DISTANCES AT THE FAIR.

IMMENSE SPACE COVERED BY THE EXPOSITION.

A Visitor Must Walk a Great Many Miles to See All the Wonders of the White City — Route of the Average Sight-Seer — Some Exhibits of Foreign Countries.

The World's Fair is not only a wonderful exposition of the globe's industrial, mechanical and artistic progress, but it is a "city of magnificent distances." Speaking of the immense space covered by the Fair, the Chicago Record says:

Some poor weak woman who could not travel four blocks downtown without boarding a horsecar will walk five miles at Jackson Park. She does not realize it at the time. All the time something is happening to engage the mind. The long jaunt is taken in homeopathic doses, 100 yards at a time. It has often been remarked, and there is no harm in repeating it now, that the general bigness of things around the Exposition gives delusive ideas of distance. The visitor has an experience like that of a "tenderfoot" in the Rockies who concludes to walk over to a certain peak before breakfast, and after traversing a few miles is told that he will be there before night if he keeps moving. The excursionist at the Fair often forms a hasty conclusion that he can see nearly everything in a day. Afterward he is ready to admit that he couldn't cover the ground in a week on a bicycle.

Take the Plaisance, for instance. From the Cottage Grove avenue gate to the entrance from the main grounds is exactly one mile. The man or the woman, however, who wanders out to the limits of the Plaisance and then back again does not travel in a straight line. He or she makes diagonal cuts across the roadway from one noisy show to the other, strays off into pockets and probably tramps a quarter of a mile in Java or old Vienna, forgetting that each of these shows is a little city of itself. In fact, a journey into the Plaisance and back will mean not far from three miles of walking if the sight-seer is at all industrious. Once around the Ferris wheel is nearly one-sixth of a mile.

Here are some distances which the habitual visitor will appreciate. From the entrance to Midway it is 4300 feet to the Administration Building. This is considerably more than three-quarters of a mile, a good walk, even in the country. Yet people who cover the distance every day look over at the dome and say: "There's no need of taking a train; it's only a step." Up at the narrowed north end of the grounds, it is 2000 feet from the Fifty-seventh street gate over to the lake, yet this preliminary stroll is unnoticed by those who pass the State Buildings and then turn southward for the main part of the show. In keeping track of distances it is always well to remember that once around the Manufactures Building lacks about 200 feet of being a mile.

Suppose you land from a boat at the Casino pier, walk over to the peristyle, turn north and pass through Manufactures Building, straight through the Government Building and then proceed by the shortest cut to the art palace. How far do you suppose you have traveled? A mile? More than that—6800 feet, if you kept as near a bee line as possible. But if you selected some of the winding paths and reconnoitered in side aisles through the two buildings, you walked one and one-half miles.

Follow the average sight-seer through a day's walking. Pick out a route which is common. He alights from a train at the terminal station and goes to the Administration Building, whence he drops south to the Machinery and Agriculture Buildings, merely passing through them to reach the peristyle, along the length of which he passes to the Manufactures Building. By the time he reaches it he has covered, at the lowest, 4500 feet. Through Manufactures Building once, then through the Government and Fisheries Buildings and over to the art palace easily makes 6000 more. If he follows the much-traveled route from the Art Building down past the southerly State Buildings to the Plaisance entrance it is just about 2500 feet to be added.

Then the Plaisance. Perhaps he will not walk to the extreme west end, but he will go three-fourths of a mile and return, making an actual chalk-line distance of one and one-half miles with another mile to be added because of the zig-zag course, making it 13,000 feet on an easy compromise. Leaving the Plaisance, suppose that he passes through the Horticulture and Transportation Buildings to the court of honor and the grand basin, around which he walks slowly during the illumination and band concerts, finally directing his way to the terminal station and a train for home. Any tape-line measurement following his steps would show that another 9500 feet had been placed to his credit. He had not crossed the wooded island, had not looked into the Mines or Electricity Buildings and had not gone farther north than the art palace nor farther south than the Agriculture Building. Add up the figures and it will be found that he walked 35,500 feet, or a trifle less than seven miles, with hardly any allowance for incidental foraging to the right or left. As a matter of fact any one following that route would walk ten miles.

Many persons have covered the ground indicated. Perhaps you have, yet you couldn't understand why you were so tired out at night and went to sleep on the way home, your head resting on the shoulder of a perfect stranger. Any man who started at Madison street and walked to Jackson Park would think he was performing a feat of endurance. He comes to Jackson Park and covers the same distance without knowing it. Why is it? Those who have studied the strange ways of humanity say it is because he is buoyed up and exhilarated by novel sights and kept on the prance by rousing music. His mind is so busy that he forgets about his legs.

How far must a man walk to see all the Fair? This is a hard question to answer, but here are some fairly accurate figures on the larger buildings. If you wish to traverse the main aisles in the Manufactures Building, just to get a good general impression but without edging around thousands of show cases, you will find nine main aisles east and west, each 750 feet long, a total length of 6750 feet. The north and south aisles, eleven in number, are each 1750 feet long, making a total length of 19,250 feet. This makes 26,000 feet, a trifle less than five miles. The minimum estimate for the gallery on the same basis is 12,500 feet. This does not allow for passing through the narrow aisles of open exhibits. It refers only to what might properly be called the streets and avenues. Furthermore, it does not allow for doubling up on each thoroughfare. The visitor must see both sides at the same time.

Machinery Hall has five east and west aisles, each 1300 feet long. To pass through these requires 6500 feet of travel. There are eight main aisles north and south, each 500 feet long, making 4000 additional feet or 10,500 in all. To "do" the building thoroughly these transverse aisles should be covered. On this basis the necessary traveling distance is called 10,500 feet. The same rule is followed in the case of each building.

Manufactures, main floor	26,000
Manufactures, gallery	12,500
Agriculture, main floor	9,900
Agriculture, gallery	4,500
Agriculture, annex	4,400
Forestry	2,900
Shoe and leather	3,500
Krupp gun and convent	1,000
Administration	400
Electricity, main floor	5,250
Electricity, gallery	2,600
Mines, main floor	3,150
Mines, gallery	2,000
Transportation, main floor	5,440
Transportation, gallery	4,000
Transportation, annex	7,000
Horticulture, main floor	3,000
Horticulture, gallery	1,000
Government	9,000
Woman's including gallery	4,000
Fisheries	1,500
Art Palace, main section	3,500
Art Palace, two wings	2,000

The grand total is something in excess of 118,000 feet or nearly twenty-three miles. At the same time the estimate does not include State, Government or private buildings; the Plaisance is ignored and no account is taken of the long jumps from one building to another. Let the reader figure for himself whether by walking forty miles he could see every nook and corner of the Exposition from the washy head of the pier to the westward end of Midway Plaisance.

The moral of this is: "Don't try to see everything in one day."

WORLD'S FAIR DIPLOMA AWARDED BY THE JUDGES.

THE EXHIBIT OF ITALY.

Italy has reason to feel proud of the unequaled exhibit she has made in the various departments of the World's Fair. No other country of equal size and commercial importance has done so much to make the great Columbian Exposition a success. In the Manufactures Building, west side, section A, Italy's main exhibit is to be found. The liberal art section contains 18,000 square feet, and is located on the interior floor in the north-west gallery. This space is devoted to the exhibit of books, photographs, musical instruments and other articles that may be included in the category of liberal arts, but nothing, however, of an educational nature, except, of course, what is contained in the books. Italy is jealous of her book-making art, and many fine specimens of book making and printing make this part of the exhibition one of the most interesting.

The main section on the floor proper of the Manufactures Building is, perhaps, one of the best arranged and most unique displays of a country's handicraft and ingenuity to be found in the whole building. There are specimens of hand-carved woodwork so delicate and wonderful as to command the highest praise for the artist's skill, but not this alone; so perfect and so exquisite is it as to make one question whether its superior has ever been seen. The largest bas relief ever carved from wood is among the articles. It is twenty feet long and three feet wide, and is made from a single block of wood. What is more, it was made expressly for the Columbian Exposition.

There are specimens of Italy's beautiful chiseled marbles, Florentine mosaics, so superior to anything in this line shown as to leave them without a competitor in this branch of industry.

An enameled silver coffee set for twelve persons acquires its great value from a very complete history of the world engraved on the platter and cups. All the details of the principal events of the world from the days of creation to the present are worked out in the finest lines.

Lace, said to be worth $1000 per yard, with brocades and tapestry of untold value and exquisite design, forms an attractive feature and calls forth many complimentary expressions from lady visitors.

The two majolica paintings in front of the pavilion are much admired, and are valued in the appraisement at $20,000. The pottery and glassware, the figures in gilt, the statuary and carving in wood, the beautiful collection and display in marble and bronze, make the Italian exhibit not only one of the most valuable, but among the most interesting.

ALGERIA'S EXHIBIT.

Algeria is a French colony, but it has been given a distant place and large space in the Agricultural Building. The most prominent object in the exhibit is what is called the Moorish room, which is a reproduction of an apartment in the palace of the Governor at Algiers. Inclosed by Moorish arches, in imitation of marble, is a central court. The office of Mr. Monteils, the commissioner from the colony, is situated at one of the corners, the rest of the space being devoted to a display of the products and art works of the country. Pictures by native artists hang on the walls, showing the four seasons in Algeria, a street scene in Algiers and other subjects. A fine cabinet in native woods is shown, tobacco, manufactured and natural, and specimens of the ramiee a variety of reed from which fine fibrous material is made. Woods of the country are exhibited in the form of thin sections bound in volumes, resembling books. There is a fine Arabian mirror, the frame of which was carved with a knife by a native artist, and other specimens of wood carving.

In the main department of the exhibit, a great display of cork is made. The trunk of a tree is shown, the rough bark in bales, and manufactured corks. Sheet cork for hat linings is shown, and thicker leaves for insoles for shoes. There are 1,200,000 acres in Algeria covered with cork trees, which will be in full production in five or six years, when the crop will be enormous. Algerian cork is equal to that of Spain, it is asserted. Growth of the tree is limited to lands in the Mediterranean basin. There are 260,000 French people in Algeria, the same number of persons of other Nations, and 3,500,000 natives. A curious product of the country is alfa, a fibrous grass from which ropes are made. It pulps readily, and fine paper is made, much of which is exported to England. As evidencing the importance of Algeria's commerce, goat skins to the value of $300,000 were exported to the United States in 1892. This industry is of recent growth, as, four years ago, none were exported. Wool is another important product, while the grain of the colony is of superior quality.

SPAIN AT THE FAIR.

Among the foreign countries contributing to beauty and elegance in design of exhibits and display Spain is prominent. The Spanish section in the Manufactures Building covers an area of about 23,000 square feet and it has been economically and judiciously used. The pavilion erected is an exact reproduction of the famous Cathedral Cordova, except, of course, in size. The structure occupies space under the inner gallery in the southwest corner of the building and in the rear of the Italian and Swiss sections.

In this section there are 350 exhibitors from Spain, mostly showing products of cloth and lace. In the working of the finest lace texture, in design and delicate execution, the Spanish may have equals, but they certainly have no superiors. In embroidered designs, silk workings and gauzy woven fabrics an exceedingly ingenious and interesting display is made.

As usual the most expensive exhibit fills the least space. Because of its novelty and its representation of something new in the working of precious metals, the greater interest, perhaps, attaches to it. Felipa Guisasola, a lady of Madrid, some years ago conceived the idea of ornamenting steel with gold, by first sketching designs on steel and then hammering gold into the grooves, leaving a greater or less projection of the precious metal on the surface, according to the size and character of the figure desired to be produced. The gold was then shaped by hammering or was cut on the surface to represent faces, figures, flowers or whatever design fancy or the love of art dictated. The finest work of this kind in the exhibit, worth over $100,000, is two fine vases, one of the Pompeiian design and the other Renaissance. They are about four feet high, and the steel body is richly ornamented with gold of all colors.

MAKING THE AWARDS.

Fifty judges in the Manufactures and Machinery Departments started to work for the first time a few days since. They found some of the exhibitors not prepared, and in such cases the exhibits were passed for the present; but all the exhibitors who were ready expressed their acquiescence in the system of awards. The foreign and domestic judges in the Department of Agriculture met in the Assembly Hall of that building for organization. They elected as President William R. Williams, delegate from Russia and professor in the Academy of Moscow. Count Addleman was chosen First Vice-President.

Meetings of judges of awards in the Departments of Mining, Electricity and Fine Arts have also been held to perfect the organization preparatory to getting to work on the exhibits. The fine arts judges will follow the European jury plan, which they think alone practicable and satisfactory to the exhibitors in such a department.

The Committee on Awards is discouraged over the refusal of nearly all the agricultural implement exhibitors to participate in the field test outside the city. Only two harvester machine exhibitors entered for the examination, and the feeling among the bulk of the implement exhibitors, as expressed in the recent protest sent to Chairman Thacher, is not favorable to success in that branch of the exhibits at least.

WORLD'S FAIR NOTES.

NEW YORK cheese manufacturers have secured three first prizes.

FOURTEEN separate and distinct congresses were in session at the Art Institute the other day. The most largely attended was that of the college fraternities.

AUGUSTUS HEMENWAY, of Canton, Mass., has invited all the schooma'ams in town to go to the World's Fair at his expense. There are twenty-six of them.

THE Department of Awards is now the busiest branch in the great Exposition, and Mr. Thacher, its chief, has increased his clerical force from five to 100.

A BIG map showing the educational peculiarities of the Pennsylvania public schools, colleges and academies, has been shipped to the Fair. It is fourteen by eight feet in size and contains 112 square feet of canvas.

THE Masonic apron worn by Washington in the lodge room as well as the valuable and interesting lodge emblems of General Lafayette form a feature of the exhibit in the Government Building, beneath the great dome.

IN the dome of the Horticultural Building there is a perfect facsimile of the Capitol at Washington, done in immortelles. The grounds surrounding the Capitol are also shown, and it forms a unique and interesting exhibit.

THE World's Youth Congress, a gathering made up of the brightest young people between the ages of twelve and twenty-one, and representing schools, academies and colleges throughout the country and various institutions of learning in England and on the Continent, has been in session in the Hall of Washington.

IT is generally conceded that for the limited amount of money expended on its buildings and display of articles made, the State of Arkansas leads all the rest. The mineral and wood exhibits in the State Building are especially interesting, both from their number and completeness, as well as from the unique manner in which they are arranged.

CARDINAL GIBBONS has accepted the invitation of the Committee of the Maryland State Commission to make the prayer and benediction on the occasion of Maryland Day at the World's Fair, September 12. That is also the date fixed for the meeting in Chicago of the Archbishops of the Catholic Church. Cardinal Gibbons, the primate of the United States, will preside.

SUNDAY SCHOOL.

LESSON FOR SUNDAY, AUGUST 6.

"Paul at Miletus,' Acts xx.,22 35. Golden Text: Heb. xiii., 7. Commentary.

22. "And now behold, I go bound in the spirit unto Jerusalem, not knowing the things that shall befall me there." Last week we left Paul at Ephesus alone, his companions having gone to Macedonia. Then followed the uproar, after which Paul left Macedonia, went as far as Greece, tarried there three months, then returned through Macedonia, and we now find him at Miletus on his way to Jerusalem, hastening to be there if possible by Pentecost (verse 16). Touching at Miletus on their homeward voyage, he sent to Ephesus to have the elders come down to him, and our lesson to-day is his farewell to them. He reminds them of his manner of life among them and of his teaching. Doing must precede teaching. See Math. v., 19; Acts i., 1; Mark vi., 30, Josh. i., 8; Ez. vii., 10.

23. "Save that the Holy Ghost witnesseth in every city, saying bonds and afflictions abide me." While he did not know what particular events might befall him, he had a general knowledge that it would be as it had been, and even so to the end. It was in his commission that he should suffer (Acts ix., 16), and large foretastes had he already in the stoning at Lystra and the scouring and imprisonment at Philippi.

24. "But none of these things move me, neither count I my life dear unto myself, so that I might finish my course with joy." The ambitions of this servant of Christ may be seen in such passages as this in connection with I Cor. ii., 2; II Cor. v., 9; Phil. i., 20; Gal. vi., 14. To make known the gospel of grace, to make Christ known through these bodies, to be in all things pleasing unto Him and have his service accepted of Him, these were his constant aim, and in these directions he exhorted his son Timothy (II Tim. ii., 3; iv., 15), and through his writings exhorts all believers.

25. "And now, behold, I know that ye all among whom I have gone preaching the kingdom of God, shall see my face no more." In some way he knew that he would not meet them again till he should meet them at the judgment seat of Christ, and therefore he would speak to them the more earnestly and waste no time on vain words. If when we speak to people, even in ordinary conversation, we felt that we might not meet them again in this world, we would be more apt to say something about Jesus and things eternal.

26. "Wherefore I take you to record this day that I am pure from the blood of all men," not only in the sense of having wronged, corrupted or defrauded no man (II Cor. vii., 2), but he had cleared himself of all responsibility in reference to their soul's salvation. If we, as the messengers of God, faithfully declare His messages of salvation, then we are clear of the blood of those who hear, whether they believe or not. See Ezek. iii., 7-9, xxxiii., 17-19.

27. "For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God." That which he had received of the Lord he had made known unto them without diminishing a word (I Cor. xv., 3; Jer. xxvi., 2). He had kept back nothing (verse 20) through fear of man. He believed in his heart that it his was to please men he was not worthy to be called a servant of Christ (Gal. i., 10). So he lived and labored not as pleasing men, but God, who trieth our hearts (I Thess. ii., 4). What a needful word this is, "He that hath My word, let him speak My word faithfully" (Jer. xxiii., 28).

28. Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which He hath purchased with His own blood." One of the risen Christ's last words to Peter was a threefold exhortation to feed His sheep and lambs (John xxi., 15, 17), and Peter passes it on to us, saying, "Feed the flock of God which is among you" (I Pet. v., 2). Nothing can feed us but the word of God. The written word is full of Him who is the living word, and He Himself said, "He that eateth Me, even he shall live by Me" (John vi., 57).

29. "For I know this, that after my departing shall grievous wolves enter in among you, not sparing the flock." It was Paul's delight to maintain himself by his own labor that he might have to give to the needy things temporal and spiritual. But there were and there are those who, professing to be shepherds, not only do not feed the flock, but take good care to live upon the flock—wolves in sheep's clothing (Math. vii., 15, x., 16).

30. "Also of your own selves shall men arise, speaking perverse things, to draw away disciples after them." It is one thing for a man to be accused of drawing people after him, while his whole aim is to point them to Jesus (I Cor. iii., 4, 5). It is quite another matter for a man to live and labor for the sake of a following (Acts v., 36, 37).

31. "Therefore watch and remember that by the space of three years I ceased not to warn every one night and day with tears." Woe be unto the pastors that destroy and scatter the sheep of My pasturage, saith the Lord (Jer. xxiii., 1). See also Ezek. xxxiv., 2. Prayerfully, tearfully and unceasingly had Paul labored for their souls' welfare, and as he foresaw the possibility of false teachers and souls ruined and lost his heart was grieved.

32. "And now, brethren, I commend you to God and to the word of His grace, which is able to build you up and to give you an inheritance among all them which are sanctified." He knew that if they would only hold fast to the word of God they would not waver nor be led astray. The only safety then and now is "to the law and to the testimony. If they speak not according to this word, surely there is no morning for them" (Isa. viii., 20, R. V.).

33. "I have coveted no man's silver or gold or apparel." He was not seeking theirs, but them. He wanted nothing from them, but he had something to give them. Though he was poor, yet he made many rich, though he seemed to have nothing, yet he possessed all things (I Cor vi., 10). When any gave him gifts, he was especially glad for them, because it was just so much added to their account in heaven.

33. "Yea, ye yourselves know that these hands have ministered unto my necessities and to them that were with me." Therefore when the false teachers would come, seeking theirs and not them, only wanting to make something out of them, not caring for their souls, they could say: "Thus did not Paul. He never asked us for anything for himself." See further instruction upon this point in II Thess. iii., 8.

35. "I have showed you all things, how that so laboring ye ought to support the weak, and to remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how He said, It is more blessed to give than to receive." It is not recorded that Jesus ever said just these words, so that possibly Paul has here given us some of the unrecorded words of Jesus. This principle, however, was certainly in His teaching and very prominent (Luke vi., 30; xiv., 13, 14).—Lesson Helper.

Parachutes Are Not New.

It seems that as early as 413 B. C., a prisoner in Egypt astonished the natives by jumping safely from a high tower, impeding his downward progress and "landing" without too violent a jar by holding a blanket over his head. The parachute, as we know it now, is said to have been invented by adventurous Frenchman who exhibited it in Paris in 1796, and early in this century an English aeronaut named Green, precipitated himself, with a parachute's restraining aid from the ample ether, to terra firma, in Fairmount Park, Philadelphia, thus making the first recorded descent in America.

KEYSTONE STATE CULLINGS.

A DRUNKEN RACE RIOT.

HUNS AND POLES BATTLE AT PRICEBURG. THREE FATALLY AND MANY OTHERS BADLY INJURED.

SCRANTON—Saturday was pay day at the mines at Priceburg, a prosperous borough of this county, and the several hundred Huns and Polish employes began to drink heavily. At night a Hun and a Pole engaged in a fight in Bryan Fallon's saloon and their countrymen took sides with them, a free fight resulting.

The borough police arrested four Hungarians and lodged them in jail. At 9 o'clock the Hungarians held an indignation meeting, and then proceeded in a body to the jail, where they overpowered the keeper and liberated the prisoners. This caused the largest riot that has occurred in this region in 16 years. The Poles took exception and a race war commenced, lasting three hours, during which there was a reign of terror, all the saloons in the town being taken possession of and the officers driven off. Over 30 men were injured, three fatally and one Pole had his ears cut off. Many windows were broken in with stones and clubs.

Shortly before midnight Deputy Sheriff Craig arrested several of the rioters and restored peace. Many arrests will follow.

THE CROP BULLETIN.

REPORTS INDICATE THAT RAIN IS NEEDED BADLY IN SOME PARTS OF THE STATE.

In the weekly report of the State Weather Service, it is said that rain is badly needed for crops in the Southern section. Tobacco, potatoes and pastures are suffering. The corn crop looks well. Wheat and hay are about housed and oats are being harvested. Fruit prospects are not improving. Rain is needed badly in Southwestern section and corn and potatoes will be short unless it comes soon. The fruit crop will be light. In the Northwest crops do not appear to need rain. In the Northeast drought continues. In dry sections the hay crop is said to be from one-half to two-thirds of a crop. Corn, potatoes and tobacco are in a period when moisture is most needed. In many places the rainfall has been barely sufficient to prevent disaster.

TWO LITTLE BROTHERS DROWNED.

ALLENTOWN.—While three brothers, George Willie and Lewis Sochray, aged 13, 11 and 6 years respectively, sons of George A. Sochray, were sitting on the banks of the Lehigh river in this city. Willie toppled into the stream. The other brothers in trying to rescue him fell into the river. Assistance came and Willie was rescued. His two brothers were drowned.

TO CATCH LIARS.

Among the laws passed by the recent legislature is one for the protection of newspapers against practical jokers and especially against maliciously inclined people who have in the past been free to get any kind of malicious report they could into the papers to serve their own purpose, and then let the newspaper bear the brunt of it. Following is the act:

"Any person who wilfully states, delivers or transmits by any means whatever to the editor, publisher, or reporter of any newspaper, magazine, publication, periodical or article for publication therein, any libelous statement concerning any person or corporation and thereby secures the actual publication of the same, is hereby declared guilty of a misdemeanor and upon conviction shall be sentenced to pay a fine not exceeding five hundred dollars and undergo imprisonment for a period not exceeding two years or either or both at the discretion of the Court."

AT Beaver Falls, the other evening Mrs. Jane Smith was sitting on her front porch in her bare feet. A pet chicken saw one of Mrs. Smith's bare feet and gave it a fierce peck. The chicken's bill penetrated an artery and Mrs. Smith almost bled to death before the flow of blood was staunched.

MRS. POLLY ROSE, of Butler county, who died last Saturday after celebrating her hundredth anniversary, came of a long lived family. Her father served in the revolutionary war and lived to be 86 years old, while her mother was a few months over 100 when she died.

WHILE Mrs. W. H. Brick, of Buffalo, Somerset county, was sitting in front of her house holding her baby an eagle swooped down as if to carry off or attack the child. The mother screamed and ran into the house and the eagle flew away. It has been seen before.

LAST year the Raney farm, near Mahongtown, Lawrence county, was stocked with imported bug-snapping toads. It was feared the cold weather had killed them but last week they came to the surface in great number, and are now playing hob with the bugs.

LAST Saturday night a valuable horse belonging to J. W. Gonaware, a Greensburg merchant, got twisted up in the halter in some way and hanged itself, being found dead in the morning.

A FEW days ago a conductor lifted a ticket from McVeytown to Lewistown that was sold August 19, 1867. The interest on its face value amounted to exactly its original cost.

A FREIGHT wreck at Bixler, on the Pennsylvania railroad, caused by the breaking of an axle killed 11 horses, injured others and delayed traffic five hours.

JOHN W. VANATTA, for extorting money from an old soldier was sentenced by Judge Buffington at Ere to $50 fine and serve three months at hard labor.

E. J. GAYNOR, railroad contractor, Pottsville, has assigned. Judgments amounting to nearly $50,000 have thus far been filed; assets nominal.

AT work in one of the quarries at Mahoningtown is a mule that is known to be 34 years old and bids fair to live many more years.

AT Harrisburg, John W. Boyer, who did not hear the gong, was killed by a street car while gathering wood in the suburbs of the city.

MAYOR TILBROOK, of McKeesport, has issued an order that street fakirs will be prohibited from doing business.

ALFRED TAYLOR has sued Mercer county for $25,000 for alleged injuries received while crossing a county bridge.

THE Fayette county mutual insurance company, of Uniontown, which suspended in 1879, has been reorganized.

CHARLES ANDREWS, brakeman on the Pittsburg & Western at New Castle, fell between cars and was killed.

THE big Mexican monument at Harrisburg, in Capitol Park, is toppling and will be removed soon.

DIPHTHERIA in a malignant and fatal form is epidemic at West Newton.

THE Mercer county wheat crop is the largest for many years.

SOLDIERS' COLUMN

THE PLOT FRUSTRATED.

Interesting Bit of History From Ft. Jefferson Records.

JOHN J. O'DONNELL, who was recently ordered to Ft. Smith, Ark., to take charge of the weather station in that city gave to a reporter before he left copies of some interesting telegrams which he says are unwritten history. Before coming to Pittsburg, Mr. O'Donnell was in the Signal Service at Key West, Fla., and was also stationed for a time at Ft. Jefferson, on the Dry Tortugas, which is the most isolated fortification in the United States, and which was used after the war as a place of confinement for State prisoners. Among those kept there were O'Laughlin, Mudd, Spangler and Arnold, who were found guilty by a military commission of complicity in the assassination of President Lincoln. The telegrams which Mr. O'Donnell copied from the records of the fort relate to a plot to rescue these prisoners which was formed in New Orleans in August, 1865. The first telegram is as follows;

LOUISVILLE, KY., Aug. 17, 1865.

Hon. T. T. Eckert, Acting Assistant Secretary of War:

I have important papers. I think the commanding officer at the Dry Tortugas should be put on his guard against an attempt to rescue the State prisoners in his charge. A company is organizing in New Orleans for that purpose. I have the facts from a reliable source.

L. C. BAKER,
Brig. Gen.

WASHINGTON, August 17, 1865.

Col. C. H. Hamilton, 100th N. Y. Vol., Commanding Officer, Dry Tortugas, Fla.

I inclose herewith copy of a telegram from Brig. Gen. L. C. Baker. The Secretary of War directs that besides taking effectual measures against any attempt to rescue prisoners, you will place the four State prisoners, Arnold, Mudd, Spangler and O'Laughlin, under such restraint and within such limits inside of Ft. Jefferson as shall make abortive any attempt at escape or rescue. You will return by Lieut. Carpenter, the bearer of this, a full report of the measures you take under these instructions.

E. D. TOWNSEND,
Asst. Adj. Gen.

Edwin M. Stanton, the Secretary of War, sent this telegram to Maj. Gen. E. R. S. Canby, at New Orleans, as soon as Gen. Baker's telegram was received:

"This department is informed that an operation is on foot in New Orleans to go to the Tortugas and by surprise or stratagem seize that place and release the prisoners there. Immediately on receiving this telegram send a special messenger to notify the commanders at Key West and Tortugas to take strict measures to guard against any stratagem or surprise and secure the safety of their commands. You will also use every effort to defeat the parties engaged in this conspiracy and defeat its object. You will also please notify the Division Commander and request his co-operation.

Gen. P. H. Sheridan was in command of the Department of the Gulf in 1865, and he sent a messenger to Ft. Jefferson with the secretary's telegram and ordered the commanding officer to report to him at once the strength of the garrison. Capt. W. R. Prentice, of the One Hundred and Sixty-first New York Volunteers, who was commanding the post on August 24, sent a report to Gen. Sheridan telling him the smallness of the garrison and urging him to hurry forward 10 companies of the One Hundred and Sixty-first under Lieut. Col. William B. Kinsey, which were at Apalachicola awaiting transportation. Capt. Prentice also reported to Adjt. General Townsend that none of the prisoners were allowed outside of the fort after sunset; that the entire fort was patrolled every night, in addition to the regular sentinels and that an efficient force was kept in readiness at all times to man four of the 10-inch guns.

A general order was issued regulating the approach of vessels, and a detail was in readiness to board them to examine them before they landed. A system of signals was arranged between the boarding party and the guard. Everything was kept in readiness for any sudden attack. The total strength of the garrison was 377, and of these 275 men could be turned out on a moment's alarm.

The expected attack was not made, because the conspirators learned that their plot was known, and an attempt to rescue the prisoners would be foolhardly. However, it was never entirely abandoned, for three years later there appeared at Ft. Jefferson one Maloney, a lawyer, who announced that he was there to see the men in confinement who had become known as the "Mississippi prisoners," preparatory to bringing an action to test the legality of their imprisonment. He asked some special privileges from Capt. E. Bainbridge, Fifth United States Artillery, then commanding the post, and this is the order the captain issued:

"Mr. Maloney will not communicate with the prisoners at this post except in accordance with existing rules."

This order was issued because another plot was suspected. Shortly after this President Johnston pardoned Spangler, Arnold and Mudd. O'Laughlin had died before this.

Ft. Jefferson is an interesting place outside of its historical associations. It is built on a coral island, Garden Key, one of the largest of the Dry Tortugas. The reef of which it is a part is 400 miles long and very dangerous for navigators. It is called "Dry" on account of the peculiar formation of the beach and harbor, which does not permit a vessel to get close to it. The reef is precipitous. In a ship's length 25 fathoms of water and less than 2 fathoms can be found. The fortification was provided for by the twenty-ninth Congress, which appropriated $2,040,000 for it. Two-thirds of the men employed in building it were slaves owned by S. R. Mallory, afterward Confederate Secretary of War. After the attack on Ft. Sumpter, the first guns, two 40-pound Columbiads, were mounted and they are still on their carriages, though now they are useless.

The fort in design is an irregular hexagon surrounded by a moat 80 feet wide containing eight feet of water. The wall is 40 feet high and the fort can accommodate 500 men. It is fast going into ruins and only a few men are kept there under charge of an ordinance sergeant. There is a marine hospital station there and a light house.—*Pittsburg Times.*

Prayed for His Candidate.

The eccentric Father Taylor, the sailors' pastor of Boston, was a strong partisan of Governor Briggs. On one occasion, just previous to the latter's election, he was making the usual decorous prayer, asking the Lord to give the people for Governor "a man who will rule in the fear of God," etc., when he suddenly broke off: "Pshaw, Lord! What's the use of boxing the compass like that?—give us Governor Briggs!"