TWO CENTS.

TEN PAGES.

SCRANTON, PA., THURSDAY MORNING, FEBRUARY 22, 1900.

TEN PAGES.

RAIN OR SNOW.

TWO CENTS.

GENERAL CRONJE'S STUBBORN FIGHT

berg Drifts, but Offers Resistance.

MUCH ANXIETY IN LONDON

The Fact That Lord Roberts Gives No Information as to Results of His Fighting Is Considered Strange-Absence of Details Produces Uneasiness Among Military Observers-Public Opinion Will Not Be Relieved Until the War Office Issues Explicit Statements.

Cape Town, Feb. 21 .- A special correspondent of the Cape Argus says. General Cronje is surrounded at Parreberg drift, but is offering a stubborn resistance. The British are shelling the Boers vigorously and expect to capture the whole force.

London, Feb. 22.-4 a, m.-Lord Roberts' list of 49 killed and wounded officers, including two generals in the engagements up to Sunday evening, causes anxiety, and practically as in the officers' list neither the losses of the Welsh and Essex regiments nor those of the mounted infantry are included. This is about the number that fell at Colenso, where the non-commissioned officers and men brought the total losses to 800.

It is considered strange that when sending his casualties Lord Roberts gives no information as to the result of the fighting. If he has sent such a report the war office is withholding it.

Moreover nothing is known as to what took place Monday, Tuesday and yesterday. This absence of details from Lord Roberts' dispatch contrasted with his rather full narratives during the first part of his operations, produces uneasiness among military ob- had tickets of admission. ing newspapers, both editorial and critical is threaded with the caturbing suggestion that, despite hard fighting General Cronje has been able to beat off his pursuers, has escaped and is being reinforced by rail from Lady smith, and by forces on foot and horse back from northern Cape Colony, as well as the late beleaguers of Kimber

Boer Telegrams.

As the correspondents with Lord Roberts are silent, the telegrams from Boer sources receive some countenance. The latter aver that General Cronic. while the British were endeavoring t surround him between Paarderberg and Koodoosrand, received reinforcements under Dewet, and that together with other Boer commanders fought the British to a standstill. However, all this may be, public

opinion will not be reassured until the war office issues explicit statements of successes which, of course, would clear away the gathering doubts respecting the uninterrupted success of Lord Roberts' forward movement. No one doubts his ultimate success, but there is a fear of temperary disappointment and that a lot of hard fighting is yet ahead of The latest report regarding General

Buller circulated in the house of commons last evening was that an agent of the DeBeers company had received a cablegram from Cape Town, which must have passed the censor, to the effect that General Barton's fusileer brigade had reached the hills commanding Ladysmith. Quite apart from this, however, and from every other rumor, the early relief of the beleagured garrison is thought inevitable.

Many distinguished persons, on the way home from the theatres and clubs, called at the war office to inquire for The ladies' lobby was open until midnight. The arrival at the war office of several prominent officials after 11 o'clock gave substance to the report ing, and is supposed to have been sufferthat important information from Lord cated during the night. that important information from Lord Roberts had been received, but an announcement was made that no further bulletins would be forthcoming and that no more bulletins would be posted during the night.

LIST OF CASUALTIES.

Despatch Received from Field Marshal Lord Roberts.

London, Feb. 21.-The following despatch has been received at the war

office from Lord Roberts: "Paardeberg, Tuesday, Feb. 20.—Between Feb. 16 and Feb. 18, Major General Knox was wounded, Major General Hector Macdonald severely wounded, and Lieutenant Colonel Aldworth was killed."

The war office adds that no details of the fighting have yet been received. These casualties occurred in fighting near Paardeberg.

Other officers killed were Captains Wardlaw and Newbury, of the Duke of Cornwall's light infantry, and Lieutenants McLure, of the Seaforth Highlanders; Courtney, of the Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders; Slordet and leave, of the Yorkshire regiment, and sright and Ballyston, of the light in-

Then follows a list of wounded offi-Then follows a list of wounded officers, including Colonel Bowles, of the Yorkshire regiment; Colonel Carthew-

Is Surrounded at Parre- Horston, of the Black Wateh (Royal Highlanders); Captain H. M. Arnold (dangerously), and Lieutenant J. C.

Mason (slightly), of the Canadians. In the Highland brigade sixteen officers were wounded, including General Hector Macdonald, Major the Hon. Maxwell, of the Black Watch (Royal Highlanders), brother of Lord Farnham and Lieutenant Akers-Douglass. of the Argyll and Sutherland High-landers, son of the Right Hon. Aretas Akers-Douglass, first commissioner of

Boers Evacuate Natal.

Berlin, Feb. 21.-The Tageblatt publishes special despatches from Brussels which say the Transvaal legation there announces that all the Boers are evacuating Natal, their positions in that colony being no longer tenable. General Joubert, it is added, has ordered the concentration of all the available forces to oppose Lord Rob-

The siege of Ladysmith, it is also announced, will be raised and it is expected that General Buller will enter the town at the end of the week.

VAN HOLLEBEN YARN.

No Truth in Rumor That Germany and U. S. Will Intervene.

Washington, Feb. 21.-In view of the persistent circulation of the rumor that the government of the United States has reached an agreement with the German government, through its representative, Baron Van Helleben, to intervene between the combatants in South Africa, the Associated Press has secured from the highest authority a statement of the pres at position of government in this matter. This is to the effect that there has been absolutely no agreement reached between Secretary Hay and Baron Von Holleben, nor has there been any discussion of the propriety of joint mediation between the Pritish and the Boers, nor has the United States government un dertaken or contemplated any intervention on its own account.

HONOR OF LATE MR. HOBART. Memorial Session of the New Jersey Legislature.

Trenton, N. J., Feb. 21,-The memorial ession of the New Jersey legislature in honor of the late Vice-President Garrett A. Hobart was held this afternoon in the house of representatives The floor of the house was filled with members of both legislative bodies and state officials, while the lobby and galleries were crowded with people who

The only decoration was a bank of potted plants around the speaker's desk. In the center of the bank was a great portrait of the dead vice-president. Attorney General Griggs delivered the memorial address.

WHITE HOUSE RECEPTION.

President and Mrs. McKinley Entertain.

Washington, Feb. 21.-President and Mrs. McKinley gave a reception to the public at the White House tonight from 9 to 11 o'clock. The affair was infermal in character, and despite a heavy rain the attendance was of good proportions. The callers included members of the Daughters of the American Revolution, now in session here. The president received the visitors in the blue parlor.

The state rooms were appropriately decorated for the occasion, and the Marine band played popular airs,

SULU BELONGS TO SPAIN. United States No Longer Responsible for the Sultan's Salary.

Washington, Feb. 21,-Upon repreentations of the Spanish government to the effect that some of the islands south of the Philippines, which had been taken possession of by the United States gunboats, were really the property of Spain, the authorities of state department have examined the charts and concluded to direct the withdrawal of our claims to the Islands Caygay, Sulu and Cibutu.both of which lie without the boundaries as laid down by the treaty of Paris.

Miller Asphyxiated.

Lancaster, Feb. 21 -- Samuel M. Brua ing process resulted in litigation with millers in almost every section of the United States for alleged infringement. was found dead in his room today, hav-ing been asphyxiated by coal gas. He lived in one room and did his own cock-

Benefit for Dixon. New York. Feb. 21.-The friends and admirers of George Dixon, the cojored featherweight pugilist, for many years world's champion and who was recently deprived of his title by Terry McGov-ern, gave him a benefit at the Broadway Athletic club tonight. Eight thousand dollars were realized.

Bryan in Florida.

Orlando, Fla., Feb. 21.-W. J. Bryan ar rived here at 11 o'clock today and spoke at the depot to a crowd which packed all the available space, touching upon the labor question and the currency problem. Colonel Bryan then left for Jacksonville

DEATH'S HARVEST.

New York, Feb. 21.-Benjamin Wood, the proprieter of the New York Evening Newspaper and Daily News, died today at the Fifth Avenue hetel, where he had

Harrisburg, Feb. 21.-Rev. John J. Mc Closkey, assistant rector of St. Patrick's pre-cathedral, died today of pneumonia after a brief illness, aged 20 years. He was formerly private secretary to the late Bishop McGovern and was one of the most promising priests in the Harrisburg dicese.

ARGUMENT IN THE POOR BOARD CASE

HEARD BY THE SUPREME COURT AT PHILADELPHIA.

Attorney I. H. Burns Represented John J. Murphy, the Appellant, in the Case and John F. Scragg Upheld the Case of the Present Board-History of the Case and the Proceedings Up to Date-Arguments Presented by the Two Attorneys Yesterday.

Special to the Scranton Tribune

Philadelphia, Pa., Feb. 21.-Arguments were made today before the Supreme court here on the poor board case from Lackawanna county, or, as it is entitled in the books: "Commonwealth of Pennsylvania ex rel, John R. Jones, district attorney, against F. L. Dickert, successor to F. L. Terppe." Attorney I. H. Burns represented John Murphy, the relator, and John F. Scragg argued for Mr. Dickert.

The case hinges on the construction

of the legislation governing the Scranton poor district. The act creating the poor district was passed April 9, 1862 under the title "An act to authorize the erection of a poor house by the Borough of Dunmore, Borough of Scranon and Township of Providence in the County of Luzerne," Section three of this act provides for the filling of vacancies as follows:

And in case of a vacancy occurring to the heard of directors of the poor of said boroughs and township, by death, resignation or otherwise, it shall be the duty of the court of quarter sessions of the county of Luzerne to appoint a seitable person to fill such vacancy for the unexpired term of the director causing

A supplement was passed March 16. 1866, having the following title: further supplement to an act entitled. 'An Act to authorize the erection of a Poor House by the borough of Dunmore, borough of Scranton and township of Providence, in the county of Luzerne, approved the 9th day of April. A. D. 1862." Section 2 of this supplementary act provides:

That hereafter whenever any vacancy shall occur in the board of directors, created in pursuance of the act to which this is a supplement, whether such vacancy occur by the expiration of the term of office, or otherwise, the same shall be filled by the appointment of the president judge of the court of common pleas in and for the county of Luzerne, at a regular term of said court, upon the petition of at least twenty freeholders from that portion of the district comprised within said act, in which the vacancy occurs; eet herewith be and the same is hereby

Constitution Amended. In 1864, midway between the passage

of the original act and the pasage of the supplement, the constitutional amendment was adopted providing that no bill should be passed containing more than one subject which should se cleary expressed in the title.

Prior to 1866, the poor directors of the Scranton district were elected by the people, but after the passage of the supplemental act with its "by expiration of term of office or otherwise" clause relating to the filling of vacancles, the directors were appointed. The president judge of Luzerne made the appointments even after Lackawarna ounty was established, and it was only some six or seven years ago, when President Judge Rice declined to make iny further appointments, that the president judge of this county undertook the task.

The right of the president judge to make the appointment of a successor to a member who served out his term was questioned by John Gibbons and others some years ago, but through a echnicality they were prohibited from

having a hearing.

One of the divisions of the district was the old South ward of Scranton borough. This comprised practically, but not exactly, what is now the Eleventh, Twelfth, Nineteenth and Twen-

tieth wards. February 15, 1898. Attorney John L. Murphy, running on the Democratic ticket and being unopposed, was elected to the office of poor director by votes

east in these four wards. March 18, following, he presented himself at the poor board meeting and lemanded a seat, but was refused. July 13, 1898, through District Attorney Joneshe brought quo warranto proceedings to oust the appointed direcor, F. L. Terppe, who was named by Judge Archbald on March 23, 1896, to serve three years. Mr. Terppe resigned Dec. 14, 1898, and four months later, March 2, 1899, F. L. Dickert was appointed to fill the fifteen days of his anexpired term. No appointment be-

ing made, Mr. Dickert held over to

await his successor being appointed

and qualifying, and April 3, 1899, he

was substituted as defendant in this Incidentally it might be remarked that Mr. Dickert was re-appointed in November, 1899; also, incidentally, that Mr. Murphy ran again in the "South ward" on Feb. 21, 1899, and was elected as before. This date was in the interim of four months that occurred between Mr. Terppe's resignation and Mr. Dickert's appointment.

Mr. Murphy Appealed.

When the case came to be heard, Judge Edwards entered judgment for the respondent, and from this judgment

Mr. Murphy appeals. Judge Edwards held that the act was not unconstitutional on account of a defective title, as contended by the relator, but adopted the relator's view that the office was elective. He decided, however, that Mr. Murphy was not elected because the time for electing was 1899, instead of 1898, and that at all events the election of a poor director from the Eleventh, Twelfth, Nineteenth and Twentieth wards could not be accepted as the election of a poor director from the "old South

ward" of Scrapton. In speaking of the filling of a vacancy occurring "by the expiration of the term of office," Judge Edwards "If the framer of the supplesold: ment intended by it (this clause) to abolish the system of electing poor

legislation by a species of legerde-

The relator relied in today's arguments mainly upon his ability to se-eure a reversal of Judge Edwards' opinion holding the supplemental act to be unconstitutional, pointing out the fact that the title provides for the erection of a poor house, while in the body of the bill provision is made for electing directors, filling vacancies and a lot of other things that one would not dream were there from a reading of the title.

Mr. Burns' Contention.

In dealing with the matter of a judge appointing directors and taking their election out of the hands of the people, Mr. Burns pointed out that this is contrary to one of the basic principles of our Republican form of government The senate of the United States, he pointed out, does not originate bills for the expenditure of money because they are not elected direct by the people.

Mr. Scragg laid particular stress on that portion of Judge Edwards' opinion, declaring that owing to the destruction of the machinery of election in the old South ward it was impossible for Mr. Murphy to be elected. and at all events he was elected in the wrong year.

THE PENNSYLVANIA PENSION SCHEME

Department Now Fully Equipped for the Service-Many Employes on

Philadelphia, Feb. 21.-The Pennsylvania railroad pension department, created for the purpose of administering the several pension departments of various compantes directly operated or affliated with the Pennsylvania Railroad company, east of Pittsburg and Erie, the operation of which began on January 1 of the present year, is now a fully equipped department of the service and during the month of January the board of officers at the several meetings acted upon the cases of 998 employes, who were relieved from the service on the first of the present year and fixed the monthly pension allowances to be paid to each of such retired employes, the aggregate of which amounts to over \$200,000 per annum.

The employes relieved represented all grades of the service, there being eight officers and clerks of special officers, ninety-two foremen, assistant foremen and other maintenance of way men, 228 watchmen, sweepers and shop helpers: 130 carpenters; 100 agents, office clerks and station men; ninetyblacksmith and machinists, ninety-one engineers and round house men and three train masters, conductors. etc. Seven hundred and that all acts and parts of acts inconsist- eighteen of the removed employes were members of the relief fund, fifty-two of whom received in addition to the pension allowance from the comany. a superannuation allowance from the relief department, the aggregate of which amounts to over \$27,000 per an-

The names of seven of the pensioners were dropped from the rolls during the month of January on account of

A liberal feature of the regulations is the provisions that the average regular monthly pay, on which the pension allowance is based, shall be determined, not upon what the employs actually earned during the ten years preceding his retirement, but the standpoint of what he would have carned had he been able to fulfill the duties of his position every working day. In the computation of the length of service no deduction is made for any absence due to sickness or accident. With the relief fund making provision for its members during the entire period of their disability, whether from sickness or accident, and the pension department of the company has now in operation a system of relief for its employes unsurpassed in the history of any similar corporation.

Andrew Carnegie, Jr., Married.

Cincinnati, Feb. 2i.—The marriage of Miss Pertha Sherlock, daughter of the late Thomas and Nancy Sherlock, to Andrew Carnegie, jr., of Pittsburg, son of Mrs. Lucy Carnegie and nephew of Andrew Carnegie, was selemnized this af-ternoon in the Little Calvary church at Clifton. Owing to the recent death of the bride's mother the ceremony very simple and was performed in the presence of only the intimate families of the two contracting parties.

Eviction Rate Low.

London, Feb. 21.-The house of commons today rejected by 232 to 136 votes the second reading of the Irish evicts tenants bill. The attorney general for Ireland, Mr. J. Atkinson, M. P., said the ase of evicted tenants was a fast dimin-Isbing evil which could be dealt with better by voluntary efforts than by legisla-tion. The evictions of the past year, he tion. The evictions of the past year, he added, were only 454, the lowest in thirty

Corporations Chartered.

Harrisburg, Feb. 21.-These corpora tions were chartered today by the state department: The East Greenville Improvement company, East Greenville capital \$30,900; the Central Building as eclation, Pottsville, eapital \$1,000,000; Canonsburg China company, South Can-onsburg, capital, \$37,00; the Sun Narrow Pabric company, Wilkes-Baire, capital

Will Investigate Mrs. Eyler's School Trenton, N. J., Feb. 21.—The assembly bassed a resolution today for an investigation of the charges mude in relation to the management of the state indus-trial school for girls, a committee of five was appointed to pursue the investigation with power to compel the presence of witnesses and the production of books

Samean Treaty Ratified.

and papers.

Washington, Feb. 21.-The senate it legislative session today ratified the trenty between the United States, Great Britain and Germany affecting claims growing out of the joint control of the growing out of the joint control of the Samoan islands. This treaty was a separate document from the political agree ment dividing the authority over the islands.

Miners Bodies Recovered

Hazleton, Feb. 21—The bodies of Jacob Longferger and John Huda, the two min ers who were entombed yesterday by an explosion of gas in No. I workings of the Gowen mine, near here, were recovered today. The bodies were badly burned and were found at the bottom of a great

DISTINGUISHED MEN IN PHILADELPHIA

EDUCATORS AT OPENING OF U. P. LAW LIBRARY.

The Ceremony Incident to the Dedication Will Be Carried Over Until Today-Well Known Orators Take Part in the Exercises-Principal Speakers Last Evenng Were Hon. John Marshall Harlan and Sir Charles Arthur Roe, of England.

Philadelphia, Feb. 21.-Distinguished jurists and educators from all parts of the United States and from England today took part in the formal dedication of the new law library of the University of Pennsylvania, the ceremonies incident to the dedication, which will be carried over until to morrow, when the university formatly celebrates Washington's birthday, with We Ting Fang, the Chinese minister to the United States, as chief orater.

Today's ceremonies began with general reception by the society of the alumni of the department of law, and was followed by an inspection of the new building. The dedication exer-cises proper followed an hour later. The opening address was made by Pro vost C. C. Harrison, who formally turned the building over to the trus tees. Samuel Dickson, chairman of the committee on law of the board of trustees, delivered the dedicatory address, and William Draper Lewis, dean of the law school, received the building on behalf of the faculty. He was followed by W. M. Barr, A. M., dean of the law school of Harvard university, who spoke on the "Vocation of the Law Professor." Mr. Ames said. "Since the civil war more than eighty new law schools have been organized, so that we have today 103 schools, with an attendance of about 13,000 stu-

Among those present were Associate Judge Harlan, of the United States supreme court. Almost the full bench of the Pennsylvania supreme and superior courts, the Federal judiciary, of New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Delaware; Sir Charles Arthur Roe, of Oxford university; G. B. Finch, of Cambridge university, judges from nearly all of the sixty-seven counties of Pennsylvania, and representatives of nearly every law school, university and college in the United The county courts of New Jersey were represented and the attorney generals of several states were also in attendance. The evening exercises incident to the

dedication of the law building were shifted from the university to the Academy of Music, wher a large public meeting was held and at which Provost Harrison presided. The principal addresses of the evening were delivered | Democratic whip says that only Mr. expected. The contractors have made by the Hon, John Marshall Harlan, Davey and Mr. Sibley (Pennsylvania) senior associate justice of the supreme Charles Arthur Roe, of England. Jus- inclined to vote for the bill. Some of and an advance in supplies will cause tice Harlan congratulated the people the Republican opponents of the bill, Pennsylvania and the university authorities on the auspicious character | their party, find a way out of the diof the occasion and then went into a

long and interesting review the part that John Wilson, the univerfirst law professor, took in the work. The Justice then took up the distinguishing features of the old government that Wilson assisted in displacing and the new government that he aided in building, and concluded his address by indicating where he stands one of the great questions before the country today. Justice Harlan was followed by Sir

Charles Arthur Roe, of the University of Oxford, of England. The exercises were concluded with an address by G. B. Finch, A. M., rep-

resenting the University of Cambridge, of England. After the meeting at the Academy of

MR. QUAY'S CASE.

the university.

An Effort Will Be Made to Call It Up Today.

Washington, Feb. 21.-An effort is to be made to get the question involving that he was contemplating removing the seating of former Senator Quay, of Pennsylvania, formally before the senate for consideration. Mr. Penrose (Penna.) gave notice today that he would call up the case tomorrow, it is a privileged question, he may be able to secure a vote on the taking up of the case for consideration and thus develop the Quay strength in the sen-

ate, at least approximately. During the greater part of today's session the Hawaiian government bill was under consideration, but little progress was made.

Steamship Arrivals.

Antwerp, Feb 2l.-Arrived: Western-land, from New York, Plymouth-Arrived: Patricia, New York for Hamburg. Sailed: Pretoria, Hamburg for New York Rotterdam-Arrived: Statendam, New York, Southampton-Salled: Saale, Bro-men, for New York, Arrived: New York, from New York, Brow Head-Passed: Cutic, from New York for Liver-pool. New York-Sailed: Oceanic, for Liverpool; St. Louis, for Southampton Noordland, for Antwerp. Cleared: L. Touraine, for Havre, Rotterdam, for Rotterdam; Bovic, for Liverpool.

Quay Men in Control.

West Chester, Pa., Feb. 21.-At the Chester county Republican convention today Horace A. Beale was chozen delegate to the national convention and Je-seph J. Morris alternate. The Quay men were in full control of the convention. The platform adopted commends the offi-cial course of Governor Stone and Seastor Penrose, refers to Matthew Stanley Quay and "deprecates the fact that the United States senate has not taken favorable action on his certificate and given him his seat."

Benton Harbor Tragedy.

Benton Harbor, Mich., Feb. 21.—Allan Giesler, aged 50, a well-to-do farmer and fruit grower, shot his wife today and then drowned himself in Lake Michigan, Mrs. Giesler, who was shot in the head, may recover. Giesler and his wife had quarrelled considerably of late and it was stated that they would separate in a few weeks. The dead man has two divorced wives living.

THE NEWS THIS MORNING

Weather Indications Today:

General - General Cronje's Stubborn

Electric Contractors Will Fight the Supply Trust. Debate on Puerto Rico Traffic. Supreme Court Hears Arguments in the Luckawanna Poor Board Case General-Northeastern Pennsylvania.

Financial and Commercial Local-Dunmore Borough, News. Full Text of the Opinion in the Little Libel Case.

Editorial. Furious Enmity of Two Montana Mil-

General-Senator Lodge's View of Ex-Local-Sewers to Be Constructed by the City. Court Proceedings.

Local-What the D. V. & K. Will Do for Dunmore. Hyde Park Defeated the Viaduct Proposition. Corrected Election Figures.

Local-West Scranton and Suburban Round About the County.

10 Local-Live Industrial News.

THE PUERTO RICO TARIFF DEBATE

Republican Voice Heard Against It for First Time-Mr. Bromwell, of Ohio, Speaks in Opposition to the

Washington, Feb. 21.-For the first time in the debate upon the Puerto Rican tariff bill the voice of a Republican was today rajsed against the measure. Mr. Bromwell (Ohio) spoke against the bill. He opposed it on the and skilled labor that the world ever ground of policy and not of constitutionality. His hostility, however, was not so absolute but that he announced his intention of voting for it if the substitute failed. The other speakers today were Mr. Ray (New York) and Mr. Long (Kansas), for the bill, and Mr. Henry (Texas), against the bill, The Republicans have decided to hold a caucus or conference on the bill Saturday night. Although there are said to bt between twenty and thirty Republicans who oppose the bill, leaders who are canvassing the situation say that not more than four or five will cast their votes against it. They also say several Democrats will support it. only Democrat who is outspoken in his advocacy of the bill is Mr. Davis (Louisiana). He represents one of the largest sugar cane districts in south. Some others, including Mr. Moyer and Mr. Brousard (Louislana). Mr. Deveries (California), Mr. Davis and Mr. Parkman (Florida), are said commission basis. The building boom to be in the doubtful column, but the is on and a big advance in prices is will vote for it. Mr. Wilson, of Idaho, a Silver Republican, is also said to be who dislike to go on record against lemma in which they find themseives is to vote to recommit the measure. framing of the constitution of 1787 and On account of the pressure for time that debate hereafter will begin at 11 o'clock

MONEY FLOWS IN

and there will be night sessions on

Thursday and Friday.

Philadelphia Is Raising Fund for National Republican Convention.

Philadelphia, Feb. 21.—The citizens' national Republican convention committee held a meeting in the mayor's office today, and the secretary reported that up to date \$56,000 have been gathered towards the fund of \$100,000, which is to be given to the national com-mittee. \$25,000 have already been forwarded to Chairman Hanna, and the Music the university club gave a respected \$25,000 will be sent him in a ception in honor of special guests of few days. Mayor Ashbridge sprung a mild sensation when he informed the committeemen present that this city | Jacques wished to speak, but the presicame near losing the national convention because of the petry squabble over

the arrangements for the convention. The mayor said that on his recent visit to Washington, Chairman Manley, of the sub-committee, informed him the convention to Madison Square garden, New York, but on the assurance that the money would soon be forthcoming the national committeemen dropped the proposition.

WELLCOME NOT STARTLING.

Witness.

Washington, Feb. 21.-John B. Wellcome, Senator Clark's manager in his senatorial contest, was the only wit- ment of the receipt of the home fund; ness before the senate committee in the Clark case today. His testimony was at no time startling. Mr. Wellcome placed his expenditures for the senatorial campaign at not to exceed \$25,000, and at the request of the com mittee produced his bank book and old checks to substantiate his statement. He said that he suspected Mr. Daly of supplying the money used in

Whiteside exposure. He also said that he had concludes that the Montana supreme court was prejudiced against him and therefore had not gone upon the stand in his

disbarment trial. INQUEST WAS CONDUCTED.

An inquest into the death of Thoms Coleman, who was killed by an explo-sion of gas in the Marvine mine about a month ago was conducted by Coroner Roberts last evening in the office of Al

derman Fidler.
Considerable testimony was adduced and up to 12.30 this morning the fury has not yet arrived at a verifict, evidently be ing in doubt as to whether a certain door in the mine should have been closed or

Pennsylvania Pensions.

Washington, Feb. 21.—Pension certifi-cates under date of Feb. 7: Increase—H. D. Brown, Avery, Wyoming, \$12 to \$17: Theodore R. Brown, Wyalusing, Brud-ford, \$17 to \$24; A. M. Hall. Evergreen, Bradford, \$17 to \$24; J. Sutten, ir. Eatenville, Wyoming, \$16 to \$17. Original wid-ows-Jennie E. Gruver, Moosic, Lacka-

GIGANTIC COMBINE **FORMED**

Electric Contractors Will Fight the Supply Trust.

ORGANIZATION STRONG

In All the Large Cities of the Country Associations of the Contractors Have Been Formed and a Compact Has Been Made That Will Make Itself Felt-Big Advance in Price Expected from Building

Pittsburg. Feb. 21.-The Post tomor-

row will say: One gigantic combination is to fight another in the electric supply business. Contractors who have taken work for the business of the year have taken steps to protect themselves against the combination of supply houses now forming in New York. If the combination in the metropolis meets with success it will have to combat one of the strongest organizations of capital knew. In all the large cities of the country associations of the contractors have been organized. These associations have made no contract with the skilled workmen and a compact has been made that will make itself felt. Pittsburg figures prominently in the

The association of electrical contractors of Western Pennsylvania is ready to organize and a meeting will be held in this city within the next ten days. A national organization will be asked for by a circular that is ready to be mailed to all the contractors of the United States and Canada. As has been published in the telegraphic dispatches of the Post the supply men are about ready to do business on a their contracts with the builders and workmen at fixed prices a loss of money to many.

FLUTTER IN THE SENATE.

Duel Threatened Between Gen. Jacques and M. Le Comptes. Paris, Feb. 21.-There was a lively incident at today's session of the senate, sitting as a high court in the trial of Deputy Marcel-Habert, charged with inciting soldiers to insubordination at the time of the funeral of President. Faure. During the testimony of Colonel Jacques, who eulogized M. Marcel-Habert's frank character and answered for him as a good Republican, Senor Le Compte interrupted and asked if it was not true that General Jacques had uttered threats against court-martial judges. The president of the senate, M. Falletries, refused to put the question and Senor Le Compte, amid violent protests from the Rightists, insisted upon the question being put, declaring it would enable them to decide the value

tend to you." Nevertheless, Senor Le Compte ap-pealed to the president, saying: "The witness is threatening me." The prestdent told General Jacques to withdraw. As the general did so, he turned to Deputy Provost Delauncy and said: "Give me M. Le Compte's address."

of General Jacques' evidence. General

dent refused to permit him to do so,

whereupon turning to Senor Le Compte,

General Jacques exclaimed: "I will at-

The outcome is expected to be a duel. MRS. LAWTON'S THANKS.

Senator Clark's Manager the Only The Nation's Gift Is Acknowledged by the General's Widow. Washington, Feb. 21.-Mrs. Lawton

has made the following acknowledge-Pewce Valley, Ky., Feb. 18, 180, Dear General Corbin: Such kindness is yours can rever be repaid, and my heart is very full when I try to thank

Words seem very poor at such a time. Will you please believe that I do appreciate it, all my life will find comfort in the remembrance. The universal feeling which prompted such wonderful generosity from the nation is so beautiful to me, and so dear -my gratitude is inexpressably protound. It has relieved the one anxious thought Henry would have had and I do not know how to thank you or the nation.

Believe me, with kinds regards. Very sincerely, Mary C. Lawton.

Amendments to Puerto Rican Law. Washington, Feb. 21.—Senator Culber-son, of Texas, today gave notice of two mendments he will propose to the Puerto Rican government bill. One of these pro-vides for free trade between Puerto Rico and the United States proper. The other gives the natives of Puerto Rico the same right to choose whether they will become citizens of the United States that the Paris treaty confers upon residents who may have been born in the Spanish

WEATHER FORECAST.

Washington, Feb. 21.-Forecast for Thursday and Friday For eastern Pennsylvania, rain or now Thursday: colder by night; fair Friday; high easterly, shifting to nohthwesterly winds.