

PENSIONS GRANTED.

Burglars Rob a Deaf and Blind Man—Electric Road from Charleroi to Washington. Prohibitionists Oppose Fusion.

Pensions granted last week: Henry F. Stauffer, McDonald, \$6; David E. Conrad, Houtzdale, \$10; Henry Crimpenshaw, Glade Run, \$6; renewal, Layton Morris, Leetsdale, \$6; increase, William Baker, Sharpsburg, \$12; James D. Leech, McDonald, \$10; Joseph Coty, West Alexander, \$10; Robert L. Marohman, Bridgeville, \$6; George T. Hartrey, Springdale, \$6; Anna E. Brought, Lewisville, \$8; Frederick Deyche, Meadville, \$6; George Shaffer, West End, \$10; Tobias Fisher, Berlin, \$12; Marshall Silbaugh, Hopewell, \$8; Thomas A. Pridcaut, Smith Mill, \$15; William F. Young, McKeesport, \$8; Elizabeth Marshall, Uniontown, \$8.

Elaborate preparations are being made for the convention of the Western Pennsylvania Firemen's Association, to be held at New Kensington, August 14 to 17. The citizens have liberally contributed, and at the present time nearly \$2,500 is in the hands of the treasurer, with considerable more to come in. The reception committee has already filed entrances from companies that will aggregate 3,000 firemen, and the others to be heard from will bring the number to about 4,000. Preparations are being made for the entertainment of fully 25,000 visitors during the convention.

A corps of engineers is at work surveying a route for a railroad from Castle Shannon to a point on the Monongahela & Washington railroad a short distance below Bentleyville, Washington county. The course from Castle Shannon is southeasterly and the region penetrated is a remarkably fertile one, much of it being coal-producing territory. The line is to be about 20 miles in length and it will really be the only short line to Pittsburgh from the Ellsworth coal works in the Somerset field.

One of the largest coal deals ever made by a single individual was recently made by John Kerr, of Greensburg, to J. M. Steck, representing the river coal combine. The block sold contains 50,000 acres, the land optioned being in Amwell, South Franklin, North Franklin, Morris, East and West Finley and Buffalo townships in Washington county and Washington and Morris townships in Greene county.

Some one entered the house of Archibald Black, an old man, who is nearly deaf and blind, living east of Chicora, and stole \$900 in cash, a check for \$5,000 on a Butler bank and some valuable papers from their place of concealment behind a loose brick in the chimney wall. The check was afterwards found in an orchard. A barrel of whisky in the cellar was left untouched.

The Lawrence county commissioners have decided not to pay the \$2,300 asked for by the Perkins detective agency, of Pittsburg, for work in the John Blevins' murder case. The commissioners say that they did not hire the Perkins people, and never in any way authorized them to go to work. The refusal to pay meets with the general approval of the citizens.

Application has been made to the governor by John A. Guiler and E. C. Higbee, of Connelville, and Arthur Lorentz, E. D. Leonard and Hugo Lorentz, of Meyersdale, for a charter for the Meyersdale Brewing Company. Artificial ice-making machinery will also be installed, and it is said the plant will cost over \$20,000.

In a card Harvey Martin, of New Castle, People's party candidate for District Attorney, says: "I am a straight Republican, have never voted for a Democrat, never split my ticket, and do not propose to begin now." He was to have been a fusion candidate for the office and it was expected that the Democrats would endorse him Saturday.

The Prohibition party of Blair county, which numbers an exceptionally large voting part of the population, has come out with an urgent address requesting all members of the party to support their own ticket and platform at the coming general election, and to extend no aid whatsoever to any independent political movements.

A circular has been sent out from the headquarters of the United Mine Workers of America for a convention of organized and unorganized miners to be held in Clearfield on August 9, to devise ways and means for assisting the miners of the Maryland district in prolonging their strike.

While making excavations for a sewer west of Union station, at Pittsburg, workmen came upon a large quantity of heavy sawed timber, put in place the years ago in building a canal lock. The timber was in almost a perfect state of preservation, though it must have been underground for fully 75 years.

Dr. H. R. Brightbill, Saxton, Bedford county, was completely paralyzed by lightning which struck a tree a few yards ahead of him while driving. The horse was transfixed to the spot, and after much effort the animal was made to move. Dr. Brightbill is in a serious condition.

Over 1,200 iron workers employed at the Lebanon works of the American Iron and Steel Manufacturing Company went on strike Tuesday afternoon in consequence of posted notices stating that from August 1 the wages of puddlers would be reduced from \$4 to \$3 a ton.

A movement is on foot to build an electric road from Charleroi to Washington. Charleroi will vote \$75,000 to the proposed road, and it is expected that Washington will subscribe a like amount. It is to run through Ellsworth and over the old National pike to Washington.

The postoffice at Yoders, Washington county, has been discontinued and mail sent to Hackney.

The construction of the big reservoir of the Manufacturers' Water Company, on Quenamahoning creek, which has caused so much excitement in Johnstown, will be a great undertaking. It will require a year's time to finish the work, 400 men being employed.

At Scranton an unknown man attired in woman's clothes finding little Sarah Reese alone in her home, tied her to a chair and cut her hair off close to her head.

The new census report will show that Meadville, including suburbs, has a population of over 10,000. In 1890 the population of the city proper was 9,250.

THE ELECTIONS IN 1900.

OFFICERS BESIDES PRESIDENTIAL ELECTORS TO BE CHOSEN.

The Congressional contests—all but Oregon to elect Representatives—Kentucky's Vacancies—Ticket in Michigan—Early Elections and Their Influence.

All the States of the Union, now forty-five in number, will choose Presidential electors and members of Congress on November 6, except Oregon, whose two Congressmen were chosen on June 4. All the Territories will elect delegates on the same day, and the following State elections will also be held in November:

Connecticut to choose a whole State ticket. Colorado, to choose a successor to the present Democratic Governor and Democratic-Populist State officials. Delaware, a Governor for four years in place of the Democratic incumbent. There is no Lieutenant-Governor in Delaware.

Idaho, a State ticket for two years. Illinois, a State ticket for four years. The present Republican Governor of Illinois is not a candidate for re-election. Indiana, a State ticket for four years. Iowa, a Secretary of State.

Kansas, a Governor and State ticket for two years. Kentucky, through the legal complications arising from the shooting of Senator Goebel, a Governor and a Lieutenant-Governor in place of Beckham, promoted by Goebel's death to the Governorship.

Massachusetts, a complete State ticket for one year. Michigan, a State ticket for two years. The present Governor is an Independent, and his associates in the administration are Republicans.

Missouri, a Governor and State officers, over the election of whom there will be a hard fight. The term of office in Missouri is four years. Montana, a Governor and other State officers now divided between the Clark and the Daly factions of Democrats.

Nebraska, which has a Populist Governor and a Populist-Democratic State administration, will fill all these places, besides choosing legislators who will have the selection of two United States Senators.

New Hampshire, in which a Governor and State officers will be chosen. New York, in which the Governor, Lieutenant-Governor and State officers, as well as both branches of the Legislature, will be voted for.

North Carolina, in which a Governor and all State officers will be elected for the period of four years, and a constitutional amendment be submitted to the voters.

North Dakota, in which a Governor and State officers will be voted for. Ohio, in which a Secretary of State will be the highest official voted for. Pennsylvania, in which two Congressmen-at-large will be chosen.

South Carolina, in which a complete State ticket will be elected for two years. South Dakota, in which a Governor and State officers will be chosen for a like period.

Tennessee, in which a Governor, Treasurer and Auditor will be voted for. There is no Lieutenant-Governor in Tennessee. Texas, in which a whole State ticket will be chosen.

Utah, in which a Governor and State officers will be chosen. Utah has not had a State election since 1895. Washington, in which a Governor and State officers will be elected for four years. The present administration there is Populist.

West Virginia, in which a Governor and State officers will be elected for a like period. The present administration of West Virginia is Republican. Wisconsin, in which a Governor and State officers will be elected.

The States in which there will be no general election for State officers this year are Maryland, Mississippi, Nevada, New Jersey and Virginia. The States which have already held their State elections are Rhode Island, which chose a Governor and State officers in April; Louisiana, which holds its State election in the same month, and Oregon, which voted in June.

The States which are to hold elections this year in advance of the November contest for Presidential electors are Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Maine and Vermont. Alabama chooses its Governor and State officers in August, Arkansas chooses a Governor and State officers in September.

Georgia, in compliance with an old political custom, chooses its Governor and State officers on the first Wednesday of October, a month before the general election. Maine elects a Governor and other State officers (Maine has no Lieutenant-Governor) on the second Monday in September. Vermont chooses in the same month, but a week earlier than Maine, a Governor, Lieutenant-Governor, Secretary of State and Treasurer for the like term of two years, and also two Representatives in Congress.

It is noticeable that all the doubtful and uncertain States have by degrees fallen out of the list of those which hold preliminary elections, and this list now includes only such strong Democratic States as Alabama, Arkansas and Georgia, and such strong Republican States as Maine, Vermont and Rhode Island. By this means the indirect influence of these preliminary elections on the other doubtful States is correspondingly enhanced.

In the year of the last Presidential election, 1896, the State elections were fewer in number than this year. Kentucky had no State election in 1896; neither did Utah. This year's election for members of the House of Representatives will be the last held under the division of districts now existing.

"I'm Sol Woolge," said the man, continuing his feast; "that's who I am."

"And who might Sol Woolge be?" said Letty scornfully. "The man, who had a not unkindly face, gave Letty a knowing wink, which completed her exasperation. "I'm the man in possession," he said. "I thought you mightn't like it mentioned before the servant, miss."

"Miss!" said the young wife, drawing herself up, "I am Mrs. Darrell!" "Beg pardon, ma'am. Of course I didn't know the lady of the party. Well, I'm put in by Mr. Sharp, the landlord, for two-quarters' rent. I'm the broker's man."

"That night the young couple sat long over their meal, which it must be conceded was not a particularly cheerful one. But the tea did Letty good, and Darrell put the best face he could on their present trouble, in order to sustain as much as possible the spirits of his self-reproachful wife.

At last the meal, such as it was, was concluded, and Letty had just risen to ring the bell for the removal of the tea things when the postman's knock resounded through the house. "A letter from father, perhaps," said the young wife dreamily, for she knew how hopeless it was to expect aid from that quarter.

Sally entered with the letter—a large, formal-looking blue document, which Darrell took mechanically. "I do not know the writing," he said; "it looks like a lawyer's letter. Can there be more trouble in store for us?" Letty clasped her hands convulsively together, while her husband opened the letter.

"Oh, Letty, dearest, listen!" And he read: Bedford Row, March 4, 1895.—Sir: We have to acquaint you with the decease of your maternal uncle, Joseph Stuart, of Barbadoes. His will has been since duly proved by the executors.

Our client's will gave us instructions on the realization of his personal estate to hand over to you the sum of £500 out of the proceeds of the sale of certain consols by his executors. That sum having been placed in our hands by those gentlemen we shall have pleasure in handing over the same to you if you will favor us with a call at our office on Thursday next, the 6th inst., between the hours of 10 a. m. and 4 p. m. We are, sir, your obedient servants.

GOLDSTRAW & STOCK. "O Frank, Frank! how providential," exclaimed Letty. "Can such good fortune be true?" "Yes, dear, it is certainly true. I'm sorry for my uncle, though. But still, as I never saw him I cannot be expected to grieve much or to shed crocodile tears at his decease. And now I must go and speak to the broker's man, and then I'll go around to Mr. Sharp at once."

Of course Mr. Sharp (who had been indulgent, but really wanted his money) was appressed by the sight of Messrs. Goldstraw & Stock's letter, and the broker's man was withdrawn that very night.

The severe lesson was not lost upon Letty, who, after all, was a true-hearted, estimable little woman, saving for her one fault—over-love for dress.—Chicago Times-Herald.

Noise Caused by Lightning. "It is singular," remarked a man from New Jersey, who saw from the postoffice the lightning strike the flag-staff of the Tract Society's building, "how the roar of thunder is greater the farther away the bolt strikes, if it strikes anywhere near. Now, that crash," and he nodded at the Tract building, "was like the report of a great gun. If it were nearer it would be sharper, but more like a rifle's crack than of a thirteen-incher."

"Not long ago the lightning struck twice within a few yards of me. I took shelter from rain in at shed out our way. During the storm I saw just outside two prongs of fire dart into the earth, for all the world like a serpent's tongue. Each dart was simultaneous with a sound like the sharp crack of a mighty whip. Then followed a receding roll of thunder that grew greater as it rolled away. That was a hair-raising experience. On other occasions I have seen the lightning strike, but at distances where the sound followed at distinct intervals, and the farther away, as I have said, the greater was the roar."

"I imagine a man struck by lightning doesn't hear any sound at all." This was said as seriously as if the speaker didn't recognize the incongruity of the remark.—New York Mail and Express.

Chinese Interpreted. Kiang and ho—river. Hal—sea. Pe—north. Kin—capital. Si—west. Nan—south. Pol—white. Tsin—place. Tien—heavenly. Chu—pearl. Kow—mouth (of river, as Hankow). Hoang—yellow. Yang—ocean. Tse—son. Fu—provincial department capital. Hien—signifies residence of district official.—Washington Star.

Violin Attachment. An Englishman has designed a novel violin, having its sounding chamber replaced by a small circular drum, from one edge of which projects a metallic bell through which the sound is being mounted over the inner end of the bell.

An Opening For Reform. In Madagascar women are not allowed to pray. The men do it—probably on the theory that they know what they want.

MY FRIEND.

Hunger that ached and famine that craved; Courage the face of the foe that braved; Sorrow that fainted, and shame that blushed; Silence the bitter complaint that hushed—What do they matter? The world goes by, We still have each other, my friend and I, We yet have each other, on sea or shore, Can mortal desire a joy the more? —Harper's Bazar.

Just in Time.

SUPPOSE you want me to look as dowdy as an old Gny Fawkes, then!" said Letty Darrell, pettishly, to her young husband, as they sat over their early breakfast table. "You're always grumbling if I lay out a shilling to make myself look nice."

"Nay, nay, dear, don't say that," replied her husband. "You know quite well I grudge you nothing in reason, and if I could afford it you should have fifty blue dresses, but you spend nearly all our ready money at Tapp & Tabouret's, and an income of £150 a year won't stand that, you know."

"Oh, lecture me well, pray do!" retorted Letty, viciously cracking an egg. "I didn't know I'd married a 'screw' and a Methodist preacher both in one." "Letty," said Frank Darrell, in a hurt tone.

Letty looked a little ashamed. "For the first time in all the years since we married," continued the husband, "we owe both butcher and baker. Our landlord is pressing for money, and two of our lodgers are in arrears. But there, I can't wait to argue the matter with you. Here's the omnibus."

And for the first time since their marriage he departed to the city bank where he was engaged without giving his wife a farewell kiss. Letty silently watched the heavily laden omnibus, bound citywards, until it was out of sight. Then her heart sank.

"He never kissed me!" she sobbed, "and I do love him so!" Then she sat down and dried her eyes, poor loving but wilful young wife.

"I'll just make him a nice little 'toast-in-the-hole' for his tea dinner," she thought, "and as to that horrid blue dress that has caused all this bother, why, I'll let Mrs. Thatcher have it. She offered to give twenty-eight shillings for it, so I shall only lose two, and dear Frank will be pleased, and then—and then—"

And the tears began to roll again down Letty's cheeks, and a tender smile lighted up her face as she thought of her young husband and the little new life that was shortly to brighten up their home.

After her husband was gone she sat still for some little time pondering over the events of the morning. At last a bright idea struck her. "I'll just run around and see Mrs. Thatcher about that unlucky blue dress," she thought.

Mrs. Thatcher was the wife of a young fellow clerk of Frank Darrell's, and who was as thrifty and economical as Letty was careless and extravagant.

No sooner thought than done. Mrs. Darrell arrayed herself in a costume which, however becoming, was, it must be candidly admitted, far too expensive for the wife of a simple bank clerk, and, leaving word with Sally where she was going, set off to pay her visit.

The important affair of the blue dress was settled to the satisfaction of both parties. Letty had never worn it, so Mrs. Thatcher considered she had saved two shillings, and Letty was equally glad to lose two in order to get back the rest of the purchase money.

With the twenty-eight shillings snuggled in her portemonnaie and with a lighter heart she arrived at her own door.

But how great was her consternation when Sally opened it to find that dusty but faithful and hard-working hand-maiden in a state of much excitement, and wiping away the tears from her red cheeks with her grimy apron.

"Why, Sally, what on earth—" began Letty. "But Sally interrupted her. "Oh, if you please, ma'am, here's such a horrid man come into the kitchen and sat down and made himself at home, and says he won't go till he's seen master."

"Impertinent wretch!" cried Letty hotly. "Oh, yes, ma'am, and he's called for bread and cheese and beer, and says as we're bound to give it him." "The man must be mad!" ejaculated Letty.

"N-o, please, ma'am, I don't think he's that," replied Sally. "I—I think there's summat wrong, ma'am." "I think so, too, indeed," said Letty, indignantly. "when people walk into my kitchen and call for refreshments whether I invite them or not. I don't keep a public house."

And into the kitchen she walked followed by Sally. There sat a stout red-faced man of about fifty, eating bread and cheese and drinking beer out of a jug as if he had fasted for a fortnight. He was attired in an old green smocking coat, gaudy waistcoat and drab trousers, and had a coarse red cotton handkerchief round his bull neck. On the table lay a thick stick and a battered wideawake.

"Well, I'm sure!" exclaimed Letty, completely taken aback, "and who may you be, if you please?"

One of the most remarkable evolutions of trade during the last four years has been the tremendous advancement made by the products of our blast furnaces in competition with the English product.

Education is making rapid strides toward solving the Indian problem in this country. The Chickasaws have five colleges and the Greeks 10. The Choctaws have no colleges, but have 190 common schools in which the higher branches are taught. The expense of educating the Indians is borne by the federal government.

Great Britain produced nearly three-fourths of the new shipping built last year. The exact figures, which include the war vessels, are: For the world, 2,247,538 tons, of which Great Britain constructed 1,763,914 tons. The United States is credited with a trifle less than one-eighth, and the rest of the world with a little more than one-eighth.

A bill which goes into effect in Massachusetts, January, 1901, provides for the purchase of from 1500 to 2500 acres in some tract, at a cost of not over \$25,000 and the expenditure of not over \$50,000 is permitted for the erection of buildings for the dwellings of the insane. Thus there will be a state colony of the insane, living in small numbers in separate cottages. It is expected that the albedodded insane will be set to work on land, as they are able to do, and this will be better for them than being kept in comparative idleness.

The present lord chancellor of England has come in for a rare piece of good luck. According to historical usage, a new great seal is minted when a new sovereign comes to the throne, the old one becoming the property of the lord chancellor of the day. It has, however, come to pass among other results of the Queen's long reign that the great seal is so worn out as to necessitate a new one. The order for it was given some time ago, and the work is now completed. Thus, for the first time in more than three-score years a great seal, with all the historical associations connected with it, reverts to the ownership of a private individual.

The cotton manufacturing industry of the south is today the dominant business of the region; it is developing as no other industry in America has ever developed; it is recognized by the farmers, as well as by the banker and the merchant, as essential to the highest development of the commercial, financial and agricultural interests in the south. It represents an investment of nearly \$150,000,000 against \$61,000,000 ten years ago. In its growth the southern farmer sees the creation of towns and cities, which furnish a home market for all his diversified products and a home market for his cotton in competition with foreign and New England buyers, and always to his profit. The laboring element sees in the growth of cotton mills the rapid increase in the demand for operatives, so that tens of thousands of people who have heretofore been compelled to live in idleness by reason of the lack of employment now find steady and profitable work in cotton mills, while the merchant and the banker see in it a broad expansion of southern trade and a vast increase in the wealth of this section, observes the New York Sun.

In speaking of literature as a career for the ambitious aspirant in the world of letters, the New York Times says: "Style is the man." It is not the boy. It is the reflex of the mature mind, the embodiment of thought which no longer stumbles, but walks with sure feet, and makes for itself a broad and beautiful path of words. Let those who are wondering why their effusions do not burst into print at once stop and consider whether they really have anything particular to say and then whether they have any particular way of saying it. There are more persons with something to say (perhaps not something immortal, but still worth saying), than there are with a genuine mastery of literary expression. The latter does not come by nature; neither does it come with experience. It comes only by practice, and not an easy practice at that. It was that most literary of all recent writers, Robert Louis Stevenson, who said that the man not willing to spend a whole afternoon in search of the right word to express an idea was unfit for the business of literature.

"Style is the man," but the man tried out. Let disappointed aspirants consider that.