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TWELVE PAGES

THE NATIONAL FEAST.

To-day is the annual festival which, by the devout and appropriate custom of the country brought down from the earliest colonial times, is set aside as a feast of Thanksgiving. The feast, which had its origin in New England, has extended its observance to all parts of the country, until to-day there are few places in the land so remote from the sentiment which makes Thanksgiving a national institution that it is not duly celebrated there.

The feast is a peculiarly national one; and as a balance to that fact there are many considerations why it is peculiarly appropriate for this country to recognize that it has especial reasons for gratitude. Those reasons were never so strikingly marked in the case of this natior, as in the present year. To every man who gives any thought to the sentiment of the day the most impressive fact is that the United States, as a whole, has been to an exceptional degree selected for the favors of peace, plenty and prosperity. While other countries in various quarters of the world have suffered either from the fear of war to be produced by the designs of imperial policy, or experienced the actual horrors of conflict from the outbreak of revolution or the usurpations of military adventurers, the United States has enjoyed the profound assurance of peace and can only complain of political vices which flourish iv reason of the feeling of perfect security. While other parts of the world are plaqued by famine or harassed by scarcity, our nation has had a year of unexampled plenty, and our prosperity is enhanced by the extraordinary demand for foreign countries for our surplus. In every aspeet the fact is impressed upon that the gifts of Providence and the abundance of insture have been exceptionally lavish toward this country.

Under such circumstances it is an especial duty individually as well as collect-ively to celebrate our gratitude for these extraordinary favors. A nation so universally prosperous and peaceful above ali other nations cannot but make Its Thanksgiving a national expression of its

be a desert of prostrate buildings throughburg, two took the place of notoriously un out the entire section. We believe it to be true that the storm was more furious in Washington than in Pittsburg; but there, as here, the result is that the average building withstood the strain, and only one building in each city was overthrown. In the case in this city a few years ago, when the Willey building was overthrown, the fact that structures could be erected to withstand the strain was amply proved by the buildings of equal

size and height within a few hundred yards of that which was wrecked, that stood the storm without a tremor. ice as a rule; but the pecuniary gain in the actual operation of the roads has been Certainly so far as the wind-storms referred to are concerned, the fact that buildings can be erected to withstand them, is amply demonstrated from the

fact that for every building, blown down hundreds stood the gale without difficulty. In both cases in Pittsburg the destruction of the buildings was due to some weakness, temporary or structural, in the wrecked buildings; and we very much suspect that a critical inquiry would dislines. cover similar weaknesses in the majority

of cases of destruction by cyclones. The high winds are a very decided argument in favor of strong and thoroughly braced architecture. If that lesson -is properly heeded, we will probably hear less of irresistible wind-storms in the future.

RELIEF FROM STARVATION.

Mr. Cyrus W. Field, Jr., publishes an ppeal in New York for the United States to do something to aid the famine stricken districts of Russia. The duty of a nation which is celebrating its festival of plenty and prosperity to give some thought to the condition of a people dying of want and starvation is so large that it hardly needs to be enlarged upon. But there are rates to the public. some impressions, whether created by false reports or not, which go far toward discouraging efforts for the relief of the Russian sufferers. One is that the relief which gets into the hands of the Russian bureaucracy is not likely to reach the suffering peasants. The other is that offers of organized relief contributions from England have been rejected by the Czar's government-whether from simple prejudice, or from the determination of unscrupulous officialism to keep all the relief business in its own hands, is not stated. If these statements are true it is useless for America to give of its abundance for the enrichment of Russian corruptior. If Mr. Field can show that the American contribution will be used for the relief of the Russian poor and starving, there can

be no better use for a portion of our overflowing surplus than to devote it to the rescue of part, at least, of the destitute peasantry from the horrors of starvation.

THE CONVENTION INCONGRUITY. The discussion of the defeat of the Constitutiona. Convention project between the York Gazette and the Philadelphia Press stimulates the latter journal-in a somewhat heated manner to make some assertions on the subject which are more truthful than pleasant. They are briefly as follows: First, that the Baker ballot bill as passed by the Legislature is unsatisfactory and unfair, entailing all the burdens of the Australian system without its advantages, and practically disfranchising such minorities as the Prohibition party. Second, that the Constitutional Convention project contained so unusual. unfair and unnatura! provisions as to prevent the people from voting for a convention under it. Next, that the purpose of embodying these grotesque provisions was to defeat the Constitutional Convention. Finally, that the issue of real

ballot reform will still be made an active one at the next legislative elections. In these assertions, with the exception

profitable horse car lines. Of the five electric roads, one succeeded to a bankrupt horse car line; one divides with a cable road the business that formerly did not support a single horse railway, and three have taken the places of the old lines, which were more or less profitable under the old regime. Of the eight new

lines in this city, therefore, the argument applies to just one-half. It is nevertheless true that the cheapening of expenses by improved motors has reached the public in very few instances. The public has gained by improved serv-

directed into the sustenance of largely watered capital for the enrichment of promoters. This is simply because municipal legislators, untaught by experience, have permitted the old conditions, by which the benefit of competition is prevented from reaching the people, to be increased rather than removed in the creation of the new

The effect of competition on street railway fares has been illustrated in this city by the fact that it first reduced fares from East Liberty from ten cents to five and then along one line to three cents. The last reduction cut the rates to very nearly the cost of operation, and may now be ranked as a measure of warfare to force the combination recently announced. But it shows that under the influence of legitimate competition, a rate of about four cents, or six tickets for a quarter, would yield a fair profit on a line of large traffic. As this means a saving of about six dollars per annum to the average man, it is pertinent to ask if it would not have been worth while for municipal legislators to have made some effort to secure competitive

CONCERNING the assertion of a cotem porary, that the Supreme Court confined its order directing the assumption of liability to the indebtedness of \$2,600,000 existing when the decision was handed down, THE DISPATCH expressed a doubt as to the existence of such an order, whereupon the paragraph from the decision is quoted, stating that the assessments must fail and all "uncollected liens must fail with them." Supposing that this statement of principle in a decision which issued an "order" only with regard to one case on a single street can be stretched to be an order directing a general assumption of liability, will our cotemporary please hunt again and find out where it makes any difference between people who paid the'r assessments in 1890, say, and those who paid them in 1859 or 1888? So far as it confine; the putative order to anything, it is pertinent to note that it confines it to

LORD STANLEY'S denial that he has resigned the Governor Generalship of Canada proves that His Lordship knows when he is well off too clearly to resign the lucrative and not laborious position of figurehead to the Canadian ship of state. "Plenty to eat and nothing to do," as the facetious Buzfuz remarked to Mr. Sam Weller, describes His Lordship's occupation with practical accuracy.

'uncollected liens."

WITH regard to the proposition to make Pennsylvania's building at the World's Fair a fac simile of Independence Hall in Phila-delphia, the Philadelphia Ledger very pertinently says that while such a fac si might be an interesting exhibit it would not be suited to the purposes of a State head-quarters. The objects of the latter building require another kind of structure, and it should be planned for its real purposes. On the other hand, as a State exhibit a fac simile of Independence Hall or a reduced conv of it with its contents might be very ttractive, subject only to the objection that it would be a repetition of one of the featres of the Centenn al.

A TELEGRAPH company hirs: a laborer

ts set up some telegraph poles, the laborer leaves the holes unguarded, a girl breaks ar leg in one of the holes, sues the compan of a single one, the position which THE and gets a verdic; which the court sets aside saving that she must sue the laborer. This is the la'est condensed report of the grand indicial principle that corporations cannot reak legs vicariously.

THANKSGIVING DAY. WHERE SOCIETY REIGNS.

Preparations for Thanksgiving and Christmas in Charltable Circles-The Pittsburg Club Hinders Buds From Blossoming-Things of Which People Like to Talk and Read.

The ladies in Pittsburg, partially forming Mosaic code, the Auxiliary Committee for Pennsylvania in the Woman's Department of the World's Fair, are immensely puzzled. The formal notification through THE DISPATCH yesterday, of the Governor's ratification of their appointments was not inspiring, since it conveyed not the slightest grain of intelligence concerning the duties of a member of the Auxiliary Committee for Pennsylvania of the World's Fair. The rumors are vary-ing and slightly confusing. Some state-ments are to the effect that the positions are wholly honorary, and that the prestige of notable names is all that is wanted; a not unpleasant condition of affairs on the whole. Others think cynically the thing bites and that the committee will know this to their sorrow before the Fair comes off in the amount of work required. Not a few smil-ingly inquire what the levy is likely to be, producing their purses at the same time as an evidence of good faith. And a diligent and painstaking search failed to bring to light anybody who knew anything of the burdens the position entails. At the same time there is evident a universal desire to do anything and everything, if only any-thing and everything be pointed out and given a name. of the World's Fair. The rumors are vary-

The Thanksgiving sales at the Pittsburg Women's Exchange are really meant to be an introduction of the Christmas goods. Since the opening on Tuesday there has been most successful results; and neither the managers can complain for lack of patron-tronage, nor patrons complain for lack of beautiful goods. Consequently general sat-isfaction is relt. People have never quite looked upon the Exchange as an edu-cational factor, but have contenteal themselves with praising it as a meals of doing good by supplying the needy. But this fact is becoming potent. Those behind the scenes say that results are astonishing in the matter of inner development among the consigners. Of course there will be those, the tiresome utilitarians, who want nothing of all this, but nevertheless it proves the Exchange a valuable aid in civilization, or what we are better pleased to term cultiva-tion. In this one particular the Exchange deserves many compliments. There ap-pears to be no immediate likelihood that the Exchange will remove from its present quarters, even if Horne's drygood shop should go further down street. While a managers can complain for lack of patronissued proclamations recommending annu thanksziving days, since when it has bee the custom for the President, the Governo

given a name.

should go further down street. While a good deal of credit is given to Horne for the rood patronage which the Exchange en-joys, nevertheless the managers have a great belief in the Exchange's own reputa-tion.

Ridge avenue. The rumored accounts that Mr. Oliver would soon dispose of the residence cannot be traced to any authentic source, and is doubtless as absurd as the stories circulated recently about the sale of so many Fifth avenue residences. It is scarcely probable that Mr. Oliver would add to his house to please his individual taste and then get rid of it to please somebody clse. While architecturally disposed a mention should be made of Mr. Harry Darmention should be made of Mr. Harry Dar-lington's house, now being erected on Irwin avenue. It completes a very pretty bit of street beginning with Mr. Hostetter's tem-porary place of abode at the corner of Western avenue, including Mr. A. E. W. Painter's picturesque and handsome resi-dence, the stately, cold Jones house and concluding with Henry Phipps' house at Ridge avenue. It's a pity that these mag-nificent houses should have streets so poorly paved. It can't be any pleasure to drive over a roac "fanged with murderous stones."

Thanksgiving Eve sales were in order yesterday both in town and in the East End. Calvary Church sisterhood held one similar to the successful event of last year, and for the same purpose, that of realizing money for the Christmas charities. Some-thing which commends the sale to large hearted people is the manner in which Calvary distributes the money, or rather that which the money purchases. No differ-ence in sex, sect or nationality is made. There is only one thing demanded and that is need. The work of charity is gone about systematically and quietly, and thanks to the good sisterhood, that respecter of per-sons, Santa Clau pays good visits at houses, at which otherwise he would quite forget even to stop. and for the same purpose, that of realizing even to stop.

The talked-of housewarming at the Pittsburg Club House will doubtless end in its ing dance. This is due to the fact that the house has been in the hands of the uphols terer and decorator a great deal longer tim than anybody expected. There certainly will be no time before the dance, which comes off December 14, so that the house-warming must be included either in that date or given at a later time. The de-butantus balls have been hindered by the de-butantus balls have been hindered by the delay at the club house, or, at least, some of them, as several will be given at the Du-quesue Club, the dates for which have aleady been settled.

Its Origin and an Epitoms of Its His-

tory.

Doubtless the setting aside of an especial day for the giving of praise and thanks had its origin in the appointment of the Hebrew Feast of Tabernacles provided for in the The day we celebrate now in, a national sense as Thanksgiving Day is, however, traced to a more modern origin. Says the Baltimore American: In July, 1923, a day of fasting and prayer was appointed in the in-fant colonies of New England on account of double Bain band and account of drouth. Rain had come abundantly while they were praying, and Governor Bradford appointed this a religious service in token of it. At Charleston, S. C., 1631, a fast day was turned into a day of thanksgiving on account of the arrival of supplies from Ire-land. The records tell of many such cele-brations in the Massachusetts colony, for several reasons, in 16'3, 1634, 1637, 1638 and 1639; in the Plymouth colony in 1651, 1668 and

1880, when the custom seems to have become general and yearly. Mussachusetts Bay was the first to appoint an annual thanksgiving, by the proclamation of the English Gov-During the Revolution Thanksgiving Day was a national institution, annually recom-mended by Congress, but, after the general thanksgiving for peace in 1784, there was no thanksziving for peace in 1781, there was no national appointment, until, in 1789, George Washington, at the suggestion of Congress, recommended a day of thanksgiving for the adoption of the Constitution. He issued an-other proclamation in honor of the supres-sion of an insurrection in 1785. President Madison, by request of Congress, recom-mended such a day as thanksgiving for peace in 1815. But the official recommend-ation for the giving of thanks was confined mainly to New England until 1817. after which it was regularly appointed by the Governor of New York. The Dutch Gov-ernor of New York had proclaimed such days in 1614, 1645, 1655 and 1760. In 1855 the Governor of Virginia recommended a day of thanksgiving, but, in 1857, Governor Wise, when requested to do so, publicly declined, on the eround that he was not authorized to interfere in religious matters. PITTSBURG, November 24.

To the Editor of The Dispatch:

convention of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union in Boston a resolution expressing disapproval of the custom of wear ing birds was lost. This is a mistake. It was only referred. On the last afternoon of the convention, after other resolutions had been discussed and adopted, this one was

we hereby express our disapproval of the custom of wearing the bodies, wings or feathers of birds (except those of the ostrich) as a part of our clothing or headgear, and we call upon all right-minded women to unite with us in efforts to abolish this destructive and cruel fashion." The following

structive and cruel fashion." The following concerning vivisection was also adopted unanimously: "Resolved. That we reaffirm the resolution condemning vivisection as being cruel, unnecessary and demoralizing, which was passed last year at Atlanta, and we recommend State unions to endeavo to secure such amendments to the State laws as shall prohibit the experiments on ani-mals now so often performed before classes of young people as being revolting, tending to deteriorate the moral character, and to directly antagonize the work of our bands of mercy." MART F. LoveLL, Superintendent Department of Mercy, Na-tonal W. C. T. U. BRYN MAWE, PA, November 24.

Entirely Too Conservative.

Republican Convention is more evidence of

we should have an active body, always on

the alert for the interests of the city, or we will find that Pittsburg, with all its advant-

ages for being foremost, will pass into a dry rot. Some person said: "Pittsburg is slow

in getting a start, but when started she goes." Yes, but she gets a start on too late,

and it would be more credit to her to not get a start on than to come in out of breath ask-

ing for favors that other cities have pre

pared for and put up money for without

stint months ahead. It is not conservative

conservative town, and also evidence that

To the Editor of the Dispatch:

It is another triumph for the great and

CONGRATULATIONS to the bright young city of the Northwest! Onlo will be there in goodly representation to see the best men in in the nominations, and in next November will choose her usual number of repreentatives to support them in the Electora College.-Cincinnati Gazette.

THE most important point in favor of the city chosen by the National Committee is the unfair and dangerous nature of the contest which the Republicans of the Northwest will have to engage in next year. They are nearly certain to be compelled to fight concienceless and yet very formidable com binations between the Democrats and the Farmers' Alliance.-Cleveland Leader.

better in its intellectuals, its æstheticals and its general inside and outside if it had been held here, but it's all the same to the town. The delegates will miss New York, but New York is large and forgetful, and it won't miss them. Incidentally, we may observe that in the business technically known as hustling, Minneapolis doesn't need any fly paper.-N. Y. Sun.

Now that Minneapolis has been chosen as the place for holding the Republican National Convention there is no thought of "calling in the coroner," or of having the Republican party "go into bankratcy." On the contrary, the politicians, giving up their insincere and absurd contentions, seem to be fairly well satisfied with the choice

made, which is coforless as to candidates. In Minneapolis the convention will be as

To the Editor of The Dispatch:

to Prof. Garner's monkey language. I have been for five years a trader on the west coast of Africa; have been with Baron Copenfelts, Count de Brazza, La Ghisze, the French naturalist, and many other people of note, and have had ample opportunities to study the habits of the gorilla, both in the dense forests of the Ogowe and Gaboon rivers and

-In Iceland, with 66,000 population, a murder which has just occurred is the first for 56 years, and the whole island is in an inteuse state of excitement -Two hundred and twenty-five loaded our-wheeled coal cars on the Lehigh Valley Railroad are said to have constituted the heaviest train ever hauled over any road in America. -Rattlesnakes are raised for their oil by a man named Jaynes, near Gainesville, Mo. He has 10,000 snakes and the "crop" which he kills each year is about 2,000. The oil sold for liniments, brings \$1 a plat.

-Compressed air delivered from a flexible hose with a small nozzle at a pressure of 50 pounds to the square inch is very effective in cleaning plush cushions. It is so used on the Union tracific Company's read.

CURIOUS CONDENSATIONS.

-Indians enlisted in the cavalry service

are easily disciplined, learn the drill readily

-The famous Anaconda mine having

swallowed several fortunes, has begun at last to disgorge and is producing heavily.

and soon acquire the esprit de corps.

-The expression "it is me" is idiomatic, and "it is I" is pedantic, is maintained by authority on English. This is very flattering to the masses, but the educated classes will, in this instance, doubtless, prefer to be pedantic rather than idiomatic.

-The population of the world is about 1.500,000,000 people. One-fourth dies before the 15th year, and the average duration of life is about 33 years. Thirty-three millions and thirty-three thousand neople die each year, making a total of 91,501 each day.

-The fact that first strikes American -Ine fact that inst strates American visitors to Rome is the noticeably modern character of the Holy City, and the an-tiquities have to be looked for. The city appears prosperous and improving-but these are not things usually said of it.

-Four-fifths of the steam engines of the world have been constructed within the last 25 years. The total horse power is estimated at 40.000,000, of which the United States has 7,500,000, Great Brinin 7,500,000, Germany, 4500,000, France 5,000,000, and Austria, 1,500, con

-Corn is king this year to the following extent in the 10 leading corn growing States: Iowa, 331 562 000; Illinois, 241,076,000 Missouri, 201,173 000; Kansas, 168,853,000; Nebraska, 145,004,009; Indiana, 116,490,000; Ohio, 35,230,000; Texas, 33,122 000; Kentucky, 86,040,000, and Tennessee, 81,824,000.

The failure of Pittsburg to secure the next

-German blood predominates in the royal mother is German, so was the mother of King Humbert, while the reigning house in Portugal is the "house of Braganza-Saxe-Cobourg and Gotha." Germany is the mother of Kings, just as Virginia was the mother Presidents.

-Berlin has 210 miles of streets, so that a person might walk ten days in the German capital without going up or down the same street twice. If the 1,400,000 inhabitants were to turn out at a grand review, and march in double file, they would form a line 750 miles in length. If the citizens should all deter-mine to start on a journey on the same day and at the same time, all the cars in Ger-many would accommodate but two-thirds of their number.

-Old watches of particular value include those with hog's bristles for regulating the vibrations, egg watches, all watches with one hand, with or without ornamentation

the custom for the President, the Governors of the several States, and even of the Mayors of principal cities, to recommend the ob-servance of the day. Custom fixed the day as the last Thursday in November, but there was no uniformity in the appointing of the day up to 1824. MENTIONING MINNEAPOLIS. THAT it is Minneapolis and not Chicago should cause no heart-burnings, for Chicago, as stated, could not be looked upon as an active competitor at any stage of the proceedings.-Chicago Tribune.

interfere in religious matters. During the civil war President Lincoln

bounding West, no Eastern city having had even the ghost of a show, and it is doubtful whether any Presidental convention here after will be held east of the Alleghenies.-Philadelphia Bulletin.

THE convention would have enjoyed itself stint months ahead. It is not conservative we are, but too slow and selfish. It requires ready cash to push the city just the same as it does to push a business. Now, then, with no organized body to present these matters properly before, you cannot get the proper financial support, and those who put up their money do so tardily and not near the amount they would if more vim or push were shown. Then if the enterprise was a failure, as in the case of the Republican Con-

OUR MAIL POUCH. The Language of Monkeys,

-California sells wine to Paris. -Mackerel have appeared off the Pacific

I see an article in THE DISPATCH devoted tonst. -Delirium tremens kills four people per day in England. -England and Ireland together drank 42,000,000 gallons more beer than Germany last year. -The great bell of Moscow (which has never been hung) is 21 fest high and 68 feet in circumference.

lorests of the Ogowe and Gaboon rivers and also in their captive state prior to having them shipped to Europe, I have hunted with some of the best natives in the Ogowe region, and after all am of tills opinion: That the gorilla. chimpanzee, Cole Camba, and in fact all African monkeys, are able from the natural formations of their tongues, throats, etc., to utter certain sounds, as of warning, menace, pleasure and want, and nothing else. As for their distinguishing between water and milk it is absurd. In their natural state they have no milk, and therefore have no word for what they don't have, and as they are always out of doors they don't much mind the weather, and if they wanted shelter they would go and take it. They go to the river for water and don't have to ask for it, and the same with food. There is an old saying in Gaboon or Em-pongwe: Kemma ni nremma a noss funda, which menas, "Did you ever see one monkey give another a nut?" Certainly not, if he begged ever so hard for it in Garner's or any other lingo. Let him once camp in the words around Lake Ayingo at night and how will soon find out that there is more reality in the mosquito's little song of th rst than the gorilla's morning trummings and roar-ing. A. SMITM. PUTSBUEG, November 24. also in their captive state prior to having

Against the Slaughter of Birds,

The statement has been going the rounds of the press that the other day at the great

again presented and carried by a rising vote. It was as follows: "Resolved, That

-An Indian tomahawk was found in the center of a sawlog 32 inches in diameter at Moore, Mich. It is six inches in length and has a blade of roughly forged iron, about two and a half inches long. The solid timber over the head of the tomahawk was ten inches in thickness. It is estimated that it had been in the tree two centuries.

families of Europe. The English Princes are Germans, the Eussians are, all the Tentonic Princes are, the King of Spain's

watches with our without ormainemations, watches without balance springs and with-out regulating arrangements, those with per-forated cases, those with finely chased cases, if the chasing be distinct; enameled gold watches of the finest workmanship, watches of wood or ivory or with iron or porcelain cases, and nearly all watches with peculiar movements.

Mr. Henry Oliver's house, with its recently completed addition, nobly crowns the prettily rising ground surrounding it on

GAEZA AND THE UNITED STATES. It is stated that the raids of Catarino Garza, who poses as a revolutionist, but is represented by most authorities as a bandit, have an especial interest to this country because there is a strong suspicion at least that they might strictly be construed as violations of the neutrality law. It is supposed that Garza organizes his expeditions in Texas, and crosses the Rio Grande when he has got a sufficient band together at some point not guarded by our troops. The same supposition exists that when he is pursued by Mexican troops he and his followers take refuge across the border.

Of course, the Mexican Government understands that this is not due to any sympathy or even negligence on the part of our Government. The difficulty of guarding a frontier stretching over more than a thousand miles in a sparsely inhabited country has been illustrated by the Mexicans themselves with regard to the refuge which the Apaches used to find from the pursuit of our troops, and the case with which they resumed their raids. But if it is true that Garza is using this country as a rendezvous for raids on Mexican territory it may be necessary for our Government to take extraordinary steps to settle the matter. This will be with a view to deciding whether or not we should give Metico the same privilege of pursuit into United States territory that Mexico gave our troops in pursuing Apaches into the Sierra Madre.

If Garza is really a political revolution ist, of course the territory of the United States must be a sanctuary to him, although he cannot be permitted with the knowl. edge of the Government to use it as a base for further revolutionary attempts. But if, as the accounts indicate, he is really a freebooter, who tries to give his plundering raids the color of revolution, he should be pursued and apprehended wherever he can be found. In that case he occupies no better position before the law and a much worse one in civilized estimation than the Apache marauders of a few years ago. In that case, if the United States cannot apprehend or suppress Garza's use of its territory, the least it can do is to offer Mexico a return of the liberty given to its troops of pursuit g the outlaws across

the border. The United States territory should not be made a base of operations for bandita. If we cannot suppress that use of it ourselves we should let Mexico do it for us.

A QUESTION OF FACT.

Speaking of the late exhibitions of cycionic power at various cities, the Philadelphia Times remarks: "No form of build ing except the prairie dug-out has been invented that can withstand their furious onslaught, and no form of locomotion that will carry human beings out of reach of harm who happen to find themselves in the cyclone's path." If this statement were has been reduced more than a half by the true with regard to the wind-storms which | change to electric motors. The horse can visit this section of the country, their ad- business as a whole was prosperous and vent would be the subject of unmitigated | remunerative before that change; yet the dread. That there are sections where it reduction of fares as a result of the is measurably the case may be correct, but it is worth while to inquire whether it is actually the fact that no form of building can withstand the fury of the windstorms that attack the Northern Central States.

It is clear that this is not true with re-

DISPATCH took from the first is corroborated. That is, that ballot reform can be secured through legislation, and was within its proper province; that the Con stitutional Convention was unnecessary, and in the form in which it was presented contained the danger of a job in favor of the cornorations and politicians, and finally, that there was not the slightest reason to expect from a convention so constituted any more sincere action on ballot reform than from the Legislature which devised it. In one respect-the motives which prompted these measures the Gazette is mistaken. The Constitu tional Convention scheme was used to divert the demand for genuine ballot reform, instead of both these measures being framed to defeat the convention.

It is a remarkable example of how sin cere minds can be led to false conclusions. that is presented by the fact that the element, of which the York Gazette is the organ, committed the error of accepting the unusual, uhfair and unnatural convention scheme and adopting that misshapen and illegitimate measure as its own offspring. A color of consistency is given to this course from the fact that the same element gave the politicians of the Legislature the pretext for this convention juggle by insisting upon the mistaken idea that ballot reform cannot be secured without the amendment of the Constitution Nevertheless, the most impressive aspect of its very forcible characterization of the convention bill is that which gives the best possible reason why all sincere men should join in defeating that measure.

We are glad to learn from the Gazette that the effort to obtain real ballot reform will still be pushed in its proper place, namely, the Legislature. After the late experience we may hope that the Gazette and its friends will not again be diverted from their active campaign in behalf of this reform by any such transparent juggie as the convention scheme.

A LACKING PROPORTION.

Mr. Frank J. Sprague, the electrician in a recent article on the electric motor and its work, published in the Forum makes a claim for success in the electric motor for street railways, which proves to be rather strong meat for the electric companies. The assertion is that "the electric motor has halved the expenses per car mile," has "effected even greater reduction in the cost per ton mile," and has lessened expenses in other respects by increasing the number of miles traveled and the traffic per car.

This is a very glowing eulogy of the results of the electric system; but one sharp cotemporary finds a meaning in it which is hardly gratifying to the street railway corporations. The Buffalo Courier points out that this is a statement that the cost of carrying passengers in horse cars change to electricity, far from being commensurate with the reduction of cost, has been mainly conspicuous by its absence. There is much point in this, although it fails to allow for one fact. The development of improved motor power for street

railways has in many cases exercised the gard to the storm that raged over the function of changing unprofitable horse country from Pittsburg to Washington on railways into profitable electric or cable Monday, because if it were there should incs. Of the three cable lines of Pitts-

"IF the crowned heads and prime ministers of Europe were engaged in stock specuation on their own account, what fortunes they might make," remarks an exchange And why use the potential mood in referring to it. Inasmuch as the crowned heads and statesmen generally do lay up very snug little nest eggs, is it not charitable to suppose that they rival the example of their brethren, the American money kings, by speculating on the strength of their inside knowledge? Any other theory of the ac-cumulation of their fortunes while in power would have to suppose a more direct appro-priation of the sums out of the public reve-Bour a

Now it is heard in New York that Govrnor Hill will take his Senatorial salary as well as his Gubernatorial stipend. Did any nan who was acquainted with the versatil David Bennett ever doubt that he do so after he had made up his mind that he would fill both positions?

IT is interesting to observe that the New York World has come to the point of recog nizing that neither Cleveland nor Hill can reconcile the factions of New York, and therefore suggests William C. Whitney as in eligible heir to the political fortune both. The World declares Mr. Whitney to e an ideal man in various respects, omits to mention one very weighty qualification with the Democratic wire-pullers namely, the fact that Mr. Whitney would be

EPIDEMICS of influenza are raging in both France and Germany. Under this common affliction it is to be hoped that the two countries can sneeze at each other with out bringing on open hostilities.

backed up by a very capacious and effective

Standard Oil barrel.

IT is noted by the New York Telegran that little money changed hands on the Yale-Harvard football game because "Yale was afraid and Harvard didn't dare." This may be the true reason: but it is much to be wished that our cotemporary could have found good ground for saying that it was because the students of the two leading al foundations of the country had educatio been taught that betting was an attempt to

get the money of someone else withou giving him an honest return for it. THE Democratic National Committee meeting comes next. Might not Pittsburg renew its effort for a convention in the hop that it could capture and convert the party

Now we hear that Germany is to supply her army with a new field gun, and the importance of the point of view is illustrated the statement that its projectiles "combine the good points of both explosive shell and shrapnel." From the standpoint of the people who fire the gun the qualities re-ferred to may be "good points;" but from the standpoint of the people torn to pieces by them they might be considered simply infernal.

AFTER the blasts of the past week, the rospect is fair that even the weather will be good enough to give thanks for.

THE report that the cruiser Philadelphia was forced to sail short of \$250 000 worth of Attings that belong to her is not very satis factory. It is true that if naval contractors had their way the chance of a vessel getting to sea would be very problematic; but it is still more to the point that to send out a vessel at this season incompletely fitted may be a case of the more haste with the worst speed on record.

States & Barris

Social Chatter.

THE Mendelssohn Band of Wilkinsbur The Mendelssohn Band of Wilkinsburg gave its first concert last evening in the new Opera House on Penn avenue. The band is a local organization, composed of some of the best musical young men of the borongh. They have been working hard under the guidance of Prof. T. F. Kirk all winter, and have made working hard under the have made wonderful progress, as was shown in the excellent progress, as was band was assisted by the Philharmonic Or-chestra and the following soloists: Mrs. Adah S. Thomas, J. C. Sweitzer, Misses Emma and Clara Chester, H. F. Neilsson and W. Sutley.

THE Exchange, in connection with the Employment Bureau of the East End, did a good ante-Thanksgiving trade yesterday The parlor looks very cheerful with it tables covered with china and fancy work Not the least prosperous sign was temp ing pies, many of which bore a little car marked "sold," thus telling the belated on tomer that if she wanted a pie she ha better get there along with the early bird.

A PLEASANT little "professional" theater party consisting of Miss Susie Kerwin and her mother, Mr. Wilbur and his mother, Miss Kerwin's nephew and Miss Belle Ham-liton enjoyed Frank Daniels at the Du-quesne Theater last night.

Miss JULIA WATSON'S coming out ball is likely to be given at the Pittsburg Club. Miss Julia is a pretty and charming girl, and as she has always been a favorite, the indi-cations are for a debut that will be second to none.

MRS. GUSEY gave a card party to a numbe of friends last night at the Monongahele House.

PEOPLE OF PROMINENCE.

SECRETARY FOSTER was reported las night to be fast improving.

MRS. BERNARD BEERE, the actress who will soon start on an Australian tour, relaices in the fact that she is a godchild of William Makepeace Thackeray.

ACCORDING to a vote taken by a popular woman's Journal, Mrs. Harriet Beecher Stowe is one of the ten most popular novelists of America among either men or women.

JAY GOULD'S private car has been ordered put in readiness for immediate use for his Western trip. He will probably leave night, as he is reported to be well enough for trip over his roads.

ADJUTANT GENERAL MCCLELLAND is slowly recovering, says a yesterday's dis-patch from Harrisburg, and is expected to be at his office again before long. Overwork probably contributed to his present ill

health. CONGRESSMAN CRISP, candidate for the Speakership, belongs to an old Virginia family, who remained in the Old Dominion until the outbreak of the Civil War, and then removed to Georgia. He is a lawyer by profession, and was on the bench before his first election to Congress seven years ago.

SARA BERNHARDT did not know until recently that she was born in the Latin quar ter of Paris. She supposed that she was a native of Havre. She was born in 1844, ac cording to the birth certificate, and her mother was a Berlin Jewess who was then engaged in the millinery business in the Rue de l'Ecole de Medecin.

MARK TWAIN, who went to Berlin re cently, has been the object of great interest to the people of Germany's capital. His portraits have been printed in the daily and weekly papers; long articles upon his life and works have been written, and numerous accounts have been given of his fabu lous wealth. Twain's works have long been translated into the German language Th humorist is popular in the Fatherland.

ree as may be from strong local politics Philadelphia Ledger.

THE idea that the selection of one city rather than another has "significance" "political effect" is mainly nonsense. The Republican Convention, when it assemble Minneapolis, will nominate the same can didate it would have nominated if it had been held in Chicago, Cincinnati or New York. It is Mr. Blaine in any case if he will ran, and otherwise Mr. Harrison, no matter where the convention is held. * * * Th choice of Minneapolis is by no means an injudicious one .- New York World.

apolis will be helpful to the Republican party. The gathering of a great body of epresentative national Republicans in the Northwest will increase the confidence.

unity and energy of Republicans in that growing and prosperous region. It will exert an important effect in strengthening Re publicanism in every Northwestern State in such a degree that the National Republican Committee can chiefly devote its time and attention to the States of New York, Ney Jersey, Connecticut and Indiana .- New York

GOVERNOR HOVEY'S REMAINS

Press

Taken From the Rotunda of the Capitol and Transported to Mt. Vernon.

INDIANAPOLIS, Nov. 25.-The remains of Governor Hovey were removed from the ro-tunda of the Capitol at 10 o'clock this morning and started on their journey to Mt. Ver on. They were followed to the depot by a large concourse of people. Minute guns wer fired by a detachment of light artillers, and the bells of the city tolled during the march. The way was a d by eight Grand Army posts, followed by the hearse with a platoon of police on either side, and Governor Chase

and the other State officers. The train left the city at 10:30 o'clock. The The train left the city at 10:20 o'clock. The members of the family, State officers and Judges of the courts occupied President McKeen's private car, which was tendered for their use, while detachments of eight Grand Army posts and of the various mili-tary companies of the State and numerous citizens occupied the remaining cars. The train will stop at Terre Haute, Vincennes and Evansville, where the citizens will be given an opportunity to view the remains.

THINGS TO BE THANKFUL FOR.

The time is at hand when the oyster lies down with the turkey and a little child shall eat them.-Buffalo Express.

HAIL to the turkey! This week he will be what old Ben Franklin would have made him instead of the engle-the national bird. -New York Recorder.

THANKSGIVING Sermons of this season ought to be models of their kind. The ministers have before them an unusual supply of the very best material .-- Baltimore American.

That the crons of the United States for this year are worth \$700,000,000 more than those of last year is a good point for a Thanksgiv ing sermon .- Cincinnati Commercial-Gazette.

WHILE we are ' sending our pork product abroad, we are fattening our turkeys fo home consumption on Thanksgiving Day, It is one of the fine things about protection that we keep the best things for the hom market .- New York Press.

Is the first place I think we ought to be ubilantly thankful that we have ever been born at all. The greatest and luckiest thing that can happen to a man is to be born. there is any man of whom this cannot be said, there is something the matter with that man. I am well aware that when a man is born he must look forward to th colic, and teething, and the measles, and failing in love. But there is so much more fun in being a live man than in being n dead stone, that all these little trouble have enumerated will not weigh a feather's weight in the balance against it. So ever man ought to celebrate his birthday with waving banners and beating drums; but as there are so many birthdays, and this would, perhaps, make so many processions as to in terfere with the regular course of traffic, a man should be just as thankful as possible for being born, every Thanksglving Day.-Uncle Dudley in Boston Globe,

were shown. Then if the enterprise was a failure, as in the case of the Republican Con-vention, they cannot be induced to put up on another occasion. What we require is that our leading business people organize, and you will have the middle class and workingman join in anything that will have a tendency to push our city as it should be. The Pittsburg papers are all right and will always do more than their share, but they cannot do all. Let us get to the front or we will in a short time be called a slow town. Pitrsburg, November 24. Pitrsburg. Tolstoi's Unwise Zeal.

New York Sun.]

The impracticable character of Count Tolstoi, the Russian novelist, is clearly shown by his manifesto to the Russian Gov ernment, declaring that unless it guarantee to feed the people until the next harvest, and faithfully perform the pledge, there will be a revolution, in which he, Tolstoi, will take part himself. It may be impossible even for the autocrat of all the Russias to save his people from the fatal consequences

of famine, for the means of a Government depend on the product of loans, taxation, or The holding of the convention at Minneconfiscation, and if, as in Europe to-day, Russia's credit in the money market is broken, on what can the Government de pend but confiscation? Can a humanitarian Auarchist like Tolstoi consistently favor confiscation instead of voluntary char ity? And can Tolstol, the preacher of peace at all hazards, consistently advocate a revolution, if confiscation fails or is denied? Surely such a manifesto is the act of a vagu entalist not of either a serio anthropist or philosophic statesman

PLAYS TO COME. THERE will be matinces at all the theater

o-day. MISS OLLIE TORBETT and her concert pany will appear at Carnegie Hall on Friday evening.

The Boston Symphony Orchestral Club will give two concerts to-day, afternoon and evening, at Old City Hall. THE Wilbur Opera Company is giving comic opera in better style at Harris' Theater this week than some of the re-

splendent starring organizations seen here this year. Tug favorite comedians, Evans and Hoey will hold forth at the Alvin next week, and

aided by Miss Minnie French as Innoces Kidd, and the statuesque Sisters Lealy, who are new to this city, they will present their latest version of the popular farce-comedy "A Parlor Match." New music, new acts and new specialties will be the rule, and a fine performance may be looked for.

Ox Saturday "Camille" will be given at the matinee at the Alvin, and Miss Clara Morris will assume her most notable role. The late Don Piatt, after seeing a performance of "Camille" by Clara Morris, remarked to General Daniel Sickles, who accompanied him: "This woman is the Rachel of Amer-"Rachel? Yes," said the General,

"but with warm blood in her veins, Morris appeals to the heart as well as to the intellect.

MISS MARIE WAINWRIGHT has gone out of Shakespearean roles into the romantic crea-tion of Sir Walter Scott, "Amy Robsart," and in this will be seen at the Grand Oper House next week. This is a dramatization of "Kenilworth," and the New York verdict upon the production was very favorable. Wonderful stories are told of the scener and general mounting of the play, and remembering how Miss Wainwright stage "Twelfth Night," they may be believed.

SINCE Florence's death Mr. Grane has more than ever a claim to be considered the fore nost exponent of pure American comedy. It is good news that he will present "The Senator," a very bright, if not a very deep, play, at the Duquesne Theater next week As to the company supporting him, the promise is made that it will be as good as ast year's, albeit that charming ingenue, Miss Stunri, who was here recently with the

Pitou Company, is no lenger with it. ROBERT MANTELL, one of the few young actors of ability who have elected to h faithful to the romantie drama, will be at the Bijon Theater next week. He will ap pear in the ever-attractive drama of Dumas' The Corsican Brothers," on Monday night and for the greater part of the week. Wednesday matinee and Friday night he will be seen in D'Eunery's drama, "Mon-bars," a part which suits Mr. Mantell well. On Friday evening he will present for the first time in Pittsburg two new plays, "The Louisianian "a romantic drama by Edu M. Allfriend, and a one-act picce, "A Lesson in Acting."

ovements.

-Pre-Columbian discoverers of America are claimed by several nations. Chinese Buddhist monks are said to have landed in Mexico in the fifth century of our era. Mexico in the fifth century of our era. St. Brendan, who is said to have flourished in Ireland in the sixth century, is said to have landed at some unidentified place on this continent: but Leif Ericssen, in the year 1000 actually made a landing in what is now Mt. Hope Bay, Rhode Island, and called the country Vinland. The settlement was broken up by internal dissensions in 1912. Madoc, Prince of Wales, is said to have visited this country in 1170.

-An elephant ranch is the latest novelty proposed in California, and a Mr. Newbury, the projector, is enthusiastic about his plans. He proposes to cultivate the elephant for its meat and its capacity for hard and diversified work. He says that "as an and diversified work. He says that "as an article of food the elephant is superior to the horse," and most people will be willing to accept his statement, though not fully appreciating its force. He says that behind a tough exterior it hides a tender steak, and that African explorers are profuse in their praise of elephant cutlets. A full-grown elephant weighs about 7.000 pounds, and Mr. Newbury counts 6,000 of this as good meat. good meat. -The Esquimaux, says a missionary who

has been long among them, are in many re-spects superior to the Northern Indian tribes. They are not numerous, but their numbers do not seem to be diminishing. They escape the terrible famines that occa sionally carry off farge numbers of Indians, partly because the food supply of the Equi-maux, consisting of fish and seal, is less premaux, consisting of hish and seal, is less pre-carious than the moose and reindeer on which the Indian depends. The Exquimaux are also more provident, and they hay up a stock of food for a chance period of scarc-ity. They are more industrious than the Indian and show greater ingenuity in the manufacture of tools, weapons and other articles.

articles. THEIR PARENTS THINK THEM SMART.

Mrs. La Mode. "Oh, I beg you to take off that dear little bird. So much is being said about this destruction of bird-life that I would not wear one for the world. Haven't you anything

Milliner (laying a wing on the hat). "I hardly

Milliner (laying a wing on the hal). "I hardly think we have, madam. We are trimming with birds and wings almost entirely." Mrs. La Mode. "That wing would do very well were it not so small. If you can get more of that style you may trim it up with wings."-Harper's

Mr. Mercer-"Do you think advertising

pays?" Mr. Mercur-"It didn't pay me; I lost money by Mr. Mercer-"What did you advertise?

Mr. Mercur-"I advertised for a wife and gener."-Puck.

"What an accumulation of sweets these Httle fellows hoard!" said a philosopher, contem plating an ant hill swarming with myriads of the iny creatures.

"Yes, I suppose they are quite wealthy from their standpoint."

"Do you know by what principle they manage to ecumulate so much?" recumula "No. How?" "Well, probably because they understand the

principles of fine ants, "-Philadelphia Press, Neighbob-Do you fancy you could sup-

port Ethel on ten dollars a week? Clarklets-I am willing to try it: that is if that is the best you can do .- New York Herald,

Wagg-You can say what you choose, but t is a stern necessily,

Wooden-Why what is? Wagg-The rudder.-Boston Courier.

OLD-TIME THANKSGIVING PIES. The splendid pies grandmother made

Of strong and hearty mince, Throw modern efforts in the shade, They've not been coualed since;

So, don't. I warn you, geutle friend, Toy with these n Toy with these modern pies; Each separate hair shall stand on end,

And frightfui dreams arise. But grandma's pies! They were the dreame!

I slept with out a snore!

When I book usek it sometimes seems I should have caten more! The boy would find his slumbers sweet, Who put his earthly trust

In grandma's six-weeks-old mince meat And light and flaky crust.

1