The Dispatch.

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PITTSBURG, THURSDAY, MARCH 10.

TWELVE PAGES

INCREASED TAXATION INDICATED.

Twelve mills—which is announced to be the millage fixed by the sub-committee having the matter in charge—on a valuation of $245,000,000, is an increase of $240,000 on the tax levy of last year, which was 15 mills on a valuation of $180,000,000. In addition to that the city can safely count on increased revenue from licenses of an equal amount, while it has an available asset of $150,000 appropriated last year on account of the unfinished streets. These figures, therefore, contemplate an increased expenditure for the coming year of over $600,000.

There is no possible excuse for any increase in expenditures. The total of appropriations last year was the largest ever known, and when we take into account that in departments of expenditure covering one-third the total there has been no appreciable enlargement, it leaves us the remarkable increase in the other departments of nearly two hundred per cent in ten years. If the increase contemplated by the figures published yesterday is permitted it will establish a scale of expenditure in two departments of the city government three and a half times what they were in 1882.

This is to be corrected by closely scrutinizing the appropriation ordinance when that document sees the light. If the appropriations are kept down to the proper limits that twelve-mill tax levy can be reduced to ten mills.

RETALIATION WITHOUT WAR.

The talk of Jingoes on both sides of the Atlantic about war as a result of the Bering Sea dispute should be shut down on as speedily as possible, not so much for its liability to mischief as for its unadulterated idiocy. Neither nation can afford to fight each other on such a quarrel. It is especially absurd for the United States to talk of war for a multiplicity of reasons. In the first place in a naval contest, such as this must be, the United States would be at a very great disadvantage. Next, all the seals in the Pacific Ocean are not worth a day's actual hostilities. Finally, when the Government has submitted to arbitration whether sealing outside the three-mile limit is within its jurisdiction it cannot consistently engage in hostilities to support a right which it has consented to adjudicate.

But if Lord Salisbury continues his present unfair attitude, the United States has a perfectly available means of retaliation. One of the subjects of arbitration is as to international concert to preserve the seals. If the English Government will not continue the preservation pending the arbitration the United States need not do so either. Let the North American Commercial Company kill all the seals on the rookeries this year and the Canadian sealers will come back with light loads.

This would probably extinguish the sealing industry; but if that is to be done anyway the United States might as well get the revenues from it. When it is done, the nation will be rid of a matter that has cost a good deal more squabbling and worry, political and international, than it is worth.

THE NEW COLLECTOR.

The protracted uncertainty with regard to the Collectorship of Internal Revenue for this district was ended yesterday when the President nominated George W. Miller for the position. The principal significance of the appointment is in the fact that the fruits of victory are carried off by Mr. Dalzell. Mr. Miller's qualifications for the position, like those of Mr. Graham, are unquestioned; but the fact that Mr. Quay has no longer a speaking acquaintance with the Federal machine sticks out strongly between the lines.

So far as the incumbency of the office is concerned, Mr. Miller will be an efficient and reliable Collector, and his appointment will be satisfactory to the wide circle of that gentleman's friends and acquaintances.

A DIFFERENCE IN PRIVILEGES.

The statement that the total of claims filed on behalf of the sailors injured in the Valparaiso riot amount to $2,065,000, not including those who were killed, suggests reflections on the protection to life and person afforded to American citizens abroad as compared with the same protection in their own country. No one will dispute that citizens of the United States should be fully protected in foreign lands; but should there not be some similarity in the measure of protection afforded to citizens in their own land?

The general estimate of the law is that $5,000 is the limit of damages to be paid by railroad and other corporations for each life lost by their neglect of precautions. This limit has crystallized into statutes or a rule of law in some States, and it was supposed to be an invariable rule in the practice of this State until a year or two ago. Verdicts of $20,000 to $30,000 for permanent maiming have been cut down by the courts as excessive. Yet here we have an average claim of over $125,000 for each individual injured in the Valparaiso riot, or twenty-five times the rate generally assessed on corporations for killing a man in this land of the free.

Of course it will be said that the cases are different, and that the damages claimed from Chile are exemplary damages. But why is there not the same basis for exemplary damages in one case as in the other? The ground for the claim on the Chilean Government, which is not against the rioters, is that it neglected to furnish the necessary protection to the lives and persons of our sailors in Valparaiso. The ground for the complaint against railroads, mine owners and others who are responsible for loss of life or injury of persons is that they neglect the necessary precautions to protect persons exposed to danger. The necessity for protection is fully as urgent in one case as in the other; yet the measure of damages is put on an immensely varying scale.

It can hardly be wondered at if the common people should discover in this contrast an involuntary avowal of the principle that American railway and mining corporations are entitled to much cheaper privileges in the line of killing and maiming American citizens than are conceded to foreign Governments.

WE WANT LESS VICE.

The Keeley system has attracted more than usual attention lately by reason of the sensational attacks made on it from various quarters and the recent proceedings before the New York Legislature. That public faith in the cure is unimpaired is shown by the increasing demands for treatment all over the country, and the necessity for opening a fourth institution in this State. The cases cited by opponents, even if they were better supported by evidence, are hardly worthy of consideration in comparison with the number of those whose return to sobriety is entirely undisputed. It must be remembered, too, that, even though a few cases should result fatally to the patients, their systems have been so sapped, and their constitutions so ruined by the habits of which they were the victims, that it is impossible with justice to lay the cause of their death to the treatment received in the attempt to wean them from their cravings.

The liquor interests are naturally arrayed against methods which successfully make inroads on their traffic. Professional jealousy is invariably opposed to secret cures in proportion to their success, yet Dr. Keeley has the same right to keep his formula unpublished as has every inventor to profit by his patent. The whole question resolves itself into one of whether the community is benefited by the institutions or the reverse. And while many lives are brought back to usefulness, there can be no doubt about the matter, even though occasionally individuals seeking remedies for their vicious habits end a painful and obnoxious existence a trifle sooner than they would, if left to the influences which have enslaved them. Anything which tends to reduce the total of depravity is of advantage to humanity and will continue to receive the support of public opinion.

DALZELL'S GOOD WORK.

Mr. Dalzell made another demonstration of his ability in advancing the progress of a national project in which Western Pennsylvania is particularly interested by urging before the Committee on Rivers and Harbors the appropriation for a survey of the Ohio river and the Lake Erie Ship Canal. On the same day he urged the Secretary of the Navy to recognize the importance of the city by naming cruiser No. 6 "The Pittsburg."

Mr. Dalzell's active and able advocacy of the ship canal project is certain to be of great aid. The material and commercial values of that great enterprise have been fully urged by the thorough work of the Ship Canal Commission; but what was needed, was a man of national position with the perception of the value of the project necessary to assume its advocacy, and with the ability to make that advocacy effective. Mr. Dalzell furnishes the lacking element as no other man in Western Pennsylvania could, and his leadership in the movement furnishes the best promise for its ultimate success. So long as Mr. Dalzell devotes his energies to such work he can rely on the united and enthusiastic support of all Western Pennsylvania.

A RESULT OF CORPORATE RULE.

It is instructive to read in the *Railway Age* a statement of the causes of the great railway blockade just raised after three months of congestion. The cause is briefly stated to be that the capacity of the lines east of Chicago is not adequate to the demands liable to be made on them at any time of heavy freight movement. During the past fifteen years the railway systems west of Chicago and St. Louis have been practically created to furnish transportation to a dozen States which, previous to that time, were prairie and desert. "With unlimited freight offered them," says the *Railway Age*,—as was practically the case for a while this winter—"the Western lines can at any time choke the Eastern lines in two or three weeks' time."

In the light of this another fact assumes a peculiar character. It is but a few years since the railway and banking powers of New York joined in an edict that no more trunk lines were to be allowed through New York or Pennsylvania. That pronunciamento of the corporate magnates was the fruition of the South Penn deal, and it proved of more binding force in actual effect than the enactments of the Constitution or the mandates of the courts. It now appears that the corporate decree not only displayed its superiority to the law but actually resulted in leaving the country without adequate railway facilities for the full development of its traffic.

Probably the trunk line magnates can find consolation in increased earnings from the fact that during three months they have been unable to handle the business of the country. But the results of arbitrary and absolute corporate rule do not appear so satisfactory from the standpoint of the public.

INCAPABLE OF CITIZENSHIP.

Another mob, this time located in Memphis, Tennessee, has declared by its action that the people who compose it are not sufficiently instructed in the duties of citizenship to require a fair administration of justice. This is the only conclusion possible when a mob takes prisoners from jail and shoots them without a trial. If the law cannot be trusted to administer justice and punish criminals it is the fault of the people. If the administration of law is efficient, a still more egregious incapacity for self-government is shown by mobs that usurp the right to commit murder.

It is time to speak out plainly, and assert the principle that people who assume the right to kill others, black or white, not only commit murder, but prove their own incapacity for citizenship in a country governed by law.

IT is a mistake to argue that those men voting for a consideration of Bland's bill have committed themselves to its principles. There is reason to believe that several votes were cast with the majority from a feeling that the sooner the matter is decided the better it will be for the country.

WHEN citizens presume to take the law into their own hands, as they did in Memphis, a general condition of lawless rioting is the natural and inevitable result.

THE long threatened bombardment of the Tariff was begun yesterday and the Republican party will rejoice in the fray. There is no standard like Protection to fight and win under. Its strength is but the more clearly shown by the nature of the attacks made upon it.

THERE will be much rejoicing at the saving of time and annoyance which will follow the decision that peddlers, canvassers and book agents must be licensed.

WHAT a wonderful sacrifice of private opinion to public necessity, and the delights of a salary, is displayed by the announcement that a public executioner who has dismissed two hundred criminals to their account is opposed to the principle of capital punishment.

A WOMAN who attends a dinner while her husband is in jail for shooting her supposed lover must be as lacking in common sense as common decency.

EUROPE is evidently the proper and most reliable source of American news, since it is from Antwerp that the information comes of a frustrated desire on the part of our Government to purchase the Kongo Free State.

RICH or poor, Creede has thoroughly established its claim to be considered as a mining camp by its repudiation and disregard of established law.

THE movement to supply McKeesport with an efficient fire department should not be supposed to have any direct connection with that city's arrangements for lighting with electricity. Both measures are signs of progress.

THE Finance Committee of Councils have started aright in pruning the appropriation ordinance. It only remains for Councils to cut deeper and surer.

WITH the King of Sweden and Sarah Bernhardt as practical certainties at the World's Fair, and the prospect of other European luminaries, Kaiser Wilhelm will not be so very much missed after all.

THIS is good weather for the young ducks, but it is a cold day for seals outside of diplomatic circles.

IT would be a gentle token of esteem for the men who elected Speaker Crisp to provide him with some sort of pocket refrigerator to enable him to keep cool under the fire of debate.

HONESTY is the best policy, but William Losey dreamed otherwise and played a losing game.

THERE is quite an epidemic of stage quarrels just now. In one instance, at least, it cannot be said that

The flowers that bloom in the spring, tra-la,
Have nothing to do with the case.

WHEN all the seals are slaughtered marriage will not be so much of a failure as it is at present.

NOW that Mr. Miller has been appointed during the absence of Secretary Foster and Senator Quay, it is more difficult than ever to understand what caused the long delay.

SOME sporting philanthropist should present a few of the loud voiced prize-fighters with a gag.

CLEVELAND is in touch with a very large part of the country when he remarks, "The blunders being made by the present Democratic Congress have never been exceeded."

FAMILIARITY breeds contempt, and naked lamps cause mine explosions.

COOKING in a hotel is not an ideal occupation for a leper, and the Philadelphia health authorities will do well to prevent the repetition of such an outrage on public safety.

PERTINENT PERSONALITIES.

ALEXANDER DUMAS has decided to abandon his Paris residence and to sell at auction his splendid collection of works of Meissonier, Corot, Dupre and other masters.

GOVERNOR RUSSELL, of Massachusetts, was greatly devoted to athletic sports a few years ago, and by this indulgence managed at various times to break his nose, one finger and both arms.

MRS. LEASE, the eloquent Kansas woman who was so instrumental in bringing about the downfall of Ingalls, declares that every man has the right to drink all the whisky he can buy and pay for.

A CHICAGO newspaper says that B. P. Hutchinson, the great speculator, who is now in New York, is broken in spirit and that the fortune of $10,000,000 he possessed a few years ago has dwindled to an insignificant sum.

PROF. DAVID SWING, who is to Chicago what Beecher was to Brooklyn and Spurgeon to London, has a diminutive Mexican dog, Chihuahua by name, whose personality is said to be as interesting as that of his distinguished owner.

MR. TATE, the wealthy Englishman who offered this Government a fine collection of pictures and $400,000 wherewith to erect a gallery if the Government would furnish a suitable site, has withdrawn his offer in disgust at the way in which it was treated.

HENRY ARTHUR JONES, the English playwright, who wrote "The Middleman" and "The Dancing Girl," is described as "a long-haired man of rather short stature, who beneath his soft felt hat and long locks has a fund of original and interesting ideas."

PRINCE HATZFELDT and his American wife are among the prominent visitors at Pau this season. There is plenty of baccarat at the French Club there, and the Prince is said to be always ready to stake as large a portion of his wife's fortune as the other players care to cover.

NATIONAL DRINK BILLS.

What the English Spend Would Have Paid the Expenses of the Queen's Navy.

Minneapolis Tribune.]

Dr. Burns, an English economist, has just published his annual report upon the drink bill of Great Britain and Ireland. His conclusions are somewhat startling. Last year the total amount spent on intoxicating drinks in the United Kingdom aggregated some $706,000,000. This means an annual expenditure of $18 75 per head for every man, woman and child in the United Kingdom. It means an expenditure of $93 75 for every family of five persons. While the use of more expensive drinks has decreased the use of the cheaper alcoholic beverages has increased enormously. In the 12 months England consumed $400,000,000 worth of beer alone.

This sum spent on single alcoholic stimulant would have paid nearly twice the expenses of the army, the navy and the civil service. Looking at these statistics from a strictly economic point of view one begins to see why the English laboring man has to wage such a continual struggle against poverty and starvation. The average wages of a laboring man in some 50 cities in England and Wales is estimated at $4 70 per week. Granting that he secures continuous work throughout the year, he makes $235. With the yearly drink bill of the average family amounting to $93 75 it is not a matter of surprise that English workingmen do not live as comfortably as do their brothers in the United States.

A NOVEL QUESTION AT LAW.

Hazelton in Doubt Whether City or Borough Licenses Are to Be Charged.

WILKESBARRE, March 9.—Judges Woodward and Lynch to-day handed down an opinion on which the question is decided as to whether the saloon keepers of the new city of Hazelton are to pay $500 as a city or $100 as a borough. The Court decides that Hazelton became a city when the letters patent were granted, and that, consequently, all saloon and hotel keepers must pay $500 a year into the county treasury.

Exceptions have been filed by the attorneys for the liquor men, who claim that Hazelton is not a city under the law until the officers elected last February are installed. The case will be taken to the Supreme Court.

LIVE WASHINGTON WAIFS.

Senator Morgan Has a Free List Measure—The Pure Food Bill Passes, After All—Another World's Fair Appropriation to Be Considered Next Week—Springer Out of Danger.

WASHINGTON, March 9.—Mr. Morgan introduced a bill in the Senate to-day, declaring that all laws and parts of laws are inoperative which exempt from the payment of duties articles of commerce which are not on the free list entered in the Custom Houses of the United States for transportation through the United States to or from any British possession. Senator Morgan says he will use the same arguments in behalf of the bill that President Cleveland used in a message he sent to Congress in the first session of the Fiftieth Congress. This message recommended certain retaliatory legislation touching intercourse with Canada, and was called forth as a result of the rejection by the Senate of a treaty negotiated for the settlement and adjustment of the differences existing between the United States and Great Britain concerning the rights and privileges of American fishermen in the ports and waters of British North America. The President then recommended immediate legislative action, conferring on the Executive the power to suspend by proclamation the operation of all laws and regulations permitting the transit of goods, wares and merchandise in bond, across or over the territory of the United States, to and from Canada, and this is the object of Mr. Morgan's bill, which would deprive the Canadian Pacific Railroad of its valuable concession of the right to transport goods in bond through the United States to and from Europe and other foreign ports. Among the bills introduced and referred was one with the following curious title, persented by Mr. Cullom (by request) "To test and try the science of spelling and to provide for establishing 100 schools for the purpose; and to establish a spelling school in the World's Columbian Exposition to be held in Chicago in 1893." The Senate joint resolution for payment to the State of West Virginia of her share of the direct tax refund was taken up and Mr. Daniel offered as an amendment and additional section instructing the Secretary of the Treasury to accept the terms agreed upon by the Committee of the Virginia bondholders, as to the bonded debt of Virginia. After debate the joint resolution was made a special order for next Monday. The pure food bill was then taken up, and after the adoption of several slight amendments, it was passed without a division.

THE House Committee on the World's Columbian Exposition has designated Monday, the 21st instant, as a day on which it will hear arguments on the bill introduced by Representative Durburrow, making further appropriations for the World's Fair. At that time representatives of the World's Columbian Commission and of the Chicago directory of the fair will be present to explain their respective wants. The World's Fair Investigating Committee of the House sub-committee of the House Committee on Appropriations has in course of prepartion letters of inquiry to be addressed to the several persons having charge of expenditures for the World's Fair. Letters will be addressed to the heads of the local directory and the National Commission and Assistant Secretary Willets, of the Agricultural Department, who has charge of the Government exhibits, asking detailed information relative to the Fair.

THE remains of the late Representative Kendall, of Kentucky, accompanied by the wife and son of the deceased and the Senators and Representatives appointed to attend the funeral in Kentucky, left Washington this afternoon.

SENATOR WARREN to-day introduced a bill asking for the cession of arid public lands to the States and Territories wherein situated. He will address the Senate upon the subject soon.

SENATOR HILL has decided to go from here to Jackson, Miss., direct, and will leave Washington Sunday night. On his return he will stop a short time at Birmingham, Ala. All other invitations have been declined.

REPRESENTATIVE SPRINGER is now considered practically out of danger. Dr. Vincent, his Illinois physician, left for home tonight.

COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS SIMONDS has issued an order announcing that in consequence of want of room for the proper storage and arrangement of printed copies of patents, it will be impossible to fill orders in current issues until additional room is provided. For years Secretaries of the Interior and Commissioners of Patents have urged upon Congress the necessity of additional room in which to store future issues of the printed descriptions of patents granted. All these efforts, however, have failed. Mr. Simonds says that during the past year the Patent Office has sold 650,000 printed copies of patents at 10 cents each, and that the total receipts from this source since the establishment of the office had been more than $26,500,000. Although there is a balance of $4,045,753 now in the treasury to the credit of the Patent Office, there is not room for the business of the office to be properly transacted.

THE President to-day sent to the Senate the name of Judson C. Clements, of Georgia, to be Inter-State Commerce Commissioner, vice Walter L. Bragg, deceased and William Lindsay, declined.

LET THE SUICIDE PROCEED.

A Midwinter Day's Madness That Means an Autumnal Disillusion.

Brooklyn Eagle, Dem.]

The *Eagle* is not sorry that the free silver men won in the House on Monday. The result was vigorously contested by such Democrats as unite the ethical and mental qualifications of which the union is necessary to realize that honest money is right and that only an honest money party can win in this country.

Any event which sets off such Democrats from the free-silver errorists in the party is one of which the ultimate effect will be salutary. Incidentally involved in that effect may be the failure of the Democracy to gain the next Presidency. It would, however, be a calamity to the party to win wrongly, and a calamity to the country that any party should so win.

If the Democracy, by a majority or by any considerable portion of their number, are intent on beating their principles before making their nominations, why let the suicide proceed. The post mortem examination will be intelligently conducted. A true verdict will be rendered according to the votes.

The *Eagle*, while not censuring the unsuccessful recourse to filibustering and while recognizing the motives of those who essayed it, is not grieved that it failed. The House has a right to its mind. The country has a right to know the mind of the House. The country will duly let its own mind be known to the House.

A midwinter day's madness for free silver and a midsummer night's dream of national victory on a scheme of clipped dollars will have an autumnal disillusion that will render the last session of an incapable Congress as interesting as the colloquies in murderers' row in the New York Tombs between sentence and execution.

A Quixotic Crusade.

Reading Press.]

The Pittsburg Law and Order League is still keeping up its Quixotic crusade against Sunday newspapers. On last Sunday its agents were vigilantly watching the newsboys and newsdealers, and as a result 17 fresh prosecutions were brought for violations of the blue laws of 1794. Up to this time about 150 prosecutions have been instituted for selling Sunday papers, and in nearly all the cases the alderman imposed fines of $25 and costs. All the cases have been appealed, however, and on March 11 they will be tried before the judges of the county court. In view of the prolific field presented, in Pittsburg and every other large city, for the operations of antagonists of real vice and immorality, such vehement and presistent warfare upon harmless newspapers is strongly suggestive of fighting windmills.

A Haunted Farm Near Youngstown.

YOUNGSTOWN, March 9.—[*Special.*]—John Kurick, a German farmer occupying the farm of C. B. Wick, north of this city, has left the place, asserting that it was haunted by ghosts. He says they surrounded the house at night, opened and closed doors, and prevented him from getting any rest. His health began to give way and he decided to evade the nocturnal visits by migrating. Colonel Wick says that he does not doubt the face of Kurick being frightened, but ghosts won't pay rent.

MONEY FOR CHURCH SUPPORT.

If Gould Be Questioned as to Its Origin, All Should Be Asked to Explain.

New York Sun.]

The Rev. Dr. Rainsford, of St. George's Church, joins the Rev. Dr. Parkhurst, of the Madison Square Presbyterian Church, in objecting to the acceptance of a gift from Mr. Jay Gould for religious purposes until he tells how he got the money. If that question is to be asked of Mr. Gould, it should be asked of everybody who makes a contribution for pious purposes. Everybody who puts in money at the offertory of the church should be required to accompany the cash with an explanation whence it came. All churches should at once set to work to trace to its origin all the money contributed for their erection and support, to discover whether it was obtained without disobedience to the commands of Christ and the principles of Christianity. A committee of investigation should be appointed by St. George's Church, for instance, to examine the books and the history of the millionaire bankers and merchants who have given so liberally for its maintenance, so that the money of their gifts may be traced to its sources.

The Rev. Dr. Rainsford's salary comes from many contributions, and whence the money for them was derived must be discovered in order to satisfy his scruples as expressed with reference to the gift of Mr. Gould, or the clergyman has been guilty of the pharisaism which the Divine Founder of Christianity zealously denounced. He has judged one of his neighbors, and why should he not judge all of them likewise, and himself also, by the standards of Christ which he preaches and by which he professes to regulate his own life? If that is to be the rule as to one giver to the Church, it must be the rule for all. It must be applied to ministers no less than to laymen. * * * * If Mr. Gould were an attendant upon St. George's Church, would Dr. Rainsford refuse to receive his money for its purposes? Mr. Pierpont Morgan is the treasurer of the church. Would he reject Mr. Gould's money if it was sent to his banking house until Mr. Gould explained how he had obtained it? Yet Mr. Morgan, as a Christian, would be no less bound to refuse to receive the money at his banking house if he is bound to reject it at his church. * * * * Though Jesus condemned the rich so tremendously, He did not spurn their contributions for charity and religion. * * * * He did not demand of them whence they obtained the money, and cry out against their offerings, but only commended the poor widow who cast in her two mites as a more bountiful giver in having given "all her living" while the others "did cast of their abundance," as do Mr. Jay Gould, Mr. Pierpont Morgan, Dr. Rainsford himself, and the parishioners of St. George's upon whom it relies chiefly for its maintenance. All of these are rich men in the sense in which Jesus spoke, and the money of all of them was obtained and is held in violation of His precepts.

BLUE LAWS IN BOSTON.

How Agitation Against the Sunday Newspaper Is Sized Up There.

Boston Herald.]

Certain excellent gentlemen of this vicinity have been occupying themselves the past week in an attempt to argue the Sunday newspaper out of existence. Their motives, we doubt not, are good, and they appear to feel a fine sense of duty discharged while engaged in the operation. Still we are inclined to inquire to what end in this effort? The work frees their own mind, and agitates somewhat the minds of others. But do they really expect that anything further will result from it? Can it be possible that, after an experience now extending over nearly a generation, the fact that the Sunday newspaper has come to stay has not penetrated their consciousness. And are they not aware that its readers are constantly on the increase, and that a large part of them come from members of their own churches and congregations? We can understand efforts to improve the Sunday newspaper, and to attract attention to that which is best in it, and aid those who are doing the most to make it worthy and acceptable to readers. We deeply sympathize with it, indeed. But to attempt to rule out the Sunday newspaper altogether seems to us a scheme so absolutely—we had almost said ostentatiously—futile that it is difficult to see how practical men can waste their time over it.

THE CHAMPION TORPEDO.

Its Inventor Has to Come to McKeesport to Find His Material.

McKEESPORT, March 9.—[*Special.*]—Patrick Cunningham, of New Bedford, Mass., inventor of the Cunningham whaling lance, and also of the life-saving rocket, both of which are now used by the Government, is in this city. He is here to inspect the steel tubing turned out by the National Tube Works, which is to be used in the latest Cunningham invention—the naval torpedo. The steel tubes will be ready for the Government test about the middle of July. These mills are the only ones which can turn out the steel tubes with the necessary strength to bear the enormous pressure used in firing a torpedo, and it is positively known by both the officers of the concern and by the inventor that the tubing will stand the test.

Cunningham claims that his new invention will be more effective than the Whitehead or Ericcson torpedo, and will carry more explosive matter, besides traveling with greater speed. He also says that he can regulate the speed, and will use a powerful composition explosive of his own invention. He has searched far and wide for steel tubing to come up to his standard, and says he has found it here. Cunningham says his torpedo will propel itself much faster than the 100 feet per second hitherto attained, and says it will carry over 25 per cent of its own weight in dynamite or explosive matter, which is between 10 and 15 per cent more than any known torpedo will carry. He will not tell of the propelling power, but it is believed to be electricity.

Getting a Bad Name.

Westmoreland Democrat.]

Official channels in Allegheny City are literally honeycombed with corruption. Ten days ago Market Clerk Hastings was sentenced to six months in jail for embezzlement. Saturday last ex-Mayor James Wyman, who resigned because he was convicted of crime, was remanded to prison for three months for extortion. Assistant Postmaster Myler is under arrest charged with stealing Government funds. One of the precinct election boards, at the recent Republican primary, has been taken into custody for conspiracy and fraud. It has likewise been discovered that funds belonging to the municipal water department, to a considerable amount, have been stolen. It should be added that Allegheny City, in all its official departments, is under complete and absolute control of the self-styled "God and morality" party.

A Beginning Should Be Made.

Norristown Herald.]

The agitation in reference to improved roads should not be allowed to stop without some real gain being made in each district in the county. A beginning should be made in the work of macadamizing, be it ever so small.

THROUGH NEIGHBORS' EYES.

THE Philadelphia Democrats are trying their best to "get together" by keeping apart.—*Sunbury Post.*

THE war is evidently over and the Pennsylvania delegation to Minneapolis may yet be a unit for Harrison.—*Scranton Republican.*

THE opponents of Quay may not be increasing in numbers but they are gaining in energy and courage. They seem to understand the practical truth that the only way to beat Quay is to fight him.—*Harrisburg Patriot.*

THERE is no division among Washington county Democrats as to who should be the candidate for President. Grover Cleveland is certainly the choice of all classes of Democrats in every section of the county.—*Washington Democrat.*

LAWRENCE is one of the counties which will have a test vote on the Senatorial question at the Republican primaries. It is considered probable that the vote there will show a large majority for the Senator over any other candidate.—*Erie Dispatch.*

UNLESS Pennsylvania Republicans prefer a senatorial representation which borders upon "innocuous desuetude" they should select some other man than Quay to fill Quay's place. During the four years of his service, previous to the present session, he answered 268 roll calls and he failed to answer 517.—*Chambersburg Spirit.*

A MOST MOVING IDYL.

Mutability of Boarding House Life—Some Results of the Frequent Changes—A Character for a Young Woman Boarder—Romantic Episode in a Sixteenth Century Potter's Life.

The now too prevalent furniture van provokes one into comparing Pittsburgers to "The Wandering Jew." It also causes one to speculate in bewilderment as to where the numerous merits of the numerous houses on which housekeepers were felicitating themselves a year ago have disappeared. Did they exist in imagination only? Or can a woman only content herself in one place at one time for 12 months? Is the affection of a woman for her house as evanescent as that which she has for her kind? Why does she rate her contemplated residence higher than heaven in April of 1891 and condemn it lower than hades in the April of 1892? There appears to be something wrong, and women say that the wrong lies in the houses, but it seems as if, should they search nearer home, they would doubtless find that the exterminator had better be applied there.

It is not the householder, however, that ought be salivated with sympathy. It is the unfortunate rooner and boarder, who exists as persistently in the East End, as do flies in the sunshine. He won't profit by former Aprils, but boards on regardless of the fact that his landlady is a woman with a mind of her own that is very apt to change, and who may rent a house owned by a woman having the same sort of a mind.

A Case in Point in the East End Such.

There is a boarding house to-day in the East End where it is positively a fact that in another month the boarders won't know where to lay their heads, nor, what is worse, where to obtain their meals. The house is owned by a woman who has become jealous of the success of her tenants, two young women, in their boarding house venture. She intends to try a hand at it herself when April comes; so she turns out her tenants, and they perforce must eject their subtenants on the pavement. In the house exchange, now at its height out there, the boarding house madam is getting the cold shoulder, and since the house agent won't help her it's not likely the Lord will. Naturally one feels like sending up a heartfelt petition for the numberless boarders standing on the verge of homelessness in Pittsburg to-day.

Of course, it may be that such a state of things is well merited judgment. Landladies have not always treated their boarders well as regards steak. Boarders occasionally have retired from boarding houses without going through the formality of bidding their landladies "goodby." We have known of cases where towels were supplied with such scantiness and infrequency that one had to dry himself by installments and the linen by turns.

Boarding Not a Good Career.

Perhaps there are worse careers in this life than boarding; but nevertheless it is not a life work to be taken up lightly, but soberly, thoughtfully and in the fear of future happiness.

"I'll confess," said a boarder of long and good standing, the other day, "boarding has weaned me of domestic life and put me out of conceit with everything else. I thank the Lord that it is the condition into which he was pleased to put me; though, to be sure, I was neither born nor did I achieve boarding, but I had it thrust upon me. I remember when I was only a three-weeks-old boarder, of one landlady selling us out to another landlady. I left the house on the morning of that particular occasion under the settled conviction that I was Mrs. Smith's front room gentleman, only to find upon returning that I and the other household chattels had become the property of Mrs. Jones. It was somewhat disappointing to have to be taught that Mrs. Smith was just a woman like the rest of them, and a female who, tapping the beam at 175 pounds, still could only be described as

Uncertain, coy and hard to please;
And variable as the shade,
By the light quivering aspen made."

"I had staked my whole trust in human nature in her, I had sworn she would not read an unopened letter which didn't belong to her—I wasn't in a position to say as much about the opened ones—I had vowed that she never disturbed the warmth of my bed by removing the bed clothes entirely, or permitted the fresh air to trespass, and in return for all this she sold me to a Jones. In justice to her I must confess that she did display some feeling about losing me and insisted upon weeping on my shoulder that night upon bidding me goodby. Occasionall the good lady sees me still, when I find she is ever banking upon some future happy state when she and I will meet again in the relation of landlady and lodger—meet to part no more."

A Woman Recommended as a Boarder.

There is a *rara avis* in Pittsburg in the form of a young woman, who was given a recommendation as a "crack lodger," by her landlady of a year's standing. The young lady has since married and the "character" has been framed and embellishes a spot in her parlor beside the marriage certificate, and just beneath the legendary story "God bless our home." It runs thus:

"I wish to tell lodging housekeepers in general that Miss Blankety Blank is the best lodger, outside of a man, that ever I have met. She doesn't keep very good hours, but then that's her business and not mine. I never knew her to wash a pair of stockings in her room in my life, and she certainly never asked the servant what we had had for dinner on Sunday. Neither did she tell her friend how few towels were served in the week, nor how often the pillow case was changed in the same time. I think she might have flirted with my husband, but I kept him safely out of the way. She didn't attempt to save the soul of anybody in the family, and made no fuss about looking after her own. I don't usually recommend females, but this is an exception that will do your heart good to see. I think if you were getting a divorce from your husband, she would learn the first thing of it from the newspapers, and she always pays her bills.

The young lady told me that for a week she had the pick of the finest rooms in Pittsburg, and that from them dated a period of higher estimate for woman boarders and roomers.

A Mediæval Romance Reproduced.

THERE is a curious coincidence which may or may not have been premeditated, between the third act of "The Middleman," and some incidents in the life of Palissy the Potter. As a good many probably know Bernard Palissy was a French potter famous in the early sixteenth century for his indomitable purpose both in his pursuance of his trade and in his religion, he being a Huguenot and zealous if not overwise supporter. He pursued his father's profession, that of stained glass and survey, but not long after he was married the whole course of his life was changed. He happened to see a fine piece of pottery, probably Majolica ware from Italy, and, thereupon, resolved to spend any time and labor needful, to discover the secret of the beautiful enameled surface that he admired so much in that piece of pottery. His trade as a glass painter had taught him something of the methods of painting and firing enameled colors, and at the neighboring village of the Chapelle des Pots he learned the rudiments of the potter's art in its simplest form; but this was all. He knew nothing whatever of the manufacture of the finest sorts of Faiance, or of the composition of the white enamel, which was to form the covering of his clay vessels and the ground for his colored ornaments.

It will be remembered in the dramatic scene of the third act in the play cited, that *Blenkarn*, after a fruitless effort to obtain credit among the Tatlow coal merchants, for fuel to keep his kiln going, in despair breaks the furniture and tosses it into the rapidly diminishing fire. He had labored on in the face of every obstacle, until his family were almost alienated from him, and certainly impoverished by him. From Palissy's own story, for he afterward indulged in autobiography, we have a tale nearly identical.

From year unto year, he says, through a succession of utter failures and almost without a glimpse of hope he labored on, working often blindly and at random in search of the secret for the white enamel. Almost starving for want of food, his wife in rags bitterly and not unreasonably reproaching him for his cruelty, his furniture broken up to feed his kilns, and without a hand to help, Palissy struggled on for nearly 16 years before success came.

Like Palissy, *Blenkarn* is successful in discovering the much sought after secret, but unlike Palissy, his life closes on a scene of domestic contentment. Palissy, unfortunately for himself and nearly for his head, became as enthusiastic a disciple of French Protestantism as of French pottery, and gained the good man's crown—a dungeon in the Bastille, where he contracted what was deleterious to life, and consequently death came. The romantic setting given to *Blenkarn* brings his life to a happier though, perhaps, not so elevated a close as that of the man who, unconsciously or otherwise, was the prototype of the immortal *Cyrus Blenkarn*. M. C. G.

Hunters After an Albino Deer.

PENFIELD, PA., March 9.—[*Special.*]—An albino, or perfectly white deer, has been seen on the hills above here several times recently. It is a fine large buck, with long spreading antlers, and several gangs of hunters are after him in spite of the law.

CURIOUS CONDENSATIONS.

—There is said to be a 10-year-old Georgia boy who is cutting his third set of teeth.

—A prominent grocer in London has a "provision cart" that is run by electricity.

—A Philadelphia burglar left a vest button in the house he had broken into, and is led to his arrest.

—Two women photographers in New Orleans are earning very handsome incomes from their work.

—The people of Hayti and several tribes in Central and South America hold the moon in great veneration.

—In the Florence oil field of Colorado there was produced last year 100,000 barrels of illuminating and 5,000 barrels of lubricating oil.

—More than $1,000,000 worth of Michigan lumber will be used in the World's Fair building, and $450,000 will go Michigan contractors.

—If geologists be correct, New Zealand is a fragment of a continent which sank beneath the waters as the New World rose. It is a relic of a bygone age.

—Jane Scrimshaw lived in London during the reign of eight sovereigns, from Elizabeth to Anne. Of her 127 years, eight of them were spent in an almshouse.

—The savings banks in New Hampshire are said to have a greater proportion of deposits in proportion to population than in any other State of the Union.

—In spite of the pressure of modern life and the abundance of periodical literature, 1,277,436 books form the Paris municipal libraries have been read during the year.

—Before the introduction of iron tools the making of a canoe was a work of enormous difficulty. The hatchets used were of stone and the chisels were of mussel shells ground to a sharp edge.

—The famous Oroya Railroad of Peru has now been extended to Port Tucker, on the Pichis river, thus connecting the head waters of the Amazon with the Pacific Ocean at Callao.

—Recent experiments have been made in Germany which show, as reported, that asbestos paper is not only no advantage in a floor as a protection against fire, but is probably somewhat injurious.

—Concerning the self purification of rivers Dr. Von Petlanko