

The Dispatch

ESTABLISHED FEBRUARY 8, 1846. Vol. 46, No. 263. Entered at Pittsburgh Postoffice November 18, 1887, as second-class matter.

Business Office—Corner Smithfield and Diamond Streets. News Rooms and Publishing House 78 and 80 Diamond Street, in New Dispatch Building.

TERMS OF THE DISPATCH. THE DISPATCH is published weekly, except on Sundays and public holidays. It is published at the rate of \$1.00 per copy in advance, or \$1.25 per copy when paid for in advance.

TWELVE PAGES

CITY ASSESSMENTS AND TAXES. Commenting upon the increase of valuations, THE DISPATCH has urged, as the only practical way of ensuring that it do not increase the tax-draft upon citizens' pockets, voters insist upon pledges from Councilmen to reduce the millage in proportion as the aggregate of valuation may be increased.

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How to Beat Them. In a suit going on between two stars of the first and perhaps the third magnitude, in the planetary system of stock manipulation, Mr. John W. Mackay and Mr. Edwin S. Stokes, an important principle was introduced in the evidence.

The Question of War. The President has sent in his message to Congress, which amounts to a practical declaration of his position on the war platform. This is shown not only by the tenor of the text, but in the very fact of its having been sent; a message on the subject having been freshened up as to come only if it were deemed necessary to ask for the action of Congress, and the only positive action which Congress can take in the matter is a declaration of war.

The Considerations advanced by the President as requiring the nation to take this grave step can be more fully learned by reading his message than by a summary here. With some of his positions there is little fault to find, but as a means of judging the final correctness of the result, it is well to study the whole history of the case. The documents accompanying the message, it must be remembered, give only one side of the case presented by representatives of the United States.

The International Proposition. There is no possible objection to the proposition to invite the European Governments to a needed conference on the silver question. Although there is little chance of the invitation being accepted it is properly within the policy of the United States to frequently intimate to Europe that this country is ready to join in an international conference for the purpose of restoring the monetary function to silver.

The Message in the House. Precisely now to-day Speaker Crisp ascended to the chair, and his colleagues, without regard to party, warmly greeted him as he resumed the reign of authority which he had exercised for so many years.

The Order of the Day. A Family Quarrel That May Be Settled by Going to Law. To the Editor of The Dispatch. In common with other Pittsburgh papers, your column has received the contents of a telegram from Johnstown, Pa., referring to the arrest of J. A. Lyle, Secretary of the Order of Ohio, on charges of obtaining money on the faith of a check.

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Sniffing the Battle. Large Crowds Gather in the Chambers of Congress to Listen to the President's Message. Philadelphia, Jan. 25.—[Special.]—A special dispatch to the Times from Washington says: While the Pennsylvanians in Washington are disposed to make an earnest effort for the appointment of one of their jurists to the vacant judgeship in the Supreme Court of the United States, there is little reason to expect that they can be successful.

Business Gives Way to the Message. Mr. Hoar, from the Committee on Privileges and Elections, made a report in the case of Senator Chilton, of Texas, concluding with the resolution that Mr. Chilton is entitled to hold his seat. He said he would not ask action upon it at the present time.

AN ELECTRICAL BOY. He Amuses Himself by Shocking Everything Within His Reach. KNOX, Kan., Jan. 25.—George Harger, who lives just outside of this city, is the father of a 6-year-old boy who is an electrical boy. The boy has been known as "peculiar" ever since his birth, and those who nursed him when an infant were wont to say that he was "born with a shock."

TALK OF THE TIMES. Mr. Springer's leadership in the House is not so much a novelty as it once was. It is permitted to make the motions to adjourn.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat. In other words, he has given the privilege of shutting off some of the windy debates. It is to be hoped that he knows exactly the right time to make his motions.

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PERTINENT PERSONALITIES. THE CAR OF RUSSIA never shaves. MR. RIDER HAGGARD has lately won three prizes in golfing matches. SENATOR GORMAN has a habit of reading in bed, no matter how hard a day's work he has performed.

THE PARKERSBURG LOTTERY CASES. Come Up Before the Federal Court at New Orleans, and Bail is Given. NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 25.—This morning the lottery cases were again called up before the United States court at Parkersburg, W. Va., indictments. It will be remembered that about a month ago proceedings against the lottery cases were instituted, and were suddenly suspended while the indictments were under consideration.

HALF AND HALF. Dirty Street Cars Cause a Decided Change in the Fitting Costumes of Ladies—A Gay Basque and a Dismal Skirt—Review of a Day's Events. It is said that New York dressmakers are becoming agitated over the general dreariness in which Pittsburgh women now insist upon clothing themselves.

ONE FEELS DISPOSED TO PAT MR. WILLIAM STEAD ON THE SHOULDER. If he would permit application to be made as familiar form of address to the editor of the Review of Retirees on "Residential clubs for young men and women."

THE BURROWS WHICH FIDDLER CRABS LIVE IN are not only a curious matter, but are also a very interesting one. The burrows are made in a horizontal tunnel, each ending in a chamber where the occupant stays most of the time when not out for food.

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ADOLPHUS—I WANT YOU TO KNOW, Ethel, that my father will be disposed toward me, and will certainly give me a good send-off. Ethel—That's just what I have every mother's milk in me that he would never do.

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