was one of the most prominent members in the Southern Presbyterian Church. He was pastor of the church at Gallatin, Tenn., and Stated Clerk of the Nashville Presbytery. He went to Tennessee in 1861, as the Chaplain of Terry's Texas Rangers, and after the war was called to the pastorate of the First Presbyterian Church at Nashville. He entirely reorganized the church, doing earnest work. While there he wrote an interesting history of the First Church. After three years Dr. Bunting returned to Texas and did pastoral work there for two years, when he was appointed agent of the Southwestern Presbyterian University at Clarksville to raise the endowment fund. On the completion of this work he was called to the pastorate of the Gallatin Church, and had only recently accepted a call to Brunswick, Ga., of which he intended to assume charge next week.

Henry S. Walker.

Henry S. Walker, who died of heart disease at the Colonnade Hotel, Philadelphia, Saturday, was born in Winchester, Va., May 31, 1840. He became editor of the Wheeling *Register* in 1853. In 1858 he was the Democratic nominee for Congress in the First West Virginia district, but was defeated. In 1870 he established the Charleston *Courier*, and in 1871 and 1872 was State Printer. Three years later he missed being the Democratic candidate for United States Senator by a few votes in the caucus. In 1878 and 1880 Mr. Walker was the Greenback candidate for Congress in the Third district, but was defeated by the Democratic nominee. In 1885 he was appointed Secretary of State for West Virginia, and held the office for five years. Mr. Walker was for ten years Regent of the State University.

Obituary Notes.

MRS. ALICE INGERSOLL CHAMBERLAIN, wife of ex-Governor Daniel H. Chamberlain, of South Carolina, and for several years a resident of New York, died Saturday at her home on Morris Heights.

GENERAL JOSEPH F. KNAPP, President of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company of New York, died on Monday last aboard the French steamer La Champagne, which arrived in New York yesterday.

LUTHER O. GREENE, Inspector of Finance of the State of Vermont, and for about 25 years editor and proprietor of the Woodstock *Standard*, died suddenly at his home in that town Friday, at midnight. For two years past he had been President of the Vermont Press Association.

JOHN M. DUNN, who was United States Marshal at Wilmington, Del., under President Grant, during both terms of his administration, and a special agent for the Interior Department, under President Arthur, died at his home there Saturday night from softening of the brain, aged 50 years. He was a leading Republican and a prominent member of the Grand Army of the Republic.

ALL ERIE IN MOURNING.

The News of the Death of W. L. Scott Causes a Profound Sensation—His Estate Is Estimated at From $15,000,000 to $20,000,000—A Brief Sketch.

ERIE, Sept. 20.—*[Special.]*—The news of William L. Scott's death created a profound sensation in this city, as a hope had been created that he would ultimately recover. Information of his death, for some reason, did not reach his household until almost noon to-day. Dr. Brandies, who became Mr. Scott's physician when he was a young man of 18, drawing a salary of $25 a month as a clerk in the employ of General C. M. Reed, at his freight and passenger docks, and has been his intimate friend and family physician ever since, says that Mr. Scott's trouble was hereditary, as his father died of consumption of the bowels.

At the age of 25 Mr. Scott had so much stomach trouble that he contemplated leaving Erie, but the doctor secured a relief for him which enabled him to settle down to his business again. The illness which terminated in his death became manifest about 20 years ago, and its stubborn nature was greatly aggravated by Mr. Scott's great mental activity and his abnormal appetite at times.

The Entire City Mourns.

The great sorrow which has come upon his family and close business friends is shared by the entire city. The Board of Trade will meet to-morrow morning and take action on his death. The remains are expected to arrive in Erie on Tuesday morning. The mausoleum in which they will be placed was only recently completed, and the undertaker is now making arrangements for the obsequies. Mr. Scott's bitterest political enemies were many even in his own home, but to-night they are among the most sincere in their expressions of sorrow at his death.

There have been several estimates made as to the wealth of W. L. Scott, which was generally known to have been something enormous, but the actual figures are known to but a few in this city, who have been at different times identified with him in business interests. A prominent politician and business man of this city, who has been close to Mr. Scott for some years past, gives it out as an authoritative fact that the estates and moneyed interests of the late Congressman are valued at between $15,000,000 and $20,000,000, the latter figure being the most nearly correct.

A Sketch of His Career.

William L. Scott was born in Washington, D. C., July 2, 1828. He received a common school education and served as a page in the House of Representatives from 1840 till 1846. He was taken to Erie by General Reed and was made clerk in the shipping business. In 1850 he began business on his own hook, and soon owned several vessels on the lakes. He became largely interested in the manufacture of iron and mining coal, as well as now represents over 2,200 miles of railroad—probably the greatest number of miles of railroad that one man ever controlled. He was a district delegate to the National Democratic Convention held in the city of New York in 1868, and a Delegate-at-Large from the State of Pennsylvania to the Democratic National Convention held in Cincinnati in 1880, and also represented the State of Pennsylvania in the Democratic National Committee from 1876 till 1884. He was elected Mayor of Erie in 1866 and again in 1871.

He was elected to the Forty-ninth Congress as a Democrat. While Mr. Scott was a page in the House, Arthur P. Gorman, of Maryland, was a page at the other end of the Capitol. When the campaign for the Forty-ninth Congress was at its height, Mr. Scott proposed to Mr. Gorman, that if successful, they would celebrate it by a dinner at Delmonico's, which was accordingly done, the dinner being a most lavish one.

RECIPROCITY NOT A HUMBUG.

It Will Turn the Tide of Spanish-American Commerce in Our Favor.

Chicago Tribune.]

The United States buys from Southern American nations about $200,000,000 worth of sugar and coffee per year, and pays of this price the one-quarter in farm and factory products of this country, and the other three-quarters in gold or exchange, which in effect is the same thing. This constant heavy balance of trade against us in the purchase of sugar and coffee puts our finances in jeopardy and always subjects us to the danger of a drain of coin and its attendant shrinkage of credits and securities, with panic and hard times in the immediate background.

The correction of this evil is what reciprocity was designed by Blaine to accomplish, and yet the New York Democrats impudently and absurdly call it a "humbug." It was meant to avert what these Democrats must admit to be a bad thing, and it is working well, though as yet in operation only in two countries—namely, Brazil and the Spanish West Indies. The statistics show that the policy is swelling the volume of our export trade with both countries—largely with Brazil, and only less so with Cuba because the treaty did not go into effect till the beginning of this month and is conducted on a limited schedule till the middle of next year. The work of stopping that outflow of gold has already begun, and the saving will increase month by month as we pay more and more for our imports from South America with exportations of our own products.

JOHN BULL AND TURKEY.

Is John Bull going to become a Turkey gobbler?—*Baltimore American.*

WHEN the Sick Man of Europe is at his worst a dose of English warships proves an effective remedy.—*Boston Traveller.*

THE Turkish idea of diplomacy is to throw as generous a bone to the British lion as to the Russian bear.—*Kansas City Star.*

THINGS have come to a pretty pass if a party of British officers can't pop a few corks on a desert island without spreading a war cloud over the whole firmament.—*Minneapolis Journal.*

THE story of the occupation of Mitylene by British troops seems to bear a striking resemblance to Artemus Ward's celebrated essay on the snakes of Ireland: "There aren't any."—*Chicago Mail.*

THE seizure of Mitylene may be one of those bold strokes that makes peace assured, no matter how much war is wanted or needed by some of the great powers of Europe.—*Philadelphia Star.*

THE Eastern question has long been the key to war or peace in Europe, and navigation rights in the Dardanelles are, to a great extent, the key to the Eastern question, so to speak.—*Oshkosh Northwestern.*

IT is observed that when Mr. Bull helps himself by force to anything the victim is always a weakling. For a thousand years his robberies have been laid on these comparatively safe lines.—*New York Advertiser.*

THE British marines closed the picnic before Russia had a chance to come down and catch them at their fun. The little escapade, however, may cause as much diplomatic inquiry as the passing of troops by Russia through the Dardanelles.—*Toledo Commercial.*

IF the British marines were landed at Sigri by due authority they can never be made to leave until the British view of the case has been conceded or a great war has taken place. Now, indeed, the foreign situation is becoming interesting.—*Richmond Dispatch.*

THE anomalous position occupied by the Turk in Europe, and how completely the Ottoman throne is at the mercy of the Great Powers, is well illustrated by the vacillating course pursued by the Sultan respecting the rival interests of England and Russia.—*Chicago Inter-Ocean.*

THAT "occupation" of Mitylene is now reported to have been nothing more than an officers' picnic. The "ordnance" taken ashore consisted probably of champagne bottles—loaded—and the "fortifications" erected were doubtless the Oriental equivalents of clambakes.—*New York World.*

IF the British lion had squatted on an American island instead of a Turkish possession, how quickly Mr. Blaine would have seized his tail. Those good people who expected to see some twisting done as soon as Mr. Harrison should get into the White House have no one to look to but the Czar.—*Courier Journal.*

IF it be true that England has seized Mitylene as a counter move to Turkey's concession of the passage of the Dardanelles to Russia's men-of-war it must be conceded that the move is an old one, and in the present stage of the eastern question boldness and audacity may count for more than Fabian measures.—*Chicago Herald.*

PREPARING FOR BRIGGS.

The Time for the Trial of the Heretical Professor Drawing Nigh.

NEW YORK, Sept. 20.—*[Special.]*—Dr. Briggs' trial begins October 5 before the New York Presbytery. The old Scotch church that witnessed the memorable scenes last May when the heresy hunt was begun will serve as a court room. The indictment must be ready then. It is being drawn by a committee of five, all of whom are dead set against the accused. The ruling spirit of the committee is Colonel John James McCook, one of the famous fighting McCooks, and an elder in Dr. John Hall's church. He is a railroad lawyer and an expert on intricate questions of corporation law. He is the counsel of several large trust concerns. For the purpose of this trial he has explored all the cobwebbed recesses of ecclesiastical law and practice. His hand has drawn the indictment, and he will conduct the case against Dr. Briggs in the trial. The indictment will charge a violation of the ordination vows taken by all Presbyterian ministers. The several counts will be based upon his most recent books, speeches and review articles.

According to the rules of such trials Dr. Briggs may take ten days to respond to the indictment or he may elect to proceed at once with the case. But if he wants delay the trial may easily be put off for 90 days. The Presbytery must dispose of the revision question before December 1. The original proposition to revise the Confession was carried in this Presbytery after a h