THE CORDAGE TRUST. Boone, Jr., Brooklyn; Joseph C. Todd, Pater son, and John Good, Brooklyn.

### HOW IT EXTORTS ENORMOUS PROF ITS BY COMBINATIONS.

It Is Protected-A Long Struggl Force in the Independent Manufac

turers-All Now in One-Large Dividends and \$1,000,000 Surplus. Hemp and its substitutes-manilla,

Hemp and its substitutes-manilla, sisal grass and jute-constitute the raw material of two important industries, those of cordage and bagging manufac-tive. The most important of these is the cordage industry, which comprises the production of all classes of ship and other cordage, rope and binding twine. It is seldom that these products are manufactured in separate establish-ments. Nearly all the materials used are imported, and the establishments in the industry are quite widely diversified throughout the country. A scheme to organic trust would have been consid-ered impossible several years ago. Now, however, after the people have become accessfue accomplishment excites little comment. The duties on the material and on

The duties on the material and on dage and twine are as follows:

Specific. Cts. per lb.	equivalent. Per cent.
Manilla Free	
Sisal grass Free	
Jute Free	
Binding twine 7 1-10	17
Hemp cordage 21/2	28
Manilla cordage 116	16
Jute cordage 11/2	16
Tarred cordage 3	28

Intervention of the state of the second seco lyn. The trust, as thus constituted, suc

tioned above: George C. Pooley & Sons, Buffalo; Xenia Twine and Cordage com-pany, Xenia, O.; J. Rink's Sons, Easton, Pa., and the Akron Twine and Cordage company, Akron, O. In addition to these it controlled by contract the fol-lowing: Victoria Cordage company, Dayton, Ky.; H. R. Lewis & Co. and Baumgardner, Woodward & Co., Phila-delphia; the New York Cordage com-pany, New York; the Atlas Cordage com-pany, New York; the Atlas Cordage com-pany, New York, the Atlas Cordage com-pany, New Yorkan, and Randall Good-ale & Co., Boston. Having thus successfully accom-

Having thus successfully accom-plished its reorganization, the trust pro-ceeded to take steps to acquire other properties. In 1891 its secured control of the eleven cordage factories in Canada, which are it accomplete projections. In root it secured control of the eleven cordage factories in Canada, which gave it a complete monopoly of the industry there. At the same time the trust secured options on several of the outside establishments in this coun-try, and in order to provide funds for the purchase of these it corganized the Security Corporation of New Jersey, to which it turned over its options. It was agreed that this corporation should ac-quire a majority control of as many in-dependent plants as possible and then lease them to the trust. The first move on the part of this annex to the trust was the negotiation of a mortgage for \$6,000,000 on the properties already ac-quired and to be acquired. The trust then arranged a lease of these properties at an annual rendal of \$900,000 prever, being a payment of 6 per cent. per an-

In addition to the forty-five concerns mentioned above, the trust claims the control of four others, making a total of forty-nine properties.

control of four others, making a total of forty-nine properties. At the time of its organization, in 1887, the trust announced as the object sought by its formation an increase in the profits to be derived from a lower cost of materials by the removal of compe-tition in the market and from the econ-omies to be derived from a decrease in the cost of production. It was asserted time and again that no attempt would be made to raise the prices of its fin-ished products. The claims were repeated at the time claims were repeated at the time Th

The claims were repeated at the time of the reorganization as a corporation, and finally in February last in the an-nual report to the stockholders in the following terms, "Through these ad-vantages secured by the control of many mills and their management under one direction, the company hopes to be en-abled to secure an increased margin of its product to the consumer." Has the trust up to the present car-ried out its promise, or if not, is there any likelihood that it will do so in the future?

future? In the following table is shown the

any likelihood that it will do so in the future? In the following table is shown the average yearly price per pound since 1885 of the raw material and finished product. The articles, the prices of which are given, are manilla hemp and manilla cordage seven-sizteenths of an inch in dinameter and larger: 1886. 1887. 1888. 1890. 1891. Cta. Cts. Cts. Cts. Cts. Wib. 9 lb. 9 lb. 9 lb. 9 lb. 9 lb. Manila.... 1.26 1.15 1.45.7 1.56 2.94 for discussion of the source of the work men, and the whole job will be completed in formarket by a combination of the crop, but chiefly to the smisleading without explanation. The high prices of the raw materials prevailing in 1889 were in part due to the shortage of the trop, but chiefly to the manipulation of the market by a combination began to corner the product with such corn plete success that during a large part of the trust was able to keep up the price of cordage to the high aver-ages shown for 1889 and. The difference between a the trust was able to keep up the succeeded in working of the whole at which the trust was able to keep up the price of cordage to the high aver-ages shown for 1889 and. The difference between the price of the finished product and the trust was able to keep up the succeeded in working of the whole stock on hand. The difference between the price of the finished product and the trust was able to keep up the price of cordage to the high aver-ages shown for 1889 and. This shows that the trust was able to keep up the price of the finished product and the raw material for 1890, as shown above, was about the actual average difference in 1889 also. This shows that the trust was able to keep up the price of the finished product and the trust succeeded in making enormal profits entirely at the expense of the cont sumers. The reduction of the price of the cord age in 1891 was made for a purpose. The reduction of the price of the cord age in 1891 was made for a purpose. The reduction of the price of the cord age in 1891 was made for a purpose. The reduction of t

sumers. The reduction of the price of the cord-The reduction of the price of the cord-age in 1891 was made for a purpose. During the whole year the trust was negotiating for the control of the inde-pendent establishments and its success depended upon its ability to force these outsiders to terms. For had the trust kept prices up the outside establishments would have refused to join the trust, or would have held out for more favorable tarms then they requil would have refused to join the trust, or would have held out for more favorable terms than they would have been will-ing to accept under other circumstances. By October, 1891, the trust had so far succeeded in securing control of the competing mills that it was able to ad-vance prices again. As a result the price of cordage has been raised from  $8\frac{3}{4}$  cents per pound to the present price of  $11\frac{1}{4}$  cents per pound. And this ad-vance has been made directly in the face of a declining market for the manilla for shipment is  $6\frac{3}{4}$  and 7 cents per pound. The difference between this price and that of the finished product is therefore 4.38 cents per pound. The promise made by the trust that the increased profits which it hoped to secure from organiza-tion would not be at the expense of the consumer has been completely forgot-ten. In spite of the fact that the Cordage The amalgamation of the American Association and the National League dropped many of the professional favor-ties into the Eastern League. Freeman will play in the latter organization this season, having signed to throw for Troy, (N. Y.) Club.

(N. Y.) Club. Lansford is ready for action again, so is Tamaqua, Pottsville and New Boston. The people of the former town expected to have an enclosed ground this year, but it has fallen through. The League championship season opened on Tuesday. Jennings started off his first game with one assist and one error. off his first game with one assist and one error. Jeansville opens the season at Cata-sauqua on April 29. The team this year has Brady, Anderson and Kee, of Fitts-burg. The Sopies met at South Heberton on Monday evening and decided to place a club on the diamond this year. Managers of clubs and secretaries of as-sociations are reducted to send their base ball items to the TRUEVS office. Any matters of public interest will be cheer-fully published. Lehighton's prospects of being in the race this year are rather gloomy, although a club can be organized there if a good manager is procured. There is some talk of a combination club between Mauch Chunk and Lehighton. Freeland will put a strong team in the error In spite of the fact that the Cordage trust engaged in open war during the whole of last year with the independent manufactories for the purpose of forc-ing them into the trust, it was able to make very large profits. During the fiscal year ending Oct. 31, 1931, the trust made a profit of \$1,406,313, which enabled it to declare dividends of 8 per cent, on the preferred and 9 per cent, on the com-mon stock, and at the same time left a balance of \$106,813.

preferred and 9 per cent. on the com-mon stock, and at the same time left a balance of  $\sharp 106, 313$ . As a result of the higher prices since October the financial director of the trust felt justified in making the follow-ing report for the quarter ending Jan. 31 hast: "It is very difficult at this time to give an accurate estimate of the profits of the business for the quarter ending Jan. 31. I feel safe in stating, however, that after deducting expenses, rentals and all fixed charges, these profits will be found sufficient to pay the entire an-nual dividend of  $\frac{1}{4}400,000$  on the pre-ferred stock and a quarterly dividend of  $\frac{3250,000}{100}$  on the common stock, besides leaving a large surplus." Should this rate of earnings be continued through-out the year the trust will be able to pay the dividend of 8 per cent. on the preferred stock, 12 per cent, on the com-mon stock and have  $\frac{3}{1},000,000$  besides to be added to the large surplus earned during the past quarter, which latter will be increased 300 per cent. Mauch Chunk and Lehighton. Freeland will put a strong team in the field this year. A large amount has been subscribed to repair the fence and grounds. The business men of Freeland know that a good ball team will attract people to their town. The Tigers will also be on hand this season with a strong team. James Ferry is manager—Lans-ford Record. Weekly Coal Report.

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## BASE BALL.

The Freeland Base Ball Association held a meeting this week to make pre-parations for the coming season. The meeting was attended by almost every member, and all were heartily in favor of placing in the field the best talent that can be obtained to represent the town. The association reorganized by the election of the following officers: Manager-P. H. Hanlon. President-John J. McNelis. Recording Sceretary-F. P. Mallov.

Imager-P, H. Hanion. President-John J. McNelis. Recording Secretary-F. P. Malloy. Financial Secretary-F. P. Malloy. Financial Secretary-F. P. Malloy. Trasteer-O. J. Boyle. Trustees-Datiel Boner, James Bren-man, Patrick Sweeney. The soliciting committee reported they had collected \$145.06, and had the names of the donators and their amounts pub-lished. A vote of thanks was passed to all who nad subscribed to the fund. Since the last issue F. P. Malloy had contributed \$2, making the total \$147.06. In addition to this sum, which is now being used to repair the fence and grounds, a heavy levy has been made upon every stockholder, and this must be paid immediately under penalty of expulsion. The money obtained by this levy will be used in equipping the club and procuring the necessary material to commence the season. A force of men began work at the park on Monday morning, under direction of Francis Brennan. The lower corners of the fence are being changed consider-ably, and will form a semi-circle, instead of being square as formerly. This will be quite an improvement. The grand during the wort to the ground during teand which went to the ground during William Hess, of Butler, was taken to the county jail on Monday, charged with an assault upon the daughter of James Shive, proprietor of the Tunnel Hotel, Butler. The county prison has 66 inmates. Of this number 22 males are serveing sen-tence, 36 awaiting trial, 1 under sentence of death; 4 females serving sentence and 3 awaiting trial.

Hazleton is a city now, yet reports tell she has not the facilities for caring for a few delegates to a firemen's convention. A case of a boy in men's trousers.— *Pottsville Journal*.

STATE NEWS.

A big ice factory is being erected at Weissport. The company building it expects to have it in running order by June. The plant will have a capacity of forty tons of ice per day.

Hazleton's macaroni factory is now al-most ready for business. The enterprise will employ about fifteen men and as many more girls. The building, machin-ery, etc., costs about \$15,000.

ery, etc., costs about \$10,000. Mrs. Thoma Evans, of Georgetown, near Wilkes-Barre, cut her throat with a table knife ou Monday. She will prob-ably die. A quarrel with her husband was the cause of the rash act.

Lansford's second annual eistedfod will be held at the Opera House in that place to-morrow. The prizes offered are large and it is expected that a number of choirs and individuals will compete. The large Mosier breaker near Pittston was totally destroyed by fire. The breaker was condemned by the mine in-spector and had been abandoned for some months. The loss is about \$8,000. Flymouth's postmaster has returned from Washington with news to the effect that free delivery for Plymouth has been refused. The reason given is that the postoffice revenue is now fully appropri-ated.

The Hazleton Liberty Cornet Band, which was the only band present at Lee's surrender to Grant, at Appamatox, April 9, 1865, celebrated the memorable event on Saturday evening. Charles Altmiller is now the only active member of the band who was there.

Michael Curry, aged 50, of Port Griffith, committed suicide last week by blowing himself to pieces by exploding three sticks of dynamite. He had been recently released from jail after a three months' sentence for threatening to kill various members of his family.

Cub can be securely kept. The Upper Lehigh Base Ball Associa-tion met on Tuesday evening and orga-nized for the season as follows: Manager-D. J. Boyle. President-Albert Leisenring. Vice President-Evan Goulden. Secretary-D. J. Boyle. Treasure-Dr. H. M. Neale. Directors-John Powell, Paul Dash, Evan R. Jones. Umpire-James Brogan. The best talent the town contains will be selected for the team, and Upper Le-high will be prepared to meet all comers in a few weeks. Shickshinny has a new weekly paper, the *Democrat*. It has started out well, and, as its name implies, will be an ex-ponent of Democratic principles. We wish its editor, Deemer Beidleman, all possible success in his efforts to spread the doctrine of absolute free trade.

The proprietors of the silk mill at Weatherly seem inclined to build a branch mill probably at Hazleton. Weatherly is unable to supply the required number of hands to run the mill there, and many reside in surround-ing districts and go and come by rail to work.

work. The Scranton jury in the suit for dam-ages growing out of the Mud Run disaster arrived at a verdict. Michael Walsh who asked the jury to award him \$50,000 will have to content bimself with \$550. The Lehigh Valley Company is satisfied with the verdict, but Walsh will make an ef-fort to get a new trial.

fort to get a new trial. Frederick Phillips, of Stroudsburg, has been a sufferer of great pain in the stom-ach for years. The doctors told him that he had indigestion. Phillips thought that there was an animal in his stomach. The other day he took a dose of medicine and a lizard, full-grown and five inches in length, was ejected.

J. M. Stauffer and R. J. Wear, of Beaver Meadow, have leased the Penrose estate, which extends from Spring Mountain, east of Beaver Meadow, to near the Lumber Yard, for the purpose of cutting and sawing timber. The tract consists of one thousand acres, and a new mill will be built at Hazle Creek Bridge.

Pennsylvania Solid for Cleveland.

Pennsylvania Solid for Cleveland. The sixty-four delegates to Chicago will act as a unit in the National Demo-cratic Convention, and their sixty-four votes will be cast solidly for Grover Cleveland. Below is a brief report of the State Convention, which met at Harris-burg yesterday: The report of the committee on credentials seated all the administration delegates, ignor-ing the claims of the "antis." A minority re-port was presented, but the majority report was adopted. Senator Ross was made perma-nent chairman. The platform was adopted as presented. After a substitute for the second section had been offered and defeated. Chris-topher Heytrick, of Venango, who was ap-pointed by Governor Pattison to succeed the inet Justice Cark, was nominated for Judge of the Supreme Court by acclamation; George A. Allen, of Frie, and Mayor Thomas P. Merrit, of Reading, were named as candidate-larged

## PERSONAL.

The grand jury has recommended the enlargement of the old one or the build-ing of a new court house for Luzerne County. Several people from here attended the funeral of James Brennan, of Mt. Pleas-ant, on Saturday. He was a cousin of Manus Brennan, of Freeland. Pat Gilmore's famous band of New York will give a concert for the benefit of the Ninth Regiment on Tuesday eve-ning at Wilkes-Barre. Micheal Connell and sister, of Beaver Meadow, was circulating among friends in Highland on Sunday.

Miss. Sarah McGinty, of Hazleton, was here the early part of the week, en-joying a visit among lady friends.

The Hazleton Opera House has been leased for next season by John Gough and Hugh Dever, two well known busi-ness men of that place. Frank Johnson, of Allegheny City, is in town this week. He came to attend the funeral of his aunt, Mrs. John Mel-

George Hess, of Conyngham, spent : ew hours with relatives in town on Sun day

Hugh McGlynn, of Hazleton, was mong the vistors here this week. Joseph Lindsay, Jr. formerly of this place, has been appointed post master at Gowen.

Mrs. Jos. P. McDonald left yesterday afternoon for a visit to New York and Philadelphia.

James O'Donnell, of Allentown, was among the Sunday visitors here,

John J. Johnson and daughters Han-nah and Dolly, of Beaver Meadow, at-tended the funeral of Mr. Johnson's sister, Mrs. John Mellon.

William Schmidt, who is pursuing a course of study at Mulhenburg College is home on a short vacation.

Miss Nellie White, who was spending a few weeks with Miss Annie Quigely, returned yesterday to her home in Chi-cago. cago.

Miss Celia Brennan went on an extend ed trip yesterday to visit relatives in Bristol, Pa.

Postmaster Fowler made a business trip to Philadelphia on Tuesday.

William Olewine, of Hazleton, was in town yesterday on business. John Mellon, of Bethlehem, is in town as the guest of Daniel Boner.

Edward Murphy is now proprietor of the livery stable of Phil J. Ferry, of Hazleton. His business here is being conducted by his brother, Bernard, of Wilkes-Barre.

Jos. Gallagher, of Drifton, is now coal aspector for Coxe Bros. & Co. at Lattimer

James McDonald, of Villanova College, and Miss Mame McDonald, of St. Cecelia's Academy, Scranton, will spend Easter Sunday with their parents here. Jos. Birkbeck, of Wilkes-Barre, made a business trip to this place yesterday.

W. J. Goyne, draughtsman for Coxe Bros. & Co. at Drifton, has accepted a position at Felipe, Mexico.

HIGHLAND NOTES.

Miss Mary Gallagher left on Friday last for Philadelphia. James Lawson, of South Heberton, noved his household goods to Highland

moved his on Friday Mr. Michael Connell and sister Annie of Beaver Meadow, visited friends or Sunday

unday.

Sunday. Philip Wackley, James Sweency and Charles Watkins report having a good time at Oneida last week. The house of Thos. J. Boyle was visited on Friday night by a young boarder. Both mother and son are doing well. JOSEPH NEUBURGER'S BRICK STORE, CENTRE ST., FREELAND.

John Maloney removed to Oneida or Friday. We Are Headquarters

Friday. Quite a large number of houses in town are vacant at present. Neil Gallagher is suffering with a sprained leg. James Gallagher, who was hurt some time ago, is able to be around again. The breakers have suspended work until Monday. JAMES BOYS. S

"Protection to American Labor."

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"Protection to American Labor." Notices have been posted at all the iron furnaces at New Castle, stating that there will be a reduction of wages, to take effect on April 17. The turn men will be reduced 15 cents, the day labores 10 cents, and the iron men § of a cent per pound. The wages of the puddlers at McIlvaine & Sons' plate mill, at Reading, were on Saturday reduced from \$3.75 to \$3.50 per ton. It is announ-ced that Seyferts' two rolling mills, em-ploying 300 hands, five miles below Read-ng, will close down indefinitely. Notice was given to the employes of the Phenix Iron Company, at Phenix-ville, that work would be suspended in all departments. This suspension af-fects 1000 men.

Subscribe for the TRIBUNE.

Miss A. R. O'Donnell. FASHIONABLE

DRESS MAKING. H

Cor. Front and Washington Streets, Freeland C. O. Μ. 22

50 M.

It has been in use for more than twenty years; over fifty thousand patients have been treated, and over one thousand physicians have used it, and recommend it—a very significant fact. It is agreeable to inhale. There is no nause-ous taste nor efforcement, nor sidering smell.

We are prepared to do roofing and spouting in the most improved manner and at reasonable rates. We have the choicest line of miners' goods in Freeland. Our mining oil, selling at 20, 25 and 30 cents per gallon, cannot be surpassed. Samples sent to anyone on application. Fishing Tackle and

ous taste, nor after-taste, nor sickening smell. Send for our book on Compound Oxygen, its history, nature and results; a book of 20 pages sent free. It contains numerous testimonials from chronic patients and those given over by physicians. You will also find it an interesting book. Any substance made elsewhere, or by any others than Drs. Starkey & Palen, 189 Arch Street, and called Compound Oxygen, is spuri-ous.

Drs. STARKEY & PALEN,

1529 Arch St., Philadelphia, Pa. 130 Sutter St., San Francisco, Cal. CENTRE STREET,

REMOVAL SALE ! REMOVAL SALE

As we are preparing to remove to the large and com-modius store room in the new P. O. S. of A. Building, above where we are now located, and wanting to move as few goods as possible, we are now selling our entire stock at prices lower than ever before. Good infants' shoes - - - 20 "children's shoes - - - 50 20 cents per pair.

misses snoes -		-		-	75			
" boys' lace shoes	-		-	-	85	"	"	
" ladies' shoes -		-		-	85	"	"	
Boys' best mining shoe	es	-	-		- 95		"	
Men's "		-			-	\$1.05	per par	ir.
" fine dress shoes, l	ace	ar	nd a	con	gress	1.25		
" best oum boots	-	-		-	-	200	"	

And our entire stock of boots and shoes will go at prices less than the cost of manufacture.

## DRY GOODS DEPARTMENT.

Best skirt lining..... 4 cts per yd | 40-cent Henrietta cloth reduced to......25 cts per yd Best light calico..... 4 " " Good 1-yard-wide muslin.. 5 " " 56-inch all-wool cloth, which Good apron gingham ..... 5 " " was sold at 50 cents is Best indigo blue calico..... 6 " " Columbian, best cheviot... 7 " " 54-inch-wide all-wool broad-Good double-width cashcloth has been reduced 

### NOTION DEPARTMENT.

5 pair men's seamless half hose -25 cents Spring roller window shades -Best table oil cloth - - -- 25 cents each 20 cents per yard 25 cents each - - -All goods in our various lines of

CLOTHING,

# LADIES' AND GENTS' FURNISHING GOODS.

Hats, Caps, Trunks, Valises, Notions, Etc.

PRICES LOWER THAN EVER.

Call at our old stand before we move, as this is an opportunity which you should not let go by without securing some of the great bargains.

And Hardware of Every Description.

REPAIRING DONE ON SHORT NOTICE.

BIRKBECK'S,

Sporting Goods.

FREELAND, PA.

Othello

Ranges,

Heater

3.00