USEFULNESS OF DEAD LEAVES.

If Left About the Tree They Reinvigorat It and Protect It.

Leaves do not fall from the trees until

their sap has entirely evaporated. They

contain at that stage no more nutritious

properties and they are of but little use if

gathered up. On the contrary, if left on the

ground around the foot of the tree from

the best kind of shelter against cold for the

the tree, which they cover as with a porous

they form a reservoir for rain and snow, gradually imparting this found humidity

to the earth, which absorbs it by capillary force. Even the color of the dead leaves

the most striking example of the immense-ful part which dead leaves play in the

natural economy of vegetable life.

It is wise, therefore, in cities, the streets of which are lined with shade trees, not to sweep the dead leaves from under them,

but allow them to gather around the tree

boxes, where they will form a natural cov-

erlet for the roots against the winter's cold

and a drainage reservoir from which the

JOHN L. A PHILOSOPHER.

Becoming a Thinker.

go back to England as quick as he came.'

TO CATCH THE REBELS.

With the United States.

MONTEREY, MEX., Dec. 25 -[Special.]-

gops on that side, when they are

sed across the river again. This game

the lower Rio Grande border for the past

months, and the main military

new measures for stopping the troublesome

DIGBY BELL IN A MESS.

His Scenery and Costumes Attached in

Chicago to Satisfy a Claim.

other star comedian was interrupted to-

night, when the scenery and cos-

tumes of the Digby Bell Opera Com-

able engagements in Boston and Chicago the company, it is said, has steadily los

cient business to make the venture a suc

cess is attributed by competent theatries managers to the failure of the star of the

rical public. The New York theatrical critics praised the piece and said that with

some other popular actor in the title role, "Jupiter" would have proved a great suc-

SANTA CLAUS IN A MASK.

le Rouses a Little Boy Who Was Wetch-

BRIDGEPORT, CONN., Dec. 25 .- [Special.]

-Early this morning a gang of masked

burglars entered the residence of Albert

Turney, on the outskirts of the city.

The family had retired and were

asleep, with the exception of a little

grandson of Mr. Turney, who was watch-

bedside. The man wore a mask over the

loudly for his grandpa. His cries alarmed

could smother the cries of the little fellow,

or escape from the room, the inmates were

away from the inmates and made his

Adlat Can't Have His Ax.

In trying to make a great man out of Adlai

E. Stevenson in the South, the people of that

elected Vice President with Mr. Cleveland was not allowed to name the Postmaster o

Mr. J. P. Blaize, an extensive real estate

dealer in Des Moines, Iowa, narrowly escaped

while in the northern part of that state during

a recent blizzard, says the Saturday Review. Mr. Blaize had occasion to drive several miles

during the storm and was so thoroughly

chilled that he was mable to get warm, and

threatened with a severe case of pneumonia

or lung fever. Mr. Blaize sent to the neares

drug store and got a bottle of Chamberlain's

Cough Remedy, of which he had often heard, and took a number of large doses. He says

the effect was wonderful and in a short tim

he was breathing quite easily. He kept on taking the medicine and the next day was able to come to Des Moines. Mr. Blaise regards his cure as simply wonderful.

inside of an hour after his return he was

one of the severest attacks of pneumoni

St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

section seem to forget that

The burglar managed to break

The burgiar was bewildered. Before

's idea of Santa Claus, and he oried out

fing for Santa Claus. The lifellow heard a noise of some coming up the stairs, and next moment a man stood near

upper part of his face. This was not

ing for the Good Old Fellow.

impany to hold the attention of the theat-

spring.

stirring.

escape.

CHICAGO, Dec. 25.-The career of an-

"hide and seek" has been going on along

NEW YORK, Dec. 25 .- [Special]-John

tree draws its alimentation and humidity.

St. Louis Post-Dispatch.]

blanket, so to speak.

IS STILL IN DOUBT.

Stamboul's Stockton Record Not Yet Officially Accepted.

STATEMENT OF THE CASE.

Kremlin's Owner Alleged to Be Strongly Opposing It.

PLIMMER AND M'GRATH BATTLE.

A Local Poolseller Talks Interestingly About the Trotting Season.

GENERAL SPORTING NEWS OF THE DAY

There is still some uncertainty regarding whether or not the record of Stamboul, the trotting stallion, will be accepted by the publishers of the "Year Book." A few days ago a dispatch from Stockton, Cal., stated that Secretary Morse, of the National Trotting Horse Association, had declared the records made on the Stockton tracks to be legal. Reterring to this an Eastern authority says:

There is little that is new in the above dispatch, Auctioneer Kellogg having read such a communication to the crowd at the American Institute building on Tuesday last before he called for a bid on Stamboul, 2:07%. The difficulty is not with the National Trotting Horse Association, but with the American Trotting Registry Association, publishers of the "Year Book," which is regarded by the trotting world as the standard authority. Secretary Steiner, of this institution, telegraphed Mr. Kellogg that in all probability all the records made at Stockton during the latter part of October and the month of November would be thrown out because of alleged irregularities. Affected Stamboul's Price.

There is no doubt that this announcement made a great difference in the price Stam-boul brought, for there was one gentleman present who came prepared to bid \$60,000, and who never opened his lips. There is also no doubt that the raising of the ques-tion as to the correctness of the horse's record has done the trotting horse industry a world of harm, and breeders and those in-terested in the development of the trotter are not going to forget the attack, nor the motives which apparently prompted it. Californians tell of a diagruntled driver who wanted to train Stamboul last season, and who took revenge by sending word East to an interested party that the record of 2:07% was not regular in more ways than one. The horse started before 10 o'clock, and the timers and judges were trackmen, are samples of the reasons advanced for the none allowance of the record, which is vouched for by such men as Senator Lang-ford, L. U. Shippee, a millionaire horse breeder, and Superintendent Covey, of Senator Leland Stanford's Palo Alto ranch.

Harriman Is Not Worried. In other words, the American Registry Association, of which William R. Allen, the owner of the stallion Kremlin, whose record is only a quarter of a second behind that of Stamboul, is President, takes the word of this man, whose name is not given to the public, against the testimony of such gentlemen as Messra Langford, Shippee

and Covey.

In the mean time Mr. Harriman, who got a bargain in Stamboul at \$41,000, is not let ting the fact that his horse's record is in dispute worry him any. His plans regarding Stamboul are not yet matured, but in all probability he will take the horse out of the stud early next season and place him trained with a view to lowering his record. which Californians say he can do very handily. The fact that John E. Goldsmith, the great driver, bid \$40,000 for the stallion is significant, as Stamboul was in his hands a part of the season two years ago. Mr. Goldsmith was thrown from a sulky and had one of his legs broken, and was compelled to give up work for a long time. Goldsmith ought to know something about the son of Sultan, and Mr. Harriman would work for a long time. make no mistake in giving the horse to him

A TALK WITH SAM ENGLISH.

The Well-Known Poolseller Talks About Trotting and Trotters.

Sam English, the well-known poolseller, is in the city. During a conversation yesterday he spoke highly of the past trotting season. He said: "The past season and its results show that trotting is more popular with the American people now than ever, More money has been handled during the season; more horses have contested and better time has been made than during any other one season in the history of trotting.

'I have great hopes in next season. There will be more young horses than ever. I will not be surprised if the present record of Nandy Hanks is lowered, either by herself or some other horse."

To-Day's Guttenberg Card. LOUISVILLE, Dec. 25 .- [Special.]-The following pools were sold here last evening on to-morrow's races at Guttenberg:

First race, one mile, selling-Prince Fo tunatus 107, \$10; Beeton 107, Brussels 107. Headlight 101, \$8; Little Jake 101, MacAuley 101, Boyle Rhodes 101, Transit 101, \$5; Fancy gelding 98, Mollie Davis 89, \$3; others, \$2

Second race, three-quarters of a mile, selling-Inferno 110, \$10; Fagot 110, Airplant 106. Merry Duke 194, 85, Kerry Gow 102, Remorse 102, Mabel Glenn 101, \$5; Clothe 91, Mayor B 90, Anne Elizabetu 87; others, \$2 each. 90, Anne Elizabeta 87; others, \$2 each.
Third race, five-eighths of a mile, selling—
Caledonia 111, \$10; Play or Pay 107, \$5; Helen
105, \$6; Lizzie T 105, \$3; Rightaway 105, \$5;
Pessimist 105, Robert 100, Harlequin 100, \$3;
Hi Ban Lady 100, Lady Mary 97; others, \$3

each.
Fourth race, three-quarters of a mile—
Beldemonie 118, \$15; Biltzen 115, \$8; Saunterer 112, Mobelie 111, \$3; Eclipse 110, \$5; Gold
Dollar 100, Flattery 100, \$5; Elia 99, L5can, 97,
\$4; Saragasso 92, Mabel Glenn 90, \$5; Panway
89, others \$2 each.

84; Saragasso 92, Mabel Glenn 90, 85; Panway 89, others \$2 each.

Fifth race, four and one-half furlongs, selling—Prisolia 111, Mucliage 110, Tom Hari 180; Duke John 110, Charife Wilson 199, Irregular 199, van Wart 103, Belle D 192, Boh Arthur 192, Elmstend 192, Red. Elm 192, Boh Arthur 192, No polinis.

Sixth race, one mile, selling—Jack Rose 115, 35; Vardee 114, Allen Bane 113, Beas Mo-Duff 107, Running Bird 107, \$5; Greenwich 107, \$10; Shenandoah 101, \$10; Sir Walter Raieigh 191, Hyacinthe 98, Laliah 87, \$3; others \$2 each.

THE PROPOSED NEW BULES.

A Western Writer Thinks It Wise to Let Well Enough Alone,

A little more than two months remain for debating the question. Frank Richter has swung Sporting Life into line for the change, and has every gun trained against the opponents of the measure. A great broadside of cold type has belebed defiance this week from Pittsburg, Philadelphia, Louisville, Cincinnati and Chicago. Captain Anson has come out as an opponent of the rule tinkers. It isn't tall to call the men who

oppose radical change "enemies of pro-Michael Angelo Lane looks at the situation in this way: "The growth of baseball has been in the way of scientific development, and it would be dangerous to play with the rules now. It is a large question whether the removal of the pitcher back would reduce his power much, if at all. The probable result would be a confusion of ts with pitchers and batters. In other

words, the change w uld be purely experimental, and experiments must not, above all, be tried with the league rules. Leave well enough alone is the best advice that can be given to the restless reformers. The people have notired of the rules, and it is gratuitous to assume that they want a change. The game of baseball is perfect, in the main, and only slight modifications will be tolerated."—Times-Star.

TO-DAY'S FOOTBALL GAME. The Chicago Team Here and Expect a Very Hard Contest.

Chicago's champion football players arrived in the city yesterday afternoon and located at Stayley's Hotel. They will play the Pittsburg Association team this after-noon at Exposition Park, the contest commencing at 3 o'clock. The Western players are a fine looking lot of fellows. They came here, of course, expecting to be victorious. During a conversation last even-ing Secretary Fred Kelly, of the visiting

"We have a good team with us, as we know that we have a very powerful team to meet. I have an idea that there will be some fine Association football played by the teams to-morrow. I think the grounds will be in good condition, as the snow will not interfere with us."

It is likely that the contest will be played near the grand stand so that the spectators can ren at : in the stand and witness all the points of the game. Secretary Matthews, of the local team, stated last evening that his

men will show up in good form.

Mr. Kelly, speaking of general amateur sports, said that there will be an extraor-dinary amount of athletic sports at Chicago next year. He thinks that the best per-formers in the world will be there to compete in every branch of sport.

Pitteburge.	Will line up as I	Chicagos.
ruceourge,	5.052510000	
I. Attewell		Balster
T. Attewell, ?	Backs	McFarlane,
W. Powell. J.		Campbell,
J. Attewell,	44 144 47 44 1	(Anderson,
Redcliffe. }	Half Backs	Cameron,
Burbridge,)		Ballengall,
Crooks,		Cowan,
Worrall,	Forwards	E. W. Smith
Woods,	COLMWICHS	T. Ballengal
O'Brien Capt		(C. W. Smith
Waldron,		(c. m. omin

ENGLISH SPORTING GOSSIP.

Howell, the Famous Bicycle Rider, Arrested

and Fined for Disorderly Conduct, The mail which reached here yesterday brought a budget of interesting news of the latest doings in English sporting circles. At Edinburgh Police Court, December 13, Richard Howell, champion bicycle rider of the world, pleaded guilty to disorderly conduct and an assault on two fellow protessionals, J. W. Lamb and D. Dodds. The last two had been riding in the Waverley Market tournament and Howell started a three-cornered squabble over the proceeds.

He was fined \$5 or ten days.

The secretary of the National Skating Association of Great Britain has received official notification from Holland that arrangements are being made to hold the race for the amateur championship of the world at Amsterdam on January 13 and 14. This will be the first contest under the auspices of the International Skating Union, and is expected to be the most representa-tive race ever held on ice. A week later the championship of Europe for speed and figure skating will take place at Berlin. There has been some lively speculation in rowing circles since the ratification on December 12 of the match between George Bubear, of Hammersmith, and George Hosmer, of Boston. The race, which is fixed to take place on Monday, January 30, is for a stake of \$1,000 a side and the challenge cup recently resigned by W. East.

DONOGHUE'S FORFEIT UP.

The Champion Skater Issues a Challenge to Any Man in the World.

Joseph F. Donoghue, of Newburg, the champion amateur skater of the world, Saturday called at the office of a Minneapolis newspaper and made a deposit as forfeit, with authority for that paper to pub-lish over his name a challenge to skate any man in the world, none barred, a series of races at one, three or five miles for the championship of the world.

Each race is to be for a purse of from \$1,000 to \$2,500. If desired he will increase the number of races and will accommodate to any size purse, but for none less than

Donoghue will remain at Minneapolis awaiting acceptance of the challenge until January 1, 1893. If not accepted at that time, or if negotiations for a race are not at that date pending, he will return to his home in Newburg and announce himself as champion skater of the world, claiming the title by default. An acceptance of the chal lenge must be accompanied by the posting of a forfeit equal in amount to that put up by the challenging party.

PLIMMER AND M'GRATH.

Interest Increasing in the Coming Battle Between the Little Fellows.

Interest is growing in the Plimmer and McGrath glove contest, which takes place next Wednesday evening. Betting on the result in the East has become quite lively, the English lad, of course, being favorite. Still McGrath has quite a strong following. Among those who have no mean opini of McGrath's abilities as a fighher may be mentioned Bob Fitzsimmons, Joe Choynski, Jack Quinn and Martin Costello, All these are men of sound judgment in that line. Unlike Costello and Greggains, Mc-Grath is not an employer of artiul He sees but one way to victory, and that is by slugging. As Plimmer is undoubtedly well prepared to meet his opponent's turious onslaughts, the audience may assured of some genuine sport.

The Fulford-Elliott Match.

HARRISBURG, PA., Dec. 25.-Fulford and Elliott, the trap shooters, will shoot the fifth match of the championship series at Island Park to-morrow. Both men are ere. Fulford has won three of the matches, but one is protested.

A Pugilistic Hitch.

NEW YORK, Dec. 25 .- [Special.]-Burge declines to sign to fight McAuliffe unless the articles are materially changed. He will insist on two-ounce gloves and a less deposit than \$10,000.

General Sporting Notes. Sr. Louis' outfield, according to Von der Ahe, will consist of Brodie, Caruthers and Dowd. The ex-Brooklyn player will again be the captain of next year's team.

THIRD BASEMAN JOYCE claims that his injured leg, which laid him up for such a long time last season, is in good shape sgain. He blames Anson for causing the injury. THE importations of cycles and accessories into France during the first eight months of this year amount to nearly \$1,560,000, and the estimated weight of the same is about 594% tons, and nearly all from England.

"JACK" HAGGERTY, the English champlon short distance swimmer, has posted a forfelt of \$200 with Captain Cook, of Boston, to make a match with any man in America to swim 100 yards for as much money as can be mutually agreed upon.

mutually agreed upon.

JIM HALL, in speaking of the big purse fever, said the other day: "As soon as this news reaches Australia there won't be enough ships on the Pacific to carry over all the fighters who will want to come. They the fighters who will want to come. will simply flood the country." J. C. RTAN, of San Francisco, one of the fa

mous sprinters of the country, is at the Grand Pacific. He says that the best run-ner in America to-day in races of from 100 to 220 yards is Henry Jewett, of Chicago, a member of the Detroit Athletic Club.—The

At the annual meeting of the Rugby Foot-ball Interprovincial Union held at Toronto recently, it was stated that efforts were be-ing made to secure series matches in Eng-land with a representative Canadian team, also to persuade an English team to visit this country. "TONMY" CALLAGHAN, the Irish feather-

weight pugilist, who was defeated by "Cal" McCarthy in New Orleans last March, will return to this country in January. He will challenge "Johnny" Griffen or "Ike" Weir for a finish fight to take place before the Coney Island Athletic Club.

In His Race for the Speakership, but He Expects to .

GET ON SOME GOOD COMMITTEES.

Allegheny Doesn't Care for Any Office if That of Resident Clerk

IS ALL THAT THE QUAY SLATE ALLOWS

INPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH. PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 25.—Representative Harry F. Walton is still in the fight for the Speakership, backed by Senator Porter, and has been making it interesting for the others in the race during the past two weeks. Signs that he will soon be called off in order to give a clear track to Thompson, of Warren, are lacking, but may be expected any day. Senator Porter declares he will remain loyal to Walton, win or lose, and ex-Marshal Leeds is also working hard to knock out the regulation

Walton's bold and aggressive contest has excited much attention over the State, and has challenged even the admiration of ex-Speaker Thompson's friends. His canvass has been strongly and vigorously made with a view to securing the support of the interior counties, and in this he has succeeded very materially. Uncle John Cessua, the Bedford statesman, is on his list, and Major Sam Losch, of Schuvlkill, is not averse to classification on the Walton side.

Why It Pays to Run for Speaker. The unsuccessful aspirants for Speaker will be given their choice of the committees, and in the customary way be conciliated. Walton will be placed either at the head of the Committee on Judiciary General or the Committee on Appropriations. This is said to be the real intent of his present contest, as the managers of the organization of the next House do not regard his position in

the fight as at all serious.

Two years ago Walton was one of the strongest members of the Judiciary General Committee, considered to be the most important committee of the House, as two-thirds of all bills introduced in that body, outside of appropriation measures, go before

Samuel B. Cochrane, of Armstrong, an other candidate for the Speakership, will likely be placed at the head of the Appropriation Committee. Ward R. Bliss, of Delaware; William E. Burdick, of McKean; Martin E. Lafferty and Samuel E. Stewart, of Allegheny, and ex-Speaker Boyer will be cared for in the make-up of the committees. The Republican legislative caucus will The Republican legislative caucus will not get together before Monday evening, January 2, and the work before it will be transacted with neatness and dispatch. There is nothing new on the slate beyond the addition of the name of ex-Mayor J. D. Patterson, of Harrisburg, for resident clerk. When the slate was made up in this site. When the slate was made up in this site. city, some weeks ago, by Senator Quay's approval, the resident elerkship was left open for Allegheny county to fill, but the Pittsburg end has either spurned the opportunity or refused to take a third-rate snap, and the managers have accordingly trotted out Patterson.

The retirement of Mr. Graham has knocked the bottom out of the hopes of the opposition to Mr. Quay for Senator, and his return is a foregone conclusion. Attorney-General Hensel was in the city to-day between trains, and touching the newspaper rumor that he sought the complimentary nomination of the Democratic Senatorial caucus, said there was nothing in it. He added:

Mr. Hensel Red-Hot for Ross. I am not a candidate for that or any other place of honor. My name will not be pre-sented to the caucus. I haven't had any such idea. I have assumed that Senato Ross would be the nominee of his party. He is too modest a man to seek it, but is preeminently worthy and 'deserving. Two
years ago, although he was mentioned for the place, I thought Lieutenant Governor Black ought to have the preference, because he had been the candidate of his party in the canvass just closed, and had made great sacrifices to help his ticket and to elect Governor Pattison, and yet failed of election himself in the same campaign. Beside him many of the other party leaders in the State have received the compliment of this nomination. I recall Charles R. Buckalew, William A. Wallace and S. P. Wolverton. Senator Ross is the unquestionable leader of his party in the Legislature. He is eminently qualified, comes from an old Democratic county. I think the nomination will be conierred upon him unanimously, without any solicitation or Ross would be the nominee of his party. He unanimously, without any solicitation or effort on his own part. I have reason to know that while he will not seek it, he would highly appreciate it.

AN ODD GOLD NUGGET.

It Was Found in Australia and Resemble a Big Human Hand.

St. Louis Republic.] There have been many large and odly-

shaped gold nuggets found in the United States and elsewhere, but the oddest of them all was that discovered at the Midhas Mine on Sulky Gully, near Melborne, Australia, in 1887. The nugget was flat and almost the exact counterpart in contour of a colossal human hand held open, with the exception of the thumb and forefinger, which were closed together in a manner so as to make it appear that the thumb was holding the finger in place. Its greatest length was 18 / inches and its greatest breadth 8 inches. It was of the very purest gold, with but a little of foreign substances adhering (mostly be-tween the "fingers"), and weighed 617 ounces. It was found in the northwest main drive of the Midhas Mine, 120 feet below the surjace of the earth and at a snot only 50 feet from where the famous Brassy" nugget was discovered the year be

It weighed 51 pounds of pure gold, worth \$225 per pound. In 1891 a nugget of 15 pounds weight, shaped exactly like a cross, with the exception of the right arm, was discovered in the Buriss mine near the same

A MAN TORN IN TWO.

His Leg Found on a Train and His Body

Miles Away. MOBERLY, Mo., Dec. 25 .- When the Wabash fast freight reached here this morning the remains of a human leg were found wound around a brake rod. It had been dragged a long distance over the cross ties. When the limb was removed it was found

to be that of a man torn from his body, and presented a sickening spectacle. It was devoid of clothing, the bones were broken and the foot was whipped almost into shreds. The balance of the body was located at Warrenton, and the leg was at once shipped to that point. From letters found upon his person he is supposed to be a young man named Ruhrer, whose home is in the country near Warrenton. The train was a through freight, and he is supposed to have fallen under the car and been torn to pieces while trying to emerge from a box car, after riding out from some point near St. Louis.

WOUNDED A COMPANION.

Hungarian Who Thought He Had Emptied His Revolver.

WILKESBARRE, Dec. 25. - Joseph Minks, Polander, thought he would have a little sport this afternoon in shooting at a hat, placed upon a post at his bearding house in this city. After firing several shots, and thinking the revolver was empty, he pointed it at a companion named Louis Schmid, and a bullet left in the revolver struck Schmidt in the back and entered near the stomach. The wounded man was carried to the house and medical aid summoned. The bullet was removed and Schmidt was sent to the hospital. The wound is extremely dangerous and the

chances for his recovery are slight. The young man who fired the shot fied in terror rom the scene and has not been heard from

> Forms of Government and Social Organization of Some Tribes.

COMMON PRACTICE OF POLYGAMY.

Slavery and the Flave Trade Not Yet Intirely Abolished.

IDEAS OF RELIGION AND THE PUTURE

which they have fallen the dead leaves form WASHINGTON, Dec. 25 .- An interesting roots and the grass that grows at the base of sketch of life on the west coast of Africa is given in a communication to the State De-Retaining from 82 to 94 per cent of water, partment by the Hell Chatelaine, United States commercial agent at Loando, in the Portuguese province of Angola. As defined by the recent treaties with Germany, increases the absorbing power of the soil for warmth and light, those two prime factors of vegetation. Nor is this all. The roots of the tree which draw from the soil England and the Congo State, the Portuguese province of Angola is one of the largest territorial divisions on the new map of Atries. Owing to its geographical posiconstantly their necessary sustenance would soon gradually so impoverish the latter that no nutritious substances would remain, if tion, variety of climates, natural resources and to the progress already accomplished in in turn the decomposing leaves did not make sufficient restitution. The forests where vegetation is always vigorous through a constantly reinvigorated soil, are the civilization of the natives, the intrinsic value and immediate possibilities of Angols surpass those of any other possession in tropical Africa.

From 40 40' to 170 20' south latitude it has over 12 geographic degrees of seacoast and the two best harbors of the whole west coast-the month of the Kongo river and the Bay of Loanda. Stretching to the interior as far as the Kasai and Zambezi rivers it forms an irregular quadrangle covering about 1,250,000 square kilometers. In the north and east it borders on the Kongo State, in the southeast on British Zambesia, and in the south on German Southwest At-

Political Organization of the Natives.

His Health Improved, but He Is Surely The political organization of African tribes is very much the same all over the L. Sullivan reached this city at 11 o'clock continent; the differences bear rather on this morning from Washington with his secondary points and the personal charactheatrical combination. He was looking teristics of tribal or national rulers. These in excellent health. He said this remarks apply immediately to the tribes of evening: "I suppose you were going to ask me whether I am a sick man. Well, I Angola proper, that is, of the district of Loanda; but with slight modifications they would also be true of the other Angolan ask me whether I am a sick man. Well, I can comfortably say that I ain't. I was sick in Washington, though, but not so bad as reported. That story about my being examined by a doctor the other day is not so. Suppose my health is gone—what does it amount to, any way? If I die, they'll lay me beneath the read with great generously and say districts and of African tribes generally. It will be found that the native African system of government is both rational and practical; in fact, as good as it could beneither absolutely demogratic, nor aristo amount to, any way? If I die, they'll lay me beneath the sod with great ceremony and say, as they take a farewell look at my face. eratic, nor monarchic, but a happy blending of these three fundamental types. Whether large or small, every village or town or nation is governed after the same uniform pattern. The legislative power is vested in 'He was a good fellow. Poor John 'L! Champion of the world for 12 years until the council of the elders or prominent men, which includes all freemen whose opinions he was licked.' Then I'll be forgotten."

There was a touch of pathos in his remarks as he said this. "Possibly one of have some weight in the eves of the people. These elders are called in Kimbundu "ma-kota." They are the depositories of the these days I will try and get on a go with somebody," he added. "I think I would get as much money as anybody. What do you think of Jack Mc auliffe's latest match? I hope that tribe's or nation's traditional customs, which constitute the laws or constitution according to which the body of the elders, as well as the chief, are to administer pub-Jack will knock this Burge out with one punch, and I believe he will, and make him lie affairs, and the chief executive is to be elected. Thus this council pretty well corresponds to our parliaments.

An Elective King. The executive power is vested in the chief The executive power is vested in the driet or King, whose title is, in Northern Angola, "mfumu" or "ndembu;" in Central Angola, "soba," and in Southern Angola, "o soma." As a rule the chief is elected and inaugurated by the elders, in secondance with definite rules, in one royal family, the heir to the throne being rarely the son, Mexicans Recommend a Concerted Action General Bernardo Reyes, commander of the Military Zone, has written a letter of the defunct or deposed King's oldest son of the defunct or deposed King's oldest sister. In the interest of the State the chief has nominally absolute power over the life and property of his subjects; but practically he can do nothing without consulting the council or the most influential of the eiders, and woe to him if he offends public opinion. He may suddenly be accused of witchcraft and fall a victim to the polary test or he defends the council of the council of the council of the offends public opinion. but most always the oldest or the ablest son to President Diaz recommending that the Mexican Government make arrangement with the United States Government for the pursuit of the border revolutionists over the international boundary line. General Reyes and other high military authorities, of this country, claim that if suc an arrangement can be mad the border troubles will soon be overcome. and fall a victim to the poison test or be de-Under the existing law the outlaws, when hothy pursued by the troops of one country, escipe capture by crossing the river where they are perfectly safe until they are discovered by the posed or killed by the elders, with the consent and co-operation of the public.

The chief is called the father of the peo-

he is expected to treat them as such. As in most Bantu tribes, it is the mother and not the father who determines consan guinity; therefore the child of a sister is held by a man to be his nearest descendant and legal heir. The children belong to their maternal uncle and not their father. The father's relation to his children is as loose as with us that of a stepiather to his stepchildren. The uncle has the right to sell his nephews and nieces, separating them from iather, mother, brothers and

sisters. The Practice of Polygamy.

Polygamy is everywhere honored, though its evil concomitants and consequences are not ignored. Every wife has her own house, gardens and private property. The first wife, or head wife, has a limited aupany, which has been giving "Jupiter" at thority over the concubines, and the whole Hooley's theater, was attached by J. H. Romain to satisty a claim of \$1,600. The system works much more smoothly than people in civilization would imagine, company was on the eve of a departure for its demoralizing effects are everywhere a series of one night stands, when the sheriff seized the properties. While Digby Bell has played to two profitvisible, and there is no hope of a regeneration of the race as long as polygamy is not condemned by public opinion, and finally eradicated. The family is the foundation of the State and monogamy the corner-stone of a normal household. money since the opening in New York last The reason for the failure to attract suffi-

The absence of metal or paper money to represent capital has much to do with the popularity of polygamy, as each additional wife, with house, children, fields and cattle is considered a paying investment of capi-tal. The money or presents given by the wooer for his bride are not, as usually represented, her "price," as though she were simply bought, but the symbol and pledge of the contract entered into. It he treats her unmercifully she can run away and he loses his deposit. If, on the contrary, she should prove unfaithful, the parents will have to return the equivalent of the wooing present. Thus it is a mutual check.

The greatest festivity of the native Angolans is not the wedding, but the funeral, called "tambi." All the relatives and friends gather and have a regular "blow-out" as long as there is a cent to

spend. Slavery and Slave Trade. There is no corner of Angola where slavery is not in practice among the natives. Nor can slavery exist without slave trade. The worst horrors of the traffic, however, do not appear in the local trade. They are enacted in the extreme east of the province and in the unsubdued parts of the Kongo State, where the Ma-Kioko and other tribes raid the slaves they bring to the coast. It is then that villages are attacked, burnt, sacked and the human flocks driven to the slave markets, many dying on the road, while others are used as beasts of burden to bring to the coast the rubber, the wax and

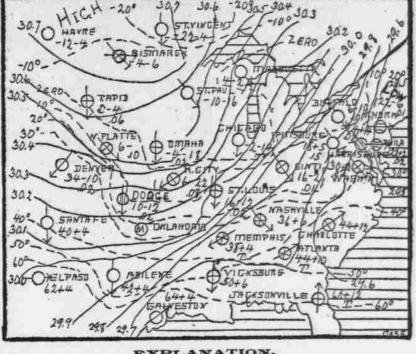
the ivory so coveted by the whites.

Legally, slavery is abolished in all Portuguese possessions. But forced labor, under the name of legal contract, is more flourishing than ever, and it is to supply the demand of the great coffee plantations. of Cazengo, of the great cane (rum) planta-tions of the Kuanza and Dande rivers and of the coffee and cocoa planters of St. Thomas and Principe that the Kasanji (Cassange), Bailundo and Bihe traders canvass all Central Africa in search of the huma plunder of the Ma-Kioko raids.

Contract Labor Worse Than Slavery. Domestic slavery among the natives is an evil, no doubt, but not to be compared with that of contract labor on the plantations. The slave of the uncivilized native is treated as a child and often loves his master like a father and his mistress like a mother. His master having no more needs than he the slave is often as well off as the master. He has very little work to do and all he earns in his free time is his own, so that, if he wants to become free, he may after a time redeem himselt. Not so with the plantstion laborer. The exacting white man is determined to squeeze out of him every cent he may produce and the manatee whip is from early morn till dusk in the hands of the foreman and even of the planter him-

The ever-repeated assertion that the Afri-





EXPLANATION.

CLOUDT,

CPARTLY CLOUDY. Arrow files with wind. First figures at station indicate temperature: First figures at station indicate temperature; next figures indicate change in temperature; and figure underneath, if any, indicate amount of rainfail or melied snow in hundreths of an inch during past 12 hours; T indicates trace of precipitation; isobars, or solid black lines, pass through points of equal pressure; isotherms, or dotted lines, equal temperature.

Storms generally move from West to East in atmospheric waves, of which the crests are

CLOUDLESS.

marked "High" and the oval trough, or depression "Low." These waves move Eastward on an average of 500 miles per day.

High winds, rain or (if cold enough) snow, Southerly winds, and consequently high temperature, usually precede "Lows" across the country. When the "Low" passes East of a place the wind changes to North, bringing lower temperature, clearing akies, and often cold waves and Northers. The high area brings sunshine,

(A) BAIN.

Свиом,

FOR WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA-Fair, Brisk and High Northwest Winds; Cold FOR WEST VIRGINIA AND OHIO-Fair, Northwest Winds; Cold Wave.

WEATHER CONDITIONS.—The temperature fell rapidly during the forenoon and middle of the day over all the districts east of the Mississippi river and in the Southwest. Began to rise very rapi dly in the atternoon, with increasing northwesterly winds and rapidly falling temperature over the Lake regions, Central Valleys and the Southwest. An extensive area of very high pressure is moving rapidly southeastward from the Dakotas and will probably cover the Eastern States, the Central Valley, the Lower Mississippi Valley and Texas during Monday night, with very low temperature.

PITTSBURG, Dec. 25.—The Local Forecast Official of the Weather Bureau furnishes the following:

BAROMETER-5 A. M., 29,89; 2 P. M., -; 3 P.M., 29.80. RELATIVE HUMIDITY-S A. M., 90; 2 P. M. -; 8 P. M., 68. PRECIPITATION past 24 hours, from 8 P. M., .15.

TEMPERATURE-8 A. M., 17; 12 M., 17; 2 P. M., 19; 5 P. M., 23; 8 P. M., 23. Highest, 23; lowest, 10 average, 16, which is 18° below the normal.

cans are fetichists, that is, worshipers of inanimate objects, is utterly faise. The Angolans have the same religious system as the Bantus generally. They are not idolaters in the strict sense, nor polytheists, and much less atheists, but superstitious and much less atheists, but superations deists. They believe in one great God, who made and maintains all things, invisible, yet seeing even the thoughts of men, the author of all the good, but also of much of the suffering. They generally much of the suffering. think that God is angry with mankind and indifferent to the details of their daily life. They do not formally worship God, nor represent Him by any image, nor do they believe He is contained in any fetich. The only carved image which the Angolaus call God is an imitation of the crucifix, and they clearly state that this is the white man's God, not the God of the universe.

A Number of Inferior Spirits. What travelers generally call African gods are not gods at all, but inferior spirits, to whom God has intrusted the administration of natural forces. These inferior spirits and the shades of the deceased are the supernatural beings whom the natives fear and serve. With them they converse through the media of their "i-mbunda;" them they seek to propitiate by offerings and sacrifices, and to them they attribute most mysterious accidents of their simple

What images the natives have-horns, bones, stones and sticks, so often called their gods-are simply amulets and talis-mans consecrated by their medicine men, differing in nothing but the form from the host of amulets sold in many countries in

Europe.

He believes that when he dies he lives or in hades much the same as he did on earth, only much longer—how long he no one can tell; but it man dies again in hades, he goes to another place about which nothing at all s known. The slave dreads to die as a slave, because he thinks he will enter the other life as a slave and continue in that interior state. Therefore, he entreats his master to give him his liberty as he passes from this life.

The Angolans do not seem to have any definite idea of a hell or paradise; all go to the same region and are there, as here, the authors of their own good or bad fortune.

THE FIRE RECORD.

Milwankee-Two fires, occuring almost simultaneously yes erday afternoon, de-stroyed the Keenan flour mill and the plant of the Bell Kuitting and Flynet Company. The loss on the latter is \$85,000, and on the former \$15,000. Both fires are thought to have been foundisty.

been incendiary.

Philadelphia—Fire, caused by an overheated oven, destroyed the bakery of Edward Sedden & Brother yesterday morning, and a building adjoining, owned by a man named Ward and used as a public library. In trying to extinguish the flames, Charles Stackhouse feli from a ladder and was badly hurt. The loss is about \$7,000. been incendiary.

badly hurt. The loss is about \$7,000.

Harrisburg.—The building on North Third street, near Market, owned by L. S. Green, of Philadelphia, was gutted by fire yesterday. It was occupied by Mattock & Rebert, drygoods and notions, Thomas S. Peters, real estate agency: Musser & Co., photographers. The fire originated in the cellar of the store and burned fiercely for an hour. The building and contents were destroyed. The total loss will be about \$15,000; partially insured.

Rochester-A destructive fire yesterday Rochester—A destructive fire yesterday norning destroyed the large storeroom owned by William Gossman and occupied by George Chapman as a grocery, the residence of Joseph Melior and a smaller store building adjoining. Chapman's loss will amount to about \$2,500, Juliy covered by insurance, and Melior's loss will reach \$2,000, while the unoccupied building was worth about \$800. The fire originated in the empty storeroom, and is thought to have been the work of tramps.

Springlike in Denver. DENVER, COL., Dec., 25.-Denver is enjoying pertect spring weather, probably as pleasant a Christmas as has ever been seen n this section. Although there is some snow on the ground, the warm sun of yesterday and to-day has melted it consider-ably and to-night at 9 o'clock the weather is pleasant and mild.

RIVER NEWS AND NOTES. Louisville Items-The Stage of Water and

the Movements of Boats. ISPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISP ATCH.] LOUISVILLE, KY., Dec. 23.—Hiver stationary, with 5 feet and 4 inches on the falls, 7 feet and & inches in the canal, and 13 feet below. Weather The Ohio, from Cincinnati, passed down on her way to Memphis. The Harry Brown and tow ard due up from Memphis.

Departures—For Cincinnati, Big Sandy.

What Upper Gauges Show. BROWNSVILLE-kiver 5 feet and stationary.
Weather snowy. Thermometer, 10° at 4P, M.
WABREN-River 5.7 foot, Weather snowy.
MORGANTOWN-River 4 feet and 5 inches and closed, Weather cloudy. Thermometer, 20° at 4 F. M.

The News From Below.

CINCINNATI-River 13 feet 2 inones and falling, Fair and cold. NEW ORLEANS-Weather partly cloudy. Ar-rived Schenek from, Cincinnati, WHEFI INC. Dis.

Notes From the Wharf.

THE Henter No. 2 came down from McKeesport, flying light yesterday. CAPTAIN STEVE DONNALDSON IS the present commander of the Bob Connell, THE Pacific went down to Woods' Run on Satur-STAGE of water at Pittsburg and Davis Island Dam. 25 feet and 2.1 feet. Hiver falling. THE Fred Wilson is tied up at Liverpool, waiting on water to return with her empty tow. THE Little Bill came down from the fourth pool with ten flats and a tow of coal yesternay.

THE Crescent is fled up at the docks with broken og chains received on Thursday when aground at WILLIAM CRAIG, steward on the John F. Wal-ton, is spending Christmas with his family at Beaver Falls. THE Charles A. Turner got stuck with a flat in the Allegheny river near the Point Bridge yester-

MORR'S SHELCHOSS, chief engineer of the John F. Walton, left for his home in Gallipolis on Salurday to spend Christmas. CAPTAIN GHIFFIN SHAW has taken Captain John Myers' place as mate on the Rescue. Captain Myers has been off for two weeks. THE crews of the Tom Dodsworth and Smony City came up from below yesterday and will spend Christmas with their families here, Tile John W. Alles is having here broken rudder repaired at Brownsville, which she received at the Davis Island Dam while returning from Merriman after having helped the Crescent off.

THE Coal City is reported fast aground with tow near Cable's Eddy, at the foot of Brown Island. The Raymand However and Joe Nin made unsuccessful attempts to help her off. made unsuccessful attempts to help her but.

The Sunchine arrived, from Parkersburg yesterday after being stuck all night at the head of Brunot's I sland. She will not go out again until there is water, and her crew and passengers were send back to Parkersburg by rail.

PEOPLE COMING AND GOING.

J. B. Milroy and wife, of Greensburg, and Charles W. Deane, of Indiana, were as the Seventh Avenue Hotel yesterday. Robert L. Lowe, of New Castle, and G. F. Arnold and wife, of Washington, are stop-ping at the Monongahela House. W. C. Kreusch, of Youngstown, and George Smith, of Canton, put up at the Schlosser yesterday.

Ovide Musin and his company, and J. A. Croxton, of Philadelphia, are registered as the Duquesne. George E. Handel, of Newark, and A. Allen, of Brooklyn, are guests at the An-

Jay F. Durham, of Washington, a former newspaper man, was in the city yesterday. John Atwood and wife, of Baltimore, were guests at the Central yesterday. M. McD Prichard, of Richmond, put up at Neweil's Hotel vesterday.

CARLISLE, Dec. 25.-Mayor E. Jasney. of this city, who left here abous month ago, arrived home last evening from Chicago. He said this evening there was no truth whatever in the charges which were made against him after his departure and that they were manufactured by his ene-mies. He says his accounts are correct and that he will resume his office in a few days.

Highest of all in Leavening Power .- Latest U. S. Gov't Report.

