

KEYSTONE STATE NEWS CONDENSED.

BURNED 25 HOUSES.

Fire Makes Thirty Families Homeless in Pottsville.

Four men who were drinking in a house in Pottsville, a portion of Homestead borough knocked over a stove and thereby made about 30 families homeless, destroyed 25 houses belonging to the Carnegie Steel Company, limited, and it is thought burned a child to death. The fire started at about 2:30 o'clock in the afternoon, and raged so fiercely that for a time it was feared that the whole village would go. The houses of Pottsville are light frame, and the fire spread rapidly. The men of the steel works, with the fire outfits of their departments, and the four fire companies turned out. In a little while 25 houses were burning, and it looked as if the town would go. Over 1,000 persons vacated their homes and carried their goods into the streets. Thieves soon appeared and stole what valuables they could get hold of.

An extensive plate glass factory will be built at Walton Station, on the Pennsylvania railroad. The transfer of seventeen acres of land has been made from the Walton estate to the new company. Contracts have been let for the buildings, which will be of steel and iron, fire-proof construction, and the work will begin on them at once. The contract calls for the completion of the steel frame within sixty days and the improvement will necessitate an expenditure of \$200,000. The company at the head of the move is composed of wealthy men, and principally of practical glass men. Mr. Seully, son-in-law of the late Joseph Walton, is secretary of the company, and Mr. Watson, of Pittsburg, well-known in the glass business, is prominently identified with it. It is intended to utilize a new process of plate glass making recently invented by George Marini of Saninsky, O. The concern will employ at least 125 men from the start, and is expected to grow rapidly.

Burglars broke into Cambria county court house and made a bad wreck of the Prothonotary's office. They gained entrance at a window at the rear of the building. After getting in they broke open the drawers, and a combination lock that was on the big iron doors with a sledge, and placed a blast of powder between the outer and inner doors. The explosion that followed awakened a number of people in the neighborhood, but they did not know what direction the sound came. Many drawers were gone over until the thieves finally came across the cash drawer, which contained about \$100, which they took. A judgment note for \$1,000 and a money order for a small amount were held aside. An investigation developed the fact that no court records were disturbed. Detectives were placed on the trail. The total loss will probably be about \$350. Suspicion points strongly to a well-known character, but nothing definite is known.

There will be an extension of the Cumberland Valley Railroad from Richmond to the Tuscarora tunnel and West Bedford coal region. From Newville the branch line will run over the old South Pennsylvania route, and connect with the extension of the Cumberland Valley in Path valley. The South Pennsylvania tunnels will be put in shape for running, tracks and rails will be laid there during the next few months. All plans for lengthening of the Cumberland Valley are directed towards the speedy completion of the road is anticipated. The new extension will give to the road a large amount of freight traffic.

The Connellville Coke Company has completed fifty coke ovens at Gans Station, in Springhill township, and as soon as the tipplers are done it will be known what kind of coke the big belt of coal in Southern Fayette county will make. This coal has been condemned as not suitable for high grade coke, but the people composing the Connellville Coke Company tested the coal before going into the matter and the analysis was satisfactory enough to cause them to purchase almost 3,000 acres of the coal land. It is their purpose to at once increase the size of their plant by the addition of several hundred more ovens.

The Central Iron and Steel Company of Harrisburg was incorporated by the state department. The company is capitalized at \$1,000,000. The incorporators are: James McCormick, Henry B. McCormick, James M. Cameron, Charles L. Bailey, Edward Bailey and Gilbert M. McLaughlin, of Harrisburg; William H. Wallace, Brooklyn, N. Y., and J. Frederick Kernochan, of New York, the Paxton Iron and Steel Company of Harrisburg, the Central Iron works and Charles L. Bailey & Co.

Bradford parties have leased a large tract of land on the J. W. Free farm, four miles west of Greenvale, and the work was started. Several years ago a test well was put down on the tract, resulting in a light flow of oil and a fair pressure of gas, which holds out at the present time. Oil operators are certain that there is a streak of oil or gas near this city, and will make a thorough test for it. Several hundred acres of land have been leased on Big Run, and will be tested soon.

The Leisenring, New Haven and Connellville Street Railway is to be extended by a side line to Vanderbilt. The junction will be in the vicinity of Leisenring No. 1, and the new line will be about three miles long. A meeting of the directors will be held soon to decide on a route which in any event must pass through the coal lands of the H. C. Frick Coke Company and the W. J. Bailey.

Frank Herrington, W. C. White, Thomas Hoach and James Bradley, accused of the recent robberies of the Mount Union, Birmingham and Warriors Mark railroad stations, were held by Magistrate Patton for court. A gold watch and burglars' implements were found on their persons when arrested. They are believed to be the leaders of a gang of thieves operating in Central Pennsylvania.

William Neubig, a painter, was instantly killed at Rochester while painting on Saml. Moul's residence, by coming in contact with a live electric light wire. He was 28 years old and leaves a wife and one child. He was prominent in a number of secret orders, and at the time of his death was Chancellor Commander of the Rochester Lodge No. 274, K. of E.

The wreckage at Hyndman, where 26 cars were derailed and thrown over an embankment and piled up on the tracks of the B. & O. has been cleared away. It was said at the time of the wreck that eight boys were under the debris. It now turns out that the boys were under the wreck and two of them were killed. They were Frederick and John Conrad, of Ohio.

The five new coke ovens just completed at Gans, in Spring Hill township, by the Connellville Coke Company, were fired. This marks the beginning of coking in the Spring Hill field, which has long been a matter of conjecture in regard to value as coking qualities. The coke will be shipped to Valley furnaces.

Ex-County Treasurer W. H. Graham, of Mercer county, who is in Mexico, has been charged before the grand jury with embezzlement \$1,855.92.

Judge Harry White has authorized the commissioners of Indiana county to issue \$27,000 in bonds payable January, 1901, and \$22,500 payable January, 1902. They are to redeem bonds now overdue and will bear a percent interest.

An ordinance passed the Altoona City Councils authorizing the expenditure of \$19,000 to repair Altoona's city buildings. Work will be begun as soon as plans can be drawn up.

The board of pardons recommended commutation of the death sentence imposed upon James B. Gentry for the murder of A. J. Madge, to imprisonment for life. Governor Hastings approved the recommendation. Gentry was to have been hanged Thursday.

PENNSYLVANIA LEGISLATURE.

April 19.—Senator Durham introduced an insurance bill, which is a counterpart of the Lytle insurance bill, which was defeated in the house. At the request of Senator Grady, the senate refused to sustain the veto of the resolution providing for the attendance of the legislature at the Grand monument ceremonies in New York. The governor had vetoed the resolution because the house had requested him to do so. The senate adjourned until tomorrow.

The direct inheritance bill passed the house to-night by a vote of 104 to 42, or one more than a constitutional majority. The bill was prepared by Deputy Attorney Etkin. It taxes all direct inheritances of \$5,000 and over 2 per cent. The measure will be rushed through the Senate. It will raise a revenue of \$1,600,000.

April 20.—The senate session opened very peacefully this morning. The bill licensing and regulating clubs, with the license fee fixed at \$300, passed second reading. A resolution was adopted prohibiting the circulating of petitions for senators during the session, except when presented during the session was adopted, and then the senate adjourned until tomorrow morning.

The Stewart bill, providing for payment of 2 per cent interest on state deposits, passed the House finally, with not a single negative vote. The measure provides that \$500,000 may be deposited by the state treasurer in three active banks, one each in Philadelphia, Harrisburg and Pittsburg, on which he shall receive 1 per cent interest on daily balances. Other state depositories are required to pay 2 per cent. The senate bill for the inspection of sweat shops, by the factory department, passed finally.

April 21.—A great mass of bills were acted upon, some of them of great importance. The bill presented by the Allegheny city authorities to change the Penn law classifying real estate for purposes of taxation was passed, then reconsidered to permit amendments to be inserted. Senator "Wes" Thomas moved to indefinitely postpone the capital removal bill, providing for Philadelphia as the seat of the state government. This kills this movement.

After a long fight of several weeks, the house finally disposed of the game and fish commission bill to-day, passing it by a decisive vote. The success of this act is a great victory for sportsmen.

April 22.—The following bills passed finally: An act to amend section six of the act entitled "A further supplement to the act regulating elections in this Commonwealth," approved the 30th day of January, 1874, amended by the act entitled "An act to amend section six of the act regulating elections in this Commonwealth," approved the 20th day of January, 1874, extending the power of the several Courts of Common Pleas of the Commonwealth to appoint election officers in certain cases.

An act to regulate the employment and provide for the health and safety of persons employed where clothing, cigars, pipes and certain other articles are made or partially made, and that said articles be made under clean and healthful conditions. An act defining libel and its punishment. This bill was passed and adjourned until next Wednesday evening.

April 23.—A resolution by Mr. Reinhard to have the bill to repeal the railroad calamity act of 1868 placed on the calendar was defeated. The first reading calendar was then taken up and occupied the house up to the time of adjournment at 12 o'clock. The House then adjourned until Wednesday afternoon at 3 o'clock.

CONGRESSIONAL.

Abstract of the Important Measures in Both Houses.

April 19.—The senate passed the Indian appropriation bill to-day. It is a substantial improvement if it passed on to the occasion little division save on the amendment opening the Uncompagne Indian reservation. Resolutions of inquiry were agreed to asking the secretary of state as to the operation of the reciprocity treaties made under McKinley and Mr. Vest introduced his resolution declaring illegal the recent order of the secretary of the treasury relative to imports arriving after April 1.

April 20.—Senator Morgan's resolution declaring that a state of war exists in Cuba, was discussed briefly in the Senate to-day, and then went over for a week, owing to the absence of Senator Hale, of Maine, who has been active in opposition. Mr. Morgan again urged the need of speedy action.

April 21.—The passage of the Indian and agricultural bills, the latter without amendment by the senate was reported to the house to-day, and they were laid on the speaker's desk. Mr. Dingley Reps. Me, briefly announced the death of his colleague, Mr. Milliken, since the house last was in session, and moved the adoption of the memorial resolutions of regret and adjournment as a mark of respect.

The resolutions were agreed to, and at 12:10 adjournment until to-morrow was declared. April 22.—In the house to-day Mr. Dainell (Rep. Pa.) presented a report from the committee on rules, making it in order, until the appropriation bills shall have been finally acted upon, to consider senate amendments to them without reference to a committee.

This provoked a discussion, the notable feature of which was the effort of Representative Richardson (Dem., Tenn.) to advise Mr. Bailey, the Democratic leader, as to the effect of desultory debate before the adoption of the previous question which Mr. Dainell had moved. Mr. Bailey informed his associate that he was perfectly well aware of what he was doing and of the effect of it upon parliamentary situation. The president-to-day sent to the senate the following nominations: Herold M. Sewell, of Maine, to be minister to Hawaii; Assistant Surgeon E. K. Sprague, of New Jersey, to be a passed assistant surgeon in the marine hospital service of the United States. Mr. Sewell is a son of the late Democratic candidate for vice-president.

THE LABOR WORLD.

Japan has 1,000,000 weavers. New York has 1300 horsehoofers. The K. of L. has 41,000 members. America has 157 women bartenders. Brooklyn union carpenters got \$3.25 for eight hours. Cleveland (Ohio) painters average loss than \$400 a year. Wages of Rochester (N. Y.) street car men have been cut ten per cent. Woonsocket (R. I.) weavers returned to work when guaranteed \$1.50 a day. Des Moines unionists will insist upon representation in the Iowa Legislature. Montreal (Canada) bricklayers struck for thirty-five cents an hour and the nine-hour day. Philadelphia carpenters want piecework abolished. They get now \$2.25 to \$2.50 for nine hours. Bell telephone linemen at Annapolis, Ga., struck rather than work with colored men. The latter were discharged. Milwaukee (Wis.) shoe dealers will cooperate with bootblacks in the crusade against free shiners in department stores. The United States Court at Cleveland, Ohio, has ordered striking unionists not to speak to those who have taken their jobs.

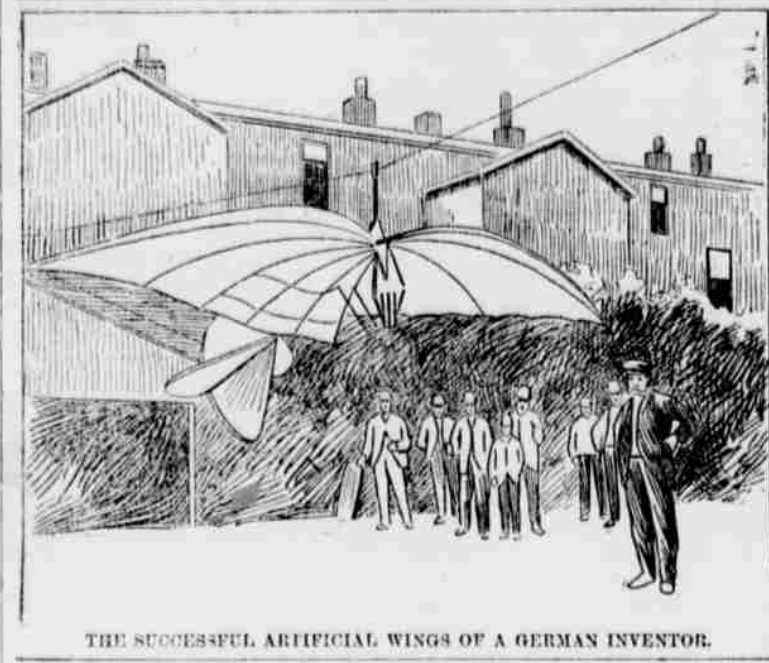
The Barbers' International Union of San Francisco, Cal., has opened a free employment bureau and is making a success of it. A Pittsburg reporter was discharged for refusing to desert an editor of writers. The printers' union threatens to boycott the paper. Five hundred employees of the Kearney & Foote Wire Works, at Paterson, N. J., left their work because they were not granted an increase in wages.

LIKE A BIRD.

A NEW FLYING MACHINE INVENTED BY A GERMAN.

The Inventor Thinks He Has Solved The Problem of Aerial Navigation—Huge Wings Driven By Carbonated Gas.

A BERLIN correspondent of the Pittsburg Dispatch says: Herr Arthur Stentzel, of Altona, believes he has solved the problem of aerial navigation. It has long been the aim of the flying machine enthusiasts to construct something that would practically be the prototype of a bird. It is on this principle that he has constructed his machine. Its two great sections resemble the wings of a gigantic bird more than all else. With them the inventor claims that he can move through the



THE SUCCESSFUL ARTIFICIAL WINGS OF A GERMAN INVENTOR.

air for four or five minutes and alight without injury. Experiments that have been conducted with this newest of flying machines have been undertaken very privately. Experts say that the Altona inventor has shot far nearer the mark in his effort to counterfeit the bird than any of his predecessors in the study of aerial problems.

The wings of the Stentzel machine have a spread of about seven yards, and their surface is eight and two-fifths yards all told. They move through an angle of seventy degrees and are curved according to a parabola in a proportion of one to twelve. Compressed carbonic acid gas is employed as a motive agent, and the machine is driven by an engine also of Herr Stentzel's invention. It is stated that the speed of the engine can be readily controlled so that the machine can fly at varying velocities. The inventor believes that within a year, if he can raise the necessary capital to build a machine on a large enough scale, he will be able to fly above the Kaiser's palace in Berlin.

QUEEREST OF BIRDS.

An Ungainly Apteryx From New Zealand and Its Curious Habits.

The Zoological Society of Regent's Park, London, has recently secured a fine specimen of the queer bird known as the kiwi or apteryx.

This bird, which is a native of New Zealand, has been interesting to scientists ever since the first specimen was captured, nearly one hundred years ago. The use of the long, snipe-like beak was a puzzle for naturalists until Sir W. J. Buller made a study of a kiwi he captured and kept captive while in New Zealand. He took one of the large glow-worms found in New Zealand and threw it to the captive kiwi. By the light of its own lamp the glow-worm was seen to quickly pass from head to tail inside the portals of the kiwi's beak, and leave behind it enough of its slime to set off the bird's beak in a phosphorescent glow so that



the head of the bird was visible in the darkness. The kiwi was torpid and lazy in the daytime, but at night it was seen to dart about, thrusting its illuminated beak in every worm bur-



THE APTERYX.

row it came across, gently feeling for the inhabitant of the burrow and dragging it forth, little by little, taking the greatest care not to break its prey.

A UNIQUE BANNER.

An American Flag Made Entirely of Butterflies. Patriotic Americans have depicted the National flag in all manner of ways



AMERICAN FLAG MADE OF BUTTERFLIES.

with all manner of substances, but, says the New York World, it remained for an Englishman, John Hampson, of Newark, N. J., to make the Stars and Stripes in butterflies.

For four years Mr. Hampson has labored with the delicate little beauties in making his flag, which is about 20x24 inches.

The butterflies and beetles are so arranged as to give the flag the appearance of waving against a background of delicate pink wings.

Mr. Hampson has many cases filled with collections of gaudy colored insects from almost every known land. He has been collecting thirty years.

The biggest fish story of the season comes from North Carolina. Captain Tarleton recently caught in Pamlico River a sturgeon that measured nine and a half feet in length and weighed about three hundred pounds.

Valuable, Because Simple.

For a cold in the head, catarrh and the like, put a few drops of ammonia into the hands. Then make a cup with the two hands and breathe the fumes. This will clear out the throat also. For tonsillitis, or even for diphtheria, it would be difficult to find anything better. It is also very beneficial for croup—though, of course, small children do not know how to breathe it. For the annoying colds in the head which prevail at this time of the year, it will be found effectual. The fumes of ammonia are death to almost all forms of bacteria, and if it were generally used, diphtheria, as an epidemic, would be unknown.—Northwest Magazine.

Florida is agitating the subject of a reformatory for youthful criminals. The newspapers of the State are advocating it.

THE HALL OF A HOUSE.

An Attractive Feature of the Modern Dwelling.

In the furnishing of a modern house the hall constitutes one of the most serious problems, but there is one consolation. If one solves it successfully the hall becomes one of the most attractive features of the entire house. It then ceases to be a mere passageway, and becomes a veritable room, and one which, strangely enough, will be more generally used than almost any other in the house. In the conventional city dwelling, when the hall is long, narrow and dark, with a high



PERSPECTIVE VIEW.

ceiling and a flight of stairs that makes an unbroken sweep to the floor above, very little can be done to give a true artistic effect. If the front door is of solid paneled wood a great improvement will result from replacing the upper panels with glass. This can take the form of a sash of small leaded panes in fanciful design, or a single sheet of plate glass, protected by a neat iron grill. The mistake should never be made of using colored glass unless one can afford a masterpiece of genuine stained glass, for the ordinary so-called "cathedral" glass is crude in color, and an abomination. The hall stand or hat rack, which is often found just within the front door, should be banished to some rear corner, if it is to be tolerated at all, where it will not be so much in evidence. These racks become "catch-alls," and old coats, hats, umbrellas and canes are not at all ornamental. In place of these conveniences a broad hall chair, of formal design, or better still a mahogany settee, will serve every purpose. These should be reserved for the use of casual callers. If there are no convenient closets that can be made for the garments of the members of the household, a neat clothes tree such as are imitated from the antique, will prove a great deal more sightly than the hall racks that are made nowadays. It takes up but little room and can find a place in some rear corner.



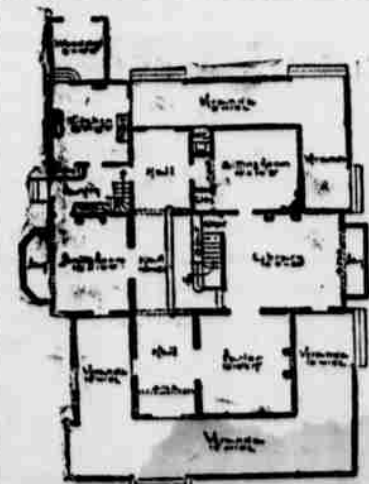
HALL AND STAIRCASE.

Under the best of conditions the hall will be none too light, and this fact should be borne in mind in choosing wall paper and carpet. The furnishings should be in light warm tones, and only the most formal designs are permissible. Few people seem to realize the effectiveness of pictures in the hall. It is customary to hang one or two large frames on the side walls, and allow the long stretch above the stairs to go uncovered. In the latter place pictures are needed, if anywhere in the house, for there is no other way in which the vast wall space can be broken.

All of this has reference to the fitting and furnishing of the ordinary city hall.

In the villa house the architect generally plans a square hall that has all the effects of an ordinary room. There may be windows on the side, an open fireplace, and plenty of contrivances that lend themselves to decorative effect. Here the treatment should be the same as in any other room, with this restriction. The purpose of the hall must never be forgotten. Easy chairs and sofas will not be out of place if they do not detract from the formal character, or do not obstruct free passage. There should never be a profusion of ornaments or bric-a-brac. In a general way the hints as to the city hall apply equally well to one in the suburbs. A hall chair, or settee should be placed in close proximity to the entrance door, and the fittings of the walls and ceilings should be in the light, warm tones.

The design illustrating this article lends itself readily to a most beautiful

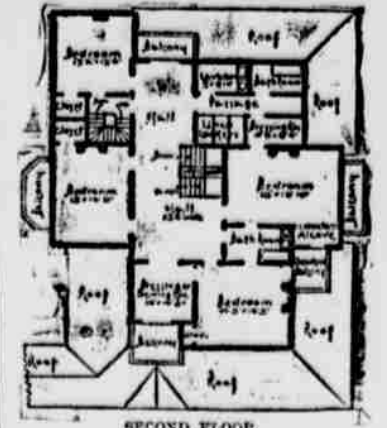


FIRST FLOOR.

fully artistic treatment; the hall is a host in itself. Its ceiling is paneled to represent open timber work, and the walls finished in hard white plaster, with wainscoting four feet high from the floor, above which is tinted with a formal design planted on in

stucco work, representing the fleur-de-lis of France.

The residence is sixty-two feet wide, by seventy-eight feet in depth, the first story being ten feet six inches in



SECOND FLOOR.

height. The arrangement and size of rooms is shown by the floor plans. The sum of \$8405 will build the design, not including the cost of mantels ranges, and heating apparatus. Copyright 1897.

A Strong Snake Story.

The latest snake story comes from South Africa. It is recorded in the Transvaal, published in Cape Town, as cold fact, that in Sekukinland a native ran across a box constrictor measuring about forty-seven feet, which had just swallowed a young koodoo buck, all except the horns. The horns stuck out on each side of the reptile's mouth. The native recognized the horns as those of a buck he owned, and he ran and got sticks and pinned the serpent, which was dormant, to the ground. Then he got hold of the horns and pulled and twisted. He got the buck out inch by inch, until half its body showed, and then it came with a jerk, and the boy fell over on his back. Before he had time to think twice the snake, relieved of his load of mutton, was upon him, and it seized his head in its mouth and in three minutes the native had taken the place of the buck, only he was all inside; there was nothing left out to pull on, even if a rescuer had come along. Having swallowed the boy the box deliberately swung its head around and grabbing its tail swallowed eight feet of it, then closing the mouth and throat down which the native had disappeared, and making escape almost impossible. The Transvaal vouches for the truth of the story.—London Times.

UNCLE SAM'S ORIGINAL ATTIRE.

Somewhat Different From the Modern Figure.

The original Uncle Sam of song and cartoon was so different from the modern figure, with its long striped pantaloons, that our readers will be interested to see the costume as some of the students of history say it should be. In the first place, say these authorities, he should wear a high hat, slightly bell crowned and of felted fur. His shirt should be portrayed with a frilled bosom projecting out, pointer fashion, and generally with a breastpin in it. His shirt collar should be high and connected with his shirt.



His cravat should be wide and tied with a "pudding," as it was termed in former times. The waistcoat should be a buff, single breasted affair, with gold or gilt buttons. The swallow-tailed coat should be made with high rolling collar and high pointed lapels.

The greatest difference between Uncle Sam as he is and as he should be lies in the pantaloons. They should be made with a "trap door" in front and fitted below the knee for the wearing of the boots outside. These boots should have tassels in front. Colored shirts were unknown until about 1820. Striped pantaloons are of a comparatively late date, and straps under the boots were not known until 1825.

They were a part of the pantaloons and were fastened on the boot in front and buttoned under it. Gaiters were not worn until late in the '30's. The accompanying picture shows the correct Uncle Sam of a century ago, but times change and our good uncle with them.

Governor Smith, the new Executive of Montana, advises the amending of the State constitution to provide that the million acres of land owned by the State be not sold, but leased, and that persons residing on these lands be exempt from all taxation on personal property and improvements.