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TERMS OF THE DISPATCH.

POSTAGE PREE IN THE UNITED STATES.

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20 cents per week. PITISBURG, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18.

TWELVE PAGES

CONSOLIDATION RUMORS. The report appeared in this city yesterday that the recent Rending deal has been extended so as to include the entire Baltimore and Ohio system; that the combination thus effected is really backed by Jay Gould, who, with his Western system, will thus control a great transcontinental chain of railroads, and is thus asserted to be the master of the railroad situation.

A great corporate transaction like the Reading deal-even though it has been much overestimated through the predominance of water in its capital-is generally followed by a cloud of rumors of this sort. It has also been the rule of late years that our old friend Jay Gould is discerned by the eagle eye of the rumor-monger in the background. It would be hazardous to assert positively that Jay Gould is not at the back of anything; but until there is more positive verification the report can be set down as improbable. It is not likely, simply for the reason that it indicates a sort of consolidation not in fashion at present. The consolidation which the Reading made with its rivals was that of competing lines for the suppression of competition. A consolidation of Jay Gould's western lines with connecting lines for the increase of competition, while that of the Baltimore and Ohio with the anthracite roads would be simply voking together two systems of entirely distinct character and purpose which are neither competing nor connecting lines in the large and important sense.

It is quite possible that the basis of the report is that the arrangement for the interchange of business between the Reading and the Baltimore and Ohio, already a clearly defined policy of the two companies, has been increased and strengthened in the late negotiations. This is so manifestly to the advantage of both corporations that it is to be taken as a matter of

GROWTH OF SLUM POPULATION,

Mr. Carroll D. Wright in a recent article on the growth of cities in this country, while recognizing that the increase of their population is out of proportion to the growth of the whole country, argues that this does not imply that the population in the slums is increasing. He thinks the growth is mainly in the line of suburban population, and points out the probability that there will be a still larger growth of the same sort in the near future.

While it would be satisfactory to adopt this belief to its fullest extent, we fear it will have to be accepted only as relatively true. Thus while the greatest proportion of growth is to be found in city suburbs, it is likely that there has still been an increase of population in closely packed courts and alleys. We fear an inspection of an accurate census by minor divisions will disclose that nearly every city has had an increase of population in the wards, where the gain necessitates the packing of the population like bees in a hive, and that the sum of vice, disease and want indicated by the tenement house population has grown rather than decreased as the country has gained in wealth.

The growth of the suburban districts occupies relatively the same place to urban population as the settlement of new land does to the agricultural population. If we compare the old and settled agricultural districts to the old and thickly built wards of the cities, it is much to be feared that we shall find that the population of the former has stood still or diminished while that of the latter has steadily grown.

CURIOSITIES OF PATERNALISM.

Strange ideas of the functions of government are making themselves manifest in some quarters. The Nineteenth Century theory, that government is solely for the protection of the persons and property of its subjects and the restraint of acts injurious to the rights of others, has had some wonderfully incongruous additions he built on it of late.

The imperious "war lord" of Germany, with his educational bill based on the dogma that it is the duty of government to see that the young are bred up in correct religious doctrine, furnished a striking example of the paternal theory. But the Kaiser was not satisfied with that. German custom gives flax-spinning parties, closely equivalent to the quilting parties of our grandparents' days, at which young people indulge in decorous flirtation or serious courting. The paternal William has discharged his duly of watchfulness over the welfare of the young by an edict decreeing that the head of each family must accompany the daughters to tinctly higher aim than the one who dethese gatherings, and that no girl under sixteen or boy under seventeen shall attend them under any circumstances. It is intimated that the Imperial mind will next devote itself to restraining the billing and cooing of the turtle-doves.

Yet even in republican America we are hardly so free from the absurdities of paternalism that we can turn up the nose of scorn at the eccentric William. A match for his follies is to be found in the | the behavior of the officials who had exproposal now pending in Congress to use the taxing power for the abolition of the deadly eigarette. THE DISPATCH the other day referred to the lengths to which this idea of reform by taxation might be carried; but no suggestion of that sort could carry the reductio ad absurdum further than this proposition to fire the heavy artillery of Federal taxation at the snipe of the cigarette habit. When the taxing power is employed to regulate the habits of the people even down to the smoking of cigarettes, there does not seem to be much left for legislation to interfere oned for drunkenness and disorderly

with except the evil of too heavy dinners or the crying abuse of the corn-producing shoe a size-and-a-half too small for the foot which it tortures.

These are curiosities of legislation almost qualified to take rank in the same museum as that imaginary measure which has aroused the opposition of the minority of the House Coinage Committee, for the exchange at the Treasury of sixteen silver dollars for one gold dollar.

THE SMOKE DISCUSSION.

The discussion of the smoke question at the Engineers' Society the other night will be of great use not only in attracting public attention to the agitation, but in defining the issue and indicating the lines on which relief from smoke must be sought. While there was a decided divergence of opinion, the actual result is to show that so far as present measures are concerned there is a ground for practical agreement.

Mr. William Metcalf, who appears somewhat in the light of an opponent of the anti-smoke movement, concedes that the smoke may be lessened by the use of devices in certain respects. But he holds that a hard and fast prohibitory law would simply drive away some of Pittsburg's important industries, the puddling of iron being the principal process in THE DAILY DISPARCH is delivered by carriers at the Daily Disparch is cents for week, or, including Sunday Edition, at tion of smoke is an absolute necessity. On the other hand, the leaders of the movement against the smoke do not propose to drive industry away from Pittsburg. They hold that the smoke may be lessened by various devices, the value of which has been demonstrated in actual practice; that to whatever degree the smoke is lessened by these devices is so much of a gain to the public; and they hope that, while the abolition of the preventable smoke is going on, science will

demonstrate that the same great advance

can be made in iron manufacture.

In this position there is nothing seriously conflicting with Mr. Metcalf's views. The departments in which smoke can be lessened are important enough to give plenty of occupation for the present. In this respect, namely, the reduction of smoke produced by steam boilers to a tithe, there is ample proof of its practicability. Within ten minutes' walk of THE DISPATCH can be found smoke appliances, which are working well and successfully. There are appliances which fail to meet the purpose; but any man who will take the trouble to investigate long enough to find a successful one, and then watch the chimneys from that plant in comparison with others, in which there are no such appliances, will go away convinced that the smoke from steam boilers can be reduced to one-tenth its present volume. If this was done for the down-town districts of Pittsburg and Allegheny the gain in cleanliness and light would be a vast one, the Baltimore and Ohio would be that of and the present damage from the smoke to goods, clothing and architecture would be very much reduced. Carry the same reform to the residence quarters remote from the iron mills, and the public gain would

be proportionately enhanced. While this work is going on there is certainly no reason to abandon the hope that scientific progress will advance toward the diminution of smoke from iron manufacture. If the gas process can be applied successfully to steel manufacture, as we gather, under correction, from Mr. Metcalf's paper, there is another immense cause of smoke removed. Coke is a smokeless fuel, and Mr. Metcalf's objection to the damage to rural districts from the process of manufacturing coke there evokes the pertinent answer that it is better to have the smoke where it is an inconvenience to scores of people than where it is | a drawback to thousands. But the manufacture of Connellsville coke wastes millions of feet of gas, and it is to be hoped that science in search of smokeless fuel will evolve a process by which gas shall be extracted from coal, as one fuel, and a second-grade of coke, as a by-product,

shall be left for another. With the importance of the object to be attained, there is no reason why work in the direction of smoke abolition should not be earnestly prosecuted. No one expects to see smoke entirely disappear; but with the effort directed toward abolishing what is how preventable, and the search for further inventions in that line, we will make steady progress toward the ultimate realization of a smokeless manufacturing

BATZAC IN REAL LIPE

One of Balzac's most powerful and at the same time repulsive stories, "Cousin Pons " told of an old man whose means were so limited that he depended on his relatives for his dinner, but who by a keen scent for rare works of art and bric-a-brac. which he picked up at nominal prices, amassed a collection worth hundreds of thousands. One of the strongest examples of the realism in fiction of which we hear so much nowadays is the story of the plots and cheats resorted to to defraud the poor old man of his valuable posses sions before he had drawn his last broath

The character and the circumstances which surround it are ant to strike the reader as overdrawn. But it is a striking fact that the character turns out to have been reproduced with practical fidelity in actual life by an old man whose death furnished an item to the New York papers and THE DISPATCH this week. In this case we have a man who for twenty years lived by himself in a lodging house there. His income was so restricted that he performed the necessary work of earing for his room, so that servants were never admitted. But during that time he had used whatever he had to spare from his slender income in buying works of art, and after his lonely death it is found that his room is packed full of paintings, statuettes and curious books. including many of unique and positive value.

Men like the imaginary Pons, and the real Gamage, who verified the creation of French fiction half a century after it was given to the world, are actuated by the miserly motive in an altered form. But it must be said that the man who gives his life to hoarding creations of art has a disvotes himself to hoarding gold and silver.

CHICAGO pas consumers are now assured by the President of the trust that the in-crease in their bills was due to the dishonesty of unqualified registry men, and that their grievances shall be righted at once. This must be good news for the consumers, and it is satisfactory to find a gas company so ready to admit that its servants we the wrong. But it will be interesting to note plained the increase on the score of extensions and improvements.

THE opinion expressed, apropos of the Reading deal's latest developments, that the next news will be that the combination has obtained control of a transcontinental line to the Pacific, is unwarranted by the indica tions. We may soon expect to hear that the Capitol has been bought up, and that the nation is in future to be run undisguisedly for the benefit of the monopolists.

THAT the heroine of the spinning house scandal at Cambridge, England, is impris-

duct should not prevent the measures under way for the removal of an institution which is an anachronism in this century, whatever may have been its uses in the past. There can be no doubt that the powers of the University are open to abuse, and the fact that the victim in this instance has lost her char-acter should in no wise militate against a reform that is much needed.

THE President's message to Congress on nine inspection is no doubt an excellent little campaign document. But it is none the less true, and worthy of national attention, that "Economies which involve a sacrifice of human life are intolerable." We can go further, and with equal truth, assert that such things are not economies but extravagances.

GOVERNOR MCKINLEY made a new departure in political tactics by his affable reception and recognition of the Democratic minority. Let us hope he was instigated by something more than a desire to make friends with the mammon of unrighteousness, and that his promise that the party should be fairly represented on the boards of trustees of State institutions is indicative of a spirit of justice, and an intention that fitness shall have some weight in assigning public appointments.

THE number of Anarchists now under arrest in Spain is evidence of the prompt measures which are being taken for their ion. The number and boliness of those still at large clearly shows the serious condition of social problems in that unhappy country, which has so woefully fallen from its quondam proud and high estate.

THE appointments of Chief Brown in the police department follow upon strictly civil service lines; and, apart from the capacity of the appointees, which is unquestioned, this represents the true princifor public service. If it could be applied in all cases the results would soon tell. Where the hope of promotion is held forth to men in all grades of public employment it acts as the best stimulus to faithful and satisfactory work.

cusation that pork packers in this country have fraudulently adopted the Canadian brand. We cannot afford to let the report pass unnoticed, and our packers will do well to vindicate their high standing by prompt disproof. PLAGUE, Pestilence and Famine with

Is is to be hoped that nothing but Cana-

dian jealousy is the foundation for the ac-

their three sisters, Poverty, Want and Care, are doing their work in Russia. These are irresistible allies, and the present agonies of that down-trodden and barbarous, country may be the birth throes of a happier state of existence. If there were ever an excuse and a call for revolution they are to be found in Russia now, and bloody though the transition would be, it could not fail to be the dawn of a brighter day.

POLITICAL clubs which insist on making Blaine their candidate for nomination, after his definite withdrawal from the contest, exhibit their folly by their disbelief in the sincerity of the man whom they admire.

ALTHOUGH the bill introduced into the Ohio Legislature providing that all baking powder containing alum, sold in that State shall bear a label to the effect that this is one of its ingredients, may be objected to on of as an advertisement, there can be no doubt that the public should in some man ner be insured against the adulteration of such a common article of food.

THE old saving about solitude in a crowd has seldom been more forcibly illustrated than by the life of Mr. Gamage, the artloving recluse of New York.

By the smallness of her appropriation for World's Fair purposes England is cutting off her nose to spite her face. There must be many men in Britain who are intelligent enough to see the shortsightedness of this parsimony, and no doubt they are chagrined by the news that progressive Japan has just quadrupled the amount which was con-sidered sufficient for English enterprise.

PERTINENT PERSONALITIES.

THE King of Greece speaks 12 languages. Pope every week.

THE ex-King Milan of Servia is the most frequent royal theater-goer in Europe. MADAME PATTI thinks that singing should be taught to a child as soon as it can

PRINCESS LOUISE, Marchioness of Lorne, going to follow her husband's example SETH LOWE, the youthful President of

Columbia College, is a man of somewhat portly figure, with the general appearance f a prosperous merchant or banker. FRANCES E. WILLARD recently refused

to enter the dining-room of the Sunset Club in Chicago until the dinner was over, lest she should see any of the diners in the act of impibing wine. MRS. JOHN A. DAVIS, of Chicago, as the nly surviving granddaughter of Lady Eleanor Stanhowe, succeeds to the title of

Lady Thrush Stanhowe and to Cavan House and the Clantalieu. THEY say that Thomas Nast, the great cartoonist, grows younger as the years pile up their burden on his shoulders. In his New Jersey home at Morristown he is some-

times seen cantering about on horseback

like a boy. HAD A HAND IN THE DEAL

Descon White Consulted the Stere Then the Racket Commenced.

NEW YORK, Feb. 17 .- S. V. White is credited with having had a hand in the recent Lackawanna deal, and is popularly supposed to have made quite a handsome sum toward re-covering his impaired fortune. The good deacon, as everybody knows, is addicted to the study of astronomy, and incidentally is believed to have more or less faith in as-trology as well. He has a powerful telescope on the roof of his house in Brooklyn. and ever since his recent disastrous attempt to corner the wheat market he is said to have been a more persistent student of the

have been a more persistent student of the stars than ever before. Night after night has found his best eye glued to the little end of the far seeing tube as he swept the firmament and calculated on the course of the shiuing orbs.

He was especially anxious for the conjunction of Venus and Jupiter, and calculated if they came together as expected it meant fame and fortune to him in the stock market. J. Pierpont Morgan was born under the planet Jupiter. With Morgan in the deal and Jupiter hobnobbing with the lucky star Venus, it meant that fortune would haver the great coal road deal then on foot. The Deacon watched and studied the stars. Nearer and nearer the two planets came to Nearer and nearer the two planets came to-gether, and on Friday, February 5, they touched. With a shout of joy the Deacon on and the boom boom." Next morning Lackawanna began to move up, and the world knows what a racket there was in the market before the week ended.

FILLED WITH SPLINTERS.

The Strange Sequal to an Accident of

Months Ago. Mr. Vernon, O., Feb. 17.—Last year Ford Wolverton tell from a scaffold on a Gambier street building and when picked up he was found to be a living splinter depository. To all appearances they were entirely removed, but the young man failed to recover. He suffered pains in the lower parts of his body and could not rest comfortably when he assumed certain positions.

and could not rest comfortably when he assumed certain positions.

Examinations revealed nothing until a day or two ago, when Dr. F. C. Larrimore located in the lower bowel a spinter which was pocketed in one side of the intestines, the other end being firmly embedded in the same manner. It required delicate surgery to remove the intruder. The splinter is five and a half inches long and over half an inch wide, though not very thick.

William's Trouble Just Begun.

Chicago Inter-Ocean. 1 Springer's free wool bill is now before the se. Our William's trouble has just begun. LIVE WASHINGTON WAIFS.

ate-Russian Hebrew Resolutions.

THE PITTSBURG DISPATCH, THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 18, 1892

Bryan's Free Binding Twine Bill Beady-Car Coupler Talk Before the Inter-State Commerce Committee of the Sen-

WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 17 .- The first of the reports from the Ways and Means Committee on the three tariff bills reported to the House has been prepared by Repre-sentative Bryan, of Nebraska, who drew up the bill. It is to accompany the bill making binding twine free of duty, and will be presented to the House in a day or two. The present rate of duty on binding twine, the report says, is seven-tenths le per pound, this rate having been fixed as a compromise in conference, after the Senate, by a vote of 34 to 24, had placed binding twine on the free list. The report adds: "That great industry, agriculture, which lies at the foundation of all others, and upon the wayfare of which all interests of the country so largely depend, has been neglected. It has been discriminated against for the benefit of the protected industries; and the injury has been aggravated by the imposition of useless duties upon a large number of agricultural products, under the pre-tence that such a tariff would increase the price of such products, although the farmer has been assured that a similar tariff on manufactured articles will not put up the price of the goods he buys. not put up the price of the goods he buys. The large part of the surplus products of the farm must be disposed of in a foreign market, and the price of that surplus, fixed by free competition, regulates the price of the portion sold at home. If the articles necessarily used by the farmer in the harvesting of his crops are made dearer for him than for his competitors he must bear the burden alone, for there is no one to whom be can transfer it. The tariff on binding twine cannot be justifled except upon the principle that the taxing power should be used to prevent importations entirely, and that prevent importations entirely, and that principle, besides being unsupported by constitutional authority, would destroy all income from imports, and compel us to look to some other source for the necessary

"There are in the United States 35 cordage and binding twine factories, 29 of which are owned and controlled by the National Cordage Company, of New York. The 29 in the trust—if it may be so termed—produce 60 per cent of the total output. There were produced and consumed in the United States in 1890, 50,000 tons of twine, all but 7,000 tons of which was made from foreign grown. in 1890, 50,000 tons of twine, all but 7,000 tons of which was made from foreign grown fibers. If the seven-tenths of 1 cent per pound is added to the price, as is probable, this tax cost the farmers of the United States, in the year 1890 alone, \$700,000, and this does not include a large additional sum charged for profits on the increased price by the various dealers through whose bands the product passed. Not one dollar of this large tax reached the Treasury. Surely there can be no excuse for allowing this trust to continue the exection of this tribute. The raw material from which this twine is made is already on the free list."

THE Senate Committee on Inter-State Commerce listened this morning to an argument by Hon. Richard Olney, of the Chicago Burtington and Onincy road, on a measure before the committee known as the pro-cedure bill, which contemplates the defininition of a method of procedure in hearing railroad cases before the Inter-State Commerce Commission. He held that the measure was unconstitutional, and that it should not be enacted into a law. George Crocker, of Boston, spoke in favor of the car coupler bill now Before the committee. Mr. Haines, President of the American Railroad Association, opposed any interference by Congress in the determination of the type of coupler to be used by railroads. Mr. Wilkinson, Grand Master of the Brotherhood of Trainmen, expressed the views of switchmen in the matter. He said they were in favor of prompt action, but believed no coupler had yet been invented which would give satisfaction. T. P. Sargeant, of Indianapolis, representing the Locomotive Engineers and Firemen's Association, thought a commission should be appointed composed of railroad officials and their mechanical employes, to test and make a thorough investigation into the best device to be adopted and to report its results to Congress for action. not be enacted into a law. George Crocker,

THE House Committee on Territories gave a hearing this morning to the opponents of the proposed legislation to give local government or "home rule" to the Territory of Utah, as proposed by the bill introduced by Mr. Caine, the delegate from that Territory. The committee was addressed by O. W. Powers, representing what is known as the Liberal party of Utah. That party, Mr. Powers said, was composed of Democrats and Republicans who, for the time being, had cast aside their national political preferences, and had joined hands for the purpose of building up an American State in the mountains. It was because the Mormon people were honest and sincere that the Liberal party oppose the measure—the time not having come for it, in its opinion. Much of Mr. Powers' argument was in refutation of several statements made on the other side of the question by H. W. Smith before the committee last week. He read to the committee last week. He read to the committee a letter from M. A. Breeden, an attorney, of Ogden Gity, stating that Mr. Smith had told him, before leaving that city for Washington, that "Statehood in Utah would be a great calamity; that if the Teller bill should become a law no Gentile could live in that Territory; that he had no faith in the Mormon people; that they were simply driving the people to gain power; and that as soon as the conditions were changed the brethren would have another revelation, re-establish polygamy, and drive Americans out of the Territory." The statements made in the letter were denounced by Mr. Smith as a lie. He denied having been in Ogden before coming to Washington, or having any conversation with Mr. Breeden. In refutation of statements made by Mr. Smith, calling in question the honor and probity of United States Judge Miner, of Utah, Mr. Powers read numerous telegrams from influential people denouncing as false all charges and read numerous telegrams from influential people denouncing as false all charges and imputations against the moral and judicial integrity of the Judge.

THE sub-committee to whom the Foreign Affairs Committee referred the four or five Russian Hebrew resolutions introduced in the House have reached an agreement upon this resolution to be reported: "Resolved, That the American people, through their Senators and Representatives in Congress assembled, do hereby express sympathy for the Russian Hebrews and their depressed condition, and the hope that the Govern-ment of Russia, a power with which the United States has always been on terms of United States has always been on terms of amisy and good will, will mitigate as far as possible the decrees lately issued respecting them." The sub-committee added to this resolution the following amendment: "And the President is requested to use his good offices to induce the Government of Russia to mitigate said decrees."

THE leaders of the contest in the House for free coinage of silver have received from Speaker Crisp assurances that a special order will be brought in the House in favor of the free coinage bill. The Speaker told them as soon as Mr. Catchings, of Mississippi, who is at present in New York on business, returns to Washington, that the Ruies Committee will meet and will take prompt action upon the Bland resolution making the mittee will meet and will take prompt ac-tion upon the Bland resolution making the silver bill a special order. The Speaker has assured them that he is in favor of consider ation of the bill, and of it being finally dis-posed of in the House within a reasonable time.

SENATOR CARRY to-day reported to the Senate from the Committee on Education or, with a favorable recommendation, a bill in the nature of a substitute providing for the adjustment and payment of the accounts of laborers and mechanics arising under the eight-hour law. It pro-vides that suits for claims may be prose-cuted in the Court of Claims.

REPRESENTATIVE BANKHEAD, of Alabama, to-day introduced in the House a reso-lution authorizing the Judiciary Committee to investigate the published charges against Hon. Andrew P. McCormick, United States District Judge for the Northern District of Texas.

A RILL was reported to the House to-day appropriating \$50,000 for the construction of a revenue cutter for use in the San Fran cisco harbor.

THE House Committee on Labor will ask the House to authorize it to investigate the charges concerning the employment of convict labor on public works and the use by the government of materials and supplies, the product of convict labor. The con mittee, after exhausting its present authority for obtaining information on this ques for obtaining information on this ques-tion, has no information that convict labor is being used by the Government in the con-struction or repair of the public buildings or other public works or that the product of convict labor is being furnished to or for the use of any Department of the Govern-ment, or that the product of convict labor is being used upon public buildings or other

public works. The committee thinks if this practice prevails it should be prohibited. It it does not prevail they owe it to themselves and those persons they represent to demonstrate its non-existence.

SECRETARY FOSTER said this afternoon that there was nothing in the financial con dition of the Treasury to cause the least uneasiness, and that it was simple to that he contemplated the use of the \$100,000. 000 gold reserve to meet the current obliga tions of the Government. He said also that tions of the Government. He said also that while the present net cash balance of \$27,-500,000 consisted almost entirely of subsidary coin and money on deposit with national banks, it did not include the national bank redemption fund of \$5,500,000 and disbursing officers' balances amounting to \$25,000,000, both of which sums are subject to the action of the department, and should not be regarded as "demand liabilities."

SURBOUNDED BY WATERSPOUTS.

The Steamship Kelat Had to Do Some

Lively Dodging. New York, Feb. 17 .- Captain McKay, of the ship Kelat, which arrived yesterday, says that during two days of the trip his vessel was kept busy dodging waterspouts.
"We passed about a dozen of them," he continued, "a whole family, in fact, containing large and small members. We had several narrow escapes, and consider ourselves lucky in getting through without injury or loss of life." The Kelat sailed from Chitta gong, India, on October 21 last, with a cargo of jute, and several times during the voyage the crew feared that they would never reach New York. The ship is one of the best of her kind afloat, and her captain is an experienced seaman. On the 12th of this perienced seaman. On the 12th of this month the first of the waterspouts appeared. The vessel was then in latitude 25° north, longitude 55° west. At about the middle of the afternoon a great column of water seemed to rise suddenly from the ocean about 100 yards ahead of the vessel. It whirled around like a tower on a pivot, the summit extending above the tallest of the masts.

masts.

The ship was making good headway at the time and was dangerously close to the immense body of water. Captain McKay gave his orders quickly and the Kelat changed her course to avoid the fall. The sight was a beautiful. beautiful one to contemplate at a safe distance. The sun was shining brightly and the great column sparkled like diamonds. The column curved and finally disintegrated The column curved and finally disintegrated in drops like those of an unusually heavy rainstorm. The ship had scarcely cleared the danger when a smaller spout started up about half a mile away on the port bow. It was succeeded by one after another until more than a dozen had appeared. One great column seemed 12 or 15 feet in diameter and was near enough to make it necessary to tack a second time in order to avoid a catastrophe. A sharp lookout was kept during the night, but nothing further occurred until the next afternoon, when another display of spouts of various sizes occurred. These, however, were all at a safe distance from the vessel. Their disappearance was followed by unusually severe gales from the southwest, west and northwest, during which considerable damage was done on deck.

DIVORCED IN HIS TEENS.

A Young Man Pays \$1,000 a Year Rather Than Live With His Wife.

Baltimore, Feb. 17.—[Special.]—Malcolm Parker, a young man still in his teens, has been granted an absolute divorce from his wife, Minnie Parker. Parker's family is among the wealthiest here, and when Malcolm's father died B. F. Newcomer, the china importer, was appointed his guardian. The boy, well provided with funds, traveled at pleasure. Last spring, while in Philadel-phia, he met Annie Birch, a handsome girl

at pleasure. Last spring, while in Philadelphia, he met Annie Birch, a handsome girl three years his senior. He forthwith fell in love and married her then and there. The groom's mother, who moves in the best society refused to recognize her daughterin-law, whereupon the couple settled down in Philadelphia. For a month they lived together apparently contented.

Cue day, however, Malcolm disappeared. His wife, after waiting a reasonable time, brought three suits against Mys. Parker, Mr. Necomber and Mr. Frank Ehlen, the latter her husband's uncle. She charged them with kidnaping her husband and restraining him of his liberty. The latter denied this, and claimed that the boy was invelgled into marriage. Ever since then the lawvers have been trying to effect a settlement, and last month agreed that, in consideration of \$1,000 per annum, Mrs. Parker, Birch, should not contest a suit for divorce brought by the husband. This agreement has been carried out.

DETECTED BY A PARROT.

How a Swindler Was Exposed by a Wise Chicago Bird,

CHICAGO, Feb. 17 .- Edward A. Trask, the notorious swindler who was arrested on a charge of obtaining money by false pretenses, appeared before Justice Glennon yesterday. On January 15 Trask called on a jeweler and, representing himself to be worth \$90,000, purchased some jewelry that came to \$168. He gave the jeweler a bogus

came to \$163. He gave the jeweler a bogus draft.

The jeweler was unable to locate Trask, and he even went so far as to offer a reward for information as to his whereabouts. Trask roomed at \$34 West Lake street, and the information which led to his arrest came in a very novel manner. The husband of the woman who rented the room to Trask left home eight months ago to attend to business in Virginia. The couple were devotedly attached to each other, and they parted with tears and kisses. The parrot screamed "Papa, papa," a word always used when the head of the family was about. Retwining, the husband found the parrot had added a name to his exclamation "Papa." It said "Papa Trask." The indignant husband gave the police a tip and they arrested and gave the police a tip and they arrested

PLAYS TO COME.

"THE CHARITY BALL," which has already been favorably received in this city, will be again presented by Charles Frohman's company at the Alvin next week. The scenery for the production is all new, and the mount ing, which is so necessary to the "Charity Ball," will be all of a highly artistic order. As a society play "The Charity Ball" is still a strong attraction.

THE engagement of Margaret Mather at the Bijou next week will possess unusual inter-est from the first performance here of her new play, "The Egyptian," which was produced on Monday last in Chicago. "The Egyptian" is founded on Victor Hugo's great story, "The Hunchback of Notre Dame," and it is said to afford Miss Mather, who is so well liked in Pittsburg, a great chance to display her talents as Esmeralda. Mr. Otis Skinner and a good company will support Miss Mather.

MANAGER David Henderson's spectacular production of "Sinbad" is now enjoying its second week in Pittsburg this season. The house is packed nightly to its extreme limit, and the Wednesday matinee, yesterday, was even larger than the Wednesday matinee of the previous engagement. Another fact has Mr. Henderson. Pittsburg will support a meritorious attraction two weeks. The sec-ond edition of "Sinbad" is to be given next week, and already the advance sale for the second week indicates that it will be just as large as the first. Pittsburg's second edition will introduce a number of new features, including the celebrated Spanish danser the Chitten sisters; also new songs, new dances and new jokes. Manager Hender will bring his new play next season for

BLUSHES IN THE SKY. THE aurora borealis is cheaper than elec-

tric light. Here is a chance for capital .-Ir looked a little suspicious for the sky to be painted red so soon after the meeting of

Jupiter and Venus .- Chicago Times. SATURDAY night's aurora borealis has not yet been claimed by the Hill men of New York, because they only want the earth.— THE aurora borealis was exhibited from

the Atlantic to the Pacific and from the lakes to the gulf. It was the finest spectacular performance of the season.-Boston WHATEVER the aurora borealis may signify,

it certainly does not presage a Democratic victory next fall. That is one thing that cannot possibly happen under this year's conditions.—St. Louis Giobe-Democrat. It is offered as an explanation of the celes.

the heavens may have been blushing for the recent labors of Mr. Hill and his friends in Albany. It takes a big section of the universe to do an amount of blushing adequate to the deeds of some of the Tammany min

IN THE GAY WHIRL.

Notes of Social Events of the Past and of

Those to Come, The promised exhibition of the recent pictures and sketches of Pittsburg's artists will be opened this evening by one and seventy-third reception of the Art Society at the Academy of Science and Art building. Pittsburg artists have been industriously engaged during the winter and it is hinted that some of their works are of the first order of merit. Many of these will be exhibited and it is expected that those present at the reception will obtain an ex-cellent idea of the status of this branch of creative art.

IT was a quiet wedding party that gathered in the parlors of the Rev. Charles Ed-ward Locke, on Dinwiddle street, last night, at 9:30, to witness the marriage ceremony of Miss Mary Porter and Edwin O. Christy Only the immediate friends of the contract-ing parties attended. After the marriage the delighted parties were driven to the Hotel Schlosser, where a wedding supper

Miss Dorothy Bishop talked interestingly upon the Del Sarte system at the Allegheny High. School yesterday afternoon. Miss Bishop found much to admire in the system and awakened quite an enthusiasm in the hearts of those who heard her on the sub-ject.

Mrs. Mary A. Livermore will lecture this evening on "The Boy of To-Day" at the Fourth Avenue Baptist Church. Mrs. Livermore is a charming talker and is able to make the most of a subject such as she will handle. The lecture is under the auspices of the Woman's Press Club, which bespeaks success for its reception in advance.

The ladies of the Arch Street M. E. Church will give their usual supper this evening in the lecture room of the church. These suppers are becoming events of real pleasure to the members of the church and their friends. Calvary Church ladies this afternoon and

evening, will spread a supper in Gymnasium Hall, East End, and will offer dainty works and wares for sale. The proceeds are to be devoted to the good of the church, and as the ladies are noted for their good works and charity as well as for the cordiality of their receptions they will no doubt reap a rich re-ward for their labors.

A rehearsal for the tableaux to be given for the benefit of Emory M. E. Church, on March 8 and 9, took place last evening in the lecture room of the church. About 40 or 50 young ladies and gentlemen were present, and, judging from the interest taken, the colonial reception promises to be

A reception will be given at the residence of Mrs. J. C. Porter, on Beech street, Alle-gheny, on Thursday of next week in honor of Miss Geyer, of Washington, D. C.

The wedding of Miss Stella Brennen and Mr. J. G. Vilsack is announced for next Wednesday at the St. Agnes' Church on Fifth avenue. The happy couple will go South on their wedding trip.

The Western University Glee Club will give its first concert to-morrow evening at the Central Presbyterian Church. A programme of 12 numbers has been arranged and as there is to be an orchestral accompa-niment the affair will be an event of the first

DEATHS HERE AND ELSEWHERE.

/James Beard, Traveler,

James Heard died Monday of apoplexy at the home of his nephew, Captain W. H. Wilson, of Black Rock, Conn. He was born on the Isle of of Black Rock, Conn. He was born on the Isle of Man, but when young ran away to sea. Early in life he became a Mason, and had attained to the highest eminence in that order, having taken the degree with the Prince of Wales. Forty-six years ago he disappeared, and up to two years ago was not heard of. At that time he was in Fort Angeles, Wash. During his absence he had visited nearly not heard of. At that time he was in Fort Angeles, Wash. During his absence he had visited nearly every leading city in the world. While he was in the Northwest on a prospecting tour for the Government several years ago he was selzed with an attack similar in all outward appearance to the apoplectic shock which killed him. The attending physician pronounced him dead, and he was to have been buried on the following morning. A fire swept the town that night and burned the undertaking establishment, but the body was rescued. It became necessary to keep him several days before a casket could be secured, and, during that time, he awoke from his trance. His mind had remained active, but his body was paralyzed, and no heart movement was perceptible, and be sould do nothing.

B. C. Benham.

B. C. Benham, one of the most respected citizens of Beaver Falls, died yesterday morning from pneumonia. Deceased had long been a resident of the Beaver Valley, and was widely known in that section, as also in Pittsburg, where his son, Rev, DeWitt M. Benham, is pastor of the Point Breeze Presbyterian Church. Mr. Benham was 63 years old, and was one of the pioneer explorers of California during the gold excitement of 1840. Deceased lives a family, consisting of his widow, Mrs. Benham, the Rev. DeWitt M. Benham, Mr. W. M. Benham and Miss Marie Benham, who have the sympathy of a wide circle of friends in their beravement. The funeral will take place to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock at Beaver Falls.

Attorney J. W. Gilson, Canton.

J. W. Gilson, a leading attorney of Can ton, O., and prominent throughout Northern Ohio as a legal advocate, died there yesterday morning of diabetes, aged 43 years. He went to that city three years ago from Westmoreland county. Ps., and immediately assumed a high place at the bar.

Adam Neinhauser.

Adam Neinhauser, father-in-law of M. M. Frey, the well-known Diamond street caterer, died on Tuesday at the residence of his son-in-law after on ruesday at the residence of his son-in-law after a long and severe illness. Mr. Neinhauser was in his 72d year, and resided for 33 years in the Fif-teenth-ward. The funeral will take place from the residence of Mr. Frey, No. 60 Diamond street, at 8:30 A. M. to-day.

MR. SVERDRUP, ex-Prime Minister of Norway EBENEZER R. CURTIS postmaster of Maple town-ship, Pa., for 43 years, died Monday in his 80th year. REV. WILLIAM MORRISON, S. J., of the George-

Obituary Notes.

town, D. C., University, died there, Tuesday, of HENRY HARNICK, a well-known musician of the

HENRY HARNICK, a well-known musician of the Cumberland Valley, died in Chambersburg Monday night, aged 50 years. right name was Dennis Reagan. He had been on the stage nearly 20 years, and was a valuable per-former in burlesque. George Duew, formerly noted as a minstrel and variety comedian, is dead in San Francisco, aged 38. He was a native of Philadelphia, and his

AFTER a long illness Mrs. Babetta Loewenthal, aged 63 years, wife of S. Loewenthal, of No. 303 Locust street, died yesterday morning at 2 o'clock. The funeral will be held to-morrow morning at 10 DR. H. W. WELLER, of No. 125 Irwin avenue, died Tuesday. He is a war veteran, and member of the One Hundredth Pennsylvania Volunteers. The latter will meet this afternoon at 2 o'clock to at-

JOSEPH F. BEREY, theatrical manager, who died in San Antonio, Tex., recently, had at various times directed the tours of Katle Putnam, Carrie Swain, J. H. Waltick, Marguerite Fish and other stars. At the time of his death he was assistant manager of the Grand Opera House in San An-

A HIPPOPOTAMUS WITH THE GRIP. He Is a Big Fellow and His Doses of Medi-

cine Are Proportional.

New York, Feb. 17.—[Special.]—Caliph, the big hippopotamus at Central Park, was con-valescent to-day. For a week he lifas been suffering from an attack of the grip. Superintendent Conklin thinks Caliph has been suffering from stomach ache. Caliph is 18 feet around the belt, and his stomach aches are big in proportion. His temper has been very disagreeable, and he has spent much of his time sulking in his tank. He does not approve of medicine, and it took seven keepers, a veterinary surgeon and Mr. Conklin to force down his throat a few pills containing croton oil and other thing, and in size somewhat smaller than a football. These big does were poked down his throat with a pole withe he was lassoed to an iron railing in his cage. suffering from stomach ache. Caliph

while he was lassed to an fron railing in his cage.

Camph was fenced off from the rest of the family to-day, and he spent most of his time pudding around in his tank. Callph's death would mean the loss of a specimen which could hardly be replaced, and he is sure to receive the best care. His dose of phenaceth was increased from 1,600 to 1,200 grains to-day, but the water in his cage was heated beyond its usual temperature.

Eager to Practice the Gospel. Chicago News.]

Andrew Carnegie is still preaching the "gospel of wealth" and a trembling multi-tude is still eager for the opportunity to practice-it.

CURIOUS CONDENSATIONS.

-Razorville is the unique name e in Maine.

-The daily consumption of salt in Louis is said to be nearly 1,000 pounds.

-Twenty English and American wom are studying at the University in Leipsic.

-A young man of Rockville, Conn., b had a coat made of the coons he has als -One hundred thousand young lan

locked salmon are to be placed in Mac waska Lake, Maine, this year. -It is said that one woman in every

in London is a gin drinker, or in every 20 pauper and one in 13 illiterate. -There are 400 widows of Confedera soldiers on the Georgia State pension li which compels an annual tax of \$400,000. -Berlin has 191 common schools wi

3,723 classes and 2,869 class rooms. The tendance on last January was 86,309 boys at 88,878 girls. -The jelly-fish hasn't any teeth, but us himself just as if he were a piece of pap when he is hungry, getting his food and the wrapping himself about it.

-An inventor in Michigan has devised typewriter for musical composers which, I claims, will greatly facilitate operations ar secure very satisfactory results. -Marriage licenses were issued in Ch

cago last week to John Zadjackowski, Hau zek Kacalek, Tang Yon Psolo Kagaen Rozalia Manalyutz and Pawel Kzyezt Wrakz. -England's last and best warship, ti Bleuheim, has boilers as leaky as all or mo of the others. There is probably hardly ship in the British navy with boilers real

fit for use. -A curious case of perverted appetite i reported from Germantown, Pa. A dog

that town refuses to cat sweet meats, but di poses of onions, turnips and potatoes wit greediness. -The ocean cables of the world no stretch over 129,250 miles. There are 1,0

cables in all, nearly all of English man facture. Most of the cables are owned an operated by private corporations. -Prussia's income from the cultivate public domain is about \$4,000,000 annuali The total number of employes in the Go-ernment postal and telegraph offices and c the Government railways is 187,771.

country will be that now in process of co struction across the Colorada river at As tin, Tex. It will be when completed, I feet long, 80 feet high, and 18 feet wide at th top. -Plays in Paris generally begin at o'clock and never finish until about mic

-The largest power dam yet built in the

night. If they were over earlier the aud ence would not think that they had receive their money's worth of bad air and goo -The French artists are making so muc noney in portrait painting that the exh

bitions now show a disproportionately green number of portraits. Eight thousane dollar for a full length picture is said to be about the top price. -The mortality from measles in England s said to exceed anything that can thus fa is said to exceed anything that can thus in be attributed to the influenza. There ar 13,000 deaths from measles annually in Eng-land and Wales, and the mortality has in creased greatly during the last decade.

-The cost of lighting the World's Fai at Chicago will be about ten times the cos-for the lighting of the exposition held a Paris. The figure is at present placed a \$1,500.000, and it is estimated that the ligh and power plant will be one of at leas 22,000 horse-power. -Although in the ordinary course of things it is the general rule for the heirs at

parent to the thrones of Europe to marry a soon as they arrive at a fitting age, the his tory of England alone affords several excep-tions to a practice which is rendered neces-sary by reasons of the highest policy. -Axolotl, or fish with legs, is the name Mexicans give to a queer creature which car swim like a fish or run up a smooth wal like a fly; can live and grow when kept con stantly in water like a true fish, and yet can live and grow entirely away from water (ex cepting a little to drink) like a true air breathing animal.

-Singular as it may appear, the German capital maintains and pays an official birdcatcher. The catching of birds is prohibited catter. The catching of birds is prohibited but the collections and educational institutions of the university require, for scientific purposes, birds, birds, eggs, nests, etc., and the taxidermist, Lemm, is the only person commissioned to furnish them.

-The Chinese and the Japenese eat every thing that comes out of the sea. All the fishes are good to their taste, and are caugh with great skill. Sea weeds of several sorts are sent far into the interior to be used in thickening soups, gravies and puddings, and are highly prized because they give a relishing flavor of sait, which is a luxury beyond the reach of most Chinese peasants.

-Among the recent innovations in Berlin is a matrimonial clubhouse. It is a large, roomy building, divided into several apartments, in one of which portraits of each woman subscriber are exhibited, with ful descriptions of her age, talents, fortune, color of hair, eyes, etc., size of hands and feet, and general contour. There is also a brief account of her life, whether widow or

-In Danzig two weeks ago the shopkeeper Gode, from Pasewalde, was sen-tenced to eight days' imprisonment for frightening his mother in-law, Frau Weiss, with a telegram. Gode owed Frau Weiss money, and she provoked him by writing for it. She had once warned Gode never to send her a telegram, as she "was so nervous that it would kill her." Immediately after receiving the dun from her, Gode telegraphed back: "My wife is dead." Frau Weiss fainted, and was ill for a week before she learned that Frau Gode was well. frightening his mother-in-law, Fran Weiss

-There is no need now for any man forgetting his engagements, no matter however much occupied his time may be. A recent invention is made up of a be. A recent invention is made up of a switchboard, connected with a clock and annalarm, so arranged that, by plugging the proper hole in the switchboard, the alarm will be rung by an electric current at any time desired. All a man has to do in order to be sure to remember his engagements is to plug up the proper holes in the morning, and when the times for keeping them come round, the alarm will be automatically rung.

HUMORESQUE LORE.

"You know," said the young man who vanted to clope, "that love laughs at locksmiths."

"Yes," she answered, "but it doesn't go this
lime. All my jewelry is in the safety deposit vault, and papa has the key, "- Washington Star. "All the world loves a lover, the poets

say, And I'm your lover, sweet May, " said he. "Not all the world loves a lover," said May: "There's one exception, and that is me." Mrs. Bawnso-I regret to learn that your

daughter's cough is no better. Of course, you have employed the best medical talent. Mrs. Grubstakes-Oh, yes; no expense has been pared. We think now of trying this new gold cure that everybody is talking about .- Puck, I remember, I remember, The hickory trees so high That I would climb with hope to bag Some shellbarks on the siy.
Of course it was a childish whim

But ah! 'twas little joy
To find how Farmer Jones' dog
Could masticate a boy.

—Boston Courier. Mrs. Dix-Hicks will get a cold snack tonight in place of a hot dinner.
Dix—Anything wrong over there? Mrs. Dix-He told Mrs. Hicks this was bargain

day at the postoffice, when they sold 13 stamps 134 cents.—Ariel News. There's many a man of bluster, As bluff as you can find,
Who blows in all directions,
Yet can not raise the wind.

-Smith, Gray & Co.'s Monthly.

He-You can always tell when a woman has told all she knows about a piece of neighbor

He-She concludes with, "I should be giad to tell

rou all about it, but my lips are scaled. "-N. Y. The gas man when your bill you pay Assumes a light and airy way. But as to what we burn at night-The stuff is airier far than light.
Witshin

Stern Father-Are you aware, sir, that my daughter has always been accustomed to every luxury that money could buy? The young man—Yes; but, bless you, that won't make any difference with me. I'd just as the

make any difference with me. I'd just as ite marry that kind of girl as any other.—Chicago Tribune,