ORIGINAL DEFECTIVE

4

FOURTH ANNUAL DINNER

GIVEN BY WEINSTOCK & LUBIN TO THEIR EMPLOYES.

The Ball—The Toasts—The Speeches—The Guests—The Programme of Exercises.

Monday afternoon and evening H. Weinstock and D. Lubin, proprietors of the Mechanics' Store, gave to their employes the soiree and dinner which has for the last four holiday seasons marked the advent of a new year. It was the fourth of the series, and in the eighth year of the business of these merchants in this city. The reunion was held at the Golden Eagle Hotel, and began early in the afternoon. The employes aided the members of the firm in the management of the affair, and took their full share of the management by representative committees, who were active in the discharge of their work, and did all that could be done to render the occasion one of unalloyed pleasure to the participants. It was the largest and

MOST SUCCESSFUL

Of all the reunions yet held under the same direction. Such annual gatherings are evidently growing more common among the large mercantile and manufacturing establishments of the country at the East now. A great many of the leading business houses assemble all the workers in their hives of industry, and with dance and song, and around the festal board, celebrate the season of good will. Probably none held anywhere, however, have been more completely successful in all respects than that now under notice. What marked it especially was the quiet and exact but unobtrusive system which prevailed and the precision with which all the details were carried out. Early in the afternoon the employes and their lady friends assembled in the parlor of the Golden Eagle, and the soiree began. The floors of the parlor and adjacent hall spaces were canvased for dancing, and the terpsichorean festivities were prosecuted in parlor, halls and reception rooms with a zest evidencing cordiality and genuineness in the exercises of the occasion and the unselfish enjoyment experienced by the participants. The ladies were dressed with becoming taste, while the gentlemen appeared in full dress suits and were as attentive as the most exacting could demand. The party numbered over one hundred and fifty, the great majority being employes of the house. A few of the

INVITED GUESTS

Put in an early appearance and joined in the dance. The cash boys were allotted room for their own sports, while a number of them had charge of the hat and cloak room, to which the guests were escorted on arrival by the gentlemen of the Reception Committee. In the reception and cloak rooms of the ladies attendants were ready to receive and care for wraps also, and so carefully were the duties performed in both cases that no guest or participant experienced the slightest inconvenience in at any time procuring their hats or wraps. The most captious would have found it exceedingly difficult to point out any defect in the management, or to distinguish the soiree from a first-class ball, or in the demeanor of the participants to have found ground for adverse criticism. It was a genteel, cordially social and altogether elegant affair. The hosts of the occasion, the members of the firm, were constant in their efforts to add to the pleasure of the gathering and to relieve the assemblage from any of the restraints of stiff formality—indeed, the stranger would have been puzzled to distinguish in the gathering or by its management employer from employe. Church, Jones & Watrous' orchestra had a position in the main hall, enabling the dancers on either hand to avail of the music for dancing to the numbers of an elegantly printed "New Year's" programme. Those who did not come to dance, or whose years had sobered their tastes for amusement, found rooms where they could indulge in congenial games or social chat at ease. Throughout the floor were easy chairs and sofas for the convenience of any who desired either to rest from the dance, or as spectators take pleasure in witnessing the enjoyment of others. A table was placed in the hall, from which light beverages were freely dispensed. The march to

THE SUPPER-ROOM

Began at 8:15 P. M., and was led by the hosts and the heads of departments in the store escorting the invited guests. The line entered the spacious dining-hall to the measured beat of an orchestral march, and after making a single circuit of the hall the members of the company found themselves each at his or her appointed seat. The tables were four in number, extending the full length of the hall, while at right angles, at the head, was a table the full width of the room, at the center of which H. Weinstock and D. Lubin, with their wives, presided, supported on either hand by the employes at the heads of departments. The dining hall was tastefully decorated with evergreen festoons and dressings of verdant foliage typical of the holiday season, while the great mirror at the lower end of the hall bore a tropical sketch emblazoned with the words "Welcome" and "A Happy New Year to All."

The tables were the result of the skill and good taste of the caterer, J. H. McNasser, acting manager at the Golden Eagle, and of his chief steward, J. N. Petty, and L. W. Farrell, assistant. The tables were loaded with the delicacies of the season, and it is but necessary to refer to the schedule of dishes given below to indicate the high character of the banquet and its variety and excellence. No wines were served—an omission eliciting the open and warm approval of the guests. The service was all that could be demanded by the most exacting. While the banquet proceeded the orchestra regaled the company with music.

AT THE TABLE.

At the plate of each guest, in addition to a bonbon containing an odd article of grotesque adornment for the head, was an elegant four-paged tinted bristol board card bearing the bill of fare. The first page was illuminated with a handsome cut, the engraving being executed by a prominent bank note engraving company. Beneath the cuts, which were varied, were the words: "With the compliments of Weinstock & Lubin." The second page being in still a different tint from that of the outer pages, read as follows:

Annual dinner given by Weinstock & Lubin, to their employes, January 2, 1882, Golden Eagle Hotel.

MENU.

Blue Point oysters on the half shell.
Soup—Puree of chicken, a la Imperial; consomme, a la Royal.
Fish—Baked lake trout, a la Espagnol; boiled salmon, a la Huitres.
Releives—Lobster, a la Creole; buffalo tongue, a la Chipalta.
Cold dishes—Boned turkey, aux truffles; ham of black tail deer; salade de volaille, decorated en mayonnaise; ox tongue; jambon de Westphalia, with jelly.
Ornamented dishes and pyramids.
Roasts—Turkey, oyster stuffing, cranberry sauce; saddle of mutton; stuffed young pig, apple sauce; Dupee hams, champagne sance; stuffed capon, with currant jelly; loin of pork; sirloin of prime beef; loin of veal.
Game—Canvasback duck, a la Orange; salmi of grey goose, with olives; quail braisee, a la Maitre de Hotel; jugged hare, Yorkshire style; saddle of wild goat, a la Italienne.
Mayonnaise—Lobster salad, chicory lettuce, chicken salad.
Entrees—Cotelettes de Agneau, sauce tomato; Tete de Veau, aux Petit Pois; Petite Timbales, aux Huitrees; Supremes de Volaille, a la Baden-Baden.
Vegetables—Boiled, mashed and baked potatoes; green peas; stewed tomatoes; green corn.
Pastry—Old English plum pudding, hard sauce; pudding, a la Normandy; mince pie; pumpkin pie; French custard pie; apple pie; blackberry pie.
Dessert—Champagne jelly, orange jelly, almond blanc mange, chocolate blanc mange, fancy vanilla ice cream, strawberry ice cream, sponge cake, pound cake, wine cake, jelly cake, vanilla souffle, fancy kisses, macaroons, espanolets, sponge biscuits, lady fingers, cream tartarlitts, almond drops, assorted fruits, cocoanut drops, bon bons, nuts and raisins, assorted candies, claret punch, tea and coffee, lemonade.

On the third page was a list of the committees managing the whole affair, as follows:

Executive Committee—E. J. Hitchcock, Theodore Fox, C. E. Phipps. Floor Manager—E. J. Hitchcock. Assistants—William Skeels, G. M. Johnson, S. W. McKim, H. C. Capwell, F. J. Hauck. Reception Committee—William Roan, R. L. Morris, J. C. Clery, M. Levy, J. F. Fenton, A. Lyon, Frank Winnie. Committee on Toasts—William H. Dickson, E. G. Nessner, E. Franklin, G. S. Mansfield, J. H. Way. Literary Committee—William Skeels, Ed. Bonnheim, A. C. Fisher, S. Farnsworth. Committee on Music—R. H. Aurbach, J. A. Ballargeon, Jean Caspers. Committee on Programme—H. L. Sarchett, W. P. Dickson, C. B. Luff. Carriages—E. Bonnheim, C. C. Hackett, F. S. Holden, J. J. Hafferman.

On the fourth page appeared the words of "Auld Lang Syne."

Mr. Weinstock, when all had been seated, there being at the boards about two hundred guests, called to order, and introduced Rev. Mr. Bloch, who pronounced a fervent invocation, at the conclusion of which the guests were invited to address themselves to the viands before them.

THE SPEECHES.

Mr. Weinstock called to order when all had feasted, and, rising in his place, spoke as follows, being frequently, loudly and warmly applauded:

Ladies and Gentlemen, Boys and Girls: In behalf of the firm it affords me much pleasure to greet you, and to tender you our best wishes for the new year.

We feel honored by the presence of our many guests, and trust that the pleasant relations now existing between us may ever continue.

These annual reunions have become a part of our lives. For many months we anticipate them with much pleasure, and until the time rolls round for the next to take place, we look back to the last with many pleasant recollections. It is our desire to make this—of all the days in the year—one of unalloyed enjoyment to those in our employ; and when we see the many happy faces around us, and observe that young and old are pleased and endeavor to make the occasion mutually pleasant, we cannot but feel highly gratified.

The life of the merchant has its pleasant and unpleasant sides. The cares and anxieties attending the management of a large business are far greater than many imagine. Few are aware that while the numerous employes of an extensive mercantile house are peacefully slumbering, the brain of the merchant must often be at work, thinking, planning and devising means for the safe guidance and prosperity of the business. His is no easy task. With perhaps scores of families dependent for support on the successful issue of his enterprises, he finds it necessary, so to speak, to have a thousand eyes, a thousand ears and a thousand thoughts, and to apply them all to the very many details usually connected with a large establishment. The many hours that employes have at their command to devote to their families, study or recreation, the merchant is frequently obliged to apply to business. He may ardently desire to give more time to his family, his books or society, but the responsibilities resting on his shoulders afford him no choice, and he is often forced to set aside personal inclinations in order that the demands of his business may be fully met.

Dollars and dollars alone, can hardly repay the merchant—who takes pleasure in the society of his family, his friends or his books—for the many sacrifices he occasions makes in neglecting them, or for his cares, his anxieties or his many worried and sleepless nights. Money may be a sufficient compensation to the merchant who loves it for its own sake, but not so to the man who considers it only for what it can do. If money is the only object to be gained in trade, then well may the life of the most successful merchant be regarded as a failure.

But there are other objects that present themselves to the employer of many people. There are boys and girls, young men and women, to be trained and fitted to transact the business of future generations. As a parent enjoys a satisfaction in rearing well-bred and cultured children, so should the merchant take a pride in educating young people to fill useful and honorable positions in the world of commerce. When I look around me and see the many lads, who entered our employ as humble cash-boys, now filling important posts, and the many young men and women holding our highest positions of trust and honor, whose career was begun at the lowest round of the ladder, and who advanced themselves by dint of their ability and integrity, I may be pardoned in saying that the pleasure obtained from being instrumental in educating the worthy and deserving, fully equals that derived from the increase of gain, and is a recompense for many of the personal sacrifices made for the benefit of the business. We feel as proud to see our boys and girls, our young men and women advance to higher posts and positions of trust, as they themselves; and while we have no room for drones, or for the unfaithful, we shall always endeavor to give words of advice and encouragement to those striving to be industrious and trustworthy. We urge you all to thoroughly master whatever duties you have to perform, so that when the proper time comes, you may be fully qualified to fill higher positions than you now hold. It is well to remember, however, that those who are likely to fill the higher positions in any vocation, are generally those who perform good and faithful service while occupying the lowly ones. One must learn to obey before he can hope to command. Employers commonly seek among the obedient, the trusty, the willing, the reliable and the industrious to find those who are needed for important duties. They who lack these good qualities are usually left to do the ordinary work and to receive the ordinary pay. And while it is quite true that we cannot all be masters, or fill leading positions, yet we can perform our duties—be they ever so humble—so thoroughly and so faithfully that we not alone enjoy the satisfaction of an approving conscience, but at the same time place ourselves within the ranks of those who are apt to be the first in advancing to higher stations in life. Since we last assembled here some have stepped out from the ranks to fill our most important places, and many of you, by praiseworthy conduct, have gained both our esteem and confidence, causing us to become more closely attached to you. May you never give us reason to change the good opinion we have formed, and may your future conduct always merit our warmest praise.

In conclusion: May even the youngest present here this evening grow up to fill positions of honor and trust, and may we all live to witness it.

ENTERTAINMENT.

(During the evening Mr. Weinstock presided and made the announcement of the programme.) A double quartet was then introduced, consisting of Messrs. Dickson, Donaldson, Hawk and Sarchett, and Messrs. Hummel, Hickey and Spencer, with Miss Lou Bidwell presiding at the piano, which, by the way, that young lady did most gracefully and effectively during all the musical exercises of the evening. This quartet, like all the combinations of voices for the evening, had been schooled for the occasion by Professor J. L. Skinner.

This was followed by a reading by Miss Josie Spencer, who read "Gone with a Handsomer Man," by Will Carleton. The lady read with an elocutionary effect that was unexpected as it was good, and received, very justly, a hearty round of applause. It may be here remarked that the Chairman had been compelled already to request the audience not to insist on encores, as the length of the programme precluded the possibility of such compliments being responded to. Later, however, when it was found time permitted, some recalls were allowed.

PROGRAMME.

The programme continued with the introduction of Mr. J. A. Ballargeon, who sang the bass solo, "The Standard Watch," with much effectiveness and in resonant tones and sympathetic voice, evidently under good control. He was warmly applauded.

Mr. E. I. Hitchcock then arose, and said that in behalf of the employes of the firm it was his privilege to offer the toast, "Our Employers, Weinstock & Lubin." He trusted that the new year might be to them one of prosperity and joy, and that they might always be enabled to look back upon it as one of the greatest happiness, and that their employes, as now, may always have cause to regard them with respect, esteem and the kindliest feelings. [Applause.]

Mr. Weinstock, in behalf of the firm, introduced Mr. Lubin.

MR. LUBIN'S SPEECH.

Mr. Lubin, after returning thanks for the compliment conveyed by the toast, entered upon remarks concerning commerce and its laws, and passed to the consideration of two that are especially arbitrary and subtle. One is known by the name of Value, the other as Debit and Credit. The former is the most difficult to master, often eluding the grasp of the shrewdest intellect. The merchant in his uncertainties often resorts to chance or speculation; resulting either in fortune or bankruptcy. This should be avoided. Knowledge is the only safeguard. This law of value is one of the most important of the laws of commerce or of trade. It determines the relative worth between a bar of pig iron and its weight in well finished needles, a diamond and a ton of gold, a cargo of grain and a bar of bullion. * * * The value of millions may change almost instantly; a rumor of war, some national calamity, or even unusual prosperity, a change in political affairs, or a combination of speculative capitalists, often inflate values excessively or cause the failure of many enterprises. * * Each human being is influenced by this law of value almost as much as if he were a bale of cotton, a ton of coal, or a barrel of flour. A value hangs over the head of every man, woman or child in existence. * * * It is often born before birth and does not always die with death. Like the thermometer, its indications are not the result of the action of the law upon matter. Many suffer untold misery because they believe that they are not rated at their true value. In many instances this may be true, but as a general rule the value fixed by public opinion is just. So mysterious and active is this power of value, and so completely are we surrounded by its influences that we cannot escape its rulings. A noble thought, a kindly act, and we improve the quality of our value. Every thought and action makes its impression upon the brain. Each has its tendency to appreciate or depreciate the value. The senses with which each human being is endowed play no small part in the economy of this mysterious law, nor are characters or values determined by the several greater actions or thoughts, but are rather the result of the almost innumerable number of, as it were, atomical, infinitesical thoughts and actions. These weave an invisible but powerful network around us, from which there is no escape except in death. These atomical thoughts, when solidified, constitute our value. Nor is it at all strange that nature should in this case select atoms in forming character, for all her greatest works are performed through the agency of atoms, and why not this as well? Daguerre's wonderful discovery sinks into insignificance when compared to the immaterial or mental pictures that may be taken by any human being. Daguerre simply applied physical means to the action of physical laws, and he obtained a physical result. He could not apply these physical laws and obtain an active, mental, intellectual or spiritual picture. But human beings are endowed with the proper apparatus which enables them to produce both positive and negative pictures, of a mental, moral, intellectual or a spiritual nature. These pictures are taken and stored away almost constantly, and only cease with the life of the individual. Besides this, these pictures are animated by certain vital principles or laws; among them can be enumerated the law of comparison and inference. With the aid of these two assistants are evolved what are known as thought and action; hence habitual evil-doers can only compare or infer through the medium of evil atom pictures or thoughts which have accumulated and have become the motive power. The truly virtuous compare and infer from virtuous atom pictures or thoughts, whereas the great middle class often compare and infer by both extremes. * * * * * * If men were free moral agents, in the true sense of the word, then indeed would it be possible for us to abolish prisons and capital punishment. The criminal element would become extinct, and we would soon experience the golden age. Why are there criminals? Simply because they are not free men. Why are they not free? Because their mind or brain is composed of deadly and impure atom pictures or thoughts. A single atom thought may not have a great influence over the thoughts and actions of the individual, but collectively they are powerful, nay irresistible. Atom thoughts solidified are to the man what steam is to the boiler, and the will, senses and bodily agents can be compared to the engine. * * * But how do we obtain our value? I answer, through the medium of the brain. What is the brain? It is my belief that it is composed of the atom pictures or thoughts, accumulated and solidified. How are they accumulated and solidified? By various methods. Among them may be enumerated the following: First, emanation or pedigree; second, food; third, the state of health; fourth, surroundings and associations; fifth, education; sixth, circumstances; seventh, accident. Were the habitual criminal free he would not of his own choice desire to become an evil-doer. I furthermore claim that much as the evil-doer may desire to become free, it is almost impossible for him to do so. Why? Because his motives, his impulses, his inclinations, his desires, in fact his nature will not permit him to act contrary to the dictation of his master, the brain. In fact, it is almost as impossible and even unnatural for such men to suddenly become permanently virtuous, as it would be for the truly virtuous to suddenly become permanently depraved. Because the deadly atom thoughts have accumulated and become solidified. These compose what is called the brain. And the brain is absolutely dictator. Many of the milder cases are reclaimed by ingrafting life atom thoughts. The case of the criminal is, of course, an exception to the general rule. But the truly virtuous and perfect are also exceptions to the general rule. * * If this is true, then is it not about time for those who desire to live, and that as freemen, to look well to it that they only absorb life atoms? Nor should it be overlooked that if your value determines your position and happiness during your earthly existence, it may also determine your immortal career. What bearing do these life atoms have upon value? As far as personal value is concerned, they, the life atoms, deserve our most careful consideration. The happiness and prosperity, not alone of ourselves, but of our family and neighbors, nay, even those yet to be born, depend upon it. Those whose brains are composed of virtuous life atoms need not search far for a market. For, coupled with ability, there is no more valuable merchandise to be found in the world. At the beginning of the new year it would perhaps not be a bad idea to take up your account of stock of life and death atom thoughts. This should be done in a careful manner, bearing in mind that each death atom thought is a debit, each life atom thought is a credit. Take up your stock at its true value, and strike a balance. Should the debits overbalance the credits, then are you indeed unfortunate, unless you steel your mind to speedily reduce your liabilities and increase your credits. Nor will deception deceive the expert. Above all, we cannot practise deception upon ourselves. If we do, our own judgment will condemn us. We should remember that we cannot hope to be a simple spectator. The law is that all human beings, of every condition and under all circumstances, are, during their earthly existence, either debtors or creditors, and each has a rating according to his value. Nor is even the secluded hermit exempt from this law. Nor can anyone cease being influenced by it until the last clod of earth covers his grave. Even then, if he has anything to his credit, the e who live will plant flowers and erect a monument over his remains. The memory of such as have inherited it are held in veneration, and they are referred to as exemplary models. Hence it becomes those who are rational beings, endowed with reason, to live such lives as will add credits to their record, so that they may become true capitalists. Such are more acceptable in the sight of God and man than the mere money-worm. * * *

I would therefore urge you all to look well to your debits and credits, and if your credits are sufficient to justify it, you need have no fear about your rating. And when your time comes to strike your final trial balance, may you be received by the Great Creator of us all with grace and favor, as deserving of the highest honors and rewards.

Mr. Lubin ceased amidst the very hearty applause of his attentive auditory.

MORE TOASTS.

William Roan then gave the toast "Things not generally known," and the response was made by George M. Johnson, who in a merry strain referred to the fact that the things not generally known surpass in number those of which we have knowledge. In the course of his remarks he wittily referred to the fact that each year has witnessed a marriage of one or more of the employes of the firm, but as to who of them would draw a capital prize in the great matrimonial lottery in 1882 was a thing not generally known. [Applause.]

A male quartet, consisting of Messis Hitchcock, Dickson, Caspers and Donaldson, then sang "Sweet Eulalie," and received complimentary acknowledgment by the audience for the effective rendition of the selection.

Mr. Dickson then gave the odd toast, "In Honor of an Apple," saying it would add to the variety of the programme by its peculiarity. H. C. Capwell was called upon to respond, and did so in a very happy manner, comparing classes of men to varieties of apples. The similes were apt and witty, and most of them very forcible. The speech was well received and was neatly delivered. Mr. Franklin then gave the toast, "California and Sacramento," and response, on call, was made by Senator

GROVE L. JOHNSON.

Mr. Johnson said it was not for him, then, to attempt to consider the boundless possibilities of the heritage given us—California. When he thought of the cline of San Diego, the orange groves of Los Angeles, the wheat-fields of the great valleys, the wires of the coast and foothills, the resources of El Dorado and Amador and Nevada, the wealth of the mines in the mountains, the fertile soil of the north, the orchards and vineyards, the fields and gardens of the State, he was ready to exclaim, let our hearts be thankful for the prosperity of such a State as God has given us here to dwell in. He paid a warm tribute to the pioneers of the State, whose labors gave us California. He would have all honor done them, for we owe them a debt we can never pay. [Applause.] Let all honor be bestowed upon those who live in Sacramento. Here were the brains that planned the transcontinental railroad—the greatest achievement of the age. For the Sacramento of to-day he bade his hearers to open their eyes and see; let them examine exhibits made by the local press on the opening new year, and judge of her advancement. He did not say it because he was their guest, but as representative Sacramentans, he would point to

THE HOSTS OF THE EVENING.

[Applause.] He spoke advisedly, and after a recent visit to seven of the large cities of the Union. Nowhere had he seen any such establishment as the Mechanics' Store, which every Sacramentan is proud to own as the product of Sacramento men. He did not deem it necessary to refer to the victories won by the city. Let the annual report of the RECORD-UNION for the year speak instead, for there is to be found epitomized all that is good. California he deemed had worked a revolution in the laws of trade. California had changed things regarding trade never before attempted. She had modified some of the laws of the commercial world, and said to it, we give you a new world, with new possibilities and hopes. [Applause.] He begged his auditors not to forget that we are taking up the work of the pioneers, and have a heavy task to perform, and dependent on which is our prosperity and happiness. They labored to upbuild a state, but to us is given the duty of its preservation to civilization as against a civilization from the Orient, attempting to cross the Pacific and seize upon our heritage. The two civilizations here meet. That of the Anglo-Saxon seeking to launch its commerce upon Pacific seas; that of the Orient, which never advances, never changes, and hopes only to take possession of that we have. We must preserve ourselves and our children from the attack [applause] and make homogeneous the race that is to people this land; make ourselves a bulwark to our race, and teach our children a like sacrifice and duty to the land that thus shall be the brightest star in the galaxy of States. [Applause.] As to Sacramento, our home, let us labor

"That her fair form may stand and shine,
Make light our days and bright our dreams,
Turning to scorn, with lips divine,
The falsehood of extremes."

[Loud applause.]

FURTHER EXERCISES.

Thirty-five cash-boys then sang the chorus, "We always are so jolly, oh!" It was a merry chorus, well sung and heartily pleased the auditors. The boys, indeed, in this way constituted one of the chief features of the evening. At the conclusion of the song, Senator Johnson was so "enthused" that he led the audience in "three cheers for the boys."

Mr. Lubin then gave the toast, "Our Invited Guests," and, by request of the Chair,

REV. MR. HENRY

Responded. From a humorous opening regarding the text from which he was to "preach," and the liberty he should seize upon, in accordance with the modern style of preaching to abandon it and talk of something else, he congratulated the hosts on behalf of the guests on their business success. He believed it had been a scientific success. They began with $300 or $400 less than eight years ago, and no employes, and now command hundreds of thousands of stock, and have close relations with 150 employes. They began with one small department; they now have twelve great ones. They had advanced by the law of progression. The kind of civil service in their establishment is of the kind needed in the Government. It is a humane management. Would to God all employers were as kind to employes. When the hour comes to close, the store closes. [Applause.] When a holiday comes about, their employes get the benefit of it [Applause.] The pay is ready when pay-day comes. [Applause.] If the humane and elevating ideas put into practice by this firm were more prevalent the community would have better brains, better bodies; there'd be better business, better society, better religion and a better world. [Applause.] Many hearts in this city are touched by this management. Any business will be strong that is conducted in the interest of the common people. There the poor man can get his dollar's worth; there there is even and fair-handed practice. [Applause.] He congratulated the firm because it is progressive, humane and has won a living success, a present prosperity—not a past one, but a present. Some of the elements of the success of the house are the order that prevails in it—the first condition of success in life; heaven's first law. There individuality is emphasized in the establishment and all its work. Every man is strong, as he can impress his originality and personality on his work. These employers require every man to do his work his own way and impress upon it his own individuality; so this force is being built up to be self-reliant, and it will go out to add like strength to this community and to others. Self-reliance is cultivated in these employes. Indomitable will, inflexibility of purpose, seeking an end with all the powers—these are the examples and the teaching. The speaker cited as examples of will-power and inflexibility of purpose O'Connell and Cyrus W. Field. Indomitable perseverance and inflexibility of will are among the strongest of things in a man, and mark the man who wins. The example of this firm must have its influence upon the 150 employes for good, and upon this community. With final hearty congratulations to the hosts on behalf of the guests, and good wishes for the new year, the speaker concluded amidst applause.

Mrs E. Bonnheim then sang, in a clear and expressive soprano voice, "Esmeralda," by Levey, and in respone to a warm encore sang it again, in part. S. W. McKim gave the toast, "Yesterday, to-day and to-morrow," and it was responded to very appropriately by Mr. Fisher, in a thoughtful speech upon our responsibilities and duties in life. R. H. Auerbach then sang, with fine effect and in excellent voice, the bass solo, "Give Me a Freshening Breeze," and being loudly recalled sang "We Meet Above." William Skeels, referring to the constant effort of the firm to lead their employes to cultivate assiduously their mental part, gave the toast "Education," and the Chairman called for a response from

PROFESSOR K. W. BRIER.

Professor Brier responded and spoke as follows, commanding the earnest attention of the company:

The very word education in our day suggests school routine, scientific hieroglyphics, formidable text-books bristling with technicalities and still more formidable professors behind them. This sort of scholastic training belongs to a general systematic culture, but true education must have for its object the constitutional improvement of the whole man. Man, and not scholarship, is the aim of this education. The constitutional improvement of man is effected by the training of the body, the training of the senses and functions of the brain to the highest degree of power and active use. Humanity has hitherto progressed from mere brutal strength to intellectual force, and the next advance must be to moral power. The first age of the world belonged to brutal force; the second belonged to reason; and we can readily see that the empire of both is equally remorseless. The third age of the world belongs to love, which rules only to serve. The Supreme Ruler comes to us in humanity, and above all in our children, and calls upon us in their divine capabilities, which wait for us to mature them. Education must not be a trade, but a worship; and the school must become a temple in which the teacher, officiating at the altar of humanity, makes a sacrifice of himself that his race may live a better and happier life. Science pushes us to these conclusions. For every function has for its end self-preservation; and the function of education must have for its purpose the preservation of the race, and, therefore, the individual must be brought up, not for ambition, wealth or power, but for the race. [Applause.] We are not, like the animals, live in isolation, but by our families and States we are linked with

THE WHOLE OF HUMANITY,

And the condition of the race determines our own preservation. Therefore we base education upon the principle of race amelioration. Thus we clearly see that education contains the solution of the problem that troubles the age we live in. We do not mean that sort of education which makes of its bags filled with words, figures and facts, but that culture which develops within us power, will, strength and character. This is what William Penn meant when he said to his colonists in the first words of his address: "Educate." Washington's last bequest in his farewell address to the American people, was again, "Educate." Washington meant when he said this that free schools should be established for the purpose of preserving self-government by training up intelligent patriotism; but the father of his country did not foresee that under political supervision instead of breeding patriots they might breed vampires, and flood the country with physical, mental and moral wrecks. I repeat again that the most general educational problem of the hour is that of providing a citizenship fitted to enjoy the institutions of free government and fitted to develop the broad resources of the American domain. [Applause.] To do this, education has not only to train up American childhood to fitness for its royal prerogatives, but it has also to assimilate into sturdy citizenship the heterogeneous elements pouring in upon us from all quarters of the globe. It must uproot habits of thought fastened by older civilizations, and give free and universal scope to the American idea. The American idea contemplates a brotherhood of citizens having common political aspirations undisturbed by phases of private opinion and belief. It means the enthronement of

ORDER, FREEDOM AND PROGRESS.

It means the creation of a public opinion powerful enough to crush all fraud, and political heresy here, and capable of instructing other nations in the pathways of political reform and progress. In the free schools, the bulwark of our nationality, are implanted those republican ideas which inspired our fathers to found a government where law is the Lares, and freedom the Penates; where there may be a jubilee without a saturnalia; where the title of property is as safe as the guarantees of liberty; and within one generation we have seen the force of these republican ideas. Not many years ago had a man sat on the banks of the Thames, manipulating with his wheels and wires, communicating his thoughts and obtaining true responses from the other side of the ocean, he would have been seized and burnt as a sorcerer. Even afar off we can see these ideas at work in Europe; heaving under the thrones of monarchies; wrenching at the prison doors of those who have sighed for liberty and failed; stooping to uplift the drooping form of Erin; hovering over the obliterated nationality of Poland, and moving silently among the mossy ruins and time-hallowed dust of Rome. Our forefathers wisely foresaw that the perpetuity of our free institutions would rest upon the education of the youth of the nation. [Applause.] They believed with Montesquieu "that education has for its foundation the same principles as the State—fear under despotism, pride under a monarchy, and

VIRTUE UNDER A REPUBLIC;"

And since virtue is formed by early habit, a Republic must train children to simplicity and self-restraint, as nothing but virtue and intelligence can save a republic from ending in despotism, corruption and anarchy. The maintenance of the peace and prosperity of our country is also the divinity of our educational system. It is she who

"Sat on the mast of the Mayflower,
Who perched on the cold, wintry wood,
And as the bold bark bore onward,
On the crag of the cliff she stood;
And she heard a glorious paean
Over the wild waves roll—
'Shout unto God thanksgiving
For liberty of soul!'
Then wintry wood and heaving main
Sang as they caught the bold refrain,
For liberty of soul!"

It may be granted without argument that there is an immutable and eternal distinction between right and wrong; that the basis or standard of right is to be found, not in the feeling of self love, the sense of utility, the impulse of benevolence, or in any of the changing phenomena of the human mind, but only in the divine nature, and that nature revealed in the record of creation and the written word.

Educate man up to the proper point, make him what he should be, give all the powers and functions of his nature fair play, and his conscience and moral sentiments cannot be overlooked. We need ten thousand daily lessons in our school rooms, in our business houses, in our homes, on the elements of morals, on the principles of truth and right, and law and purity, and frugality and self-control. This is what is needed in order to preserve untarnished the national honor and glory which we have received from the past, and in order to make strong and lasting the foundations of the mighty empire which its teeming millions fashioned by the beneficent hands of our fathers, and dedicated to humanity forever. And as we try to fuse into strong and loving unity our heterogeneous populations, and to bind all in undying loyalty to our free institutions, let us see to it that reverence for truth and right shall reign supreme. [Applause.]

MORE TOASTING.

Mr. Fox called on James McClatchy to speak of the early pioneers and of "slickens." Mr. McClatchy responded, declining to speak on the latter subject, but on being importuned, made a few remarks about the "lively old boys" of the "early days." Mr. Hitchcock called upon J. R. Watson to address the company, and he did so. He considered it a very great honor to be present as a guest at this unique and remarkable feast. He thought it had no parallel in California. He honored the men and hailed them with honors who had been the cause of it as among the best men he knew. A few years ago the employer and the employed belonged to different classes. There were but two classes—the rich and the poor, the nobles and the serfs or laborers. The latter did all the labor for the former, and the honor of doing it was deemed reward enough added to the privilege accorded them to live. All this is changed to-day. [Applause.] The change is due a good deal to gunpowder, and a good deal more to the printing press [applause], which he held to be the true savior of mankind. This firm has taught a lesson to all great employes, and he wished the Central Pacific Railroad, for which he had the honor to labor, would take a leaf out of their book and copy it. He gloried in the men who believe the employe is as good as the employer, and believe in the words of our declaration, that all men are free and equal. Formerly the employe cringed to the employer. Now he meets him as a man face to face. When the employe has done his duty and received his pay, no other obligation of necessity exists. [Applause.] He referred to the men who built the Central Pacific Railroad as Sacramento men. [Applause.] Here they conceived the idea of the road; here they carried it out. Some of the most remarkable men the coast has ever had sprang from this community [applause] just as did the builders of the great railroad, and ever which he had the honor to run the first train. He saw that great enterprise begin in a little office in Sacramento, and now the company is the employer of 14 000 men, and pay out in Sacramento city in the neighborhood of $100,000 every month for wages. He gloried in such men, and wished the land had more of them. He wished others would copy the example of the hosts of the evening. He believed others could succeed as they had, and other establishments be built up on like principles. He referred to and sketched the Krupp steel works of Germany, and its system of pensions for employes of 20 and 25 years service, and thought that system might be wisely introduced into America. [Applause]

THE LADIES.

Mr. Capwell called on Senator W. A. Cheney, who pleaded that no text had been given him, whereupon Senator Johnson gave the toast, "The ladies, God bless 'em," and Mr. Cheney proceeded to make a witty and eloquent reply that elicited much laughter and applause. He referred touchingly to the wives of the early pioneers and paid them a warm tribute, and hoped for the dawn of the day when woman can come to the polls and by her influence purify the ballot-box. [Applause.] Mr. Hitchcock gave "The Grangers," and George W. Hancock was called out to respond, which he did briefly. He referred to the self-reliant faces he saw at the board as the best evidence of the good work of the hosts.

Mr. Fox called on Rev. H. H. Rice, who responded with a few earnest remarks upon duty, and the doing of it fearlessly and regardless of consequences. After being thoroughly settled as to what our duty is, we must not be like the ass between the bundles of hay, forever deciding and yet undecided which to take; but, knowing our duty, do it. [Applause]

It was now after midnight, and Mr. Weinstock announced the close of the banquet. The male quartet led, and all the company joined in singing "Auld Lang Syne." On returning to the parlors, a few engaged again in dancing, but the great majority bade the hosts good night and retired, the latter escorting all accompanied by ladies, or who had considerable distances to go, to carriages that were in attendance, and by which they were conveyed to their homes. Thus ended a very social, most agreeable and an entirely successful affair. Among the invited guests present on the occasion the following were noted: J. R. Watson, K. W. Brier and wife, Samuel Marks, San Francisco; George F. Kellogg, of Davis & Kellogg, San Francisco; L. Elkus, S. Lavenson and wife, I. N. Hoag, wife and daughter, W. H. Parsons, W. H. Davis and wife, Miss Millie Parsons, Senator Grove L. Johnson and wife, Senator W. A. Cheney and wife, W. A. Anderson, Assemblyman J. N. Young, J. L. Skinner and daughter, Rev. H. H. Rice, J. Q. A. Henry, Jacob Bloch and wife, Felix Tracy, G. W. Hancock, C. H. Krebs and wife, Mr. Topletz, of Held Bros. & Co., San Francisco; J. W. Guthrie and wife, Norton Bush, James McClatchy, John McFetrish, F. G. Waterhouse, J. W. Houston and wife, Mr. Hayford and wife, E. Katzenstein.

MONDAY'S DISPATCHES.

[SPECIAL TO THE RECORD-UNION.]

DOMESTIC NEWS.

The Disaster in Ohio.

CLEVELAND, January 2d.—The *Herald's* Shanesville special says of the disaster there Saturday evening: The band had just ceased playing, when a crash was heard and the floor began to settle lengthwise in the center; the joists slipped off the post in the rear, and pulled out the brick wall in front. The center settled rapidly and broke lengthwise. The joists kept up at the outer ends in the side of the walls. This threw people, tables, stoves and all together. The falling floor barricaded the front doors, but they were soon chopped down. The chandelier in the store below was broken, and the oil spilled over a number of persons. This burst into a blaze, and in a few moments Milton Yoder, five years old, was burned to death in his mother's arms. She was fatally burned. Fortunately the building did not catch fire. The storm added to the confusion. The following is as complete a list of casualties as is possible to get:

Dead—Miss Mary Neff, 20 years, skull fractured; Milton Yoder, five years old, burned.

Fatally burned—Mrs. Dr. Yoder, Mrs. Allan Goeler, Miss Annie Orin.

Seriously injured—Fred Schwab and Lewis Kerch, legs broken; James Walter, arm broken; Lizzie Showalter, collar bone broken; Augusta Heider and Mrs. Lucilla Scheiff, ankles dislocated; George Froelich, Jr., feet burned.

The following were painfully but not dangerously injured: Mary and Amanda Kerch, Mrs. Henry Schutt, Henry Cratz, Mrs. Daniel Kline, Carrie Rice, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Wallack and son Willie, Jerome Weimers, Mrs. Aug. Goeler, Annie and Hattie Graff, Mrs. Allen Rickerson, Miss Swinderman, Harry Ream, John Roth, Mary Kaufman, Miss Mollie Biddle, Almira Cratz, J. S. Richardson, Will Cratz and wife, Aug. Froelich, Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Krakow, Harry Wright, Fred Klas, Robbie Klas, Kate Lenmar, Christ Graff, Catherine Spearger, Mrs. Walter, John Grob, Henry Homan, Dan Kline, John Klahr, John Stersbachs, Libbie Ream, Mrs. Michael Shutt and Annie Shutt.

Drs. Welty, Miller and Jones of Shanesville, and Drs. Seldon of Dover, and Powers of Rogersville, are doing everything possible for the sufferers.

Grant and the Fitz-John Porter Case.

NEW YORK, January 3d.—A *Times* reporter interviewed General Grant on yesterday's rumor that he had interested himself in behalf of Fitz John Porter. Grant said: "I am a xious to see justice done to Porter's reputation as a soldier, but the question of his being restored to the army is something that I have nothing to do with. I had fully made up my mind that the judgment of the Court-martial was just. Recently, however, at the request of Porter, I have read over all of the testimony in the case and also the orders and reports of the Confederate officers who were at the second battle of Bull Run, and as I progressed in my reading I became very much interested in the case, and found that the fac