ARMOR PLATE PLAN

For the Pacific Coast, to Be Built in San Francisco on a Large Scale.

THE NEED OF SUCH WORKS

Has Long Been Apparent, as Means of Saving Time and Money.

MORE TROUBLE OVER PAGO PAGO.

The Appropriation for a Coaling Station There Isn't large I nough.

WORDY DISCUSSION ON NICARAGUA

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.-The Pacific coast is to have an armor plate plant, according to a local paper. The story is as follows: It is stated on reliable authority that a concern has been incorporated at San Francisco, and has half of its working capital subscribed, for the establishment of an armor plate plant in that city. The plant, it is understood, will be on a large scale, and will be capable of producing not only the heaviest armor, but will be equipped for the manufacture of guns, shot and shell, and heavy forgings of all descriptions. This project is said to be the result of the policy of distribution which has been observed by the Navy Department in awarding the contracts for the ships of the

new payy. The need of a plant for the manufacture of armor plates and other heavy forgings on the Pacific coast was made apparent when the contract for the construction of the cruiser Charleston was awarded to the Union Iron Works in 1886. The armor plates, shatt and other heavy material which entered into that vessel, as well as the San Francisco, which was given to the same firm in the following year, and the Monterey, Oregon and Olympia, which have since been awarded them, were manufactured in the East.

Entirely Too Far for Transportation. The transportation of the material to the

Pacific coast added materially to the cost of these vessels, and it is said that the completion of the Oregon and Olympia will be retarded by the delay in the furnishing of

retarded by the delay in the furnishing of their armor.

The establishment of a plant of this kind on the Pacific coast is regarded with great favor in naval circles, and its want has been frequently commented upon. Not only, it is said, would it arouse an interest in the navy in that section, but would be of inestimable value in the event of trouble with a foreign power. At present every gun and projectile which is used in the navy is manufactured in the Eastern States, and the cost of transporting them to the and the cost of transporting them to the Western coast is an item of no little im-

In the matter of shot and shell alone such an establishment would be of the greatest value to the Government. In the ordinary course of events it takes a month for such material to reach the Pacific, and under pressure of the direst need they could not reach their destination in less than a week or ten days. Such a period of time would he of vital importance in case of a necessity for a large and speedy supply of such ma-

Much Depends on the Contractors

It is pretty generally conceded, however, that the carrying out of this project will be largely affected by the awards for the construction of the two new vessels, the Iowa d the Brooklyn. The Cramps, of Philadelphia, were the lowest bidders on both these ships, and in the event that the Union Iron Works fail to get one of them it is armor plates, on the coast at least, will be

Secretary Tracy is expected to return soon from New York, and his decision in regard to the award of the new ships will probably be made early next week. In the meantime the indications are the Cramps will get both vessels. While Secretary Tracy is inclined to continue the policy of distributing the work of building the new vessels, the law distinctly provides that the contract must be awarded to the lowest responsible bidders, and in this instance that

means the Cramps. Brooklyn to the amount of that made by the

ONLY A WAR OF WORDS.

No Serious Trouble Between Nicaragua and the United States.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.-The attention of the Nicaraguan Minister in Washington, Senor Don Horatio Guzman, was to-day called to a Panama dispatch stating that the boundary dispute between Costa Rica and Nicaragua was assuming threatening dimen sions, and that hostilities between the two republies might begin at any moment. He said: "That is all wrong, and I wish you would give it the fullest contradiction. The question of the validity of the treaty establishing the boundaries between the two countries was submitted to the arbitration of Mr. Cleveland, and he decided in favor of the treaty. tion of running the boundary lines came up later, some little difficulties had arisen from time to time in details, but nothing of a character to threaten war or anything like

"Both countries-all Central America, in fact-are interested in the Nicaragua Canal and these reports might do us great injury if not contradicted. There is no truth in them. I certainly should know if there was. There has been a little wordy discus-

Rosecrans Getting Along Well.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.—Acting Register Harry Smith this morning received a letter from Miss Rosecrans, written on the train near Kansas City Monday night, in which the gratifying information is given that General Rosecrans had rested well, had a good appetite and was enjoying his frip.
The General had improved so much that
Governor Toole did not accompany him
from Chicago, as arranged. The party expect to reach Los Angeles this afternoon.

Bill Dalton Never a Deputy.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29. - Attorney General Miller to-day received a letter from United States Marshal Walker, at Topeka, Kansas, saying: "William Dalton does not now, nor has he ever held a commission as Deputy Marshal for this district under me. Bob and Emmett Dalton were deputies under Colonel Jones, when I came into the office, and I retained them for a few months, but removed them in the fall

Italy at the World's Fair.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29 .- The Italian-American Board of Promotion of the World's Columbian Exposition has closed its work with the fulfillment of the object of its efforts to have Italy officially represented at the World's Fair. C. F. Z. Caracristi and Prof. Fava, who have been at the

head of the movement, are very jubilant over their success, which has led to the appointment of a commission by the King of Italy.

MONEY NEVER REDEEMED.

Millions of Dollars Lying Uncalled for in the Treasury Vaults-Fractional Notes That Will Never Get Back in Uncle Sam's Hands-Lots of Money Burned

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.-In all that has been recently written about the depleted condition of the United States Treasury, little or no account has been taken of the fact that, with each passing year, the Treasury is a large gainer by the complete destruction by easualty of its outstanding obligations. How much this amounts to, what percentage each year, eta., the best statisticians of the Treasury Department have no means of definitely ascertaining.

Since 1862, when the Government began to issue paper money, \$5,819,629,108 have been issued of all kinds and denominations up to July 1, 1892. Within the same period \$4,852,451,629 have been redeemed, leaving outstanding. July 1, 1892, as a liability against the Government, \$967,177,479. The basis for the redemption of this vast sum of paper varies—rold for the gold certificates, silver for the silver certificates, \$100,000,000 n gold as a reserve for certain notes, and

Much Money Never to Be Rede-med All this money is kept in the vaults awaiting the presentation of the paper for redemption. But much of this paper will never be presented. In an exhaustive in-quiry on this subject made by United States Preasurer Hyatt, it was estimated that the aggregate loss on all the issues up to Jan-uary, 1888, would not be less than \$8,700,-000. This estimate did not include the fractional currency-50-cent, 25-cent, 10cent and 5-cent shipplasters-in such extensive circulation for the few years following the war.

Secretary Sherman construed the act of June 21, 1879, as stating that \$8,375,934 of fractional currency issued under various acts had been destroyed, and the debt statement as issued monthly carries a debt bearing no interest, but \$6,903,462 62 of this fractional currency. United States Treasurer Nebeker, however, carries the full amount on his book, and in his report this year states that more than \$15,000,000 of this fractional currency is outstanding, though it has practically gone out of circulation, and but little more than \$4,000 was presented for redemption last year. Kept by the Coin Collectors.

What is outstanding is held to a great extent by collectors of coin and paper cabi-nets, and its value as such is greater than

its face value in money.

The aggregate of United States currency, fractional and otherwise, estimated to have been destsoyed and not likely to be presented for redemption approximates by these figures more than \$14,000,000. A recent estimate prepared by the Treasur Department places the sum as high as \$20, 000,000. This money can only be taken out of the liabilities of the Government by Congressional enactment. This will probably be attempted in the near future. The investigation into this subject has shown that most of the money lost has been de-troyed in railroad wreeks that caught fire, though no inconsiderable quantity has been destroyed by fires that occurred in country banks, postoffices and residences.

TROUBLE OVER PAGO PAGO.

The Appropriation for a Coaling Station

There Won't Quite Reach. WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.-The Navy Department has encountered another obstacle in its work of equipping the coaling station in the harbor of Pago Pago, Samos, recently acquired by the United States. At the last session of Congress an appropriation of ting off the water supply.

S100,000 was made toward the purchase of Mr. Hutchison then left the building, and the necessary land for the station and its equipment for the purposes for which it is intended. Acting under this authority of Congress bids were invited for the contraction of an explosion. Two large holes were burst in the front and rear the defeated fighter finished, the audience that the purposes for which it is soon after the explosion occurred. Immediately a horrifying sight was presented to those on the streets below, attracted by the said they are all bosh, as his personal appearance and speech could prove. When the defeated fighter finished, the audience the defeated fighter finished, the audience that the defeated fighter finished the defeated fighter finished. struction of an iron pier, with the necessary landing facilities, and they were opened at the Navy Department early last week. Seven bids were received, but the only two low enough to justify further consideration were those of B. McMahon & Son, of San Francisco, at \$78,700, and the Corando Machine Company, of San Diego, Cal., at \$84,500. It so happens, however, that even these bids are in excess of the available balance of the specific appropri ation, which has already suffered severa drains to meet necessary preliminary expense on account of purchase of land, sur veys, etc., aggregating about \$35,000.

The question now agitating the depart-ment, therefore, is not so much as to which of the two bids shall be accepted, as to the best manner of supplying the deficiency in There is some talk to the effect that the Union Iron Works will lower its bid on the doing this, one by asking Congress to increase the amount so as to admit of the acceptance of one of the two bids in question, step is decided upon by the San Francisco firm the Brooklyn will be launched in the waters of the Pacific. It is admitted that the station with out the wharf facilities would be of doubtful utility, but at the same time the Secretary of the Navy is said to question seri ously the propriety of drawing upon one appropriation to make up for a deficiency in another. The matter is now in the hands of Judge Advocate General Lemley, and will probably be disposed of, one way or another, in a few weeks.

A CIVIL SERVICE SNAG.

One Reason Why the Republicans Now in Some Offices Cannot Be Entrenched,

WASHINGTON, Dec. 29 .- A gentleman who has talked with the President on the subject says the people who are expecting a large increase in the classified civil service before the administration changes will be very sadly disappointed. He said the President is strongly inclined to extend the civil service rules in connection with the Postoffice Department, but that he has practically abandoned the purpose of any general extension such as the inclusion of employe of the Government Printing Office or the customs service. All employes now outside the protecting lines of the civil service regulations are using every endeavor to have themselves entrenched against Democratic interference, but so far withou

success There is a snag in the way of extension of the civil service classification to the Government printing office. It is understood to be the desire of the President and of the Civil Service Commission that the office should be brought within the civil service classification, but there is trouble them in the form of opposition by the Typographical Union. The objection to the expointments are made upon any form of ex-amination which does not recognize membership of the union as a necessary qualifi-cation it will result in what the union would call "rats" getting into Governmen The Government is hardly prepared to declare that none but union shall be qualified for employment, and the union will certainly object to any employ-ment within that class of persons not belonging to the union.

Warships Ordered Back Home. WASHINGTON, Dec. 29.-Orders were issued by the Navy Department, this afternoon, to Bear Admiral Denham, in com-mand of the European squadron, for the Newark and the Bennington, now in Europe, to accompany the Columbus fleet to the United States. They will all be here in time to participate in the Columbus naval parade, next May.

An Early Morning Fire. A fire in the residence of John Long, 1346 Second avenue, this morning did damage to the extent of \$200. The fire started from

an overheated stove.

A Duquesne Way Boiler Explosion Kills One, Injures Another.

HORRIFYING SCENES FOLLOW.

The Electric Carpet Cleaning Plant Is Completely Wrecked.

LEAKING PIPES WARNED ENGINEER COX

About 11 o'clock yesterday morning a boiler on the upper floor of a building on the corner of Ninth street and Duquesne Way exploded, killing J. O. Cox and perhaps fatally injuring Clarence Shaw. The boiler, though a comparatively small affair, exploded with terrific force, tearing holes in the upper walls, both front and rear, nearly six feet in diameter. Some peculiarly horrible scenes were witnessed after the accident.

The Electric Carpet Cleaning Company occupied the fourth-story of the old brick building, and the two men employed there were the only ones on that floor when the



The Rescue of Young Sham.

plosion, R. B. Hutchison, of Oakdale, who owns the cleaning establishment, was called upstairs by Cox, who wanted him to look at the boiler. It was a small tubular affair, and had been examined twice by the inspectors, the last time only two weeks ago, when it was pronounced in good condition.

The Boiler Appeared All Right, Mr. Hutchison says when Cox called him into the room to examine the boiler yesterday, he noticed a peculiar hissing noise, but upon examination found that only a pipe connection had been loosened, and the steam was escaping. He looked at the gauge, and found it registered 60 pounds, and says the loose pipe, in his opinion, would not have caused the acci-dent. Later he suggested that the feed pipe may have been frozen up, thus shut-ting off the water supply.

walls, while flying pieces of the boiler wrecked everything in the room, or tore holes in buildings Clouds of hot steam poured from the windows and great gap in the walls, and as this steam gradually floated away a murmur of fear and pity ran through the crowd below. Young Shaw, his white face bruised and bleeding, was hanging head downward from the gap in the wall. Fortunately he was unconscious and did not struggle and hung in his terrible con-

firemen. Blown Through a Brick Wall.

dition until rescued sometime after by the

Cox fared far more badly. He was a large man, and must have been standing near the rear walt at the time of the accident. He was actually blown through the brick wall, and to the yard below, which he was picked up soon after. His skull was croshed, and he was badly burned, pathic Hospital. He was the en-



gineer, was 45 years of age, and lived on Corry street, Allegheay, where he leaves a wife and five children. Clarence Shaw is 20 years of age, unmarried, and boards at No. 2 Mill street, Allegheny, He was employed as a driver, and was warming his hands when the accident oc-

The building in which the explosion occurred, with those adjoining, is occupied by several oil company offices and store-houses, while a powder company is only next door. Fortunately there was no fire, and the services of the firemen were only needed in taking care of the victims. The old building is owned by D. P. Reighard, the oil man, and is valued at \$6,000. The carpet cleaning company lost about \$1,500 worth of machinery, while the loss to the building will not reach that. Buildings in the neighborhood were shaken and many people badly frightened by the explosion. Coroner McDowell is making a close in-vestigation of the cause of the accident.

KILLED BY AN UNKNOWN DRUG,

An Omaha Family Poisoned by Coffee Which Had Been Tampered With.

OMAHA, Dec. 29 .- A warrant has been sworn out for Joe Williams, colored, on a charge of murder. Williams is accused of poisoning the family of William Ewing, an expressman. For some time past there has been trouble between Williams and the Ewing family. A day or so ago Williams went to Ewing's house, and after causing trouble left. Shortly after dinner that

trouble left. Shortly after dinner that evening the family was taken sick and one of the babies died yesterday. The authorities are ignorant of the drug used.

The sickness resulted from poisonous ingredients in the coffee. An older daughter does not drink coffee and escaped. Ewing and his wife were seriously ill all day yesterday, but will probably recover. The coffee will be analyzed, and an autopsy over the dead child will be held.

CRIMINAL CARELESSNESS

Causes a Terrible Grade Crossing Accident in Chicago-An Engine Crashes Into a Street Car-Four Persons Killed Outright-Many Injured.

CHICAGO, Dec. 29 .- Four persons were killed and twice that number injured this morning by the collision of a Pittsburg and Fort Wayne passenger train with a heavily loaded street car at the junction of Fortyseventh street and Stewart avenue. The engineer of the train and the two watchmer

at the crossing are under arrest, pending an investigation of the accident.

Four persons were killed: George Biaha, Archibald McAndrews, an unknown man and an unknown woman. Twelve persons were seriously injured.

The accident happened at 6:15 o'clock, when the street car traffic was at its heaviest, and the cars were crowded to the door. As an engine came backing down at the rate of about 15 miles an hour. The occupants of the engine cab did not see the car approach-ing the crossing, and on account of frost on the windows of the car, the passengers did not see the engine bearing down upon them. In an instant the engine struck the car and passed on, leaving a trail of dead and injured people. The car was dragged about 150 yards and every foot of the distance some injury was added to those inflicted when the engine first struck the car. The horsest became detached from the car and accident occurred. Shortly before the ex- horses became detached from the car and ran away uninjured.

As soon as the police arrived on the scene four persons were placed under arrest. These are Conductor O'Connor and Driver Stanley, who were on the street car, and Engineer Rossenp and Fireman Meazer, of the train which did the damage. The officers then turned their attention to the employes of the railroad who are responsible for guarding the crossing. There are two of them, Peter Schwartz, who is in the tower at the crossing, and John Allbright, who guards the tracks from the ground level. Both denied that they were responsible for the accident, but both, with the four other prisoners, were at once locked up. Ali-bright is the same watchman who was employed in the same work at that crossing several months ago when a similar accident resulted in the death of two persons and the injury of others.

SULLIVAN MAKES A SPEECH.

He Gives Corbett a Little Dab for Refusing to Fight, but Commends His Clear Brain -The Ex-Champion Will Never Fight

NEW YORK, Dec. 29.-An enthusiastic audience which filled the Windsor Theater, where John L. Sullivan is playing, was treated to a stirring speech by the exchampion, which lasted five minutes. Sollivan spoke very seriously on the controversy he had with his backers through the newspapers, and the reports that he would again enter the prize ring to regain his lost laurels from Champion Corbett.

The conquered champion said, among other things, that he had not the remotest idea of fighting Corbett again. He stated with trembling voice and moistened eyes that his day had come at last, and that he is no longer young or energetic enough to battle against youth and strength. "Corbett," he said, "whipped me fairly and honestly, but when I fought him I was already a wreck of old age and reckless livready a wreck of old age and reckless living." [Loud cheers and cries, "John, you
could yet whip him with proper training."]
"I am making a comfortable living in the
theatrical profession," he continued, "and
I am perfectly satisfied without whipping
other people. There is one thing, however,
I wish to say, and that is: If I was still
champion I would first within a recchampion, I would fight within a year. Corbett refuses to, but, after all, he must be given credit for the clear brain he pos-

Sullivan, also, said that the allegations he made against his backers were based on sound facts, but he did not make any personal attacks on their characters, nor did he literally jumped off their seats to cheer his

BLAINE'S WESTERN TRIP

Not Yet Given Up-Colonel Conger Says the Great Statesman Will Yet Visit Joseph Medill This Winter-Loaded With Afflictions Till He Could Bear No More. CLEVELAND, O., Dec. 29. -[Special.]-Colonel A. L. Conger, of Akron, who for vears has been recognized as one of James G. Blaine's warmest personal friends, was in this city to-day. Speaking of the statesman's health he said: "Mr. Blaine has been invited by Joseph Medill, of the Chicago Tribune, to spend the winter with him at his winter home in Passadena, Cal., and he will go as soon as his attending physicians deem it safe and advisable to move him."

"Have you seen Mr. Blaine recently?" "No. The last time I saw him was upon my return from Europe. That was about October 20, and in New York City. When I called upon him he was feeling greatly depressed, and seemingly took very little interest in anything. My wife and I tried to cheer him up, but it was impossible. The death of Emmons was a crushing blow to him, and he was constantly talking of his dead son.

"The truth of the matter is, Mr. Blaine had reached that point where he could stand Affliction after affliction visited him and be met them all with the greatest fortitude. At last there was a reaction and he was forced to succumb. However, I think Mr. Blaine has many years of usefulness ahead of him yet. If he is able to weather his present illness—and the indications are that he will-his health will be better than it has been for a long time."

MURDER, NOT A MARRIAGE.

The Result of a Chicagoan's Christman Trip to Kentucky.

COVINGTON, KY., Dec. 29.-[Special.]-At Harrodsburg, Ky., Christmas day there was to have been a swell wedding. John Scott Harrison, said to be a real estate broker of Chicago, was to marry a popular young lady. On his arrival Harrison began to drink, and at the time fixed for the ceremony paraded in front of the intended bride's house in a maudlin condition. She brok off the engagement, and Monday after having been robbed of \$250, Harrison came to Covington. He continued his spree, and while in Ed Boyer's saloon Monday night began to sing. Harry Magreevy, a young iron molder, criticised his efforts, when Harrison turned on him and plunged a knife into his arm, severing the large artery. This morning Magreevy died. Immediately after the cutting Harrison crossed the river to Cincinnati. Officers were searching for him to-day with a warrant for murder. It was learned that he had gone to Chicago. Little is known of Harrison here. He claimed to be a relative of President Har-

Iron Works for a Mexican City. CITY OF MEXICO, Dec. 29. - The plant for large iron toundry has been imported from England. The works will be established at Zacatlatan, 40 miles northeast of Puebla. The iron used will come from Flalixsipilla

SICK HEADACHE-Carter's Little Liver Pills. SICK HEADACHE-Carter's Little Liver Cill's. SICK HEADACHE-Carter's Little Liver Pills. SICK HEADACHE-Carter's Little Liver Pilla.

A HUSTLE FOR VOTES

Now Engaging the Attention of Politicians at Harrisburg.

THOMPSON'S FIGHT FOR SPEAKER Apparently Well Won, Though There Are

THE RACE FOR THE OTHER OFFICES

More Candidates Out.

ISPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCE. HARRISBURG, Dec. 29.-Three candilates for Speaker of the House are on the ground, and all of them have hopes of reaching the goal, if talk means anything. The most serenely confident man here is Speaker Thompson, who modestly predicts that he will be his successor. He presents no figures to confirm the faith that appears to be in him, but says the situation gives him no

In reply to the declaration of one of the andidates for Speaker that very few pledges had been made by members of the House in the interest of any of the aspirants he stated that many were pledged, but he was too modest to say that they were

registered in his favor. Speaker Thompson starts out in his fight inder the most auspicious surroundings. The room which he has selected for his headquarters was the scene of a wedding to-day, and when he occupied it this afternoon the chandeller suspended from the ceiling was beautified with rich green vines. The number of members of the House in the city is small, but those here either paid their, respects to him in his room or in other places in the Lochiel Hotel.

Mr. Bliss and His Prospects. Representative Bliss, of Delaware, is not very formidable physically, but his talk to-night indicates that he thinks himself big enough to creditably fill the Speaker's chair. Representative Bliss' chances do not appear to be bright, but he strusts the support Representative Walton will re-ceive in Philadelphia will complicate the Speakership situation sufficiently to make the selection of a new man necessary. Mr. Bliss says he has authentic informa-tion to show that the Quaker City delega-

tion to show that the Quaker City delega-tion will stand firmly by their favorite. Representative Cochrane, of Armstrong, another candidute for Speaker, who arrived here to-day, has put himself on record as believing that the contest for that office has just begun in real earn-est. He claims that very few mem-hers have given violages to bers have given pledges to any candidate, and that a pretty fight is impending. Mr. Cochrane says the Republican members in his Congressional district will support him, and expects many others to emulate their example. Representative Walton was expected to open his head-quarters at the Commonwealth Hotel tonight, but at a late hour he had not made his appearance.

Another Candidate for Speaker. Representative Farr, of Secanton, the author of the vetoed compulsory education bill, is another candidate for Speaker. He is expected to swing into the city with his boom during the week, unless the frigid atmosphere should cover its premature collapse. Although he is not indulging in any boastful prediction, Speaker Thompson seems to have a decided advantage over his competitors in the race to preside over the destines of the House, but the appearance of Representative Walton and his friends may change the outlook.

Candidates for other offices in the gift of candidates for other others in the gift of the House are not slow to canvass their claims in the presence of members here. The Lochiel Hotel to-night had a large rep-resentation of these people. Resident Clerk Voorhess, of Philadelphia, an ex-Journal Clerk Fetter, of Montgomery county, both of whom think they have pre-eminent qualifications and claims for the chief clerkship of the House, were among the office seekers at the hotel. I. D Patterthe office seekers at the hotel. I. D Patterson, of this city, candidate for Resident Clerk, was also there to see that his canvass for the position was not neclected. Mr. Fetter recognizes that he has a strong com-petitor in Mr. Voorhees, but he says he is in the fight to stay, and that he cannot be placated by the offer of any other position than that to which he is aspiring. Mr. Patterson is certain of being chosen Resident Clerk if Thompson and Voorhees should capture the prizes they are after. If Voorhees should fail in his ambition he would not be too high strung to take his old place.

Among other men who have not tired of holding office is Major Huddell, of Delaware county, who expects to fill his old place in the Senate.

LOOKING INTO CUBAN QUARANTINE. The United States Commission Hospitably

Received by Colonial Authorities. HAVANA, Dec. 29 .- Shortly after landing here yesterday the members of the commission appointed by the United States Congress to examine into Cuban quarantine methods and other subjects of a similar character visited the Governor General. They were hospitably received and were

Investigations.
Ramon O. Williams, the American Consul General here, has petitioned the Governor General to appoint a committee of physicians to confer with the commission with regard to the chief contagious diseases that prevail here. The Governor General appointed such a committee to-day, and it is expected the first conference will be held

promised Government assistance in their

REJOICING WITH A BROKEN HEAD.

A Kentuckian Beats the Man Who Eloped With His Wife and Lets Them Go. MOREHEAD, Ky., Dec. 29.-William Sullivan, editor of the Morehead Times, and the wife of Max Oxley, of Morehead, made a plot to clope on last night's express.

Max Oxley learned their plans and secretly boarded the same train.
When the train reached Mount Sterling Oxley stepped into the coach where Sullivan and Mrs. Oxley were, and, without passing any words, beat Sullivau almost to death. Oxley returned to Morehead, and the couple went on their way rejoicing.

A POSTMASTER ROBBED.

Two Masked Burglars Relieve Him of \$100, but Don't Touch Uncle Sam's Cash.

HUNTINGTON, W. VA., Dec. 29. [Special.]-At Sheridan, a remote postoffice south of here, George Deerfield, the postmaster, was robbed of \$100 of his own money by masked men night before last, but the money in the postoffice, a considerable sum, was left untouched. Deerfield was awakened at midnight by

being punched in the face with the muzzle of a pistol. Deerfield shouted for help, when another masked man on guard outside ran in, and while one kept Deerfield down the other got the wallet.

Rosecrans Better in California.

RODONDO. CAL, Dec. 29.—General W. S. Rosecrans, Register of the Trersury, arrived here to-day from Chicago. The trip was uneventful. The General stood the journey remarkably well and is looking strong. His improvement since leaving the East has been marked.

A Defaulter's Christmas Vacation. DULUTH, Dec. 29 .- J. H. Todd, cashier of the St. Paul and Duluth depot at West Duluth, has left for parts unknown, and auditors are now going over his accounts, which are said to show a shortage of \$2,000. Todd left before Christmas, estensibly to spend his vacation in St. Paul.

DRIVING OFF THE YANKEES.

British Employing German-Sar in the Gilbert Islands.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 29.—[Special.]— Captain M. White, of the schooner Maid of Orleans, arrived to-day 40 days from the Gilbert Islands. He brings some interesting news about the islands over which the British established a protectorate last June. British established a protectorate last June.
Old King Jeburiemow, who had just returned from a visit to San Francisco, protested against this usurpation by the British, as he preferred the Americans and wished to have the United States extend protection to him. After the British annexed the islands the King sent an appeal to President Harrison, but this appeal was kept here by Captain Luttrell, who feared that if it went east and was published in Europe it would lead to the King's deposition. Captain White says King's deposition. Captain White says that for three days before his vessel sailed the old King spent his time on board begging him to do something in this country to restore the islands to their former con-

It seems the natives have been so excited since the British protectorate that they have refused to gather any copra. They have also been incited by English traders to in-trigue for the King's removal in favor of one of his sons, who is partial to the British. The result is that the island trade is demoralized. The old King has only a few followers, and at any time is liable to be deposed. The English are trying to drive away American traders, and pursuing the same tactics that the Germans employed in

STARTING THE OIL WELLS.

the Frost Letting Up and Water Lines Thawed Out-Five Wells Are Due To- at \$1.48, Day and To-Morrow at McDonald-New Producers in Ohio.

The frost seemed to be letting up on the operators in the lower fields vesterday, as a number of them succeeded in getting their wells started up and the water lines thawed out. This was particularly the case in the Eastern McCurdy district. case in the Eastern McCurdy district.

Greenlee Forst got their walking beam moving at, their well on the Aiken farm, and unless some unforeseen accident happens they hope to be in the fifth sand early next week. This well is located south and west from the Forest Oil Company's No. 6 on the D. K. Clever farm, which came in at 60 harrels an hour some time ago. The Aiken well is expected to define the value of the territory to the west. This is the only well Greenlee & Forst are drilling in that locality.

The Forest Oil Company also not started up yesterday at its No. 1 on the W. E. Edmundson farm in the McGurdy district, and on the Aiken farm. They are drilling down on the A. P. Clever, and expect to get in next

on the A. P. Clever, and expect to get in next week.

There are four wells belonging to the People's Gas Company which should be in this week—No. 162 on the McMurray farm, near Greggs station; No. 159 on the Wallace, and Nos. 160 and 161 on the Dixon farms, in the Meise pool. The Wallace and Dixon wells are expected to be Gordon sanders, but they will not open up anything new.

Jennings, Guffey & Co.'s No. II, on the Bell farm, north of Noblestowa, is due in the fifth sand to-morrow or Monday. Their No. 6 Matthews is drilling at 400 teet, and Jennings Bros No. 2 Sproul is down 300 feet.

Marphy, Jennings & Co. are down about 500 feet in their test well on the Underwood farm, in Doddridge county, W. Va. It lies between a couple of wells that were drilled by the South Penn Oil Company each of which showed considerable oil.

New Wells in Ohio.

New Wells in Ohio. Bowling Green, O .- Harmon & Co. have ust finished up a 30-barret well on the just finished up a 30-barrei well on the Tibus Beck farm, which is an agreeable surprise for lease holders in that vicinity. Wertz & Wilcox are in the sand on the Breant farm in Middleton township.

The Ohio Oil Company shot its No. 1 on the William Legally farm, in Plain township, yesterday, and in the following 24 hours it made 500 barreis. This company is drilling a couple of test wells in Middleton township, one on the Bowers heirs and the other on the L. Rowers property. If producers they will extend the belt considerably to the east. An important well on the Nelson Poe farm, in Liberty township, Hancock county, will be finished next week. They are starting No. 7 Doterman and No. 1 J. H. Smith, in Bloom township, Wood county.

Branchan & Marschka's test well on the

Braughan & Marschkn's test well on the Emerick farm may be finished this week. They leave eased No. 7 on the Charles Mercy farm and have a rig up for No. 1 on the George Ireland farm in Liberty township. A willdent is being drilled a little north and east of Haskins, by McCullough & Har-

Man. Woodville-Neeley & Spellacy's test well, on the C. A. Graber farm, in advance of developments, about a mile to the southwest, has been finished up and shot and is good James Knappenberger's No. 2, on the Ballinger farm, in Franklin township, is a 49-barrel pumper.

The Mannattan Oil Company's No. 2 Schroder, in St. Mary's township, is a 25-barrel wall.

barrel well.
Smith Ewin has completed a 35 barrel well on the William Schrader farm.
Prangaville—Barnes & Wolf's No. 9 Deihl will pump 75 barrels a day.

The Palmer Oil Company has just finished a 150 barrel well on the Trapnell farm, in Portage township.

The Nolan Oil Company has a fair producer at No. 3 Selving which has just been completed.

The Gauges,

The estimated production of the McDonald field yesterday was 18,000 barrels, same as the day before. The Woodland Oil Company's No. 2 Scott was reported to have increased from 20 to 25 barrels an hour. The stock in the field was 45,000 barrels. Sisterville runs were 20,189 barrels.

Runs and Shipments Wednesday. The National Transit runs were 23,062: shipments, 23,702. Buckeys runs of Macksshipments, 23,702. Buckeye runs of Macksburg oil, 8,462; shipments, 146. Buckeye runs of Lima oil, 48,975; shipments, 35,163. New York Transit shipments, 25,163. Southern Pipe Line shipments, 2,143. Southwest, Pa., Pipe Line runs from McDonald were 12,536; outside of McDonald, 5,568; total, 18,164; shipments, 297 barrels. Eureka Pipe Line runs, 1876; shipments, 2,090.

The runs of the Western Atlantic Pipe Line on Wednesday were 2,569 and the shipments 5,646 barrels. ments 5.645 barrels.

The runs of the W. L. Mellon lines for Wednesday were 6,529; deliveries, 10,185 bar-

The Oil Market. Range of the January option: Opening, 234c; highest, 5234c; lowest, 5234c; closing, 50-50.
Refined oil—New York 5.40c; London, 45/68
645/d; Antwerp, 125/6.
New cons, Dec. 29.—Petroleum was duit
and barely steady; Pennsylvania oil, spot
ands, none; January options, sales, 5,669 and barrely steady; Pennsylvania on, short sales, none; January options, sales, 5,000 bbls at 523/c, closing quotation at 523/c bid, 5.3/c asked; Lima oll, sales none; 18c bid, 20c asked. Total sales, 5,000 bbls. Oil City, ibec. 29.—Opened, 53/c, bighest, 53c; lowest, 52/c; closed, 5 3/c. Sales, 32,000 barrels; clearances, 16,000 barrels; runs, 32,916 barrels; shipments, 73,106 barrels.

STEEL RAILS LOWER.

Eastern Mills Announce the Sale of 78,000 Tons.

New York, Dec. 29. - [Special]-The Iron Age says: Practically all along the line business has been at a standstill during the past week so far as new orders are con corned. A large number of the mills throughout the country are closing down for repairs and for stock taking. In some instances, however, the stoppage is due to instances, however, the stoppage is due to accumulations of finished goods to a lack of orders or to pending readjustments of wages. The fact is conspicuous, however, that in nearly every branch of the fron and steel trades the competition for work is sharper than it ever has been. The finished fron and steel trade is unsettled. The most interesting event of the week is the lowering in the price of steel rails to 229. Eastern mills announce the sale of 78,000 tons, this being the heaviest amount closed in one week for a good many months.

amount closed in one week for a goor many months.

There has been very little movement in the metal market. There was considerable speculative business in tin early in the week under review, and the market closes with metal easier. Lead maintains its newly acquired strength. Spelier continues dull, while tinplates are quiet, with little doing for forward delivery.

Stagnation Abroad. NEW YORK, Dec. 29 .- [Special.] -- A special cable to the Iron Age says: Speculation in pig iron warrants has been extremely quiet pig from warrants has been extremely quiet and the market is bare of distinctly new features. Covering of "short" accounts fall-ing due at the end of the year has served to hold prices for Scotch at about 41s 7d, but smaller demand for Cleveland has led to liquidation, under the force of which the price receded to 37s and hematites have dropped to 45s 9d on a very limited business. In all departments heliday stagnation prevails.

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400 finest, richest and best quality real fur felt Beaver Hats, wide rim, very stylish, that sold here at \$2.38 and elsewhere all season at \$3, NOW AT

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Now 75c.

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A YARD, worth 25c.

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ion of lard-cooked food. If however, like thousands of other people, you have learned that you must "draw the line at lard," this is to remind you that there is a clean, delicate and healthful vegetable substitute,



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