

KEYSTONE STATE NEWS CONDENSED.

MORELAND FILES HIS ANSWER.

Convicted Pittsburg City Attorney Says he Was Not Familiar With Book-Keeping.

Former City Attorney of Pittsburg Wm. C. Moreland, who is now serving a term in the Western Penitentiary, filed an answer to the suit against him and his bondsmen to recover the half million dollars it is alleged he embezzled. He makes a general and specific denial of all the charges of embezzlement or misappropriation of city funds. He says he was not familiar with book-keeping and employed the same system and clerks as he found when he became City Attorney. His answer examines the books and accounts, and it is fully supposed they had been honestly and correctly kept.

Big Land Deal Closed.

The occupancy of Pittsburg and Philadelphia, who obtained options on 20,000 acres of coal lands in Allegheny, Burwell and Franklin townships, Westmoreland county, several months ago, have at last closed the deal. The farmers were notified that the terms would be accepted, the average price being \$25 per acre. The lands front on the Allegheny river, and will be taken by the proposed Carnegie railway. A big mine will shortly be opened near New Kensington, and a coke works will be established.

Anticitized Whiskey Seized.

Special Revenue Officer Kool, of Philadelphia, and Deputy Collector W. C. Galley, of Irwin, attached five barrels of whiskey at the central hotel at Salisbury. It had been shipped by E. Strauss & Co., Philadelphia, and was anticitized.

The mystery surrounding the burglary of the Baltimore & Ohio railroad shops at Washington two weeks ago was cleared up, when Chief of Police Orr made information against Jay Brown, charging him with burglary. Brown is in the Allegheny county workhouse having been sent up from Pittsburg last week as a suspicious character. At that time he was endeavoring to sell a large bundle of carpenter tools, but could not give a satisfactory explanation of where he obtained them. Chief of Police Orr saw reports of Brown's arrest, and on investigating the case found that the tools came from the Baltimore & Ohio shops here. The robbery was a wholesale affair, hundreds of pounds of fine tools being carried off.

One hundred and ninety suits, involving over \$400,000, have been brought against the partners in the suspended bank of Carlisle, Morrow & Co., of Hollidaysburg. The Blair county courts have decided that these suits should be tried at a special term, beginning the first Monday in June. Many intricate questions arising under the partnership laws of the State are at stake in the determination of the suits. In a test case Justice Lowry decided that the estate of deceased partners in the bank, were liable for the payment of the bank's debts.

While Will Thompson was making pit posts in the ridge near "Big cave" near Greensburg, he averted a serious battle with a catamount. Thompson had just cut down a tree, the top of which was hollow, and in which the animal evidently made its home. As soon as the tree fell, the catamount jumped for Thompson, who, by a well directed effort hit the animal with a stone, breaking one of its front legs. Fearing a lively conflict with a beast of so dangerous a nature he ran home. Armed men are looking for the catamount.

The post-office at Saltsburg was burglarized. The safe was blown open with dynamite and \$80 in money, 20,000 2 cent and 10,000 1 cent stamps taken. The burglars gained entrance through a rear door. The explosion occurred about 2:30 in the morning, as a clock which hung directly over the safe stopped at that hour. The explosion was of such force as to blow the door of the safe across the room. Two suspicious persons seen about the town are supposed to do the guilty party.

While fishing from an island in the Allegheny river, a short distance below the suspension bridge at Oil City, a number of youths discovered the body of a boy floating in an eddy. The body was in an advanced stage of decomposition, and recognition was almost impossible, but it is thought to be Alphonse Neils, aged 12 years, who mysteriously disappeared from his home at Siverly, a suburb, over three months ago, while skating on the river.

Plans for building the chapel for the State Normal school at York were completed. The contract was awarded to Jackson & Fulton, of Pittsburg, for \$25,875. The building is to be of stone. Work is to commence at once, and to be completed by September 1. The contract for the gas was let to Gillespie & Debevoise for \$1,800. This is for fuel and light for the three buildings, including the one to be built.

The Merriam colliery, operated by the Philadelphia and Reading Coal and Iron company, suspended all work at Ashland for an indefinite period. The mines now stationed in the mines will be hoisted to the surface and distributed among the other collieries. Four hundred men and boys will be thrown idle by the suspension of this mine.

Senator Quay will soon be wearing a pair of shoes made from another skin. The hide of the panther which attacked the senator a few weeks ago, and was killed by Mr. Quay and a party of friends, has been shipped to Philadelphia, and is now in the hands of a Philadelphia Republican, who has ordered a pair of fan shoes made from the skin.

C. Bryan Kaufman, of Reading, collector for the real estate department of the Philadelphia and Reading Railway, has accepted the position of solicitor in the passenger department under General Passenger Agent Weeks. Mr. Kaufman will assume his new position early in April and will shortly locate in Philadelphia.

An infant son of J. J. Donnelly, of Connelville, was run over by a wagon heavily laden with stone and instantly killed. The little one was playing on the street, and as the horses were walking and the street was almost clear of people the driver is blamed for negligence. The coroner will investigate.

The Mercer county Republican convention endorsed the candidacy of J. S. Beacom, of Westmoreland county, for State Treasurer. A committee of three were appointed to confer with a committee from the other counties composing the Twenty-fifth district to devise a better way to nominate a congressman.

Howard Todd, a farmer of Rostraver township, Westmoreland county, was dragged by two men near Belle Vernon and robbed of \$100, a gold watch and other trinkets. The men were strangers, but were seen with him during the afternoon. He was found some time after lying unconscious in the road.

The Hotel Cambridge, of Chester, which was built about eleven years ago, and cost about \$100,000, has been sold to a syndicate representing \$1,000,000 of capital, who will close the hotel on May 1 and remodel the building, to be used as lawyers' offices and a banking and trust company.

The damage suit of Ambrose E. B. Moore and Jan Belle Moore against Schuydill county ended in Pottsville. The case was one in which the family of William Moore, who was drowned by falling off an insecure bridge in Mount Carbon, sought to recover \$10,000. The verdict was for \$100.

David Hamilton, a prominent farmer and Grand Army man, was struck and instantly killed by a Pennsylvania freight train near Ore Hill. Mr. Hamilton was deaf and did not hear the warning whistle. He was 74 years old. His five children reside at Scottsdale, Westmoreland county.

The cost of running Berks county during 1896, as found by the county auditors, was \$36,662.73, while the cash receipts paid in to the county treasury were \$11,169.73.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.

March 29.—The Complainer Indians were given a hearing in the House to-day by a resolution authorizing the attorney general to investigate their claim to certain lands in Oil City.

Nesbit, Northumberland—Making it a misdemeanor, punishable by a fine of \$1,000 and six months imprisonment, for an election officer to alter or make any false or fraudulent return of the votes cast at any general or special election.

A bill was introduced by Smith of Tioga—To provide for the entering of liens for the better securing the pay of mechanics, laborers, and for materials furnished about the erection of any new buildings, and for repairs and alterations of those already built and to be built.

March 30.—New capitol plans were presented to the legislature to-day by the House committee on public buildings and grounds. In reply to the governor's message of March 11, which advocated a capitol to cost \$550,000.

The report is a complete resume of the subject of capitol building, and considers the subject from every standpoint. In the past the committee disagreed with the governor, and there are several recommendations at variance with the governor's ideas. One million dollars is the amount of money recommended for the new capitol complex.

In the House many bids were reported from committees to-day. The Saylor bill creating a state board of dental examiners was negative.

The Cressy bill fixing the maximum passenger fare on steam railways at 3 cents a mile was also negative.

March 31.—A bill was introduced in the House by Mr. McWhiney, of Allegheny, making it a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of \$5,000 or by one year's imprisonment, to give or monopolize articles of general assembly.

Bills were also introduced designating the Friday following the nearest to the middle of May, or the Friday falling nearest the middle of September, as "third day" in the public schools.

Other bills repealing the act of March 27, 1866, which prohibits the sale of liquor in Westmoreland, Blair and Indiana counties, so far as it relates to Westmoreland county, were introduced to ascertain and record the names, residences and addresses of all makers and holders of mortgages, judgments and other liens or assignments of the same, were introduced by Mr. Hammond, of Westmoreland.

CONGRESSIONAL.

Abstract of the Important Measures in Both Houses.

March 29.—Several amendments proposed by the committee on ways and means were agreed to as follows: Increasing from 2 to 2½ cents a pound the duty on gelatine, blue, langlass or fish glue, prepared fish bladders, or sounds, valued at not above 10 cents a pound, box, bulk, or in a tin, \$1 a ton. The amendment was agreed to.

The duty on common brown and yellow earthenware was increased from 20 to 25 per cent ad valorem. An omission in the bill was corrected by inserting in the paragraph covering silvered glass, cylinder and crown glass. The paragraph included only polished plate glass silvered.

March 30.—When proceedings were begun on the tariff bill in the House to-day Mr. Dockery, (Dem., Mo.) asked unanimous consent that the free list might be considered in order that he might offer an amendment putting those articles on the free list controlled by trusts in the United States, but Mr. Payne (Rep., N. Y.) objected.

The committee on ways and means took command of the situation again, and presented a number of amendments agreed upon at their meeting last night, mostly intended to perfect their phraseology and to correct slight omissions and errors. Among them were: Making covered glass, cylinder and crown glass, 45 per cent ad valorem; arranging the duty on crude tartar or wine lees to be half a cent a pound on the article testing less than 50 per cent of titrate of potash and one cent a pound on the article testing above that strength.

March 31.—No objection was made at the opening of the House this morning to the immediate further consideration of the tariff bill, and Mr. Sherman (Rep., N. Y.) called the committee of the whole to order. On motion of Mr. Dalzell, (Rep., Pa.) the paragraph imposing a specific duty on rheumatic, anti-pyrene and anti-toxine was stricken out.

On motion of Mr. Grosvenor (Rep., O.) the duty on cartrains was increased from 15 to 2 cents a pound. Mr. Grosvenor, after a session of two hours, after a session of one hour, offered the new section authorized by the committee on ways and means, making the duties in the bill applicable to all imports after April 1.

April 1.—The Senate to-day in executive session concluded its consideration of all amendments to the arbitration treaty. The voting on additional amendments began at 4 o'clock after three hours of general debate, and in the hour and a half which followed about a dozen propositions were passed upon. Two only were adopted, except some making verbal changes. Of those adopted one, offered by Senator Bacon, exempts the claims against Southern states from the operation of the treaty, and the other, introduced by Senator Morgan, eliminates article 8 of the treaty.

The Cuban question was revived in the Senate to-day after a long period of comparative calm. Four distinct Cuban resolutions were brought forward in rapid succession.

April 2.—The Republican members of the Senate committee on finance are continuing their work day and night on the tariff bill, with the intention of reporting it at the earliest possible day. They are not yet prepared to give any of the results of their investigations, and say, when approached upon the subject, that they have not as yet reached any conclusions upon any schedules of the bill.

KEEP YOUR TOP COOL.

It is reported of Artemus Ward that he once offered his flask of whiskey to the driver of the stage on which he was riding through a mountainous section. The stage driver refused the flask in most decided tones. Said he:

"I don't drink; I won't drink. I don't like to see anybody else drink. I am of the opinion of those mountains—keep your top cool! They're not snow, and I've got brains; that's all the difference."

There is a great deal of wisdom in his remark—"Keep your top cool." Without a sound brain man is not of much use in the world. Alcohol, whether in beer, cider, wine, brandy or whiskey, is a foe of the brain, and when it gets there it inflames it and renders it unfit for use. Be like the honest stage driver and resolve to "keep your top cool."

NOVEL PRESENT.

Two splendidly dressed women were driven by a liveried coachman to the door of Justice Connell, in Washington avenue, Belleville, N. J., a few nights before last Christmas. The Justice was asked for a private audience and was greatly surprised to learn the purpose of their visit. He was asked to draw up a pledge. The women were mother and daughter. The elderly lady signed a pledge for one year and the daughter for six months.

The papers were to be given to the father and husband as a Christmas present. The ladies said that, while they were not very much addicted to drink, yet they found it difficult to abstain. The women bore marked evidences of culture and refinement. The young lady was about twenty-two years old. Her services cost a crisp five-dollar bill for the Justice.

ALASKA'S REINDEER.

THEIR IMPORTATION HAS BEEN A GREAT SUCCESS.

How a Lapp Protects the Animals From Eskimo Dogs—Reindeer Solved Alaska's Transportation Problem.

THERE are reindeer in Alaska. So much has been known for three or four years, for the Government bought them from the Siberian deermen and put them there. And the reindeer are flourishing and multiplying. That is the report that comes from the far North from the men who were put in charge of the deer and told to teach the Eskimo how to use and raise them.

This verdict of success with the reindeer is thought to mean great things for Alaska. Just now there's little to eat in the biggest part of that big country up North. Get up above the Aleutian chain of islands that make stepping stones for giants half way across to Asia, or go over the mountain wall that faces the coast of Southern Alaska, and food must be got from the outside, if it's to be had at all. Little or nothing can be raised, wild animals are scarce and cattle couldn't live there even if there was anything for them to eat.

But the reindeer pastures—they're immense! There are 400,000 square miles of land covered with the fibrous white moss, and all on earth it is good for is to feed reindeer. The pasture lands run back a thousand miles or two from Bristol bay and stretch across the Yukon and far to the north—even to the ever frozen region of Point Barrow. According to the calculations of Sheldon Jackson, there is pasture for 3,200,000 reindeer on the Bad Lands of Alaska, and as reindeer are worth \$9 or \$10 apiece there is a chance to do a very respectable business in the stock-raising line in that

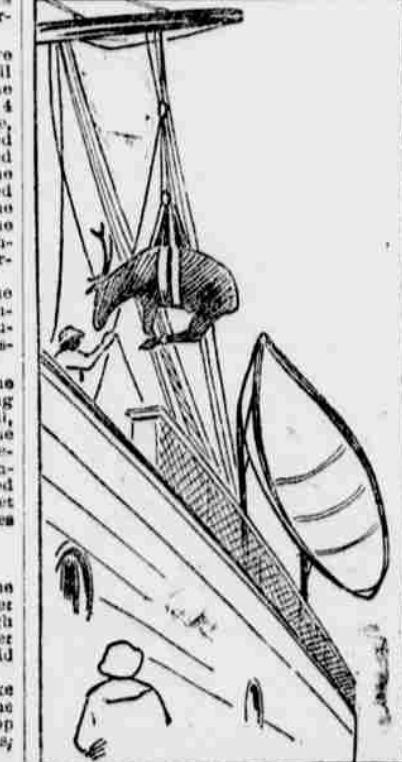


DEFENDING REINDEER AGAINST DOGS.

desolate country, if only the reindeer flourish and multiply.

But there have been great times in getting the reindeer his footing in Alaska. He was an assisted immigrant and had to be protected against all sorts of dangers besides those found in his native country. The main dangers feared were from the Eskimo dogs, the hungry Eskimo himself and the loss that would come from neglect of unskilled or careless herders.

The Eskimo is little removed from a wolf. He is hungry and savage and the reindeer is edible. Consequently there was trouble. The Eskimo dogs are thick about the station and Eskimo villages. Dogs are a part of Eskimo wealth, as the only pack animals of the frozen north up to the arrival of



LOADING REINDEER.

the reindeer, but are easier to get than to feed. So when the reindeer were brought to the Teller Reindeer Station at Port Clarence the Eskimo dogs made an attack on the herd. They were out for game and had to be driven off again and again before they learned the lesson that it was not good to attack the herd. Then they gave their attention to the sled deer that were kept about the station for hauling.

For a time even the presence of men failed to restrain them. One or two deer driven by themselves were too tempting, and for weeks they were liable to be assailed by a howling pack of kiyis. The station had brought a party of Lapps to take charge of the reindeer, however, and the Lapp knows how to deal with dogs. The Lapp carries a knife with a blade ten or twelve inches long, and has a handy

habit of using it. A witness to the conflict tells how the Lapp deals with the dogs:

"The Lapp was driving a pair of deer. A dozen great Eskimo dogs



MILKING THE REINDEER.

thought the time had come for fresh meat and gave chase. Before the Lapp knew what was coming, sled and reindeer were surrounded and the dogs were leaping and barking before the frightened creatures. The Lapp gave a series of shouts that frightened the dogs for a moment. Then in the moment of respite he leaped from the sled, ran to the heads of the deer and threw them with their backs on the ground. Then straddling them and holding their heads erect with his left hand he drew his great knife in his right. The reindeer could not rise. In their position they could hardly struggle, and the Lapp was ready for battle. He had hardly got into position, though the operation had taken but a moment, when the dogs were on him again, eager for reindeer meat. With one sweep the Lapp cut at the first two dogs. There was a wild howl of pain, a dripping of blood and the two leaders lost interest in the fight. The other dogs were nothing daunted by the fate of the first and still pressed forward. The Lapp swung his knife back and forth with loud cries, and at every swing some dog was yelping with

aska is a land of magnificent distances, with settlements hundreds of miles apart. The dog teams can travel only fifteen to twenty-five miles a day, can carry only a few hundred pounds, and as food for their support must be packed, they cannot make very long journeys. Reindeer can travel farther in a day, draw much heavier loads, and in camp can forage for themselves. So the reindeer team, the sled and the Lapland harness will soon become as typical of Alaska in the front pages of the school geography as of Lapland. But just now there is a call for a few thousand more reindeer. If they can be secured the herd will increase at a rapid rate. Just now it is slow, as there are only five or six hundred cows at the stations. So it will be some time before the 9,200,000 reindeer will darken the Alaskan snows and strain the capacities of the Alaskan moss pastures.—San Francisco Examiner.

THE MODERN PARLOR.

Wherein It Differs From That of the Past—Its Proper Furnishings.

The improvement in public taste in this country during the past few years is shown in few ways more strikingly



PERSPECTIVE VIEW.

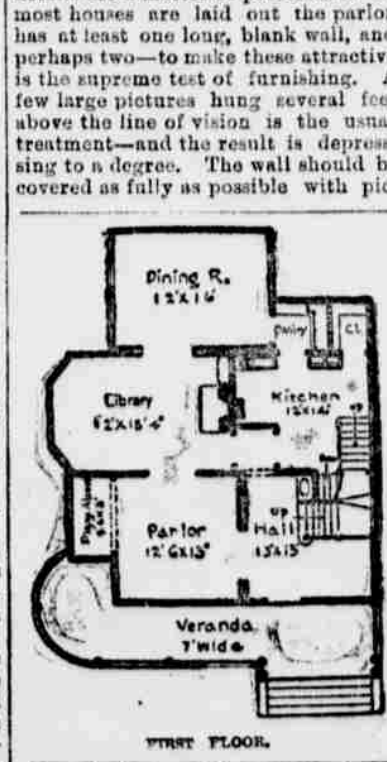
than in furnishing of the parlor. In the olden times, when houses were heated with difficulty by open fireplaces or little wood stoves, it became the custom in winter time to shut off the portions of the house that were not needed for living purposes for economy of fuel. The parlor was not a necessary place for family use, as the household generally gathered for comfort in the kitchen or dining-room. Therefore the parlor was the first room to be closed on the approach of winter, and the last to be opened on the advent of summer. It is scarcely a generation ago, and well within the memory of persons of moderate age, that the parlor was darkened day and night, holding no attractions for members of the household. The most crying fault in the American house of moderate dimensions is still that the parlor is made too formal, and is not given the true home atmosphere.

From the architectural arrangement of most detached houses the parlor is rarely one of the best lighted rooms—nor is there any need that it should be—nor is it generally as well provided with artificial heat. For these reasons it is a mistake to furnish in cold tones, such as white and gold. Delightful as the contemplation of such a room is, it is not comfortable nor homelike, nor is it worth the time and patience it requires to preserve it in the midst of a full-fledged nest of young Americans.

The color scheme is the most important part of furnishing; there should be a certain warmth in coloring, and this will rarely be found in gilt papers or moquette carpets. If the rest of the house be simply furnished with matting and rugs on the floor, rattan or bamboo furniture and muslin curtains. The only important thing is to the different pieces of furniture in one room of similar style and effect, and to have the decorations correspond with the furniture so as to give a good general effect—the details are a matter of preference. As most houses are laid out the parlor has at least one long, blank wall, and perhaps two—to make these attractive is the supreme test of furnishing. A few large pictures hung several feet above the line of vision is the usual treatment—and the result is depressing to a degree. The wall should be covered as fully as possible with pic-

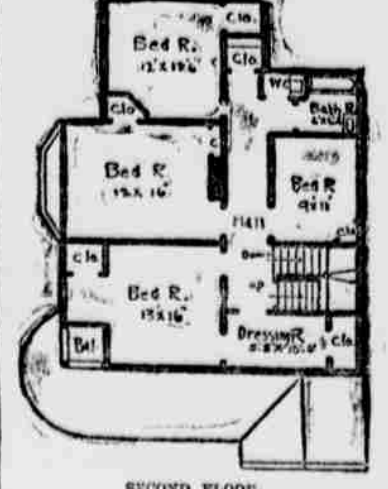
tures, and plenty of small ones should be interspersed in order to give diversity and informality. The mantels should be well filled with objects of art, and none of them should be trivial. Above all there should be plenty of books in the book case; not ponderous gilt books, blazing with gilt and stamped leather, but books to read and books that are talked about. It should be remembered that there are no better aids to furnishing any living room, than a supply of prettily bound books.

The accompanying plan provides a parlor of attractive shape and size that lends itself to the treatment indicated above.



FIRST FLOOR.

The woodwork is painted a deep cream and the walls, coral; the floor is stained a deep red brown, or covered with "old rose" or "dark copper"



SECOND FLOOR.

felt, which helps to lighten or soften the effect of the decoration, and can be overlaid with rugs.

The general dimensions of this design are:

Width, through library and kitchen thirty-three feet ten inches; depth, forty-six feet six inches, including veranda. Heights of stories: Cellar, seven feet; first floor, nine feet six inches; second floor, nine feet.

Exterior materials: Foundation, stone; first story, clapboards; second story, gables and roofs, shingles.

Interior finish: Two coats plaster, hard white finish; maple wood flooring; trimming, North Carolina pine; staircase, ash. All interior woodwork grain filled and finished in hard oil varnish.

A careful selection of colors for painting have been selected by the architect, the plan and accommodation being one of unusual merit.

The cost to build is \$4000, not including mantels, range and heating apparatus.

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A MODEL HAUSFRAU.

Quiet Tastes and Domesticity of the Empress of Germany.

It is stated by a writer who is in a position to know, that there is no snobbishness about Augusta Victoria, Empress of Germany. All through the German Empire the Empress is cited as a model hausfrau. She never interests herself in matters of State, but gives her whole attention to her



NEW PORTRAIT OF THE GERMAN EMPRESS.

large family of children. About the only affairs outside of the royal home in which she interests herself are her charitable works, which she personally attends to. Augusta Victoria was not accustomed to luxury when she was a girl, and it is all the more creditable to her that she has not been spoiled by her change in circumstances. Her father was Duke Frederick of Schleswig-Holstein-Sonderburg. It was an obscure and shabby little court there, and Augusta and her three sisters well knew how to practice all the little domestic economies which the families of impecunious German nobles are so often compelled to resort to. Although a duke's daughter, she learned to bake and sew and darn and make over her own frocks.

But, the day arrived when Prince William, destined to become kaiser, visited the court of Prunkennau. Prince William looked with admiration on the modest and comely Augusta Victoria. It took him a short time to make up his mind that she would make an ideal wife. He returned for a second visit, and was a suitor for her hand. They were married at Berlin amid pomp and display. She has now been married about sixteen years. Some of the more brilliant women of the royal German family, such as the Empress's sister, Charlotte of Saxo-Meiningen, and his mother, the Empress Frederick, regard Augusta Victoria as dull and stupid. But her ambition is only to be a devoted wife and mother.

Cost of Garbage Burning.

The city of Lowell, Mass., with a population of about 80,000 inhabitants, burns its garbage for about eighty cents a ton. The cost of operating its plant for one week, during which 100 tons of garbage was burned, was \$80.75. Burning at the rate of 100 tons per week, the cost of operating such a furnace is about \$4200 per year.