'Tis said where ignorance is bliss
It is but folly to be wise.
'Tis only in a case like this
Men may THE CRITIC's light despise.

THE WASHINGTON CRITIC

Truth's at the bottom of a well,
The thought all hearts would pain,
Were not THE CRITIC at the rope
To hoist her up again.

21ST YEAR---No. 6,453. WASHINGTON, THURSDAY EVENING, APRIL 11, 1889. PRICE TWO CENTS

A PRETTY SCENE.

THE WHITE HOUSE INVADED BY SCHOOL GIRLS.

They Roam Through the Mansion and are Highly Complimented by the President—Some of the Callers at the Executive Mansion—Rather an Uneventful Day.

Four Senators formed the vanguard of an array of office-hunters at the White House this morning, and as they came out of the the library in single file they were encountered by a number of constituents who wanted to know what luck. Senator Hiscock removed his derby hat and meditatively ran his fingers through his long gray curly hair, but could not give the desired information, and in this he was ably seconded by Messrs. Stewart, Cullom and Plumb, consequently it was a very dispirited throng that heard the unwelcome tidings that progress was very slow in the President's sanctum so far as offices were concerned.

A colored applicant, who has been a patient watcher and waiter for a foreign appointment, voiced the sentiments of the throng when he stated that the "physical year" would end in a couple of months and alleviate considerable physical suffering.

A PARTY OF SCHOOL GIRLS.

There was a break in the monotony of official routine shortly after noon, when a party of blushing school girls from Texas called to pay their respects to the Chief Magistrate. Business was suspended for awhile, and the President greeted his visitors in the most cordial manner possible and especially after the leader of the party had declared that they did not want an office for anybody. They made a very careful inspection of the appointments of the octagonal-shaped room, and the oak desk at which the President sits was not suffered to remain undisturbed.

"It looks just like our professor's table," said one young lady, "when compositions are handed in for his inspection." "This is one of the pleasantest delegations I have received," was the response of the President, and this sally made all the girls titter, and some of the more progressive immediately pulled out their note-books and jotted down the remark for future reference.

A few office-hunters eyed the roguish young ladies as they filed out of the library, and there was a wistful look in some of the candidates' faces, as though they would like to have their cause championed by such bright-looking advocates.

The Representatives who saw the President to-day were Messrs. McComas, Owen, Wallace, Anderson, Houk, Burton, Henderson, Thomas, Grosvenor, Bliss and Springer and the other callers were Edward Gurney Toronto; H. O. Marsh of New Jersey, and Miss Marsh; L. E. P. Dennis of Maryland, Harrett H. Smith, J. M. Odell and W. S. Odell, Thos. F. Purnell, of Texas; Gen. E. A. Carmen, D. C. Anthony, of Indiana; C. C. Tucker, Kansas; General Goff and West Virginia friends; Representative Taylor with W. M. Baxter of Tennessee; J. V. McDuffie and G. H. Craig of Alabama; Col. H. C. Parsons of Natural Bridge, Va., and Benjamin F. Hardell of Louisiana.

THE COURT RECORD.

EQUITY COURT—Justice Cox.—Bohrer vs. Otterback; payments by receivers directed. Freedman's S. and T. Company vs. Cranford; certain funds and credits condemned. Whelan vs. Young; Thomas Kinney allowed to become party complainant. Dorsey vs. Posey: H. B. Moulton appointed guardian ad litem, and testimony before R. L. Wallach, examiner, ordered taken. Williams vs. Williams; testimony before W. Herbert Smith ordered taken.

COURT IN GENERAL TERM—Justice Hagner.—Gessford vs. Fraser; argued.

CRIMINAL COURT — Justice Bradley.—Charles Wilson, larceny from the person; defendant committed. Wm. B. Moore, alias Brooky Moore, grand larceny; recognizance $300 taken.

CIRCUIT COURT, DIV. 2—Justice Montgomery.—Venable & Heyman vs. McGuire; verdict for defendant. Tyler vs. Rutherford; on trial.

Skipped to Ireland.

GRAND RAPIDS, MICH., April 11.—Quite a sensation was created here yesterday by the reception of a cablegram by Father Pulcher of St. James Church, from a priest in Ireland, asking if John Rock and Annie Crane could be legally married in Ireland. Annie Crane was, until she left for Ireland about the 1st of March, a table waitress at the Eagle Hotel, and up to about the first of the year Rock had been night clerk. It was noticed during his stay at the hotel that he seemed infatuated with the girl, although he had with him, during his employment at the hotel, his wife, an estimable woman, whom he married eight years ago. After leaving the hotel Rock and his wife went back to Hastings, and he remained there until about the time the Crane girl started to visit Ireland, when he left Hastings and nothing more was heard of him until the cablegram to-day gave a trace of his whereabouts.

Building Permits Issued.

Permits were issued to-day by the Building Inspector as follows:

Martha Parsons, M street and New Hampshire avenue, six brick dwellings, at a cost of $3,000; C. W. Gurles, southeast corner Thirty-first and H streets, four brick dwellings, at a cost o $18,000; A. Richards, 306 South Capitol street, four brick dwellings, at a cost o $11,000; O. E. Daff, 326 B street, southwest, brick dwelling, at a cost of $1,475; Clift & Fanington, 1434 Chapin street northwest, two brick dwellings, at a cost of $7,000; August Nough, 440 Eighth street southwest, one brick dwelling, at a cost of $1,250; Joseph Williamson, 41 College Hill, two brick dwellings, at a cost of $7,000.

"Why?"

Why is THE CRITIC the people's paper? Because its columns are always open to them for communications on matters of current import or calling attention to public evils or abuses.

Two Assaults Charged.

Charles Foley was up in the Police Court to-day on two charges of assault, one on Thomas Kane and another on Officer Wannell. The assault on Kane was with a knife, but Foley said that he could not do less and be anything of a man after what Kane had said about his sister. Judge Miller could not take the law which makes no provisions for such a case into his own hands and fined him $10 for the assault on the officer and required $300 bonds in the other case.

The Eastern Glass-Blowers.

NEW YORK, April 11.—The regular yearly meeting of the Eastern Association of Glass Manufacturers is being held at the Astor House to-day. There is a good attendance of manufacturers from all Eastern points. One of the questions that will be discussed is the relation of the employe to the employer and labor generally.

A Boston Printer Fails.

BOSTON, April 11.—Abraham G. Daniels, printer, 751 Washington street, has gone into insolvency. He owes about $12,000. The assets consist of stock, machinery, fixtures, electric motor, etc.

A postal card sent to this office will secure the regular delivery of THE CRITIC in any part of the city.

Permits Revoked.

The Commissioners at the board meeting to-day revoked the permits some time ago granted the Baltimore and Potomac Railroad for the tracks on Thirteenth street, and also on H street.

MR. PLATT IN WASHINGTON.

He Wants to Find Out Why His Nominations Hang Fire.

WASHINGTON, April 10.—Ex-Senator Platt came quietly to Washington to-night. The cause of his visit is apparently the President's delay in appointing Knapp as Naval Officer and Willis as Surveyor, and the delay appears to be somewhat due to the vigorous fight between Willis and Jacobus.

The President has indicated that a new Public Printer will be appointed about the end of the week. It will probably be either Nicholls of North Carolina, Osborne of California, Helm of Washington, or Childs of Ohio. The case is uncertain. Captain Meredith of Chicago is still in the race, but it is understood that his level will be found at the head of the Bureau of Engraving and Printing. Mr. Burrill of New York, who held the position under Secretary Folger, is a candidate for appointment again, but, with the exception of himself, nobody thinks he has any chance.

General James S. Robinson, Secretary of State of Ohio, is looming up as a likely man to be appointed Minister to Germany. Harold M. Sewell, ex-United States Consul-General to Samoa, who has been in Washington for several days, left to-night for his home in Maine. He will go in a few days with the Commissioners who are to represent the United States in the forthcoming conference at Berlin.

The Buffalonians here expect that Mr. William J. Morgan of the Buffalo *Commercial-Advertiser* will soon be appointed Collector of the Port, as Collector Bissill's commission expires early next month.—[Special to the World.

LATE DEPARTMENT NEWS.

Filling the Offices.

The President and Secretary Windom had a long conference at the Executive Mansion yesterday evening about filling offices in the Treasury Department. They first considered the Comptroller's, and it is understood will next consider the auditors, and so on down through all the other offices whose incumbents are to be changed, Secretary Windom recommending such men as he wants and the President approving or disapproving, and in the latter case deciding upon the new man. It is understood that the President will in this manner first finish up the Treasury Department and then go through the other Departments in the same systematic manner.

The Montana Improvement Company.

Secretary Noble has written a letter to the Attorney-General, requesting him to suspend all action, either civil or criminal, against E. L. Bonner and others, owners of what is known as the Montana Improvement Company, row the Missoula Mercantile Company, and the Northern Pacific Railroad Company for timber trespass in Montana. The amount of lumber involved is placed at 40,000 feet. On March 6, Secretary Noble explains, he asked the Attorney-General to vigorously prosecute these cases, but now, after further consideration, and in view of the fact that the District Attorney for Montana recommended dismissal, he requests suspension until he has the cases further investigated.

The Solicitor-Generalship.

The published report that Colonel Henry F. Duffield of Detroit has been selected for Solicitor-General, Department of Justice, is discredited by many here. Attorney-General Miller says that Solicitor-General Jenks has been requested and had consented to remain in office until the adjournment of the present term of the Supreme Court, the latter part of May. In this connection it is said also that the Attorney-General will appoint Mr. Jenks to take charge of the Government telephone cases.

Naval Promotions.

The records of the Examining Board in the cases of the following officers recommended for promotion have been sent to the President for his action: Passed Assistant Paymaster J. K. Stanton, to be paymaster, and Assistant Paymasters H. R. Sullivan and T. J. Cowle to be passed assistant paymasters. Lieutenant W. W. Gillpatrick and Ensign John G. Quimby have been ordered before the Medical Board for examination for promotion.

Sworn Into Office.

Mr. George Chandler, the new First Assistant Secretary of the Interior Department, to-day took the oath of office and entered actively upon the discharge of his duties. The retiring First Assistant Secretary, Mr. Muldrow, took leave of the Department officials and employes yesterday and last night left for his home in Mississippi.

Ordered to Berlin.

Lieutenant Buckingham, formerly naval attache at Berlin, but now at London, has been ordered to assist the Samoan Commission at Berlin. Lieutenant Parker of the Navy has been ordered to accompany the Commissioners when they sail on the 13th instant.

The Baltimore Docked.

The cruiser Baltimore was docked at Philadelphia on the 9th for the purpose of putting on her propellers, and will probably remain in dock five or six days. Her bottom was a little muddy, but was otherwise in good condition.

Will Return to the Dry Docks.

The commandant of the Norfolk Navy-Yard has informed Secretary Tracy that the Pensacola was taken out of dry dock yesday morning and will be put back again to-day.

Payments on the Cruisers.

Bills for payments on the new cruisers have been approved as follows: Cramp & Sons, $121,500 on the Philadelphia; Union Iron works, $128,520 on the San Francisco.

Assistant Secretary Wharton Qualifies.

William Wharton of Massachusetts, the newly-appointed Assistant Secretary of State, qualified this morning, and assumed the duties of the position at once.

Inspection Board on a Trip.

The Board of Inspection and Survey, of which Admiral Jouett is president, is to be officially present at the celebration at New York on the 30th instant.

War Ships for New York.

The commandant of the New York Navy-Yard has been instructed to send all of the vessels in commission to an anchorage in North River.

Naval Officers Retired.

Paymasters J. R. Carmody and F. H. Henman of the Navy have been placed on the retired list.

"Why?"

Why should the speculator read THE CRITIC daily? Because its stock reports are full and accurate.

Pension Frauds Punished.

The Commissioner of Pensions has been advised as follows: Jerome H. and Willard G. Denslow of Sherman City, Mich., indicted for making forged and fraudulent affidavits in the pension claim of Jerome H. Denslow, have pleaded guilty in the U. S. Court for the Eastern District of Michigan at the present term of said court. They were fined $200 each.

Harry Haighward, alias W. H. Brady, was tried in the same court, on the 8th instant, for falsely pretending to be a Government employe, and, by such means, swindling pensioners. He was sentenced to the Detroit (Mich.) House of Correction for the term of three years.

Church Trustees Elected.

The following have been elected trustees of the Fifteenth-street M. E. Church: F. L. Bickford, Jerome Wise, Bushrod Robinson, J. W. F. Myers, W. M. Clayton, George W. Taylor, L. A. Barr, C. F. Goodno and L. W. Funk.

THE AILANTUS.

WHY THE COMMISSIONERS WILL ABOLISH IT.

Its Objectionable Odor While In Blossom Has Drawn to it the Dislike of All Classes—How This Defect May be Remedied—The Popularity of the Tree Abroad.

For years the press and people, physicians, and even the pulpit have battled with the evil-odored ailantus tree.

Petitions, protests, delegations, recommendations and editorials have been launched against this tree, whose odor is unequaled by anything in nature outside the tree's home, China.

Twenty years ago Congress began the fight that has been waged against it almost unremittingly ever since.

And now we are in a fair way to relief.

Park Commissioners Smith, Saul and Sanders have officially declared the ailantus tree what everybody who ever smelled it always knew it to be, a nuisance.

Health Officer Townshend says it is injurious to health and a nuisance.

The Commissioners set their seal of approval on all this, and it looks as if at last the nausea-exhaling ailantus would become extinct, and Washington people will have a chance to get the wrinkles of disgust straightened out of their noses.

Says Health Officer Townshend: "I don't know of anybody that was ever made sick by the ailantus trees, but I think the odor of the flowers when they are in bloom might be very bad for the health of a person already sick, and whose stomach was already weak. The condition of a person sick of a fever, for instance, might be made very much worse by the odor from an ailantus tree. They are the cause of a great many complaints made to us, but as the odor only lasts ten days or so we cannot do much.

"The law says," read the Doctor, "'That ailantus trees, the flowers of which produce offensive and noxious odors, in bloom, in the cities of Washington and Georgetown, or the more densely populated suburbs of said cities, are hereby declared nuisances injurious to health; and any person maintaining such nuisance, who shall fail, after due notice from this board, to abate the same, shall, upon conviction, be fined not less than five dollars for every such offense.' You see that all we can do is to compel the people who own these trees to abate the nuisance by trimming the flowers from the trees or by cutting down the trees.

"People usually wait until the trees have been in bloom a few days before they complain, and by the time we can serve notice on the owners of the trees or have them arrested the flowers have dropped off and the tree no longer smells bad. Still, there is no doubt that nausea is very often caused by the odor from these trees in bloom, and at such time they are, as the law says, nuisances. But we have no power to say that all the ailantus trees in the city must be cut down. We can only order the tree to be either trimmed of its flowers—if it is in bloom at the time—or else cut down, and if this is not done we can have the owner of the tree arrested. It is the same thing every year, and I expect it will always be. Cutting all the ailantus trees down is out of the question."

FINE SHADE TREES.

"I don't know that I would like to see them all cut down anyway. They are splendid shade trees, and they would be very hard to replace if they were destroyed. Then it is so easy to trim off the flowers, and then there is no odor at all.

"Lots of people in front of whose houses there are ailantus trees refuse to allow them to be cut down. There are some in front of the St. James Hotel that they refused to allow to be cut down last year, and really I wouldn't recommend that they be destroyed."

As Dr. Townshend says, the trees are only in flower ten days or so, and people who live near ailantus trees should not wait too long to make their complaints, because after the flowers drop off the authorities can do nothing, as the law only mentions "ailantus trees in bloom."

WHAT COMMISSIONER SMITH SAYS.

Parking Commissioner Smith said this morning: "I am not an enemy of the ailantus tree, but there has been so much complaint, and as the trees are illegal anyway, the Parking Commissioners recommended that they should be cut down.

"All the ailantus trees in the city, or about all of them, are over twenty years old. Twenty years ago Congress passed a law prohibiting the planting of any more ailantus trees. Perhaps a few have been planted illegally since then, but only a few. The law, like lots of others Congress has made, doesn't amount to much. It says that planting the trees is illegal, but provides no punishment. But as long as it is the law, the ailantus trees should be destroyed. That's the reason for our order.

"But I like the ailantus tree and wish the city was full of them. We should do as the French and Chinese do. There are 50,000 ailantus trees in Paris. Smell? Not a bit. They are what are called 'pollards.' You know that there are two kinds of ailantus trees, the male and female, and it is only the male tree when in bloom that smells bad. In France and China, before the trees first bloom, when they are five or six years old, all blossoms are cut off. The tree grows much faster, spreads out into shape, and as there are no blossoms there is no smell. After this treatment the tree make no attempt to blossom again for three or, perhaps, five years. Then the treatment should be repeated.

"But we have no means to do this here, and so we have condemned them entirely and recommended that they be cut down on the streets whenever we have control over them. But there are two or three times as many ailantus trees on private ground as there are in the streets, and we have no control over them. So you see cutting them off the streets is not going to obliterate the smell entirely."

WHERE THE TREES ARE.

A year or so ago a census of the ailantus trees was made and there were found to be fifty in the public streets and parkings.

There were three on D street northwest, one on G street, three on K street, one on L street, three on D street southwest, between Third and Four-and-a-half streets; two on F street southwest, one on third street southwest, near Maryland avenue; four on Sixth street, near the depot; five out on eighth street northwest, one on Ninth street, two on fourteenth street, two out on Nineteenth street, three on Twenty-first street, and two on Twenty-fourth street; two on Second street, out in Swampoodle; one on east Ninth street, ten along the Avenue west of the Capitol, one on Massachusetts avenue, one on New Jersey avenue and two on East Capitol street.

THE WORK OF EXTERMINATION.

Of these an outraged community has got rid of four since the count was made.

The Central Union Mission succeeded in getting the one in front of their place, on the Avenue, between Ninth and Tenth streets, cut down, and one across the street was razed about the same time.

South Washington wrestled with the three that were on D street and downed two of them.

Captain Taylor complained of one that was on D street northwest, between Second and Third, but was unable to get it cut down. Except the four named these ailantus trees are all very alive and putting out their tender pale green leaves in the gladsome sunshine this afternoon. And in a short while these leaves will be followed by clusters of whitey-green flowers, that will fill the balmy air so full of smell that people will walk blocks out of their way to avoid them.

And people whose houses are near these odoriferous trees will be shunned of men, and the young woman's lover will not call on her until the tree's period of stenchful bloom is over—that is, if the Commissioners fail to have them cut down.

All the cutting down of trees is done by the Parking Commission, and they have not received the order to exterminate the ailantus tree. It is still in the hands of the District Commissioners.

The Parking Commissioners have a gang of about twenty men who can all be put at the good work as soon as the order is given. The foreman of the gang thinks that it would take about two weeks to clear the streets of all the ailantus trees. As they will begin to bloom after a few more warm days there is no time to be lost.

The ailantus trees do not all smell badly, as Mr. Smith says, but the odd part of it all is, that a tree that was female last year and did not smell badly at all, may be male this year and smell as badly as any.

A great equal-rights tree is the ailantus. The blossoms remain on the trees about ten days, but if there are a half dozen of the trees in a square, and they all bloom at different times, the odor is almost as enduring as it is bad. But they say that it is to be cut down, and the District Commissioners have so ordered, and unless the matter gets too badly tangled up in the red tape the fight of two decades against this stenchful variety of tree is likely to eventuate happily soon.

THE SANTA FE DISASTER.

Mrs. Hartt Cannot Recover—Her Indescribable Agony.

CHICAGO, April 11.—The doctors at Mercy Hospital this morning say they have but little hope that Mrs. Hartt, who was injured in the Santa Fe disaster yesterday, will recover. The lady was severely burned on the chest, besides being scalded on the shoulders, forehead and limbs, and she continually suffers the most excruciating agony, notwithstanding the anaesthetics that are constantly administered.

She is a little woman, with a delicate constitution, and those who are attending her say that it will be something unlooked for if she recovers. The other patients, Mr. Hartt, Henry W. Lamb and Brakeman Palmer, are doing as well as can be expected. The remains of the four victims of the collision are still at Undertaker Jordan's.

The railroad officials will attend to the burial of Smith, the cook and the colored porter, and the relatives of Miss Winslow and Harry Hartt are expected to arrive in Chicago from the East this evening or to-morrow morning to take charge of the young lady and boy.

CHICAGO, April 11.—Mrs. Hartt died at the Mercy Hospital at about noon to-day.

M'GUIGAN TESTIFIES.

He Reiterates His Charges as to Workhouse Mismanagement.

McGuigan, the author of the charges against Intendant Stoutenburgh, was the most important witness in the asylum investigation to-day. It was late in the afternoon when he called in answer to a request from the Commissioners, and he had a long interview with Mr. Wheatley regarding the charges he had made. His testimony was in no ways different from the charges he has already made and did not throw any additional light on the matter.

There were a number of other witnesses examined, among them Victor Horsman, who has for some months been the cook at the asylum. The testimony of this man and several other employes rather strengthen the case of Mr. Stoutenburgh. He is confident that he will be exonerated from all blame, and thinks when his testimony is asked for it will clear up all the misty points.

REAL ESTATE.

Transfers Recorded.

Ammon Behrend to Jacob E. Young, lot 18, square 75, $5.

Frederick B. McGuire et al., examiners and trustees, to Amanda E. Dowling, lot 18, square 457, $100.

Mary E. Kellogg to L. C. Williamson, lots 3, 4 and 5, square 502, $16,000.

J. Sprigg Poole to Eliza Stone, sublot 194, square 271, $2,150.

Funeral of Dr. Kidder.

The funeral of the late Dr. Kidder took place to-day from his late home. Rev. Dr. McKim of the Church of the Epiphany officiated. Interment was at Oak Hill. Those in attendance on the services were the leading men in science and letters at the National Capital. The pall-bearers were Dr. James M. Flint, U. S. N.; Mr. G. Brown Goode, Richard Rathbon, Dr. J. S. Billings, U. S. A.; Dr. H. C. Yarrow, Lieutenant George P. Colvoresses, U. S. N.; Captain C. E. Dutton and General A. W. Greely.

Coming Into the Clearing House.

NEW YORK, April 11.—The *Sun* says that the general passenger agents have recommended to the executive committee of the trunk lines, the appointment of Mr. Lucius Tuttle of the Canadian Pacific Railroad as chairman of the passenger committee in place of Mr. Pierson, and that this action is taken to induce the outside roads to come into the clearing house and establish passenger rates on a firm basis.

The President's Trip to New York.

President and Mrs. Harrison will be the guests of the Vice-President and Mrs. Morton during their visit to New York at the Centennial celebration, and after that will go to Rhinebeck, Mr. Morton's country seat, on the Hudson, for a longer stay of rest and recreation. This they decided upon yesterday when they saw that it was impossible for the President to take the rest he greatly needs at this time.

Marriage Licenses.

John R. Newman and Lulu S. Bell; James Williams and Annie Frazier; William F. Young and Lena V. Collins; James A. Dorritee, Baltimore, and Ellen G. Arsher, Loudoun County, Va.; William Washington and Cora Ellis; Jacob J. Decker and Ada Given; William E. G. Thierback and Eliza J. Delano; Charles F. Blundon, city, and Lillie A. Wright.

High License in Delaware.

DOVER, DEL., April 11.—The House yesterday passed the Davis high license bill, which fixes the license fee at $500 for cities of 10,000 inhabitants and over, $300 for towns of 2,000 and over, and $200 for the rural districts. The Senate passed the Donohue constitutional convention bill, which calls for another election on the third Tuesday of May next.

Dispute Over Commissions.

The suit of Tyler & Rutherford against Mary J. Hosack for $232.30, as commission on a real estate transaction, was tried in Judge Montgomery's Court to-day. She had given the property to the firm to sell, reserving the right to find a purchaser herself. She sold the property, but the real estate firm claims that it was through their efforts.

"The Critic" by Carrier.

THE CRITIC is delivered by carrier anywhere in Washington for 25 cents a month. A postal card sent to this office, 943 D street northwest, will receive prompt attention.

General Brady's Condition.

General Thomas J. Brady is reported as getting along very comfortably with his lacerated foot at Providence Hospital this afternoon. It is thought, however, that it will be several weeks before he can walk about as of yore.

Dixey Sued for Divorce.

NEW YORK, April 11.—Henry E. Dixey (Adonis) was served yesterday with papers in a suit for divorce brought by his wife, formerly Ida Glover, on the ground of unfaithfulness.

THE PARNELL PERSECUTION.

What Walsh Reveals of the Secrets of the Government.

NEW YORK, April 11.—Thomas Walsh, one of the men on whose promises of startling revelations and incriminating documents Sir Richard Webster relied to prove his case against Mr. Parnell and his colleagues, is now in this city. He slipped away from London the night before he was wanted, and Mr. Soames, the solicitor, has been looking for him ever since. His story is a remarkable one. Walsh was sentenced in 1882 to seven years imprisonment for sending arms from London to the Irish fenians. He alleged that he was frequently urged while in prison by Scotland Yard officials to give testimony against Mr. Parnell, and that all his assurances to the effect that the Parliamentary leader had nothing to do with him or his work were met by incredulous smiles and offers of a big reward. On his release on "ticket of leave," he says, these offers were renewed and again rejected, but finally, by the advice of a friend, he determined to pretend that he had evidence to give, so as to aid in breaking down the *Times'* case. Mr. Soames, he maintains, sent him to Ireland to hunt up documents, which Walsh assured him were laying round in great abundance. When money ran short he wrote for more and always got it. The thing that softened the heart of the solicitor, says Walsh, was a harmless genuine letter of Mr. Parnell, lent him by a London National Leaguer. He only let Mr. Soames see the signature, and the attorney for the *Times* forthwith made a bargain to pay him 1,000 pounds for a big bundle of such letters. After two trips to Ireland and the receipt of sundry ten-pound notes, Walsh at last had to fix a day for the delivery of the goods. On the night before the day appointed he quietly left for France, paying his fare with Mr. Soames' last ten-pound note, and then came here. He describes Mr. Soames as a man "so steeped in prejudice against the Irish that he is ready to swallow any absurd yarn he hears," and he denies emphatically that he ever told Mr. Soames what the latter swore about his receiving money from Mr. Parnell and Mr. O'Kelly to purchase arms.

A PUNGENT EPISTLE.

Parker and Dwyer Will Appeal to the President.

Messrs. Dwyer and Parker addressed a pungent letter to the Commissioners to-day taking them to task for the delay in carrying out the law regarding the illegal tracks. They say that "it seems that the whole ambition of certain officials is to endeavor to assist the railroad companies in breaking the laws which they are sworn to carry out." They protest against the long delay and say that they will to-day notify the President that the Commissioners attention has been called to the fact that gross violation of laws are knowingly permitted, that they cannot secure a businesslike answer to their letters, that the Commissioners have acknowledged the violation, and now recommend that said violations continue.

DISTRICT GOVERNMENT NOTES.

Mr. C. H. Parker, the real estate agent, in a letter to the Commissioners to-day, calls their attention to an old frame structure on the southwest corner of Sixth and M streets. It is, he says, some distance from the building line, and is located on the parking. He also calls their attention to the condition of M street, between Four-and-a half and Sixth streets southwest, and asks them to expend the appropriation which Congress made for its improvement.

The trustees of the Third Baptist Church have been refunded $23.54, this being the amount of overpaid taxes during the years 1876-77.

Frederick Douglass has written the Commissioners offering them a lot in Anacostia on which to build the proposed new school building. It is just opposite the present structure, and he wants 15 cents per square foot for it.

Captain Lusk has recommended that the attention of the police authorities be called to the law providing for the prevention of the use of hand hose except during authorized hours. These are between 5 and 6 o'clock a. m. and 7 and 8 p. m. He says that the water supply all over the city would be much better if this were properly attended to. He also complains that the number of inspectors in the water department is entirely too small to keep down the evil.

Recalled to Life.

VICTORIA, B. C., April 11.—Mr. Dunsmuir, Premier of British Columbia, has been seriously ill for some days. Yesterday morning he was discovered in a comatose condition, and physicians, when summoned, pronounced him dead. The usual means of restoring respiration were tried, however, and were finally successful. Last evening the patient was much better, and, it is believed, will recover.

Sir Charles' Speech.

LONDON, April 11.—Sir Charles Russell, in his speech before the Parnell Commission to-day, said that the story of the forged letters was a tale of serious and reckless calumny, and the manner of their withdrawal was ungenerous. He said Mr. Parnell's only desire now was to unmask what he believed to be a foul plot to ruin him.

Too Ignorant to be Punished.

WHEELING, W. VA., April 11.—Governor Wilson has pardoned Enos Basham, sentenced to four years imprisonment for grand larceny, on the ground that Basham is not sufficiently intelligent to distinguish right from wrong. Basham declares that he will not accept a pardon on such grounds, and refuses to leave the penitentiary.

Strike Against a Cut in Wages.

PITTSBURG, PA., April 11.—The miners at Hogsett's Lemont coke works struck yesterday against a reduction in their wages. The ovens are being pulled and work will be entirely suspended to-day. Two hundred and fifty men are affected. A similar reduction at Hogsett's, Mount Braddock, Pa., has been accepted by the men.

The French in China.

PARIS, April 11.—An agreement has been made between France and China to connect the China and Tonquin telegraph lines. This will establish communication between Saigon and Pekin.

Mary Feels Better.

QUEENSTOWN, April 11.—Miss Mary Anderson, who is on board the steamer Germanic, which arrived here to-day, says that her trip has done her much good and that she is better than when she left New York.

Mr. Rockefeller's Gift.

CLEVELAND, OHIO, April 11.—It is learned here that when John D. Rockefeller's daughter Bessie was married a short time ago to Charles A. Strong, her father presented her with $1,000,000 in cash.

Mr. Thurman Coming.

COLUMBUS, OHIO, April 11.—Hon. A. G. Thurman left here yesterday for Washington, where he will make an argument in the Bell telephone case in behalf of the Government.

Will Go to Berlin.

John H. Butler, a colored messenger in the State Department, will accompany the Samoan Commission to Berlin as a messenger.

Boulangists to Be Indicted.

PARIS, April 11.—Seventeen Boulangists will be indicted by the Senate. They will deny the Senate's right to try them.

THE TRIAL BEGUN

THE ARMES COURT-MARTIAL ASSEMBLE TO-DAY.

The Accused Satisfied With the Composition of the Jury that Is to Consider His Case—A Short Session and an Adjournment Taken at the Request of Accused's Counsel.

At 11 o'clock this morning, for the third time in the history of his military career, George A. Armes stood before the bar of a military tribunal to be tried by a jury of his peers for conduct unbecoming an officer and a gentleman. Thirteen army officers, in the uniform of their rank, with epaulettes on shoulder and sword by side, sat around a long table, ready to begin the proceedings which will decide the fate of their unfortunate brother officer. At 11 o'clock stern-faced Colonel Dodge declared the court in session and the judge-advocate, the prosecutor of the case, announced that he would put Captain George A. Armes on trial. He thereupon stepped aside and motioned Captain Armes to enter from the ante-room.

George A. Armes.

Not an officer looked up as Captain Armes walked quickly into the room, glancing nervously from right to left, as though he were trying to take in at a glance the physiognomies of the men who held his future in their hands. He took his stand at a desk near the judge-advocate and stood with both hands upon his hips, while his eyes roamed restlessly over the faces of the men before him. He wore the uniform of a captain, but no sword hung from his belt.

An embarrassing pause ensued for a few moments, which was relieved by the judge-advocate reading the order convening the court and the detail of the members.

"Have you any objection to any member of this court?" asked the judge-advocate.

"I would like to make a few remarks," replied Captain Armes.

"Mr. President and gentlemen of the court, I feel that the horse has been placed before the cart in this case. Colonel Gibson and Captain Bourke, the gentlemen who made the assault on me, should be the officers upon trial, instead of myself. However, as through the efforts of Major Clous and Colonel Barr this court has been ordered and I summoned to appear before it, I am here, and if no office here is prejudiced against me beforehand, on account of the statements of the above-named officers made to them, I will not make objection to any member of the court."

"I am sure, Captain Armes," replied the president, "that the members of this court will make their findings according to the evidence."

"In that case, then, I am ready to proceed," said Captain Armes as he took his seat.

The judge-advocate then held up a Bible and at his motion thirteen soldierly forms stood up around the table, and solemnly holding up their right hands were sworn to administer justice without partiality, favor or affection.

The judge-advocate was then sworn by the president, but before proceeding with the trial announced that Captain Armes desired a recess for a few minutes to allow him to procure counsel. The judge-advocate also announced that no witnesses would be ready before 1 o'clock, whereupon a recess was taken until that hour.

THE DETAIL OF THE COURT.

The detail of the court is as follows: Colonel Richard I. Dodge, Eleventh Infantry; Colonel Edward F. Townsend, Twelfth Infantry; Colonel John Mendenhall, Second Artillery; Captain John G. Turnbull, Third Artillery; Captain Sanford C. Kellogg, Fifth Cavalry; Captain John R. Myrick, Third Artillery; Captain Greenleaf A. Goodale, Twenty-third Infantry; Captain Lewis Smith, Third Artillery; Captain Frank W. Hess, Third Artillery; Captain George S. Anderson, Sixth Cavalry; Captain James Parker, Fourth Cavalry; Captain James O'Hara, Third Artillery; Captain Thomas T. Knox, First Cavalry; Major George B. Davis, judge advocate of the court.

When the court reconvened at 1 o'clock the judge-advocate read an order, which had just been received, relieving Captain Knox from duty on the court. Captain Knox then stated that he had been requested by the accused to act as his counsel, to which request he had acceded, but that in order to familiarize himself with the case, of which he was entirely ignorant, he would request a little time—say until 11 o'clock to-morrow.

In accordance with this request the court thereupon adjourned until the hour named.

THE SPECIFICATIONS.

The specifications have been printed at length in these columns. Stated briefly they are as follows: First, making a false affidavit before a magistrate charging Captain Bourke and Colonel Gibson with assault and outrageous conduct; second falsely charging the above officers, in a letter to the adjutant-general, with drunkenness and unbecoming conduct on Inauguration day; third, publishing in a newspaper the charges stated in the first specification; fourth, making a cowardly and disgraceful assault upon Governor Beaver.

Quick Police Work.

LIMA, O., April 11.—Tuesday night James Webster of Detroit, representing the Union Manufacting Company, Toledo, alighted from a train at the Cincinnati, Hamilton and Dayton depot for lunch, leaving his valise, containing $15,000 in notes, contracts and other papers in a seat. While he was gone James Klein, a painter, stole it and had it in a saloon near by and was going through the contents when he was arrested. The papers, with the exception of one or two, were recovered. Klein was sentenced to the workhouse for thirty days and fined $200.

"Why?"

Why should every statesman and politician read THE CRITIC daily? Because it learns just what is occurring inside of political circles and publishes it.

The Buffalo Strike.

BUFFALO, N. Y., April 11.—The strike of journeymen carpenters for a nine-hour day is not progressing as favorably or as rapidly as the men could wish, although they report that the master builders have signed the agreement. In order to force the obdurate masters to terms speedily, it is proposed to call out all the hands in the planing mills in the city. A big meeting of strikers and mill hands is called for to-night to decide on future action.

In Too Great a Hurry.

ANSONIA, CONN., April 11.—At 8 o'clock last night, as an electric car was approaching the railroad track in Derby, John Lyons, aged 50, of Newtown, attempted to cross in front of it. Engineer Tully attempted to slow up, but Lyons was caught between the car wheel and the rail. The jugular vein was severed, and the electric current, passing through his body, killed him almost instantly.

The War on Cigarettes.

LANSING, MICH., April 11.—The House yesterday passed the bill making it a misdemeanor punishable by fine and imprisonment to manufacture or sell, give, or deliver, cigarettes of any kind of tobacco or cigarette paper in books or blocks for wrapping cigarettes.

The carrier system of THE CRITIC extends all over the city, and those who wish the paper delivered at their homes have only to send a postal card to the business office of this paper.

FIRES EVERYWHERE.

Damages Caused By Flames Throughout the Country.

HARTFORD CITY, IND., April 11.—Camden, an inland town of 1,000 people, fourteen miles east of here, was nearly destroyed by fire yesterday morning. Most of the business portion of the place was swept away. The buildings were all frame and the town was without fire engines. The losses are estimated at $40,000, with but little insurance.

NEW YORK, April 11.—Fire in the Old Howard Insurance Building, at Nos. 176 and 178 Broadway, which at first it was thought caused slight damage proves to have been quite serious. The ground floor was occupied by H. C. Squires dealer in guns and ammunition and the basement by Woodhull Skidmore, boots and shoes. Squires loses, principally by water, amounts to $40,000 and Skidmore's loss $5,000. The fire originated in the subcellar, and burned through into Squires' store, where it ignited several kegs of powder, which exploded, doing considerable damage to adjoining stores.

LUVERNE, MINN., April 11.—The hundred barrel steam flouring mill at Beaver Creek, on the Omaha road, burned yesterday morning, with a coal yard and steam elevator adjoining. Loss $25,000; insurance $17,000.

GRAND RAPIDS, MICH., April 11.—The village of Cannonsburg, about twenty miles from here, was practically wiped out by fire yesterday afternoon. Eight buildings were destroyed, but most of the contents were saved. The fire originated in the hotel and spread rapidly to adjoining buildings. There was no organized system for fighting the flames. The village has no telegraph nor telephone communication, and no particulars of the losses or insurance are obtainable.

FORT EDWARD, N. Y., April 11.—Fire this morning destroyed the clothing store of K. Lustig, a barber shop and dwelling. Total loss, $8,000.

The Evictions in Ireland.

NEW YORK, April 11.—The *Sun's* London correspondent says: Father Stephens sends me from Falcarragh the following telegram: "The Olphert evictions are to be resumed to-day on an extensive scale. A very large force of soldiers and police have arrived here to protect the squad of emergency men, who bring the most approved form of battering ram to assist in the work of making war on the homes of the Donegal peasantry. The authorities contemplate very decisive action, and expect to clear out the lands of the whole town in one day. The peasants' houses are closely clustered, and are too small and too poor to admit of much resistance. Some very old people and invalids are among those to be thrown out on the roadside."

Trouble in the Twin Cities.

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN., April 11.—President Thomas Lowry issued last midnight an order reducing the wages of the employes on all the street and cable car lines in Minneapolis and St. Paul from one to four cents an