

BURGLARS AT WORK.

How the Merry "Cracksmen" Open Safes.

No Safe Strong Enough to Resist Nitro-Glycerine.

How to burgle a bank safe is discussed in an apparently practical manner in a recent issue of that usually well-behaving journal, the American Machinist. The professor who furnishes the advice classes all bank safes according to the kind of door with which they are provided. The square door is generally held in position when closed by eight round bolts of about one and one-half inches in diameter. These are shot from behind the door across the joint to the rear of the jamb of the door, and the strength of these eight bolts or the strength of the door jamb to resist being torn out is the maximum strength of the safe to resist the quiet but forcible eloquence of the burglarious visitor.

The second or round class of doors are built up of plates similar to those of the safe, and generally have a coarse thread cut on their periphery, the door being screwed into the safe. The square doors are generally more open to persuasion than the other kind. Formerly the burglar used very fine gunpowder as the final argument. His plan was to putty up the entire joint between the door and the safe, except a small space on the top and the bottom joints. He then applied the air pump at the upper unpurged crack or joint and fed the powder into the lower one, the in-going air carrying it into the safe. This was all possible and in many cases is yet, owing to a lack of contact between the door and the jamb. This method was finally headed off by the introduction of felt, cement or rubber between the door and the jamb. But nitro-glycerine will penetrate a crack 1-1000th of an inch, an opening so much finer than it is possible to make between the square door and the jamb that the operation of opening such a safe is a short one. In opening a modern bank safe the burglar putties up the entire joint of crack except for about an inch at the top and bottom.

A well of putty is then formed about the top crack where it is uncovered and two and a half or three ounces of nitro-glycerine poured into it. If the safe is not protected by felt or rubber it will require but three or four minutes for the glycerine to distribute itself over the entire joint of the door and drip out at the lower crack. An ordinary detonating cap, such as is used in exploding dynamite, is inserted in the upper well and the fuse lit. When the explosion occurs the door comes off. When the operation takes place in a vault there is rarely any noise more than fifty feet away owing to the safe inside which the explosion occurs being itself within a solidly built inclosure.

The burglar does not carry nitro-glycerine with him. He goes to a hardware store and buys a few pounds of dynamite, which he breaks up in a convenient vessel, as a wash-basin, covers with alcohol, and allows to stand until the glycerine has all combined with it. The alcohol and glycerine are then poured off and an equal amount of water added; the water and the alcohol combine, and the nitro-glycerine sinks to the bottom, where it is ready for use.

The chrome steel, of which the safes and vaults of banks are now largely built, is easily drilled by first heating the steel. A basket of wire netting is made to cover a space of about six or eight inches square, and this is wired to the side of the safe or door. It is filled with charcoal, which is ignited and a fierce heat generated by a pair of bellows. In four or five minutes the basket is removed and the heated spot allowed to cool. It may then be drilled or cut like ordinary boiler iron. The author of the article states that he has seen a hole sufficiently large to admit a man's arm cut clear through a chrome-steel bank safe four inches thick in two hours, so that a man's arm was passed through and the locking bolts disconnected with a wrench. In little less than two hours a similar hole was cut through the back of the safe into the money vault, and its contents taken out through this hole.

The large vault door, behind which the safe is placed, is rarely blown with glycerine. It is generally opened by drilling a two or three-inch hole between the handle and the combination lock. This cuts off the locking bolt, and the door opens when the handle is turned. Safes with round doors, which are screwed in, are often opened experimentally by building a well of putty at the up-

per-part of the joint, and exploding about a teaspoonful of glycerine on the outside, the result being to cup out the top of the outer plate of metal. A large well embracing the cupped portion is then made, and two ounces of glycerine placed therein, which feeds around the threads in about ten minutes, tearing the door and part of the frame out when exploded.

Night Air.

Before we can hope to fight consumption with any chance of success we have to get rid of the night air superstition. Like the dread of cold water, raw fruit, etc., it is founded on mistrust of our instincts. It is probably the most prolific single cause of impaired health, even among the civilized nations of our enlightened age, though its absurdity rivals the grossest delusions of the witchcraft era. The subjection of holy reason to hearsays could hardly go further. "Beware of the night wind; be sure and close your windows after dark!" In other words, "Beware of God's free air, be sure and infect your lungs with the stagnant, azotized and offensive atmosphere of your bedroom." In other words: "Beware of the rock spring; stick to sewage." Is night air injurious? Since the day of creation that air has been breathed with impunity by millions of different animals—tender, delicate creatures, some of them fawns, lambs and young birds. The moist night air of the tropical forests is breathed with impunity by our next relatives, the anthropoid apes—the same apes that soon perish with consumption in the close, though generally well-ventilated, atmosphere of our northern menageries. Thousands of soldiers, hunters and lumbermen sleep every night in tents and open sheds without the least injurious consequences. Men in the last stages of consumption have recovered by adopting a semi-savage mode of life, and camping outdoors in all but the stormiest nights. Is it the draught you fear, or the contrast of temperature? Blacksmiths and railroad conductors seem to thrive under such influences.—[Good Health.]

Inscriptions on Coins.

Among the change for a dollar which the conductor of a North Side car tendered me the other day was a quarter with an odd inscription. Nicely engraved across the young lady who impersonates the Republic on the coin in a singularly strained attitude were these words: "Given to Anna Polk, Indianapolis, 1877." It was not merely scratched on, but neatly cut in an easy English script. The conductor noticed the legend, too, and offered to exchange the quarter for another. But the coin seemed good enough, and I declined. This, perhaps encouraged the conductor to remark that he handled more queer coins, foreign and domestic, ancient and modern, during and since the World's Fair than in all his six years of street railroading previously.

"There was a half dollar I took in one day last August," he said, "which had a piece of poetry cut in its face. I forget the other three lines, but the last one was something about 'You are all my own,' and there were some letters at the end, the writer's initials, I guess. The words were very small, but so well engraved that you could read them easily enough."

"We had to keep a sharp lookout for foreign coins, Canadian and English, mostly. I never saw so many old silver dollars, quarters, and halves as the strangers who came to see the Fair turned out."—[Chicago Times.]

Tea-Seed Oil.

It appears that some of the Ceylon tea planters are making an organized attempt to obtain a sale for their tea seed in the London market. A parcel of seven bags of that article was offered at the drug sales recently, but no one seemed to know what to do with it, and although the broker declared his belief that the drug was "a favorite medicine in China," the audience remained unmoved. Nevertheless, the tea seed might have been worth purchasing for the sake of the bland oil which it contains, to the extent of about 35 per cent. by weight, and which resembles olive oil in color and somewhat in taste. The seeds are about the size of a cherry stone, sub-globular in shape, and of a deep brown color. The oil would be useful for burning or lubricating.—[London Chemist and Druggist.]

Valuable Collection of Minerals.

According to the Philadelphia Record, Clarence S. Bennett of that city has a collection of minerals which is second to only one in the world, that of the British museum. It is estimated to be worth fully \$500,000.

FARM AND GARDEN.

EGGS IN WINTER.

If you want eggs in winter you must provide a comfortable poultry-house with windows which will admit sunlight, and the place must be kept sufficiently warm to keep the combs of the layers from freezing. A wooden floor to the poultry-house is better than an earthen one, which is apt to become damp, and dampness is to be avoided, if you would keep your flock free from disease and death. Cleanliness, too, is essential, as are good warm roosts and open air exercise on all days which are not damp or excessively cold.

Chickens, if properly fed and cared for, can be made to lay nearly as well during the winter months as in the summer. The chief secret lies in providing a variety of egg-producing food and in keeping the hens in proper condition.

FENCING IN WINTER.

There is often plenty of time, after the so-called fall work is completed, to do a good deal that is usually left till spring. The fence can be looked over and repaired. Posts can be set to much better advantage than in the spring, as the soil is in better condition for such work. It pays to see to the fences. If neglected, they will soon fall into a delapidated condition which it will require a good deal of time to bring them out of. And a broken-down fence is a disgrace to any farm, and a standing reflection against the owner of it. One reason why so many shabby fences are seen is that the work of repairing them is left till spring, and then there seems to be no time for such work. Do it while there is leisure, and you will be more likely to do good work.—[American Agriculturist.]

HOW TO KEEP PUMPKINS.

A writer in the Ohio Farmer thinks that to keep pumpkins in a fresh state for ten months or a year is a very simple matter. A person has only to select those that are sound and well ripened. Handle them carefully so as not to bruise the flesh; wash and wipe dry; then store them in a dry, warm room. Let each pumpkin have a separate rest—that is, do not pile one on top of another. Keep the temperature of the room as even as possible at all times, and sound, plump pumpkins can be had in June just as well as in the fall or early part of winter. For the last two years he has kept his in an upper hallway leading from the dining room. A portiere hangs at the opening of the doorway, so the heat rises and keeps the upper hall at the same temperature as the dining room. If a person has a roomy pantry, well secured from frost or dampness, the upper shelf would answer nicely for a storing place, or a clothes closet, secured from cold or dampness, would answer the purpose as well. Winter squashes can also be preserved in like manner. Dampness and frosted air will soon put this line of vegetables on the road to decay if left long under its influence.

PROFITABLE PIGS.

An Eastern paper has a letter from W. F. Brown, a swine grower, in which he gives his own experience with pigs at five months and three days old. It would without doubt have paid to feed them another month, but the drought had nearly ruined my corn and I could not buy corn without paying from five to ten cents above city price, so I concluded to let them go. My pigs averaged 130 pounds and were in a condition to go on them as fat pigs at a good price. They were fed entirely on bran and oil meal, except for the last three weeks, during which they were on feed of half new corn. The fourteen pigs ate half a ton of oil meal at \$23 a ton. The bran was not weighed, but I estimate that they ate a ton and a half, costing \$18.75, and during the last three weeks ten bushels of corn worth \$4.50. This makes the cost of their feed from the time they were weaned \$31.75 and they sold for \$80, which represents a fair profit. I did much better with the fall litters, as I sold them when the price of pork was at its highest point. I have now raised three litters of pigs in succession from these sows. My idea has been to see if I could rear pigs and sell them young at a profit without milk to give them a start and I have demonstrated that it can be done.

GREEN FOOD FOR FOWLS.

Green food is the natural food of fowls in the summer season. It is cooling, possesses all of the elements required, and is more readily obtained than any other kind of food. Being bulky, it contains water, and promotes

digestion by distending the bowels. Though not as nutritious as most of grain, yet more of it is consumed, and if of a variety, it supplies all the wants of the flock.

If the farmer will economize with the food at this season, using no grain, he will find that his hens will keep in better health and condition than if they are fed on grain or other concentrated food. The greatest drawback to the keeping of poultry is not that the fowls are insufficiently supplied, but that they are fed too much, and the cost of their maintenance is more than it should be. Surfeiting of a fowl with all the grain that it will eat is not conducive to thrift or egg production.

There is an enormous waste of food in the summer by the lack of judgment in feeding. Grain is given lavishly, when in fact it is the most unsuitable food that can be allowed during warm weather. Grass is superior to any other food now, and if hens are confined and cannot have the run of a grass-plot, the green food may be cut up fine and fed to them, and it may be given three times a day, in which case a small quantity of ground oats or cornmeal may be sprinkled over the cut food, to each quart of the green grain so used a teaspoonful of salt being first intimately mixed with it. If it is found necessary to give something else than green food, let it be lean meat, or meat and crushed (or ground) bone, given once a day, a pound to twenty hens being ample. The hens will lay more eggs when supplied with plenty of green food than when allowed grain freely.—[Farm and Fireside.]

FARM AND GARDEN NOTES.

All manures are not equally valuable. Ground oats is a good feed for calves. All stock requires good care to produce good results. Cornstalks will make good feed for hogs if cut when green. Don't rear indifferent stock if you are trying to make money. Turnips make an excellent addition to the feed of a milch cow. In English gardens toads are highly esteemed as insect destroyers. Keep only those cows which will give a profit all the year round. This is an excellent time for experimenting with feeding wheat to stock. It is said that ensilage which is not covered will only mould to a depth of ten inches. The sides of the silo should be carefully packed, so that they are as solid as the center. If you expect to keep your sheep up to the standard you must not be content with grade sires. Quarantine all newly purchased pigs for thirty days before letting them run with their fellows. Those persons who are said to have good luck in farming are the ones who employ common sense and good judgment. By removing all fallen fruit many insects will be destroyed and others will be prevented from obtaining a footing. A good warm barn with silo and water inside and good cows, make winter dairying easier than summer dairying. Good breeds cannot stand the neglect which the scrubs can, but if you give them proper care they will surely repay you. Whenever signs of defective constitution appear among your hogs, it is time to change to another strain of the same family.

By thorough culture the farmer can get much better crops, but will exhaust his soil much sooner than by less thorough cultivation. Pigs that have been driven any distance, or even carted to the place of killing, should be given a couple of days' rest before killing. The remedy in use for the codlin moth in Australia is a bandage about the trunk of the tree and the destruction of all infected fruit. A writer says that he succeeded in driving away squash and cucumber beetles by scattering on each hill a little land gypsum which had been moistened with coal tar. If turnips are fed to cows just before milking they are apt to give a taint to the milk, but it is said that if given directly after milking the next milk produced will be untainted.

When green crops are plowed under for the purpose of enriching the soil, an application of lime will often be of the greatest benefit. It helps to correct the acidity of the soil that often results from the too rapid fermentation of the green stuff.

PENNSYLVANIA REPUBLICANS

Meet at Harrisburg and Nominate Galusha A. Grow for Congressman-at-Large.

At the Republican Convention held at Harrisburg, Galusha A. Grow was unanimously nominated for Congressman-at-Large.

The convention decided to hold the state convention in Harrisburg on May 23. Williamsport made a hard fight, but the capital received almost double the number of votes given in favor of its competitor.

SKETCH OF HIS LIFE.

GALUSHA AARON GROW was born in Ashford (now Eastford), Connecticut, August 31, 1824. When 10 years old he removed to Susquehanna county, Pa. He graduated at Amherst College in 1844, studied law and was admitted to the bar at Susquehanna county in April 1847. He settled in Towanda, Bradford county and became a partner of David Wilmot, the author of the Wilmot proviso, whom he succeeded in Congress in 1851 as a free soil Democrat. For 12 years he represented the Wilmot district, being elected Speaker of the House by the Republicans in 1861, he having left the Democratic party on the repeal of the Missouri compromise. He was a delegate to the National Republican Conventions of 1854, 1856 and 1860. His first speech in Congress was in favor of the homestead bill, of which he was the chief supporter. In 1868 he was chairman of the Republican State Committee. In 1870 he declined the mission to Russia. In 1881 he was a candidate for United States Senator receiving the second highest number of votes in the famous contest of that year. He now resides at Glenwood, Susquehanna county.

THE PLATFORM.

The platform adopted is as follows: Resolved, That the Republican Convention of Pennsylvania, recalled to nominate a candidate for Congressman-at-Large, needs not to be reminded of the fact that this is a representative office, that the election in Washington gives it not only State but national importance and that it invites the fullest possible expression of the public view on Tuesday, February 29, next, to the end that all our land may know the tenor of our thoughts upon the most immediate and vital issue presented in the Wilson bill. The simple anticipation of this measure has closed thousands of workshops. It has reduced to idleness 2,000,000 of workmen and souped houses now displace former hives of industry. It has reduced values to an amount greater than the national debt. It will enlarge the free list only upon productions which employ the greatest number of American workmen. It will strike with equal cruelty the farmer, the miner, the lumberman, the iron worker, the glass blower and the textile worker. It will transfer work from our own mills, mines and workshops to those of foreign countries. It is sectional in its authorship and is all too plainly aimed at Northern industries.

It strikes Southern industries only where the same blow reaches greater Northern industries. It fosters the plantation system and destroys the farm. That is an attempt upon the part of the free traders of the South to reduce the industries of the North to the level of those of the South. It is vicious in its change from specific to ad valorem duties, the latter inviting foreign undervaluations and leading to constant and cumulative frauds upon the revenues of the country. It will reduce the revenues many millions of dollars and the reductions will grow with time. It is vicious in compelling the government to make up these deficits by means of increased internal and direct taxes. It is doubly vicious in compelling its supporters to resort to the most serious war taxes or borrow money. It is wholly erroneous in the theory that the less work there is to do in this country, the higher will be the wages of the workman.

The protective policy conveys the opposing thought and says that this policy which secures the largest amount of work at home is the one which secures the best wages to the home workman.

If the Wilson bill does all the things in the threats which it conveys, what will it do in its fruition? The Republicans of Pennsylvania, and the people of our great Commonwealth as well, declare war upon it, unceasing war in House and Senate, and its Senators and Representatives in Congress, including the Congressman-at-Large nominated today are requested to make this warfare felt in every wise and patriotic way, to the end that by the defeat of the Wilson bill, American workmen, producers and manufacturers may resume that prosperity which the country had but a single year ago.

The defeat of the Wilson bill and the consequent retention of the protective system will bring this prosperity within 30 days, not alone to the farms, mines, factories and mills and workshops of Pennsylvania, but to every section of our country heretofore devoted to development and improvement. It will restore values and in all ways contribute to the welfare of the land and happiness of the people.

Resolved, That Pennsylvania's recent majority of 134,000 was a most emphatic endorsement of our party's national and State platforms, both of which are now reaffirmed with the additional declaration that the Republican party favors the long established policy of our republic to encourage sister republics, however weak, and foster the spirit of liberty wherever its fires are kindled, so long as this can be done without promoting or encouraging "dangerous foreign alliances" and in this connection we denounce the unpatriotic foreign policy of the Democratic national administration in the Hawaiian matter.

NEWSY GLEANINGS.

ARIZONA is raising peanuts. NEBRASKA has 50,000 Swedes. ANARCHISTS continue active in France. BUFFALO, N. Y., is the greatest flour port. TRAMPS are practically unknown in New Zealand.

CONNECTICUT farmers lately held a State Convention. THE Chicago Treasury's deficit will probably be \$1,600,000.

SEVEN Iowa men are racing after Wilson's seat in the United States Senate. RICH and extensive phosphate beds have been discovered in Lewis County, Tennessee.

THE Cape Cod (Mass.) cranberry bogs produced 150,000 barrels of red berries this season.

DESPITE rigid economies the cash balance in the United States Treasury is still falling off.

FLORIDA has 128 varieties of wood and an eighteen-pound pineapple at the Augusta (Ga.) Exposition.

CHARITABLE women have opened a shop in New York City for the employment of destitute women.

GOOD, heavy draught horses and good roadsters are in fair demand at fair prices, but for the common horse there is no market.

THE relations between Sweden and Norway are becoming so strained that the possibility of a war between them for supremacy is now being seriously considered in Europe.

Mrs. SARAH JOHNSON, 115 years old, died, a few days ago, at Camden, N. J. She was the oldest woman in the State. Mrs. Johnson retained her faculties up to the time of her death.

Tax settlers and ranchmen in the vicinity of Owen, Wyoming, complain that stock is killed in great numbers by bears. Hunters are not after these animals, as there is no bounty for them.

KEYSTONE STATE COLLINGS

POKE ROOT CAUSES BLOOD POISONING. BEAVER FALLS.—Phillip Corbett, aged 70 years was taken to the Allegheny Hospital, suffering from blood poisoning. A short time ago he took rheumatism in his leg, and being told that poke root was a sovereign remedy, he made a poultice of it and applied it. The only way to save his life now, the doctors say is by amputating the leg, which will be done.

MAGISTRATES DON'T PAY EXPENSES. PHILADELPHIA.—The 23 magistrates in this city each receiving \$3,000 salary, last year collected fines amounting to only \$40,000 or less than half the amount paid them by the city. As usual at the close of each year there is a movement, on foot to reduce the number of magistrates.

ONLY FOR COMMON SCHOOL USE. HARRISBURG.—Dr. Shaeffer, superintendent of public instruction decided that the free text books purchased by the state's money for the use of the common schools cannot be used by 'subscription schools' after the regular school term is ended.

A CHILD'S AWFUL DEED. GLEN CAMPBELL.—A 3 year old daughter of George Smeats, living near here, found her father's self acting revolver, and deliberately shot her 1 year old sister through the head.

EXECUTIVE COMMISSIONER. HARRISBURG.—Executive Commissioner Farquhar telegraphed Governor Pattison from Chicago that he had sold the Pennsylvania state building for \$2,500.

AT BEAVER FALLS DAVID. The 3 year old son of David Easton was badly burned by placing a lighted Christmas tree candle under his apron to hide it from his mother.

THE GREENLAND BLOCK. Connellsville was destroyed by fire. The building was occupied by two stores and a restaurant and all were destroyed. The loss will reach \$10,000.

WHILE ABRAHAM AND JOHN LENZ. farmers near Shannopin, were at work in a field three unknown men overpowered their sister and stole \$3,000 from the house.

JAMES H. ANDERSON. of Grove City attempted to board a Pittsburg & Lake Erie train at New Castle and received injuries from which he died.

FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MANY YEARS. applicants for liquor license from Sharon, filed at Mercer have no remonstrances filed against them.

THE REPORT OF SECRETARY EDGE of the Pennsylvania Board of Agriculture shows that the crops last season were far below the average.

EDWARD, 9 year old son of Lawrence Rodgers, of Nesheanock Falls, died of a fractured skull, the result of being kicked by a horse.

TWO NEGRO BURGLARS while robbing Thompson's grocery store near Huntington touched a burglar alarm and were captured.

THE COLUMBIA & Donegal Electric railway was opened. It is six miles long and connects Columbia and Marietta.

INSPECTOR WATCHORN'S REPORT. THE "SWEATING" SYSTEM CONTINUES TO BE A MOST DIFFICULT ONE TO COPE WITH. WHAT INVESTIGATIONS OF FACTORIES SHOW.

Factory Inspector Watchorn, in his report of the operations of his department the last year, construes the law prohibiting the employment of children under 13 years old as not applying to those at work when the act was passed.

Last year the decrease in the number of children under 16 years employed in factories was 0,036. Last year's report showed the total number of persons employed in factories under the supervision of the department to be 230,908, while the report for 1893 gives a total of 277,491, an increase of 36,583. Last year 76 fire escapes were erected, a total of 223 fire escapes erected at the instance of the department in two years and a half; 200 more have been ordered. There have been reported during the year 319 accidents, 46 being fatal.

It is stated that the "sweating" system is the most difficult matter the department has to cope with, and he admits that it is almost powerless to deal with the "sweaters." Inspector Watchorn thinks his department should not be required to enforce the semi-monthly pay law, as its violations most frequently occur in the mining regions. The efforts of the department in this direction have been almost fruitless.

Kitchen Schedule. Housekeepers troubled with forgetful servants can reduce their cares considerably by making out a schedule of the work to be done each day of the week and placing it in the kitchen, where it can be seen by the maid who presides over the household work.

The duties of the week, if apportioned to certain days, will make work easier to mistress and maid, and if the set days and duties are put down in black and white in view of the kitchen goddess they will impress themselves more readily upon her mind and leave no excuse for the forgettings which servant girls are so addicted to.

A constant burber of the kitchen is the maid who "forgets" that there is no sugar, or butter, or coffee just at the moment when dinner is ready to be served. There is nothing more exasperating than this phase of domestic annoyance.

A Boston cooking school once had a wooden "marketing card" for the kitchen wall, which could be used to advantage by housekeepers, and could be copied in homemade form. It consisted of a light wood frame provided with slips of dark wood upon which were marked the names of the different housekeeping stores—sugars, tea, soap, starch, etc.

These wooden slips were arranged in slots and could be moved into place against the light background. When any particular supply gave out the corresponding slip was brought in view upon the card, and when the grocery order was given nothing necessary could be forgotten. This plan will work to perfection with the most "difficult" of help, who will refuse to understand all other methods of recalling their memories.—Boston Globe.