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FREELAND, PA., DECEMBER 19, 1900.

**BREVITIES.**

Manufacturers of birch beer have been detected cutting down birch trees in Van Cortlandt park, New York, to get the bark to flavor the liquor with.  
 A brisk trade in fox skins is springing up between France and Italy. The latter last year exported 4,000, mostly from about Rome. Foxes are plentiful in Italy.  
 There is considerable money in the lakes in the shape of meat. In the Lake Erie fisheries 3,728 men are employed and \$2,719,654 capital. Last year's catch was valued at \$1,150,800.  
 It is reported on high authority that the petroleum industries of Roumania have made great progress of late and that if transportation becomes cheaper and better this country will be a formidable competitor of America and Russia.

Until the middle of the last century cavalry deployments were by two right angle turns, and when the diagonal march was adopted instead of making the diagonal by a half turn of each horse the movement was by the whole troop or unit.

Kaffir beer is made from Indian corn, which is worked into a pulp with wooden stampers. Sufficient sugar and water are added, and the climate does the rest. When the beer is ready, every but will receive its share, and a certain quantity will be put aside for the "beer drink," a sorry but a gigantic kind of feast.

The British Women's Emigration society offers free passage to Western Australia and profitable places when they have arrived there to good, strong domestic servants. But it advises servants who are seeking light places, with no scrubbing, a regular evening out as well as all day Sundays, to bide by the mother country.

MM. Desgrès and Balthazard state that they have discovered a method of regenerating air in confined spaces. They have submitted to the Academy of Sciences aluminium diving dresses weighing 25 pounds. They state that the diver can move in this suit for hours under water without drawing air from the surface. The principal regenerating agent seems to be sodium dioxides.

Extending from north to south, India-China covers 14 degrees, necessarily including a wide variety of climate. In the southern provinces the year is divided into two seasons, wet and dry. In Tonkin and Annam the four western seasons prevail, with the difference that the heat attains an intensity unknown in Europe and the climate is so debilitating as to unfit Europeans for manual labor.

In England a lamp-post has been introduced which combines a fire hydrant, tap and fire alarm box. The hydrant can be used for fire alarm purposes, filling water carts and for street flushing, while the small tap can be used by an individual for domestic water supply. There is a water meter and siphon at the bottom, by which the water is shut off from the hydrant, thus preventing it from freezing.

Over the greater part of the New England coast the supply of clams has suddenly diminished to an extent which has become alarming. Extensive areas which four or five years ago produced great numbers of clams are now practically barren. The explanation is simply that the demand has increased at such a rate that too large a number of the natural "seed" clams have been removed, and extinction suddenly follows.

Members of the building trades, architects, builders and influential citizens in New York city have organized the Work Together club. The object is to promote harmonious relations between employers and employees by bringing about reforms directly affecting the building trades. This organization will from time to time make appeals for the indorsement of measures for the protection of workmen engaged in the construction and alteration of buildings.

Sunday is a great day for poor people, and not extremely poor people either, for indulging in street car rides. Not so very many years ago it was impossible for a man in moderate circumstances, one who could not afford to hire a vehicle and take his family out for an airing on a lovely afternoon either on pay day or any day, to have that pleasure. Now he can take the whole family equipment, including the cook and nurse maid, on a country excursion that will cost him a trifle compared with the same expense a quarter of a century ago.

**THE LEADERS IN THE COMING STRUGGLE**

**Graphic Pen Pictures of the Men of Three Parties Who Will Conduct Affairs At Harrisburg.**

**STRIKING ROMANCES IN REAL LIFE.**

**How These Leaders Rose From the Ranks to Positions of Command.**

**Their Characteristics and Traits as Seen Apart From Partisanship—Life Stories and Struggles of Men Whose Names Are Political Household Words.**

The approaching session of the Pennsylvania legislature promises to be one of the most interesting held in recent years. In addition to the work of electing a United States senator a great deal of important legislation will come before it.

The real work of a session, its arrangement and direction, is always in the hands of a few men who are leaders by virtue of selection, experience or natural ability. The coming session will be no exception to this established rule, the only difference being that with three parties in the field there will be a greater display of ability, sagacity and generalship than has ever been seen in the history of house or senate.

The three parties referred to are the "Stalwart" Republicans, the "Independent" Republicans, and the Democrats. A study of the field on the eve of the assembling indicates that the active leadership in each of these parties will devolve upon a very few men. They will be generals, and a study of the men at the head of each division indicates that this leadership will be in most competent hands.

A conspicuous feature in the lives of this handful of men is that with one or two exceptions they have carved their way to political, professional or financial eminence by hard work. They are men from the ranks, and, therefore, best fitted to direct and lead.

The following sketch of their lives is purely biographical, and has been prepared without partisan bias. These leaders are described as they appear in social life, and to those who know them best.

**Commissioner Durham.**

On the part of the "Stalwart" Republicans State Insurance Commissioner Israel W. Durham, ex-state senator, ex-magistrate of Philadelphia, stands as the undisputed head of that element in Philadelphia. Commissioner Durham is 44 years of age, having been born Oct. 24, 1856. He comes of an old Quaker City family, and in personal appearance is of medium height and build, light mustache and complexion and a slight tendency to stoutness.

In a personal and social way Commissioner Durham is one of the most affable and companionable of men, whose most striking characteristic is his perfect frankness. In his political affiliations this trait is marked, together with a disposition to grasp all the details of a situation at once and act accordingly. The secret of Commissioner Durham's success is his affability, his frankness and his thorough knowledge of Philadelphia, where he has spent all his life. The companionable traits of Mr. Durham's nature attract and hold men.

Whatever Israel W. Durham has achieved in politics is due entirely to his own efforts, backed by an indomitable will. Immediately on graduating from the Philadelphia high school he learned the brickmaking trade, which he deserted to enter the flour and feed business. His popularity led to his entrance into politics, and in 1885, when not yet 30 years of age, he was elected by the Republicans one of the police magistrates of Philadelphia. He was re-elected in 1890, but declined a third nomination.

He became a state senator in 1897, when he was elected from the Sixth district, with practically no opposition, to fill the unexpired term of his personal friend, Hon. Boies Penrose, who had been elected United States senator. In 1888 Mr. Durham was a delegate to the Republican national convention at Chicago, and from this time dates his rise from ward politics into the broader domain of city and state politics. It was largely due to Mr. Durham that State Senator Penrose was chosen a United States senator in '97, and in each legislative session since 1895 Commissioner Durham has been a potent factor in protecting and directing the interests of Hon. M. S. Quay and the stalwart element of the Republican party.

He was one of the first of the state leaders to espouse the cause of Hon. William A. Stone as a gubernatorial candidate, and so earnestly and effectively did he work for success that he was rewarded by Governor Stone with appointment as State Insurance Commissioner.

In the legislative session of 1899 the fact was universally recognized that the mainspring of the Quay contest at that session had its power in the personality of Israel W. Durham and John P. Elklin. In the approaching session these two men will occupy the place of leadership at the head of the "Stal-

wart" column. Commissioner Durham is a bachelor.

**Attorney General Elklin.**

Attorney General John P. Elklin, another of the "Stalwart" Republican leaders, comes of distinguished parentage. He is the son of the man, Francis Elklin, who erected and operated the first tin plate mill in the United States. This was at Wellsville, O., in 1874, and Attorney General Elklin, then a lad of 14, was one of the first helpers employed around this establishment, which was the forerunner of one of the greatest of America's industries.

Attorney General Elklin is a stalwart in appearance as well as in principle. He is six feet high and built in proportion. He is a fluent, graceful talker, with a turn for the practical and exact rather than for the eloquent in public address. His home is in Indiana, where his political and official duties cannot win him from a fireside whose adornment is a wife, two young daughters and a son.

John P. Elklin is of Scotch-Irish ancestry. He was educated in the public schools, and graduated from the Indiana Normal school. He was a school teacher at 15 years of age. In 1882 he entered the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor, and two years later, in 1884, he was graduated with honor from its law department. In the same year, on his return to Pennsylvania, he was called to the bar of Indiana county, and in the fall election was chosen one of Indiana's representatives to the legislature of 1885. At this time he was but 24 years of age, one of the youngest men who had ever sat in the house.

The vigor of youth inspired him to conspicuous efforts at this session, and in 1887 he was re-elected and made chairman of the important Committee on Constitutional Reform. Among the many positions of trust and honor in politics and out of it which he has held was that of chairman of the Republican state convention which nominated Gregg and Morrison in 1891; for years was president of the Indiana school board; is a member of the board of trustees of the Indiana Normal school; president of the Farmers' bank of Indiana and Deputy Attorney General of Pennsylvania for nearly three years under Attorney General McCormick.

He was chairman of the Republican State Committee through three campaigns, leading his party to victory, and immediately upon his induction into office Governor Stone appointed him Attorney General, which position he has held ever since. In his personal contact with men of all classes Attorney General Elklin is an agreeable, pleasant voiced gentleman of kindly impulses and unaffected manner. He is a staunch partisan and personal friend of Hon. M. S. Quay, his only son being named Stanley Quay Elklin.

**United States Senator Penrose.**

An unwritten law in American politics is that the representative of any party from any state in the senate of the United States is regarded as the titular head of that party in that state. By reason of his position, therefore, of his youth and of his friendships United States Senator Boies Penrose is regarded as one of the men who will exert a potent influence in deciding questions that must come before the next legislature, so far as his party is concerned. From his first entrance into the political arena Senator Penrose has been identified with the stalwarts, or what has later been designated the Quay element in the Republican party. Of illustrious ancestry, the founders of his family have been identified with the government of Pennsylvania since the days of Penn. Through the Biddles, Thomases and Penroses he has inherited an Americanism stretching through six generations.

Boies Penrose entered Harvard at the early age of 16, and graduated with high honors in 1881. He was born Nov. 1, 1860, at 1331 Spruce street, the house in which he still resides when in Philadelphia. His father was R. A. F. Penrose, M. D., LL. D. Since 1885 the tall, strongly built form of Boies Penrose has been a familiar one in Harrisburg, where he served successively as member of the house in 1885 and member of the state senate from 1886 to 1896.

By profession Senator Penrose is a lawyer, having studied under Wayne MacVagh and George Tucker Bishop, being admitted to the Philadelphia bar in 1883. In connection with his law partner, Mr. Allison, he is the author of "A History of the City Government of Philadelphia, 1681-1887" and a "History of Ground Rents in Philadelphia." He was elected to the United States senate to succeed J. Donald Cameron in 1896, and today is Pennsylv-

ania's only representative in that distinguished body.

The marked characteristic of Senator Penrose's public life is his fluency and command of language in his public utterances. He is one of the most polished speakers that ever sat in the State Senate of Pennsylvania. He also is a bachelor.

**Col. James M. Guffey.**

The controlling power in Democratic councils at Harrisburg the coming session will be, just as he was last session, Col. James M. Guffey, Democratic National Committeeman from Pennsylvania, and the recognized head of the party in this state. The story of Col. Guffey's life has been one of the largest oil producer in the United States, but employs more men in his gold and silver mining operations in Idaho than any single individual.

Col. Guffey comes from one of the oldest families in Pennsylvania. On his mother's side he is descended from the historic Clan Campbell of Scotland, while on his paternal side the Guffey family has for generations past been prominent in the Shire of Lanark in the Scottish lowlands. The first Guffey arrived in this country in 1738, settled in Philadelphia and subsequently penetrated the then wilderness to what is now Westmoreland county, where he established the first English settlement in that county and the second west of the Alleghenies.

James M. Guffey passed his early days on his father's farm and attending the district school. At the age of 18 he became a clerk in the superintendent's office of the Louisville and Nashville railroad, at Louisville, Ky. He subsequently resigned to accept a more responsible position at Ashville, Tenn., with the Adams Express company. It was while here that his attention was directed to the new and wonderful oil fields of his native state. He returned to Pennsylvania and immediately entered upon a career as a producer and operator which has had few parallels in the phenomenal story of the oil regions.

Within a few years his operations covered five counties. He drilled the celebrated Matthews well, one of the greatest of its time. When the discovery of natural gas was made he entered the field with the same success that had attended him in the oil region. Then he branched out in the development of coal areas in Pennsylvania and West Virginia, and this was followed by his venture into gold and silver mining in Idaho and Colorado. He is president of the Trade Dollar Mining and Milling company, of Silver City, Idaho. The town of Guffey in that state is named after him.

Col. Guffey, in connection with his brother, the late Sheriff John M. Guffey, of Westmoreland county, has always taken an interest in politics. At the Democratic state committee meeting in August, 1897, Col. Guffey was elected a member of the Democratic national committee from Pennsylvania, which position he has held ever since. It is the only office in the gift of his party that he has held, and he has repeatedly declared that he is not a candidate for any other office.

The striking feature of Col. Guffey's political career has been his control of men. He is a keen student of human nature and reads men intuitively. To this fact and the wide experience of his life in the business world is due the remarkable hold he has upon his party and its leaders. Col. Guffey's is a striking figure. He is tall and slender, with wavy gray hair and iron gray mustache. His features are clear cut and expressive. In manner he is quick, instantly grasping a point, a ready conversationalist, and one of the most agreeable of men. He resides with his wife and four children in a beautiful home in the East End of Pittsburg. His hospitality and benefactions are the dominating features of his social life. He is a prominent member of the Manhattan club of New York, the Duquesne club of Pittsburg, a trustee of Washington and Jefferson college and of many other social and educational institutions. Col. Guffey has just completed his 60th year of life.

**State Senator Flinn.**

The element of the Republican party which goes under the various names of "Independent," "Insurgent" and "Anti-Quay" Republicans has as its recognized head State Senator William Flinn, of Pittsburg, the representative of Harrisburg of the Forty-fourth senatorial district. Senator Flinn is a living exemplification of what brains, energy and self reliance can do for the man who starts in life with ambition and a common school education.

Senator Flinn today stands high on the list of men in Pittsburg who have made great fortunes in great enterprises. In personal appearance he is of fine physique, six feet tall, with hair and mustache just turning gray, who looks at the world with keen eyes through gaudy ruffled spectacles, and whose most conspicuous feature is a square, firmly set lower jaw, indicative of character and firmness.

Every man has some marked peculiarity, and that of Senator Flinn is directness coupled with decision. He goes straight to the heart of a question, settles it and dismisses it to take up the next problem. He is a high type of the business man in politics. Beginning life as an apprentice to the trade of brass finishing and gas and steam fittings, by his own efforts he has become one of the largest contractors in the country, being at the head of the Booth & Flinn company, Incorporated, of Pittsburg.

Senator Flinn was born at Manchester, England, on May 6, 1851, of Irish parentage. His parents removed to Pittsburg in the year of his birth, and since that time he has made his home in the "Smoky City." While a young man he began taking an active interest in politics, soon rose to be a precinct leader, then the controller of his ward, and later the head of the Republican

organization in Pittsburg, having occupied for the past 18 years the responsible position of chairman of the Republican city committee.

His first venture into the legislative whirl was the session of 1879, and he was re-elected to the session of 1881. In 1890 he was first chosen to represent his district in the state senate. In 1894 he was re-elected with practically no opposition, and two years ago for the third time he received an overwhelming majority. For twenty years past Senator Flinn has attended as a delegate every state convention, and since 1884 has been a delegate to every national convention of the Republican party.

His years of service in house and senate, and as a presiding officer at conventions and in committees, has made Senator Flinn one of the best parliamentarians in public life. On the floor of the senate he expresses himself with ease, fluency and precision of grammatical utterance. In debate he is forcible and convincing. He has none of the small virtues of men, and resides with his family in a beautiful home in the east end of Pittsburg. His elder son, a graduate of Yale, is the associate of his father in his business enterprises.

**State Senator Martin.**

At the head of the allied Independent Republican forces in Philadelphia is State Senator David Martin, a Philadelphia of Scotch-Irish ancestry, the son of a farmer and a Republican from his birth. Senator Martin was elected a member of the executive committee of the Republican party at a convention in 1896, and continued in that position for 32 consecutive years. He has been Sergeant-at-Arms of the House of Representatives at Washington, a delegate to all the state conventions for 28 years, except two, and served four years as a member of the Republican National Committee. The other offices that Senator Martin has filled with credit to himself and his party are those of Mercantile Appraiser for five years, Collector of Internal Revenue for the Ninth district for two years and Secretary of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for nearly two years.

At the national convention of 1896 he was one of the six Pennsylvania delegates who voted for Major McKinley, declining to join the rest of the delegation in voting for Senator Quay for president. He was a delegate to the national convention at Minneapolis and also a delegate to the national convention of 1888 which nominated Harrison for president.

The senatorial district which Mr. Martin represents gave him the distinction two years ago of the largest majority ever given a senatorial candidate in the state, he having defeated the Democratic nominee by over 21,000 votes in a poll of about 37,000.

Senator Martin holds a high place in the councils of the Independent Republican organization, as his position in Philadelphia entitles him to such distinction. His manner is not effusive, and though agreeable and entertaining in private conversation he carefully chooses his words in discussing affairs of state or politics.

As a farmer's son, his love for country life has always remained supreme, and he resides with his wife, sister and brother-in-law, the latter, William J. Honey, Receiver of Taxes of Philadelphia, on the old farm in a beautiful modern mansion near Holmesburg, Philadelphia, where the hospitality of himself and his wife are proverbial. Of late Senator Martin has come to the front as a public speaker when occasion demanded it, and at such times has expressed himself with clarity and force. Senator Martin is 56 years of age.

**Secretary Van Valkenburg.**

For nearly four years the executive management of the affairs of the Business Men's Republican League of Pennsylvania and its Philadelphia branch has been under the personal direction of its secretary, Frederick A. Van Valkenburg. He was prominently identified with the senatorial contest in the legislature two years ago, was one of the directing powers in the John F. A. Van Valkenburg, Wanamaker senatorial contest at Harrisburg four years ago, and will be in charge of the League's work in connection with the coming session. Associated with him will be Hon. A. D. Fetterolf, former chief clerk of the house and one of the independent leaders of eastern Pennsylvania.

Mr. Van Valkenburg is one of the youngest men in active politics in the state, having been born April 3, 1867, in Tioga county. He comes of an old family and revolutionary ancestry. The only office he has ever held was that of assistant postmaster at Wellsboro in 1890 and 1892. He is a man of medium height, stoutly built, of jovial disposition and with a keen sense of humor. Prior to his entrance into state politics he had been active in Tioga county Republican affairs.

Politics, however, do not engross all his time, for he is general manager of the Bangor Star State company, and is identified with the development of the now famous Tioga county oil fields. Prior to his election as secretary of the Business Men's League he was a contractor for iron and steel highway bridges. The peculiarity about Mr. Van Valkenburg is that he has no desire to hold office and would not accept political preferment, as he has frequently declared.

He is a part owner of the Wellsboro Republican-Advocate. He lives at the Manufacturers' club, in Philadelphia, and is noted for his collection of curios and editions De Luxe of rare works. This is the only hobby he indulges in. He is one of the best known of the younger club men in Philadelphia. Like all men who exercise executive or directing power in politics or business, he is straightforward in his utterances and does not leave anybody in doubt as to his ideas on any subject. His friends are carefully selected and are of the kind who are steadfast under all circumstances.

**RAILROAD TIMETABLES.**

**LEHIGH VALLEY RAILROAD.**  
 November 25, 1900.  
**ARRANGEMENT OF PASSENGER TRAINS.**

LEAVE FREELAND.

6 12 a m	for Weatherly, Mauch Chunk, Allentown, Bethlehem, Easton, Philadelphia and New York.
7 40 a m	for Sandy Run, White Haven, Wilkes-Barre, Hazleton and Scranton.
8 18 a m	for Hazleton, Mahanoy City, Shenandoah, Ashland, Weatherly, Mauch Chunk, Allentown, Bethlehem, Easton, Philadelphia and New York.
9 30 a m	for Hazleton, Mahanoy City, Shenandoah, Mt. Carmel, Shamokin and Pottsville.
12 14 p m	for Sandy Run, White Haven, Wilkes-Barre, Scranton and all points west.
1 20 p m	for Weatherly, Mauch Chunk, Allentown, Bethlehem, Easton, Philadelphia and New York.
4 42 p m	for Hazleton, Mahanoy City, Shenandoah, Mt. Carmel, Shamokin and Pottsville, Weatherly, Mauch Chunk, Allentown, Bethlehem, Easton, Philadelphia and New York.
6 34 p m	for Sandy Run, White Haven, Wilkes-Barre, Scranton and all points west.
7 29 p m	for Hazleton, Mahanoy City, Shenandoah, Mt. Carmel and Shamokin.
7 40 a m	from Weatherly, Pottsville, Ashland, Shenandoah, Mahanoy City and Hazleton.
9 17 a m	from Philadelphia, Easton, Bethlehem, Allentown, Mauch Chunk, Weatherly, Hazleton, Mahanoy City, Shenandoah, Mt. Carmel, Shamokin and Pottsville.
9 30 a m	from Scranton, Wilkes-Barre and White Haven.
12 14 p m	from Pottsville, Shamokin, Mt. Carmel, Shenandoah, Mahanoy City and Hazleton.
1 12 p m	from New York, Philadelphia, Easton, Bethlehem, Allentown, Mauch Chunk and Weatherly.
4 42 p m	from Scranton, Wilkes-Barre and White Haven.
6 34 p m	from New York, Philadelphia, Easton, Bethlehem, Allentown, Mauch Chunk, Mahanoy City and Hazleton.
7 29 p m	from Scranton, Wilkes-Barre and White Haven.

For further information inquire of Ticket Agents, **AIRY AT FREELAND.**  
**HOLLIN H. WILLIAMS**, General Superintendent, 26 Cortlandt street, New York City.  
**CHAS. S. LEEH**, Chief Conductor, 538 E. 9th st., New York City.  
**26 Cortlandt Street**, New York City.  
**J. T. KEITH**, Division Superintendent, Hazleton, Pa.

**THE DELAWARE, SUEQUHANNA AND SHERIFF KILL RAILROAD.**

Time table in effect April 18, 1897.  
 Trains leave Drifton for Jedd, Eckley, Hazle Brook, Stockton, Beaver Meadow Road, Hazle and Hazleton Junction at 3:30, 6:00 a.m., daily except Sunday; and 7:00 a.m., 2:30 p.m., Sunday.  
 Trains leave Drifton for Harwood, Cranberry, Tomhickon and Deringer at 5:30, 8:00 a.m., daily except Sunday; and 7:00 a.m., 2:30 p.m., Sunday.  
 Trains leave Drifton for Onedia Junction, Harwood Road, Humboldt Road, Onedia and Shepton at 6:00 a.m., daily except Sunday; and 7:00 a.m., 2:30 p.m., Sunday.  
 Trains leave Deringer for Tomhickon, Cranberry, Harwood, Hazleton Junction and Onedia at 2:30, 5:40 p.m., daily except Sunday; and 3:30, 6:00 p.m., Sunday.  
 Trains leave Shepton for Beaver Meadow Road, Stockton, Hazle Brook, Eckley, Jedd and Drifton at 5:22 p.m., daily, except Sunday; and 8:11 a.m., 3:11 p.m., 8:11 p.m., Sunday.  
 Trains leave Hazleton Junction for Beaver Meadow Road, Stockton, Hazle Brook, Eckley, Jedd and Drifton at 5:10 a.m., 5:40 p.m., Sunday.  
 All trains connect at Hazleton Junction with electric cars for Pottsville, Shamokin and other points on the Traction Company's line.  
 Trains leaving Drifton at 5:30, 6:00 a.m. make connection at Deringer with P. R. R. trains for Wilkes-Barre, Sunbury, Harrisburg and points west.  
 For the accommodation of passengers at way stations between Hazleton Junction and Deringer, a train will leave the former point at 3:50 p.m., daily, except Sunday, arriving at Deringer at 5:00 p.m.

LUTHER C. SMITH, Superintendent.

**A LUNATIC'S WRIT.**

As Horace Mann sat in his study one evening an insane man rushed into the room and after abusing him for all kinds of fancied grievances challenged him to a fight.

Mr. Mann replied: "My dear fellow, it would give me a great pleasure to accommodate you, but I can't do it, the odds are so unfair. I am a Mann by name and a man by nature—two against one! It would never do to fight."

The insane man answered: "Come ahead. I am a man and a man beside myself. Let us four have a fight."

**Don't Be Slow.**

If a child is "slow" around home and takes an hour to dress when only a quarter of that time is necessary, it is a bad habit. The "slow" men and women are those who fail to make a success of life. How often you see grown people tinker about something a half a day that could be done in an hour! They learned the habit as children.—*Atchison Globe.*

**An Insultion.**

Lawyer (examining witness)—Where was your maid at the time?  
 Lady—In my boudoir, arranging my hair.  
 Lawyer—And were you there also?  
 Lady (indignantly)—Sir!—Exchange.

The men-of-war of the Romans had a crew of about 225 men, of which 174 were oarsmen working on three decks. The speed of these vessels was about six miles an hour in fair weather.

**Attacked by a Turtle.**

John Fisher of Romney, W. Va., while following his outline in the south branch of the Potomac, landed two turtles, the larger weighing about 40 pounds. In lifting the latter turtle to the boat the hook broke, and the turtle at once began an attack on Fisher, chasing him from one end of the boat to the other. He had nothing to defend himself with except a paddle. The battle lasted ten minutes, the turtle hissing and showing great viciousness. It finally got back into the water.—*Washington Post.*

**Pensioners' Widows Long Lived.**

No pensioner of the Revolutionary war survives. The last one died in 1869 at the age of 100, but last year there were and doubtless still are four Revolutionary widows on the pension rolls, none of them older than 96. Pensioners' widows make little of the lapse of centuries. Judging by precedent it is not improbable that 150 years from now there will still be widows drawing pensions on account of the services of their husbands in our late war with Spain.—*Harper's Weekly.*