The Dispatch.

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PITTSBURG, TUESDAY, AUGUST 30, 1892.

TWELVE PAGES

PROGRESS, BUT NOT MUCH.

The Democrats of Clearfield and Centre counties have made some progress in forcing conferees of Clarion county to agree to a new basis of representation in the nominations for Congress. They declined to acquiesce in the renomination of Congressman Kripps, of Clarion, until a new basis more in proportion to the vote of the several counties was adopted. By that means they succeeded, not in abolishing the conferee system, but in making an improvement on its most stupid and vicious features.

It is a singular illustration of the persistence of injurious prescriptions that all politicians are able to maintain the idea of inequitable representation, which makes the representation of a puny vote in one county the equal of a large vote in another, and uses both as the personal property of managing politicians for trading purposes. It is perfectly clear that the only way to secure popular representation in party action is to make the representation of each township or precinct in a district bear an exact proportion to its vote. This has been recognized in other states for a generation. It is the basis of popular representation in the legislative bodies designed by the Constitution to be popular. Yet at the close of the nineteenth century the effete and unequal conference system continues to produce deadlocks and facilitate bargains in the State of Pennsylvania.

It is satisfactory that the Democrats of the Twenty-eighth district have made some progress. But while they were about it they should have done away with the conferee system altogether and established the open system of nomination by methods in which the popular vote of the party will be directly and proportionally represented.

PROFESSIONAL HEROISM.

While medical ethics sometimes appear unique and incongruous to the ordinary mind, in times of threatened or present pestilence the professional spirit brings the doctors to the front in heroic form. It will be remembered that when New York was threatened with typhus last winter hundreds of physicians volunteered their assistance in combating the disease. The cholera epidemic in Europe is bringing out the same quality in bright relief against the ravages of the pestilence. In Vienna 485 doctors have offered to be ready to attend cholera patients on condition that in case of their death their families shall be provided for. Yesterday's telegrams tell of Dr. Harns Graham, an American physician in Berlin, who is organizing the American medical students in that city for cholera work. This heroic spirit in the profession runs from Pasteur, half blind and deaf from the diseases he has caught in investigating their sources, down to the youngest medico just beginning the study of the healing profession.

Honor is due to the professional spirit which makes all true doctors heroes when the hour of trial arrives. There will be hundreds of such heroes ready for work in the United States, if the epidemic reaches this country in time to develop dangerous proportions.

AN EXOTIC GROWTH.

The Socialist platform adopted by a hitherto unheard-of national convention in New York is before the people. The bill of reforms which that document proposes for the nation is exceedingly varied and contains a large number of propositions—a few good, some and many merely the product of quackism. Among the good ideas are compulsory education, legislation for the scientific management of forests and waterways, revocation of land grants, the conditions of which have not been fulfilled, and the prohibition of the employment of children of school age and of female labor in occupations detrimental to health or morality.

Among the bad in effect is the ownership by the United States of all means of public transportation and communication, and by municipalities of all industries requiring municipal franchises, which would yield a rich feast to political corruption. The repeal of all pauper, tramp and conspiracy laws seems to be equally divided between a desire to facilitate mendicity and to aid the great combinations which establish high prices on important staples. Finally the declaration that laws shall be proposed and voted on by the people on the referendum principle, and that the Presidency, Vice Presidency and United States Senate shall be abolished, is a cool proposition to overturn the system founded by our fathers and proved by a century's experience, which could only come from a source ignorant of American institutions and destitute of American spirit.

The Socialist platform, while it contains some reasonable features, is evidently framed for European conditions. There are reforms needed in the United States, but the Socialists are not experts either in the American diseases or their necessary remedies.

FIRE-PROOF AND NOT FIRE-PROOF.

There is deep instruction combined with the natural irony of events in the fact that the Metropolitan Opera House of New York, which disappeared in smoke the other morning, was one of the well-known class of fire-proof buildings. Like many of its predecessors, it was prompt to succumb when the flames got a good chance at it.

In the Chicago fire the fire-proof buildings of that day, composed of iron, granite and brick, went down like tinder boxes. Since then it was supposed that the art of fire-proof construction was conducted with more certainty. But late events have indicated that many of the so-called fire-proof buildings form shining marks for destruction by fire. In Pittsburg, as elsewhere, there have been notable examples of destructive fire-proof conflagration.

This is, of course, merely an evidence of the fact that human achievements are not always all that is claimed for them. In view, however, of the architectural crimes that are committed in the name of fire-proof construction, it might give a rest to a much-abused word if the underwriters' combination should issue an edict levying extra rates on all buildings advertised as fire-proof.

SPRINGER'S FREE TRADE EFFORT.

The speech of William M. Springer on the tariff question the other day is a remarkable exhibition of the free trade cause. Mr. Springer, after deep investigation, finds that the tariff has recorded its failure in the statistics on three points. They are, as summarized by his journalistic applauders, that in twenty-five years there have been nearly 200,000 failures in business with liabilities aggregating $3,500,000,000; that mortgage indebtedness has increased during the past ten years; and that while the strikes previous to 1860 were only counted by hundreds, they have counted by thousands in the period since that time. *Argal*, in Mr. Springer's style of reasoning, the tariff is all wrong.

This is free trade logic with a vengeance. It is noticeable in the Springer style of argumentation that he does not apply the same method of comparison on two of his statistical points. Only the total of strikes is compared with the glorious era of Democratic supremacy. The mortgage statistics are compared with those of ten years, which was as much a protective period as the present. The statement of failures is not compared with anything, for the reason that if Springer had made a comparison for the similar period extending over 1837 and 1857 the ratio of failures to population and commerce would have been found to be immensely less now than then.

The most unique of Mr. Springer's points is his discovery that strikes have increased. What a disclosure! It has evidently never dawned on the mental horizon of the Illinois statesman that the reason for that is that employment for labor in the forms of industry which permit of strikes was very rare then. A manufacturing establishment of the size of Homestead was not even a dream. One of the size of the smallest rolling mill now existing in Pittsburg was rare. Men who wanted work went on farms and got it at $20 or $30 per month, and never thought of striking. There may be a dispute as to whether labor gets all it should of the proceeds of industry, but every intelligent man knows that strikes have increased because the industries have undergone an immense expansion.

Perhaps Springer's quarrel is that these industries have grown up and are affording employment for labor. That seems to be the present trouble with most free trade advocates.

SUCCESS IN SMOKE PREVENTION.

Pittsburgers will be pleased to learn from Chicago that the success of the down-draft furnace for smoke consumption is so marked there that the ability to do away with smoke from steam boiler plants is placed entirely beyond dispute. There is also practical importance to the fact that under the spur of prosecutions for persistent makers of smoke these smoke consumers are being put in at the rate of ten or twelve per week.

These appliances cost about $1,800 apiece, and save their cost by economy in fuel in less than two years. They are, therefore, a good investment for the purchaser independently of the immense public saving in the abolition of smoke. It is no more than fair to recognize that the saving in fuel might be less in Pittsburg, because coal is cheaper; but the importance of saving the great damage inflicted every winter to buildings, goods, clothing, eyesight and health is enough to justify the utmost energy in ridding the city of the smoke nuisance.

Councils should not delay in extending the provisions of the anti-smoke ordinance to the section of the city where the greatest quantity of unnecessary smoke is produced and where it inflicts the greatest damage. That is the business section bounded by Grant and Tenth streets and the two rivers.

PITTSBURG SHORTSIGHTEDNESS.

From a Chicago dispatch published elsewhere, it will be seen that Pittsburg is not to be so well represented at the Fair as it ought to be. Local manufacturers have been urged time and again to make the most of this unrivaled opportunity to display their products. Yet, in spite of ceaseless warnings, their shortsightedness has prevailed and caused them in large measure to ignore this unprecedented chance to exploit their ability. It appears that this State as a whole will be well represented throughout the various departments. Coal and oil, which were in danger of exclusion, are to be fitly exhibited, and Pennsylvania's richness in these commodities will be illustrated as it deserves. Even Philadelphia, that ancient city at which the progressive are wont to rail for its drowsiness and lack of enterprise, has shown a better appreciation of the value of a becoming display at the World's Columbian Exposition than has this seat of incessant activity.

Pittsburg has up to this moment neglected in a large measure the greatest opening ever placed before it for demonstrating its supreme importance as a trade center in this State and the country as a whole. Millions of persons from up and down the Union, and thousands from every portion of the globe will—so far as can be judged at present—visit the Fair and go home again without knowing more of Pittsburg than when they set out. But of Pittsburg's rivals they will have learnt much, and when they have orders to give for this, that and the other nothing but Pittsburg's shortsighted concentration on the business immediately under its nose for the time-being will be to blame if those orders go elsewhere. Let those of the local manufacturers who have not yet sent in applications for space do so at once on the chance of securing it, for even late is better than never, though best of all is never late.

AN EXAMPLE OF LYNCH LAW.

A recent lynching attempt in Georgia illustrates the disposition of mobs to hang the wrong people, and the sequel shows an equal indisposition to lynch the really guilty persons when they have the reputation of being bad men to meddle with.

The crime was that of a woman of some property whose body was found on the road near her farm. The mob thought some one should be lynched, and not finding any one more to their taste than her foster son, who had been made the heir of her property, they tried to lynch him. They were prevented by the sensible people of the neighborhood, and a legal trial was had. This not only completely demonstrated his innocence, but showed who the murderers were. They were a gang of moonshiners on whose illicit still the murdered woman had stumbled by accident, and who killed her because she threatened to denounce them.

It is a curious example of mob law that no one in that vicinity proposes to lynch the murderous moonshiners. Whether it is because moonshiners are privileged by lynch law to commit murder as well as break the revenue laws, or because they have demonstrated their readiness to kill those who interfere with them, is left to conjecture. We are also left to estimate the possibility that the real murderers directed the efforts of the lynchers upon an innocent man in order to shield themselves. The known facts, however, sufficiently illustrate the law that the cowardice of a mob is only exceeded by its utter lack of reason and consistency.

KAISER WILHELM evidently has his lucid moments, or he would hardly have been wise enough to order that the exact facts of the cholera epidemic in Berlin be officially bulletined twice a day. There is nothing like reliable statements to suppress any inclination to unreasoning panic, for truth—even when the worst is told—is always calmer than wild-eyed, fleet-winged rumor.

NEW ORLEANS is at last to adopt a proper system of sanitation, and when the Cresent City has actually done so, a congratulation of its inhabitants will be in order.

WHEN a long-undisturbed cesspool is pumped out it is well to have a copious supply of some pungent-odored disinfectant, even if the operation occur in the small hours of the stilly morning. For the life and safety of no bypasser is to be disregarded, and the accumulations of a cesspool are wondrous potent.

WITH regard to the Afghan disturbances and the troubles in the Pamirs, the Tory jingo press of England appears to be a good deal more belligerent than Russia.

MAYOR GRANT, of New York, spoke well and wisely when he said, in reference to the danger of cholera: "I think that too much precaution cannot be taken." And he and his officers cannot work too hard to fulfil his promise, "We will try, if possible, to bring the quarantine system to perfection."

FROM the amount of croaking heard as to the slimness of Corbett's chances against the literary actor, his supporters might be fitly described as Corbettors.

THERE is something vigorously offensive about those changes in the armor plates and other fittings for new war vessels. And until a thorough explanation is received, everyone concerned is placed in a defensive attitude and a by no means invulnerable position before the public.

MISTRESS NECESSITY added largely to her family during the past year, as the Patent Office was called upon to christen 23,626 inventions.

CHINESE immigrants are absolutely harmless as compared with cholera-infected persons. But it is notable that wherever the former can be smuggled into this country there is a leakage which must be stopped to prevent any possible percolation of the latter.

THE National Convention of Socialists evidently looked around and proceeded to ask for everything it wanted but could not see.

OF all false economies, the most foolish and disastrous is that which seeks to save a few pence at the risk of health. Cheap and nasty sanitation is apt to prove ruinous as compared with expensive and efficient sewerage, and it is a direct invitation to disease.

IF it only were not necessary to fight occasionally, bruising might be regarded as a healthy and lucrative profession.

DUELS are a foolish institution anyhow. But if boys must fight to be boys, the Marquis of Queensbury rules as adopted by two West Point cadets is a better method of settling a dispute than that adopted by the padded sword-wielding German students.

THOSE trailing trains on city sidewalks might have been designed as harborers and transmitters of deadly germs.

INHABITANTS of Mars, if there be any, are fortunate in having an isolation from the earth complete enough to enable them to dispense with a quarantine to ward off the epidemics which are the dread of terrestrial inhabitants.

PITTSBURG'S Exposition will be exposed to view again in about two weeks now.

LONG accustomed as it has been to the wiles and voracious ferocity of the Tammany tiger, it is hardly surprising that the Democratic party can indorse even a wildcat currency with comparative equanimity.

POSTOFFICE clerks here have a club now, but it is not designed as a belligerent weapon.

IT is about time for the officials to correct the erroneous, though rapidly spreading, impression that the workhouse is a summer resort which the inmates may leave at their own sweet will and pleasure.

ENGLAND progresses. There is a great demand for American fruit over there now.

IT is now stated positively that the guillotine was not invented by Dr. Gillotin and that he was not executed thereon, and one cannot help wondering whether there is any truth in history after all.

THE roughers have at last consented to rough it for a year.

THE platform adopted by the People's party of Allegheny county is not going to be overcrowded. Its number of planks is very large in proportion to the number of voters who desire to stand on it.

WITH FAME AND FORTUNE.

AUGUST STRINGBERG, the Swedish author, is famous for his hatred of women. This aversion seems to be uncontrollable at times, and often leads the author into difficulty.

BISHOP PARET, of Washington, accompanied by a daughter, is on his way back from Europe on a sailing vessel that will probably require three weeks for its voyage.

DENIS KEARNEY has broken loose again. His present contention is that the Japanese must go, the same as his pigtailed cousin, the Chinese. The pity of it is that Kearney is likely to remain.

SIR ARCHIBALD GEIKE, LL. D., Scotland's foremost scientist, is a son of Edinburgh. He is 60 years old. He has twice refused a knighthood, preferring to be known simply as "professor."

W. S. GILBERT, the delightful writer of opera librettos and other nice things, goes occasionally to Wagner performances, but declares that he no more understands the music than he does Chinese.

COLONEL S. H. BOYD, Minister Resident of the United States in Siam, has arrived in San Francisco on his way to his home in Missouri, having been granted a leave of absence on account of ill-health.

REV. DR. FURNESS, the veteran and beloved Unitarian minister, who has been seriously ill at his Wallingford residence, is steadily improving and is now regarded as having entirely passed the critical period of his illness.

A LOOK AROUND.

IT is amusing to hear some Pittsburgers talk about Western or Eastern opportunities for investments being so much better than those afforded by our own city. It is amusing because it is absurd. I heard a conversation between some Pittsburg people who realized what can be done at home and some who did not. There had been talk about mining properties, Kansas mortgages some years ago and Minnesota loans at present, and the statement was made that there was no hope of really good things which would be on a parallel with those in Allegheny county. At this a man whose family for several generations have lived here, and who is thoroughly familiar with the growth of Pittsburg for 25 years, entered a protest.

"LET me give you an illustration of the increase in values of property here," said he, "for I know of an instance which is but a type of many such. About 15 years ago I came into possession of a piece of property on Penn not far from Negley avenue. In 1884 I sold this for $500, and at the time I thought I was getting a good price for it, and so did others who knew of it. Within a year the property sold for $1,500. In 1886 it sold for $2,500, and in 1889 it again changed hands for $10,000. A short time ago $16,000 was refused for it. You see that in eight years this property has increased 32 times in price, or at the rate of 400 per cent a year."

"ANOTHER sample of the same kind of wonderful increase is the lot where the Pittsburg Traction cars turn off from Penn to Hiland. In 1882 it was sold for $20 a front foot, and in '88 it brought $300. Now it is worth at least $1,000 a foot. These are cases within my own knowledge and are not exceptional or rare, nor is there any reason to doubt that there will be marvellous increases in the future."

"WE have at least 30 per cent more gas for our consumers now than we had two years ago," said Manager George Browne, of the Philadelphia Natural Gas Company. "We do not intend to use pumps because we do not need them at present. The wells in the Pin Hook field are showing larger now than when they were first turned into the lines. Then others of the new fields are showing up well and the outlook is very favorable."

THE memorial spoon business has apparently taken a new turn. Not content with gathering these pretty souveniers, some of the ladies have taken to wearing them. I saw a neat little gold enameled thing made up as a breastpin and worn by a lady of magnificent proportions on whom it did not look as odd as it might seem. I suppose they will follow it up with knives and forks as hat pins, saucers as buttons and teacups as chatelaine appendages.

I HAVE once or twice alluded to the talk which is afoot in regard to a country club. It appears to be the general desire to have such a place, but nobody seems to have energy enough to take it in hand and make a success of it. We have plenty of fine horses and turnouts now, and the roads in the park, as well as some of the streets, are pleasant drives, but there is nothing in the way of a cosy supper, no chicken and wafles, or other potent attractions at the end of the drive. There are a number of country places with good houses on handsome grounds which could, at small expense, be fitted up as a club. Why not try it?

THE streets reverberate with the rattling of hacks and cabs these mornings, and through their doors you see sunburned faces looking out, while the trunk up beside the driver tells the story. It is September, next week. Summer has gone, hotel bills have come, and it is time to turn to work again.

A SMALL boy persuaded me to contribute a nickel toward his support last night, the pretext being that he was hungry. He was selling what was he pleased to call "songs," and he gave me one which was called "A Soldier's Farewell." It is credited to a member of the Fifth Regiment, and one verse read thus, the spelling being as in the original:

"How we long to leave the, Homestead,
Not because the prey we fear—
But we hate your stinking alleys
And the acts that brought us here.
Leaving board walks far behind us,
With Hungs and Poles and sour beer;
Keep good order, do your darndest, or
Again you'll find us here,"

"THE drift of things is decidedly in favor of the Republicans this year," said Senator Quay to a friend a few days ago. "I believe we will carry every State we carried four years ago and will add two others—New Jersey and West Virginia—to the list. My friends in various parts of the country tell me they find the party strong and vigorous and all the minor breaches seem to have been healed. I think Mr. Harrison will continue to date his mail from the White House."

THE cholera did not come over on La Touraine, but it will get here, no doubt. I hope the quarantine regulations in and around Pittsburg will be more effective than in 1878 or '79, when the yellow fever was so bad down the river. We had doctors here and there and guards watching the rivers and railroads at $5 a watch, and yet members of the ill-fated John Porter's crew had no trouble whatever in entering town and walking about the streets. One of them died at the smallpox hospital annex of the West Penn, and it was as rank a case of yellow fever as one could wish for. WALTER.

MR. WING'S BIRTHDAY GIFT.

The Nomination for President on the Socialistic Labor Ticket.

BOSTON, Aug. 29.—[*Special.*]—Simon Wing, of Boston, the man honored by the Socialistic Labor party as its Presidental candidate, is a manufacturer of photographic goods and a general book and job printer. He is 66 years old, and as his birthday is August 29, the nomination for President comes to him really as a birthday present from the party. When he was 21 years of age he started in business for himself, taking daguerrotypes, and he made a good financial success of it from the first. He has been all his life since in the photographic business, mostly engaged in establishing ferrotype galleries throughout the West. He has done more, perhaps, than any other man to make this ferrotype photography popular. He was the first to introduce ferrotypes—or tintypes, as they are generally called—and he was the first to introduce the postage stamp size of photographs. Since 1860 he has been wholly engaged in this branch of business, and has made a specialty of it, supplying dealers all over the country. He settled in Boston about 1860. Later he bought the Southworth patent of the multiplying cameras. Southworth was the famous detective of forged writing.

Mr. Wing then set about perfecting the Southworth camera, and made it practical, taking out several patents on his improvements. On account of infringements he has been engaged in fighting cases in the courts for years, but he kept on enlarging the business of manufacturing photographic supplies and ferrotype goods. He joined the Socialistic Labor party some years ago. Mr. Wing was never much of a talker, but he is looked upon as a worker, and is held in much respect by his associates. He is a strong, determined man, of radical views and original ideas, but at the same time, a very practical business man.

PYTHIANS SELECT THE CAPITAL.

The Knights Decide to Have the Supreme Lodge Meet There Next Time.

KANSAS CITY, MO., Aug. 29.—The Supreme Lodge to-day decided upon Washington City as the place for the next encampment of the Knights of Pythias. The vote was close and on the final roll call Wasnington received 62, while Louisville followed with 50.

Indianapolis was not in the contest after the preliminary skirmishing. No other business was considered. The proposed changes in the constitution were made a special order for Wednesday.

Specimens of Grover's Catch.

New York Press.]

Advices from Gray Gables stated that Mr. Cleveland caught two fish at once the other day. One was a Tammany toad-fish and the other a Mugwump "grunter."

AN HONEST WAY.

A Public Speaker Endorses and Commends the Course of THE DISPATCH.

To the Editor of THE DISPATCH:

DEAR SIR: *A copy of THE DISPATCH, of 25th., containing a report of my remarks at Mt. Gretna on the 24th., has come to my hands. Please accept thanks for the full and fair report published.*

It is the more appreciated on account of its being in opposition to your own views. But to publish both sides of a political issue, fairly, is the honest way to educate the people.

With the highest respect for such honesty, I wish you great prosperity in your paper.

Yours tru'y,

J. A. GUNDY,

Lewisburg, Pa., Aug. 27.

THE BAKER BALLOT LAW.

Chairmen of Three Parties Trying to Find Out What It Means.

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 29.—[*Special.*]—The three State chairmen came together at the Girard House to-day to take up the knotty problem of finding out just what kind of ballot the Baker law intends shall be voted next November, and the conference might have resulted in something definite had Mr. Harrity been present, but important business at National Democratic Headquarters kept him in New York.

General Reeder was quite disappointed, as he expected an official determination of the question without further delay. Chairman Wright appeared serenely satisfied, as the present interpretation of the law and form of ballot is the one he thinks he will stand. Chairman H. D. Patton, the Prohibitionist leader, had a score of propositions filed away in an inside pocket, and was as much disappointed as the Republican chairman, only his disappointment rankled on different lines. His principal task now is to get the Prohibition nomination on the State ballot.

In the absence of Mr. Harrity Mr. Patton insisted on an answer to his questions from General Reeder, and the two had a long talk together. Much to Chairmain Wright's relief Mr. Patton did not seek comfort from a Democratic direction.

"We propose to file certificates of nomination, not only in Harrisburg, but in every county where we have a county ticket," said Chairman Patton. "I have no doubt but what we shall eventually get on the regular ballot, and if not, there will be some Prohibitionist votes registered. Every citizen is entitled to a vote. There were 18,500 Prohibitionists voting last year, and hardly believe any 3 per cent decision can keep that number from expressing their choice this year."

Chairman Patton did not express his intentions to any extent, but admitted that he had a series of questions for the Secretary of State to consider defining the claims of his party. He returned to Lancaster this evening ready to go into conference at the first intimation that one is to be held in Pittsburg.

"We shall not have the same trouble as the Republicans or Democrats in voting under the Baker law," said Mr. Patton. "Prohibitionists are all intelligent and know what they are about. It is always a campaign of education with them."

Chairman Reeder stated at Republican State Headquarters to-day that he would visit Mr. Harrity in New York on Wednesday and endeavor to have some decision in the matter. "Our State campaign is progressing very satisfactorily and every means has been employed to give the voters a proper idea of the new law," he said, "and I anticipate no trouble after the proper form of ballot has been declared."

Chairman Wright goes on to Harrisburg to-morrow morning to attend the meeting of the Democratic State Central Committee tomorrow. In case Mr. Harrity gets there too he will send word to Chairman Redder and the Baker ballot conference may come off along with the other proceedings.

RENOVATING THE WHITE HOUSE.

The Colonial Style of Decorations in the Main Vestibule Restored.

WASHINGTON, Aug. 29.—When the President returns to the White House he will find further progress made in the work began last year of restoring the interior decorations of the Executive Mansion to the colonial style, so as to conform to the essentially colonial character of the exterior architecture. Under the hands of an artistic decorator of New York the heavy Eastlake or arabesque decorations of the main vestibule and corridor, where the Marine Band is stationed on State reception days, have been replaced by light traceries in ecru and cream and terra cotta and old gold in the fashion of George Washington's days, which, in turn, was taken from the French. A beginning was made in this direction last year with the state dining room and Blue Room, and the result was found so satisfactory that it has been followed up as far as appropriations would permit this year.

Plans have been drawn and accepted to transform the present sombre Red Room ala, but want of funds has caused a temporary postponement of this work. Mrs. Harrison before her illness actively assisted in the restoration by unearthing from forgotten corners of garrets many quaint and interesting articles of furn ture and of table decorations, several of which were purchased by Washington himself, and all having most interesting historical associations. These have all been renovated. The general effect of the change made is quite striking and pleasing.

FORETOLD HER OWN DEATH.

A Young Lady Hastens Home to Prepare for the Funeral.

COLUMBUS, O., Aug. 29.—A striking instance of premonition of death came to light last night. Two weeks ago Miss Blanch M. Kroeson, daughter of a physician of Columbus, hastily returned from the East, where she has been visiting, and informed her parents that she had a premonition that death would come to her in a few days.

They tried to disabuse her mind of the notion, but she only became more thoroughly convinced that her end was near, and gave her mother minute directions as to her funeral. Two days after reaching home she took typhoid fever, and last night she died.

MR. FRICK AT CRESSON,

Where He Was Joined on His Arrival by Postmaster General Wanamaker.

CRESSON, PA., Aug. 29.—[*Special.*]—Mr. H. C. Frick came up to the Mountain House on the 4:57 train this afternoon, to stay a few days. He was alone, and the object of his visit was to confer with B. F. Jones, A. E. W. Painter and other prominent iron men who have private cottages here.

He was followed later by Postmaster General Wanamaker, who arrived on the limited. Mr. Wanamaker expects to stay sometime, and says he will no doubt bring the rest of his family for the balance of the season.

PUDDLERS ACCEPT A CUT.

The Pennsylvania Iron Company Starts Up After Two Months of Idleness.

LANCASTER, PA., Aug. 29.—The Pennsylvania Iron Company, of this city, started work this morning after two months' idleness, giving employment to 300 men. The puddlers accept a reduction from $4 00 to $3 65 a ton.

DEATHS HERE AND ELSEWHERE.

General James H. Blauvelt.

General James H. Blauvelt, of Nyack, N. Y., died of paralysis last night at the Cockburn House, Mount Pleasant, in the Catskills, where he was spending the summer with his family. He was commander of the Seventh Brigade, N. G. S. N. Y., ex-Mayor of Nyack, ex-President of the North River Steamboat Company and Vice President of the Nyack Electric Light and Power Company. He was superintendent of the Nyack Reformed Sunday School for many years and was a deacon in the Reformed Church. He was prominent in the insurance business in New York state. A widow and five children survive him.

John C. Allen.

John C. Allen, Secretary of the Lawrenceville branch Y. M. C. A., died at his home, 46 Davidson street, yesterday afternoon after a short attack of typhoid fever. The Y. M. C. A. will take action on his death to-day.

Obituary Notes.

MR. NOBLE K. ROYSE, Principal of the Sixth District School of Cincinnati, and one of the oldest teachers in the city, died yesterday.

SAMUEL CRAIL, who has been Deputy Clerk and Clerk of the United States Courts in Louisville, Ky., for 27 years, died at the Horton Infirmary yesterday morning of stomach complaint. He was removed about two months ago and this caused mental worry, which hastened his death. He had become incapable of performing the duties of his office. He was 45 years old and leaves a wife and two children.

THE SEASON FOR CHARITY.

An Opening Reception Deferred—G. A. R. Fair at Turner Hall—Preparing for an Anniversary Dinner—An Open Air Concert—Gossip of Society.

THE opening reception of the new U. P. Home for Aged Women, at Wilkinsburg, which was to have taken place next Thursday, has been postponed for several weeks. The paper hangers and painters have been longer over their work than the managers of the Home anticipated. So the 20 old ladies who are anxiously waiting to be comfortably housed in the new institution will have to curb their impatience a little longer. The home will retain its former name—Maple Shade—and is one of the most beautifully situated homes of the kind in this end of the State. The lady managers are arranging for an all-day sewing party at the Home next Thursday.

THE charity fair for the benefit of Colonel James C. Hull Post No. 158 opened last night at Turner Hall on Forbes street. The hall was gay with hangings of red, white and blue bunting held in place by flags, while relics of the war were everywhere. There was a large attendance and the prospects are that the three weeks' entertainment will prove a great success.

THE last Thursday in September is the date fixed for the 21st anniversary dinner at the Home for Aged Women in Wilkinsburg. Although it is a month off yet, active preparations are on foot for the event, which is one of the most important pleasures to the old ladies in that institution.

THE Avery Club, of Allegheny, will give a concert to-night in the Wilkinsburg Athletic Park. A good programme has been prepared and will be under the direction of Miss Susie Lee. The proceeds are for the benefit of the Homewood A. M. E. Zion Church. Refreshments will be served after the concert.

Social Chatter.

MISS FLEMING, daughter of Governor Fleming, of West Virginia; Mr. and Miss Foster, of New York City; Miss McElroy, of Pompton, N. J.; Miss Phœbe Kennedy, of Tarentum, and Miss Cora Strickler, of Wilkinsburg, were among the visitors at Camp Eden, on the Cheat river, last week.

TO-MORROW evening St. James P. E. Church, corner of Sixth street and Penn avenue, will be the scene of merry doings. The Guild of the church has arranged to give a social, which promises to be very entertaining.

MISS NETTIE WALTERS, of Negley avenue, East End, gave a charmingly appointed dinner last night for a number of school friends. The table decorations were made up of roses and daffodils.

A RIVER excursion will be enjoyed by the Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor of the McClure Avenue Presbyterian Church, Allegheny, next Thursday afternoon.

MISS ELLA M. BAILEY, daughter of Mrs. C. P. Bailey, of Penn avenue, East End, was married to Mr. Harry P. Wyatt, of C. H. Jenks & Co., on Saturday, August 27.

MRS. NORA MONTGOMERY, of Frankfort, Ky., was the guest of honor at a dinner last night given by Mrs. Sarah Wheeler, of Allegheny. Covers were laid for 33.

MISS ALICE PEIRCE, of Sharpsville, Pa., and Miss Carrie Rhodes, of Sharon, Pa., are visiting Miss Irene Heinz, Penn avenue, East End.

MASTER FRED CUMMINGS, of Forbes street, entertained a number of small friends yesterday afternoon in honor of his birthday.

MISS LIZZIE S. KUHN and Mr. W. H. McNulty will be married this morning in Sacred Heart Church, East End.

MR. AND MRS. R. P. NEVIN, of Sewickley, will leave this week to visit their son, Mr. H. O. Nevin, of Denver, Col.

MISS MARTHA SHELDON, of Allegheny, will entertain a party of girl friends from Cleveland this evening.

THE Pittsburg Library was reopened yesterday, and is fresh and attractive after its summer vacation.

MISS ANNA MEYER and Mr. Charles Schivan will be wedded to-day at the home of the bride, Troy Hill.

SEPTEMBER 8, 9 and 10 are the dates set by the ladies of the G. A. R. of Lawrenceville for a lawn fete.

A LUNCHEON will be given to-day by Mrs. E. B. Sands, of Ben Venue place, for Miss Eva Lutz.

THE Misses Mary McFall and Stella Macy, of New York, are guests of Mrs. N. Patterson.

MRS. FRANK WIER, of Fifth avenue, gave a delightful card party last evening.

DR. HOMLES' BIRTHDAY.

His Eighty-Third Anniversary Finds Him in Comparatively Good Health.

BEVERLEY FARMS, MASS., Aug. 29.—Oliver Wendell Holmes is 83 to-day, and to all appearance he is in the enjoyment of as good health as at any time during the past 10 years. His faculties are unimpaired otherwise than his eyesight, which has not been so good lately. One eye, he says, troubles him considerably. "I cannot read the papers very well," said the doctor to-day, "the type bothers me somewhat more than books. I find a good many books that I can read with ease." Turning his conversation toward his cotemporaries by a question as to one of them, Dr. Holmes, with a delicately expressed modesty, said: "I had the honor to be born in a remarkable year—the same year with four of the greatest men this generation has known—Tennyson, Gladstone, Darwin and Lincoln, most remarkable men. How remarkable that four such men should be born in one year."

He would not accept the suggestion that his name made five remarkable men. "No, no, I do not class myself with those men, only like them I am octogenerian, but I do not rank myself with those men in any other respect." Dr. Holmes spoke of Whittier in the tenderest terms and added, "From 1831 to 1892—sixty-one years—is quite a span, but Whittier began before I did and has written later, for his poem to me is later than anything I have written." The annual tribute from the Doctor's publishers, Houghton, Mifflin & Co., was an elegant basket of flowers. Among the many remembrances received by the Doctor to-day was an exquisitely finished nautilus shell from Mrs. Will H. Moore, of Chicago. The shell was polished and set in a beautiful silver case on a silver stand and in silver script letters bore a stanza from the Doctor's poem, "The Chambered Nautilus."

THE SNUBBED LABOUCHERE.

POLITICS does not anywhere run any smoother than true love. The Grand Old Man has been loudly called on to "placate" Labouchere.—*New York Advertiser.*

THE pseudo-radicalism of which Labouchere and Rochefort are shining types washes itself in eau de cologne after contact with genuine Radicalism.—*Brooklyn Citizen.*

To one who has read *Truth* the fact that the Queen did not want Labouchere for one of her ministers is less in need of explanation than the obvious fact that "Labby" was very anxious to be one of her ministers.—*Chicago Times.*

MR. GLADSTONE exhibited an almost reckless daring in leaving Mr. Labouchere out in the cold. Mr. Labouchere is the only man on earth who can kick as hard as Chicago over not getting everything on earth he asks for.—*St. Paul Globe.*

IF Labouchere really loses his temper and shows up that Tranby Croft episode in glaring colors, look out for royal squalls. It is a little dull in newspaper circles just now, and perhaps it would be well to stir up Labouchere at once.—*Kansas City Star.*

BEING a journalist, Mr. Labouchere knows the value of advertisement, but this manipulation of the notoriety conferred on him by exclusion from the Gladstone Cabinet is almost enough to warrant a suspicion that he intends to go on the stage.—*Baltimore American.*

THE turning down of Labouchere, the English labor leader, by the Queen has aroused the ire of the British labor ranks. Queen Vic. and her family have not made extra colossal strides in the way of winning popularity during the past year.—*Minneapolis Tribune.*

MR. LABOUCHERE, having been kept out of the Gladstone Cabinet, has begun to talk "sassy" and criticise its make up. Yet the fear that he would do this very thing if he were let in was what kept him out. "Labby" is a thorn in his party's side whether with it or against it.—*Detroit News.*

LABOUCHERE is a lucky dog. He is the only prospective Cabinet Minister absolutely barred by Queen Victoria and he has a newspaper of his own in which to tell all about the proscription and its cause and what he thinks of the spiteful old lady. The presses cannot print his paper fast enough to meet the demand.—*Cleveland Plain Dealer.*

CURIOUS CONDENSATIONS.

—Russia invented wood paving.

—Americans use 400,000,000 postal cards a year.

—The Indian population of Arizona is given out as being 35,777.

—Cicero is thought to have written "De Officiis" after he had passed 40.

—Electrotyping of wood cuts and plates for printing was first employed in 1850.

—In 1891 the Western Union had 715,591 miles of wire and sent 59,148,343 messages.

—Machines for making tacks were first made by Thomas Blanchard in the year 1806.

—It is estimated that there is a daily display of $5,000,000 worth of diamonds at Saratoga.

—A man in Paris has invented a new kind of snuff made of tan and pounded baked apples.

—All the employes of the elevated railroads in New York City are said to receive their pay in gold.

—In many of the English country houses there are now rooms set aside especially for the ladies to smoke in.

—According to Thessalian legend the first horse was miraculously brought forth by Neptune striking a rock with his trident.

—Aumove, in the Department de l'Indre, in France, with only 40 families, is reputed to have one centenarian and 23 octogenarians.

—A Mr. Goodman, of London, bet that he could smoke 86 cigars down to an inch in less than 12 hours. He did it with 42 minutes to spare.

—A herd of wild horses, consisting of about 300 head, were run down and roped in in Cheyenne county, Col., a short time ago by a band of cowboys.

—The officials of the Chinese Empire are divided into nine different grades or classes, distinguishable from one another by the button worn on the cap.

—There are 140 distinct Christian denominations in the United States. Of these there are 15 varieties of Methodists, 14 of Baptists and 12 of Presbyterians.

—Out of 50,000 guesses on a big cake of soap on exhibition at Berlin only two were correct. The cake was a soapmaker's advertisement, and weighed 1,142 pounds.

—The highest priced piano in the United States belongs to the Marquand family of New York City. It was designed and painted by Alma Tadema and cost $46,000.

—The railroad coach that carried President Lincoln's body from