

The Dispatch

ESTABLISHED FEBRUARY 8, 1860. Vol. 74, No. 20—Entered at Pittsburgh Postoffice November, 1897, as second-class matter.

BUSINESS OFFICE. Cor. Smithfield and Diamond Streets. News Rooms and Publishing House, 78 and 80 Diamond Street, New Dispatch Building.

EASTERN ADVERTISING OFFICE, ROOM 70, TRIBUNE BUILDING, NEW YORK, where complete list of THE DISPATCH can always be found.

THE DISPATCH is on sale at LEADING HOTELS throughout the United States, and at Brewster's, 8 Union Square, New York, and 17 Avenue des Opere, Paris, France.

TERMS OF THE DISPATCH.

POSTAGE FREE IN THE UNITED STATES. PAID BY ADDRESSEE. Daily Dispatch, Three Months, \$2.00. Daily Dispatch, One Month, 70c. Daily Dispatch, including Sunday, 1 year, \$7.00. Daily Dispatch, including Sunday, 6 months, \$4.00. Sunday Dispatch, One Year, \$2.00. WEEKLY DISPATCH, One Year, \$1.25. THE DAILY DISPATCH is delivered by carriers at 7 cents per week, or, including Sunday Edition, at 8 cents per week.

REMITTANCES SHOULD ONLY BE MADE BY CHECK, MONEY ORDER, OR REGISTERED LETTER.

POSTAGE—Sunday issue and all triple number copies, 5c; single and double number copies, 1c.

PITTSBURGH, FRIDAY, OCT. 21, 1902.

TWELVE PAGES

THE MAN OF HIS TIME.

Four hundred years ago to-day Christopher Columbus, the bold Genoese mariner and first navigator to reach the western shores, was sailing around among the newly-discovered Bahama Islands, thinking himself arrived near the mainland of India. He was a far-seeing man, with a goodly spirit of the worldly temperament in him, and had taken care to contract with the King of Spain, who furnished him with ships and outfit, and was to reward him for his service. He was, both himself and his heirs male forever, to have the government of all the lands he should discover; one-tenth of the net value of all the precious stones and metals and merchandise within his jurisdiction; and he might, at any time, advance one-eighth in any venture and receive a corresponding share of the profits.

The King of Spain was, however, above contracts when it suited him, and Columbus, some twelve years later, died a poor, broken-down man. If his spirit, and those of his royal partners in his venture, are permitted to look down this week upon the monster celebration of the event of 1492, how extraordinarily near-sighted must seem to them human conception four hundred years ago as to the material progress of the race!

It is a marvelous development, this of the four centuries past. With great diffidence the King of Spain was then induced to stake a hazyly conceived hope of 7,000 dollars against the possibilities of the supposed land in the West. Not until the more enterprising Queen offered to pledge her jewels did her royal consort take heart to order the voyage. Now it is the American continent which represents the greatest resources of the earth; here science has wrought its greatest achievements; here man has made his most successful and promising experiment in government; and here all the arts are sure to ultimately reach their highest perfection.

There is not much more of this old earth to discover. Never again will an explorer discover the most of the continent of Columbus. There is the Dark Continent of Africa to be civilized, but its outlines and features are known. No supposable land still lies out of the path of the navigators. It is to the starchy firmament the eye must turn in these days to be fired by the divine inspiration of this planet, reach the stars by telescopes, and great in mathematics, whose knowledge conquers distance and lays bare the mysteries of the heavens, and whose those whose fame is in the future to rank with that of the Genoese sailor. These astronomers are relatively better equipped for their work than he was for his; and it would be more ignorant to doubt their skepticism than assailed Columbus to assume that, long before another four hundred years shall have gone, the charts of the planets of our solar system will not be as well understood as is to-day the chart of the North Atlantic ocean, which in the time of Columbus excited only terror and superstition.

The enterprising Columbus has compelled the scientist to seek other worlds to conquer. Pretty much everything knowable is now understood about the resources of this old earth of ours; and the single question becomes in relation to the earth, how to inhabit it so as to bring the race to the worldliest state. In that vital particular there is made room for discovery yet. But everyone can take heart from the certain fact that, slow though evolution be, all the forces of creation are working together for the best and toward ultimate harmony. The pioneers like Columbus are tremendous agencies for advancing by many centuries the betterment of the race by their intellectual conceptions and persistent devotion to their purposes. It is in that sense the celebrations of this month, while on an immense scale, by no means transcend their subject.

THE ROUTE FOR RELIEF.

Mr. Bailey's paper on the freight question and the suffering of Pittsburgh shippers, recently read at the Chamber of Commerce, brings up a question which has been perennial for nearly 20 years. At times it has, as Mr. Bailey notes, been mitigated by the construction of competing lines, and then been brought again into vitality by the combination policy which permits all the lines to make rates for each other. Mr. Bailey's paper indicates that the need for relief is as pressing as ever.

The rather caustic description of the Pittsburgh shipper is of interest as pointing the way to relief. He is "a long-suffering animal," but when "his dormant energies are aroused he is resistless." This points to the conclusion that when Pittsburgh has suffered long enough it will take complete measures to remove the trouble. Mr. Bailey's paper contains an intimation that this will take the form of building another railway line. But, with the lesson of experience that such a line must sooner or later fall under the sway of one or another of the members of the line pool, we think that Pittsburgh when she gets waked up to her future work will demand a more thorough and permanent remedy.

That remedy presents itself in giving the city a comprehensive system of water transportation. The Ohio River and Lake Erie Canal, once built, can never be all-berbed by trunk line combinations. It will contain the sure cure for freight discriminations by permitting anyone who

is dissatisfied to start a transportation line of his own. With that route open and the pending river improvements completed Pittsburgh can for nine months of the year reach nearly every point from New Orleans to Duluth by water, and the rule of the railroads will be ended. There is enough money in Western Pennsylvania to build this water way. It would save its cost to Western Pennsylvania in two years. When Pittsburgh is thoroughly aroused, as Mr. Bailey describes, it will take such a leadership in this project as will secure its ultimate construction.

CHILDREN'S DAY.

Yesterday marked the opening of Pittsburgh's Columbian celebration. Buildings looked unfamiliar in bright-hued draperies, and even the erstwhile ungainly vessels of commerce almost became things of beauty for the nonce as they steamed up the Monongahela river. But the feature of the day was the highly successful display of enthusiasm made by the children of Pittsburgh's schools. The opportunity of indulging in a national spirit and emphasizing the glories of patriotism was well made use of. Addresses upon the discovery and history of the country, and flag raisings by the children in company with veterans, are well calculated to instill into the youthful mind a pride in our love of America, which should bear fruit in later life in good citizenship.

The tree-planting in Schenley Park was a happy thought, since it established a permanent monument to keep green the memory of the occasion. And the planting of trees in public places is a benefit to the municipality which grows greater as it grows older, and the act indicates the close connection between municipal and national duties. The man who is a good American citizen must realize that he can best serve his country in doing his duty by the community which immediately surrounds him. Any ceremony which cultivates a willingness to count the greatest good of the greatest number as the standard of importance than the personal aggrandizement of number is an excellent thing in these days of concentrated selfishness. Occasions for impressing these ideas upon the rising generation cannot be made too frequent or too dearly prized.

A TYPE OF THE OLD SCHOOL.

The removal by death of old and honored citizens, whose names and labors have long been associated with our city, is a matter for sad reflection, which is but little mitigated even by the knowledge of the inexorable law of nature. Coming quick upon the death of one well-known citizen of Pittsburgh, Mr. Arbutnot, is now the announcement of the death of another whose name had become a household word—Joseph Horne. Mr. Horne for almost half a century had been conspicuously identified with the growth and commercial history of this place. His early life was spent in Bedford, and he was the progenitor of the energy and ambition of what might be termed the "country boys" of Pennsylvania, who made the most of their opportunities, and afterwards came to the large cities to take front rank in manufactures and commerce. The old towns of Pennsylvania, even if small in population and territorial limits, multiplied largely the number of their citizens, and afterwards brought Pittsburgh and Philadelphia to the front of the mercantile procession. The qualities of patience, perseverance, religious integrity and careful procedure which were acquired under the healthful restraints of early life, and amidst the sturdy stock of early settlers, can be credited with the greatest number and most notable cases of personal success in the business of our modern cities.

Mr. Horne was interesting as a fine type of the class of business leaders above described. Success in these later days is won more quickly than in the older time. The cities have grown so great, and the power of capital can be brought into service so quickly, that progress is much more rapid for the fortunate than in the older and slower school. But it is that old school of merchants, nevertheless, which was most interesting in a personal way. The same qualities which built up their fortunes usually made them persons of figure, weight and influence in the community. Their judgment and conservatism made their counsel and opinions standards of judgments in the circles in which they moved.

Mr. Horne was in all respects a worthy and excellent citizen, as well as one of the most notable of the merchants of Pittsburgh. To all—but more particularly to the older generation—there is an especial sadness in the passing away of the man who may be termed the pioneer of Pittsburgh's commercial history. Even as the leaves which have lingered long, one by one they fall in these deepening autumn days.

THE WEEK'S TRADE.

The trade of this week practically ended last night, as to-day and to-morrow will be mainly given up to holiday-making festivities. Notwithstanding the interruption to business caused by the Columbus celebrations, the review of the week discloses a most satisfactory state of affairs for the present, and a bright outlook for the future. The volume of trade in home industries is peculiarly noticeable. And the great volume in exports for September, as compared with the same month last year, is easily accounted for by the absence of the peculiar circumstances which caused the unprecedented and abnormal outgoing traffic two months ago. Even the trade reports bring confutations to the arguments of the calamity howlers, and the healthy condition of affairs indicates that the country has no inclination to substitute a dangerous policy for one the benefits of which are so conspicuous.

A STRONG MOVEMENT IS AFOOT TO PASS THROUGH CONGRESS A BILL WHICH SHALL REMOVE THE INEQUITIES AND INCONVENIENCES WHICH RESULT IN DIVERSITY OF BANKRUPTCY LAWS UNDER VARIOUS STATE GOVERNMENTS.

One of the most important measures of such a nature is the advantage which the commercial world would derive therefrom by the increase of public confidence in credit institutions. That abstract and intangible quantity, known as confidence, is the most essential factor in producing the prosperity of a country's trade. Nothing could be more fatal to public confidence than the return to the disastrous policy of permitting the issue of an unstable currency only controlled by the acts of forty-four different and distant State Legislatures, as advocated by the Democratic platform. Every argument in favor of a uniformity of bankruptcy law is applicable with an intensified force on behalf of the necessity for the institution of a sound national currency.

TWO THINGS FOR HIS DUTIES.

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EVAN BETTER THAN MONEY.

Money makes the mare go, but she never gets her best quality of trotting and ball-bearing into it.

CAMPAIGN NEWS AND COMMENT.

There is every indication that the managers of this national canvass are conducting it upon an eminently practical basis. The forces are being concentrated on the points where they are most needed, and comparatively little attention is being paid to mere localities. It is not a question of mere numbers, but of quality. For instance, whether Cleveland's majority is 100,000 or 200,000 in Texas, so long as he gets the electoral vote of that unwieldy commonwealth, the Republicans, on the other hand, are hardly devoting as much attention as usual to such States as Pennsylvania and Ohio, where the electoral ticket is made, and the majority is expected to be a comfortable one. Little money is being expended out of the campaign, but the organization and get out the vote.

Perhaps Mr. Adlai Stevenson's delayed letter of acceptance will retain the Democratic substitutes for the McKinley bill. It is hardly likely, as the party of negation finds it much more easy to unite in trying to pull down the policies of others than to put anything definite of that kind for itself. The amount of danger in the Chicago platform is only surpassed by the vague elasticity in the interpretations thereof by individual Democratic leaders.

Sentimentalists regard lawlessness and picturesqueness as synonymous terms in some classes of dangerous criminality. Such picturesqueness is of a kind that calls for a disregard of ethicalism in its prompt and rigorous extinction.

Parades that persist in marching on right hand tracks, especially where the grade is steep, contain a grave risk and in spite of all warnings.

President Harrison's thirty-ninth wedding anniversary yesterday must have been a day of great rejoicing to the people, who know that he has a nation's sympathy in his time of trouble could do but little to mitigate.

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BLIND BUT PATRIOTIC.

Children Without Sight Glorify the Beaux-Septes Flag They Will Never See.—The Wedding Season at its Height.—The Gospel of Society Circles.

The marriage of Dr. E. D. Clarke, of Woonsocket, R. I., and Miss Fendorf, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert A. Sawyer, of Woonsocket, Greenock county, Pa., was celebrated at high noon, Monday, Oct. 17, 1902, at the home of the bride, in the presence of a host of friends and relatives. The house was artistically decorated and lighted with electricity. The bride was dressed in the conventional wedding costume—white silk and carried a white bouquet. Her presents were beautiful, consisting of silver, bric-a-brac, pictures, etc. The bride is a gifted young lady. She is a graduate of the Boston Conservatory of Music. Immediately after luncheon the happy couple, amid showers of rice and confetti, took a train for the West, where a handsonly furnished home awaits them.

Miss LIDA McMinn, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. McMinn, was married last evening at 8 o'clock, to Mr. Samuel A. Armstrong. The marriage took place at the home of the bride's parents. The Rev. J. N. Armstrong, of Harrisburg, the groom's brother, officiated. Rev. J. N. Armstrong, who is in the services, Miss Lucia Rose Armstrong was bridesmaid and Mr. Walter McMinn best man. The happy couple took a train for the East followed by the best wishes of many friends.

Last evening Miss Gertrude Mitchell, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Mitchell, and Mr. William O'Hara were married at the residence of the bride's parents, Penn. avenue. Rev. W. J. Reid, D. D., officiated. The bride wore a white crepe silk, trimmed with duchess lace, and a white veil. Her dress was completed by a costume. Miss Carrie Rhodes of Sharon, was bridesmaid and Mr. Charles B. Stuphan was the best man, and the ushers were Mr. James Hughes and Mr. George Mitchell. The ceremony was held after the supper and reception, that followed the ceremony, the young couple left on an Eastern tour.

The Scotch-Irish musical and literary entertainment given last evening in the Sixth ward school hall was a very successful affair. Among the participants were the Misses Brodies, Mrs. J. M. McCreedy, Mr. Alex. McDowell and Prof. C. M. Grosdick.

A wedding ceremony last evening united the lives of Miss Amelia Ahlers and Mr. Theodore P. Langhaus at the home of the bride's parents, 70 North street. The Rev. Mr. Schuk performed the ceremony.

Part of the Columbian exercises in Pittsburgh last night consisted of a unique and interesting entertainment in the Butler Street M. E. Church. It was given by the pupils of the Wagon Ferry school. The program of the Blin, all the numbers being rendered by them, with the assistance of Superintendent Jacoby, Mrs. Jacobs and the teachers. The program consisted of a play, one of the large class rooms attached to the church, and there were at least 200 people present when the young entertainers joined in singing "America," which they did with a great deal of vim and in perfect time and tune.