

The Dispatch

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PITTSBURGH, THURSDAY, DEC. 15, 1892.

TWELVE PAGES

LET THE COURTS DECIDE.

The latest phase of the terrible charge of poisoning at Homestead brought against certain individuals, as set forth fully in the affidavit of Patrick Gallagher, is a plain case of a very serious character.

But it is also ex parte, and as the case is under judicial advisement, and will doubtless be prosecuted with all vigor, it is well not to prejudge the matter.

It is well also to remember that the acts of a few people, unless upon the strongest evidence, can scarcely with any show of reason be charged to organized labor; the charges against which individuals would doubtless, if proved, be repudiated with horror by the very organizations to which they belong and which they would disgrace by their inhuman conduct.

The verdict of the public should be that of the courts. MORE EXPERIENCE THAN THAT. The New York World, in support of the proposition to increase the tax on liquors to \$1.25 per gallon, makes three assertions, as follows:

To tax whisky and untax the common necessities of life is a policy rapidly growing in favor among Democrats in this country.

The assertion that it is preferable to tax whisky rather than the necessities of life is indubitable. The further statement that the increase of the tax "will not even diminish consumption" may also be accepted as a reasonably though not exactly accurate statement of experience.

But when the esteemed World asserts that the addition of 60 cents to the gallon tax will increase the revenues by \$60,000,000 a year, it is necessary to correct it a little study of the fiscal history of the country.

Experience had proved that a tax on whisky does not decrease consumption, because under those circumstances a large proportion of whisky is consumed that does not pay any tax at all.

Finally, if the Democrats should undertake to increase the total revenue of the Government from taxation by an amount equal to the reduction of the McKinley tax, what would become of the original Democratic contention that the public domain had been encroached in excess of the legitimate expenditures?

A POSTAL IMPROVEMENT.

The adoption of a new feature in the local postal service of St. Louis was the subject of a news item which has been given prominence in some of the Eastern papers.

The length of time required for the transmission of a letter from one part of a large city to another is one of the points which are considered in the postal administration. It is some time longer to transmit a letter from one part of Pittsburgh to another, say from Lawrenceville to Templetonville, than from Pittsburgh to New York.

Such an increase of postal accommodations in the large cities would be a strong argument for the socialists, that certain cities are best performed by the Government, if it were not for one thing. The electric postal car is not provided by the Government.

It was furnished by a street railway corporation for the sake of improving the facilities of the region which it serves. There is a striking illustration of the difference between Government and competitive control right here.

While the postal department has been planning itself on its mail carts, or a facility which every grocery merchant or corner grocer afforded to his customers years ago, a street railway corporation under the competitive stimulus of making its district more advantageous than others, gratuitously offers to the Government a postal car far beyond that which the Government has effected. The competi-

NO SOCIALISM NECESSARY.

A specimen of the looseness of expression and thought which prevails on the economic problems of the age is furnished by an article quoted from the San Francisco Examiner.

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A LOOK AROUND.

The City of Washington to a great extent, and Chicago to a lesser one, have been greatly benefited by their tree-planting policy.

The world-wide unfavorable reputation of American municipal governments is due to two main causes. One half of the citizens are too intent on private gains to devote any attention to their own city's affairs.

The irreverence and skepticism of the age are painfully evident in the attempt to impeach the character of a man so well known for his goodness as Colonel Sprague.

The terrible loss of life by explosion in a factory at Lancaster, England, yesterday is attributed to the carelessness of the man whose business it was to inspect the man before the admission of the miners.

Even at this late day ex-Senator Blair is still talking about his extension of his life. And a Philadelphia lawyer yesterday expressed a conviction that the measure will be successfully re-acted by his optimism.

The prompt capture and the promise of an equally prompt prosecution and punishment of the two train robbers who were driven from the rails at Lancaster, Pa., yesterday will prove a warning to such gangsters.

There is something indefinite about Mr. Armour's description of a religion with "sixteen ounces to the pound." But the meaning of his phrase is not less excellent characteristic.

Andrew Carnegie believes that a college training, or at least handicaps, a man in his business. As a college graduate, he is not so well equipped for the business of life as a man who has learned by experience.

The use of peroxide crystals, or peroxide of iron, for the treatment of cholera in Hamburg has been accompanied with results that almost justify the hope that science, in addition to establishing preventive measures, has discovered the treatment of the disease which is likely to be epidemic here.

CONGRESS has done nothing very remarkable so far, unless the coalition of both parties in passing the new Democratic and Democratic Speaker may be so called. But the country does not expect anything remarkable from the Capitol, and nothing short of a business method of making a living is a production in comparison with past achievements.

The size of the Cooley family is in itself enough of an account for the number of crimes which it is collectively and individually charged.

The County Commissioners of Jefferson County, in appointing a man to the office of sheriff for the alleged stealing of a country road, aside from its magnitude there are two remarkable features in the charges made. It is that the man is a member of the political party of the whole earth is questionable, as it is that he should be charged that he actually found a country "road" that was worth stealing.

FAVORITES OF FORTUNE.

JOHN H. DRAKE, of South Dakota, has been appointed United States Consul at Kehl.

WILLIAM POWERS, the newly appointed United States Minister to Italy, has arrived in Rome.

LILLIAN RUSSELL will locate herself in Chicago during the Exposition season and has leased an elegant residence for six months at the rate of \$200 a month.

Mr. PHILIP D. ARMOUR is in New York with his secretary. He is going to Europe in the Majestic and will come back on her return trip. He has nothing new to say regarding his Chicago investment.

PADREWITSCH left London yesterday on his return to the United States. A large number of his friends, including Major J. C. Post, Military Attache of the American Legation, and Mrs. Post, accompanied him to Easton station, where they bade him farewell.

GOVERNOR FLOWER has appointed Susan Anthony as a member of the Board of Managers of the New York State Industrial School to succeed the late Dr. Jonas Jones. The appointment meets with general approval.

LIVE NATIONAL NEWS.

A Cabinet Boom for Morrison—The Silver Men Preparing for Action—An Important Mineral Law Decision Expected Tomorrow—The Gospel of the Capital.

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A CABINET BOOM FOR MORRISON—THE SILVER MEN PREPARING FOR ACTION—AN IMPORTANT MINERAL LAW DECISION EXPECTED TOMORROW—THE GOSPEL OF THE CAPITAL.

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SUNDAY CLOSERS BEATEN.

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A NIGHT OF WEDDINGS.

Yellow and White Are Favorite Colors—Amateur Performance of an Opera—A Dedication of an Italian Church—A German at the Concordia Club—Society.

A LARGE number of Pittsburghers were in attendance at the wedding of Miss Elizabeth Copenhaver, of Washington, D. C., to Mr. William Halston Crabbe, one of the faculty of the Shady Side Academy, a very popular Pittsburgher.

The first wedding to take place in the new First Presbyterian Church, Allegheny, was celebrated last night. It was that of Miss Elizabeth Copenhaver, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James L. Copenhaver, and Mr. William H. Sawyer, of New York.

The bride was in white, and the groom in black. The ceremony was performed by the Rev. Mr. H. H. George, of Beaver Falls. The wedding was a very quiet affair.

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CURIOS CONDENSATIONS.

—Ocean cables stretch 120,250 miles. —The sweet olive was brought from China in 1771. —Ernest Renan's