partment, was presented last evening with a very hand some diamond stud, the gift of his Giends of the service and of acquaint-ances who have no connection therewith. The surprise took place at the Chief's home, S0 Cedar avenue. Lewis McMullen, Eaq., made the speech of presentation and it was responded to appropriately by the Chief. Chief Murphy, Chief Grubbs and others were present. Dyspepsia WITH GIFT AND SONG them, "Sing O Heavens," Tours; "Sanc-tus," Wesley; postlude, "Grand Prelude in Fugue," Bach. Caused me almost untold suffering. I felt miserable and nervous. My stomach would hardly digest bread and milk. But soon after I began taking Hood's Sarsaparilla I had a better appetite, and could not only eat well, but had Other Special Features for the Day, Other Special Features for the Day. At St. John's R. C. Church, Thirty-second and Liberty streets, the following musical programme has been arranged: "La Hache," "Kyrie Gloria" and "Veni Creator;" Mozart's "Credo," "Sanctus Benedictus" and "Angus Dei;" offertory, "Adeste Fi-delis," from Novello, Chorus-Soprauos, Misses L. Connelly, E. Maloney, M. Lar-kins and M. Martin; altos, Misses McCabe and J. McSteen; bassos, C. Hedenberg and P. Derwin; tennors, D. Lynch and H. Dawson, Organist, Miss Jennie McSteen. The Christmas services at St. Stephen's Episcopal Church in Sewickley, will be of unusual interest for more reasons than one. The Glories of the Great Christmas Holiday Were Ushered in vere present. Here Last Evening. No Distress Afterward. BELIGION IN POLITICS. I am so glad I am better, for I feared I never should get well. My nursing baby, too, seems to be better than ever, and I tell in Incident of the Aldermanic Contest in CELEBRATIONS AT THE CHURCHES. leems olks the Sixth Ward. An amusing incident in local politics Hood's Sarsaparilla occurred yesterday afternoon in Piatt's place on Smithfield street. Squire Mike All Convicts Under Discipline at the Work-Episcopal Church in Sewickley, will be of unusual interest for more reasons than one. In the first place the new marble font, which has been presented by a member of the congregation, will be in place for the first time on Christmas morning. The font is an exquisite piece of work, though severely simple, in pure white marble. It bears an inscription "In the Name of the Father, Son and Holy Ghost," and the pedestal is ornamented with across. The musical programme will be the most house Are Released in Honor Rafferty and Charley Grimes are the candi-

of the Pay.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CHILDREN MADE HAPPY Bright Musical Programmes Prepared for To-Day'

Special Services.

Christmas, preceded by the meanest kind of weather and sloppy streets, came in last midnight on scheduled time just as quietly and peacefully as Christmas has come for the past 18 centuries or more. The stars did not sing, or, if they did, they were so hidden by the clouds that their songs were only for other worlds. Despite this direliction on the part of these astral orbs last evening the lights from scores of churches shone out, and from within came a song of happiness and a knashing of teeth on last summer's crop of peanuts and candy kisses. ing musical programme for St. Andrew's Episcopal Church this morning. The lead-ing soprano is Miss Spaulding. The ser-vice will be hald at 10:30 o'clock. The decorations of the church are tasteful and Nearly every child was happy, for those who were not enjoying the treat were living in anticipation of that to come to-day.

large number.

Monday.

show the care and attention that was given by the young people of the church the past two days in making their preparations for the event. The bestowing of gifts and children's day festivities will be held on

CANDY BY THE TON.

Christmas Treat for the 2,600 Children

"What's your candy worth a pound?" C.

L. Magee asked on Wednesday afternoon

at a Sixth avenue store. Mr. Magee stood

leaning into the doorway of the store and

ench of the four schools a Christmas treat. He was promptly hurried over to the proprietor of the store and in less time than it takes to tell it he had ordered 1,300 pounds of mixed candy, 1,300 pounds of mixed nuts and 2,600 oranges. The number of children at each school was supplied Mr. Stevenson, and the candy and nuts were placed in half-pound boxes and the oranges were sont in cases. The sweet.

nuts were placed in hall-pound boxes and the oranges were sent in cases. The sweet-meats were hauled to the schools of the Fourieenth ward at noon yesterday. In the afternoon the children who attend the public schools were given their share. The parochial school at Soho will distribute their share this afternoon, when each of the 2,600 shillers in the word will have re-

2,600 children in the ward will have re-ceived a half-pound of candy, a half-pound

His Neighborhood Happy.

All day yesterday, and, in fact, all week, the streets have been almost impassible, and yesterday they were hardly able to hold the immense volume of people. They overran the stores, and all was bundles and people as far as the eye could reach. The day had been a great one for the shopkeepers, and when, long after 11 o'clock, they closed their doors and looked from the empty counters to the overflowing caffers, each counters to the overflowing coffers, eac heaved a sigh of contentment and classically remarked: "Let her Chris!"

James Sterling, the Author, Will Feast.

To day will be one out of the usual for all. The meek and lowly saloon, as well as the high-spired church, will take on its holiday attire, and a new happiness in some form will come to everybody. The inmates of each institution will enjoy a red letter day. At the workhouse Christmas will be the brighter, because each man under discipline will be released. Even James Sterling, the author, will be called from the white house and his diet of bread

and water to enjoy himself with turkey and plum pudding. Such will be a part of Christmas presents Superintendent Hill will give to the inmates of that institution. There will be special services to-day in all the churches. The musical features will be

unusually good and the decorations will be beyond anything ever known here before on Christmas day. Yesterday there were dis-tributions of candy and presents in many of the common schools, while at night the church celebrations were held.

The East End, with its usual advancement, will be prettily represented at the Shady Avenue Baptist Church. Near the Shady Avenue Baplist Church. Near the pulpit has been built the home of old Kris Kringie. Everything within is arranged true to all the lore that has been handed down for centuries about this famous phildown for centuries about this famous phi-anthropist. Even a bright fire will burn in the fireplace through which he is to come down. As the house is not big enough to hold the presents there is also a Christmas tree. The service will be held there this evening and will consist of a vocal and literary entertainment.

As a Family Gathers Round the Hearth, Round a big old-fashioned fireplace the people of the Second Presbyterian Church, Penn avenue, last evening celebrated the ristmas feast On either snow-covered trees laden with presents for the Sunday school children. The prettiest feature was the fireplace. Each brick was hollow and filled with candy, and at the close of the entertainment it was torn down and distributed. The great feature of the evening was the long-distance telephone over which came at regular intervals bulletins as to the progress of Santa Claus. Nearly 1,200 children were treated last evening at the Butler Street M. E. Church, J. W. Fulson, Assistant Superintendent, made an address, after which a chorus of 550 little children sung a Christmas hymn. Rev. Mr. Oldham distributed the presents, and then each of the children laid on the platform an offering for the poor of Law-renceville. These gifts will be distributed this morning by Mrs. S. Hamilton, Mrs. Q. W. Hay, Mrs. T. B. Stewart and Miss Eva Wallace At the Seventh U. P. Church, the Hazelwood Presbyterian, Christian and Metho-dist churches and at the Third Presbyterian similar services were held last night and each pupil was made happy with a box of candy or a present.

dates for Alderman in the Sixth ward. The two met socially and were discussing their

pedestal is ornamented with across. The musical programme will be the most ambitions yet attempted by the new choir. It will include the following numbers: A Christmas anthem by Tucker; the Venite in F. by Dudley Buck, Festival Te Deum in E flat by Baumbach, jubilate in C by Mil-lard, anthem, "O Pray for the Peace, of Jerusalem," by Knox, and the usual Christmas hymns. Mrs. Frank Tener, Mrs. J. A. Roe, R. J. Cunningham, and W. W. Whitesell will form the quartet, and Mr. F. A. Albrecht will preside at the new organ. "A son of Old Mike Rafferty's, is he? Well, I knew his father before him, but I'm not for him. I'm for Grimes."

A. Albrecht will preside at the new organ. The morning service begins at 11 o'clock, and special provision will be made for strangers, who are expected to attend in Leonard C. Webster has arranged a charm-



of the Fourteenth Ward Public Schools-C. L. Magee Makes the Youngsters of

his inquiry was directed to any one of the crowd of clerks who were busy inside. crowd of clerks who were busy inside. "Different prices. From 40 cents to 60 cents a pound," one of the clerks answered. "Come in," he went on. "How do vou sell it by the ton," Mr. Magec asked, as he walked leisurely into the place. The clerk stopped and smilled and attempted to say something pleasant in response to what he considered a joke. Mr. Magee explained that he had about 2,600 school children in the Fourteenth ward, where he resides, and he wanted to send ench of the four schools a Christmas treat. He was promptly hurried over to the



MAX KLEIN, 82 FEDERAL ST., ALLEGHENY.







Celebrated With Gifts and Song.

a cantata called the "Frost King" was given last night under the supervision of Prof. Weedin. Miss Mary King, super-intendent of the infants department had charge of the other exercises. There was also an address by the pastor, Rev. Charles Edward Locke and liberal donations for the

Other treats were held last night at the Park Avenue Presbyterian, the Oakland U. P., German Lutheran on Eighteenth street, Bingham Street M. E., Walton M. E. and the Knoxville U. P. Churches.

In Allegheny Rev. S. W. McCorkle, at the First Congregational Church, Manhattan street, gave a treat for the children in the shape of a cantata entitled, "Waiting for Santa Claus," in which about 50 people took part. In the midst of the play "Jack Frost" enters the room. His presence so benumbs the little ones that they fall asleep and while they slumber Santa Claus fills the stockings.

Programment St. Paul's Cathedral.

Bishop Phelan will officiate at the 5 o'clock mass at St. Paul's. Masses will also be read at 8, 9 and 10:30. The following will be the programme: Grand march, "De Pari," Cathedral Band; Introit, Gre-gorian, boy's choir; Kyrie, E. Marzo, Ca-thedral choir; Gloria, E. Marzo, Cathedral choir; Vein Creator, Giorz, quartet; sermon, Rev. Father Canevin; Credo, Marzo, Cathe-dral choir; Offertory, "Adeste Fideles," Novells, Cathedral choir; Sanctus, Marzo, Ca-thedral choir; Christmashymn, 'Bethlehem," thedral choir; Christmas hymn, 'Bethlehem," Cathedral Band; Angus Dei, Marzo, Cathe-dral choir; Responses, Marzo, boys' choir; Fest march, Downing, Cathedral Band; quartet: Soprano, Niss Bertha M. Gal-lentin; contralto, Mrs. William Loeffler; tenor, A, Siedle; baritone, I. A. Ricketts; organist, Miss Alice Carter; Thomas F. Kirk, director. Choir: Misses Bertha M. Gallentin, Ella Ward, Agnes McCormick, Mrs. Louise Heyle, Mrs. McGinnis, Misses Nellie Miller, Stella Baver, Mary Kelly, Gertrude Clark, Annie E. McKenna, Katie Boegle, Rosa Brannigan, Lizzie Hall, Kate Bogle, Rosa Brannigan, Lizzie Hall, Kate Boegle, Rosa Brannigan, Lizzie Hall, Kate Sheridan and others; Mrs. William Loeffler, Misses Florence Coyne, Mary Cunningham, Katie Little, Messre, A. Siedle, M. H. Mc-Cormick, H. A. Ruskauff, L. A. Ricketts, William Loeffler, Frederick Miller, John Hegerly, M. B. Kelly and others. The Swambone Onestet of the American

The Saxophone Quartet of the American Military Band, consisting of Messrs Young, Kirk and Roberts, will play at the 10:30 o'clock mass. The decorations are the finest that have ever been seen in the Cathedral

Cathedral. At St. Peters' Episcopal Church an elab-orate musical programme has been pre-pared by the organist, W. H. T. Aborn. He has a vested choir of 30 well trained voices and the music will be well rendered. The programme is as follows: Prelude, "Hallelujah," Handel; "Christmas An-them," Bullinger; "Te Deum," Buck; "Jubilate," Schuberi; "Kyrie," Mendels-sohn; "Gloria Tibi," Hodges; offertory an-

ceived a hall-pound of candy, a hall-pound of nuts and an orange. The public schools were dismissed after the treat was served. The children hurried to their homes delighted. On their way many of the boys stopped in the gutter to crack nuts on the curb stones. On the va-cant lot just opposite the Soho public school a party of four little colored school children were cathered about a stone crackchildren were gathered about a stone cracking nuts when a DISPATCH reporter over-took them. At the side of each was a box of candy, a hag of nuts and an orange. "Where did you get the sweetmeats?"

was asked. "Chris Magee," all four replied in cho-

rus. "Who is he?" was asked. "Don't know," the only boy in the party replied, "but teacher said he give 'em to

THE POSTOFFICE RUSH.

All the Records Broken in the Amount of Business Done,

The heaviest holiday basiness ever done at the Pittsburg postoffice was that of the past ten days, particularly yesterday. Postmaster McKean says the postoffice handled more stuff yesterday than all the express companies in the city combined. When it is considered that none of the postal packages weigh over 40 pounds, and that few weigh more than one pound, the enormous number required At the Smithfield Street M. E. Church to make a tonnage equal to one express company's business can only be imagined. The special delivery business was also ex-traordinary. In one half-hour a count was kept, during which 140 special delivery letkept, during which 140 special delivery let-ters to go out of town were mailed. The rate for the greater part of the day was about the same. The special delivery for the city surpassed any previous record, the total for the day being about 600 packages. Notwithstanding the enormous increase in the business it has been handled with better suitification to the part flow mark better satisfaction to the postoffice people and the public than ever before. Not a single complaint has been made for the past ten days, an unusual circumstance at this season. For more than a week past 15 men have been taken from their regular places

have been taken from their regular places in the postoffice and located in the corridors to assist people in mailing and sending away mail packages. Long tables were placed in convenient places in the corridors with pens, ink and blotters. The corridor men were provided with scales and weighed packages, stating the amount of postage required, and one was only required to step up to one of the numerous stamp windows and ask for the proper number, thereby saving much time proper number, thereby saving much time and annoyance. This convenience pleased the people, and commendations of Post-master McKenn's thoughtfulness were numerously heard. The Postmaster himself numerously heard. The Postmaster himself with his assistants, Edwards and Colville, were in the corridors all day yesterday assisting people with the mailing of their Christmas packages. The employes were all on double duty, working 24 hours without rest, and they will welcome the rest they will receive to-day.

The Expressmen Had to Hustle.

The Adams Express Company handled 150 cars of express matter each day since Monday at the Union station. This is the Monday at the Union station. This is the largest amount ever handled at the Christ-mas season, and Superintendent Glenn says in regard to it: "We have been working night and day with an extra force. The large number of Christmas gifts being ex-changed is an evidence that the people are prosperous and plenty of money is in circu-lation. We will handle much extra matter until after New Year's which will mainly be sent persons in return for favors from unexpected sources."

Donations for the Poor.

Yesterday was a busy day at the office of the Society for the Improvement of the Poor. A very large number of donations were received, consisting of groceries, fruit, nuts, clothing and other articles. They were confined almost exclusively to private individual contributions. One exception was from the Sunday schools of the city. These were filled with the same articles.

Chief Jones in Luck. Chief Jones, of the Allegheny Fire De-