AFFAIRS OF THE RAILWAYS.

The Joint Freight Inspection Bureau.

Chairman Albert Fink, of the joint committee, has issued a statement showing the operation of the freight inspection bureau established by the joint committee at the western termini of the trunk lines during the first six months of its existence, beginning April 1, 1888. The revenue of the roads interested in the bureau was increased on account of weighing $84,002, on account of rates and classification, $55,294; total increase, $139,296. The expense of the inspection bureau at the western termini of the trunk lines during the six months was $19,264, which was paid by the Western roads and the trunk-lines in equal parts, leaving a net gain of $120,048; one-half of which increased revenue may be assumed to have accrued to the Western roads and one-half to the trunk lines. The cost of inspection at eight points west of the termini of the trunk lines during six months, which was also divided equally between the trunk lines and Western roads, was $11,544. The inspection of west-bound freight at New York city during the same period shows an increase revenue derived by the trunk lines of $43,830, and the expense of the trunk lines was $11,383, leaving $32,447 as the net result.

Personal, Local and State Notes.

J. S. Tebbetts, general passenger agent of the Union Pacific, is already out with a calendar for 1889.

Albert S. White, general freight agent of the Indianapolis & St. Louis road, spent Thanksgiving in the city.

Lake and canal navigation is now closed, and the roads have an excellent opportunity to make handsome earnings for the next four months, if only reasonable rates are adhered to.

F. Slataper, chief civil engineer of the Pennsylvania Company, sails to-morrow for Europe, to be absent six months. During his absence Thomas Rodd will look after his duties. His wife accompanies him.

Col. George A. Merill, who died at St. Paul last week, was for many years a railroad superintendent, first on the Rutland & Burlington road, then on the New London & Northern, and lastly on the Passumpsic road.

The Wabash Western earned in the third week of November $122,496, an increase of $520 over the corresponding week in 1887. This is the first week in several months in which an increase in earnings has been shown this year.

The grand ball given by the Logansport Division of the Brotherhood of Locomotive Firemen in Logansport on Thanksgiving evening was a grand success. Over two hundred people were present, a number being from other prominent railroad centers.

The Grand Trunk continues to carry largely in excess of its percentage of east-bound business out of Chicago, and the Pennsylvania and Vanderbilt lines are at a loss to know why it is so, unless the Grand Trunk is favoring shippers in rates in some manner.

President Cable says that there is no truth in the rumor that the Chicago & Rock Island will not become a party to a restoration and maintenance of rates in the territory that their lines cover. He says none are more anxious for such a result than are the Rock Island people.

The Michigan roads have a State passenger agents' association, which does more to maintain paying rates than any other passengers agents' association in the country. They meet frequently, and watch matters so closely that even the ticket-scalpers have a poor show on Michigan roads.

John E. Roche, who for some years was the cashier of the Jeffersonville, Madison & Indianapolis road in this city, is now one of the most enterprising and successful business men of Louisville. He is interested in several of the manufacturing establishments of that city, and has become quite wealthy.

It is stated that neither the Vanderbilt nor the Pennsylvania lines will be represented at the meeting of the managers of the roads in the Central Traffic Association, which is to be held in Chicago to-day. But both managements say that if the other roads restore rates, and maintain them, they will also do so.

John B. Carson, general manager of the Louisville, New Albany & Chicago road, will return from New York to-day, and next week something definite will be done in purchasing ground for the company's new freight depot and other buildings, which it proposes to erect here. The ground already bought will be used largely for yard room.

General Manager Paul, of the Woodruff and the Mann Boudoir sleeping car companies, is in the city. On Jan. 1 the two companies will be consolidated under the name of the Union Palace-car Company. He states that the new company has already contracted for forty new cars, and will next month contract for as many more, some of which will likely be placed on Indianapolis lines.

The new arrangement by which passengers on the Pennsylvania special, No. 20, take dinner at Indianapolis and supper at Columbus goes into effect on Sunday next, and will make traveling on that train much more popular. The dining-halls at these points are to charge only 75 cents per meal, and what passengers want will be ordered before the train reaches this city for dinner or Columbus for supper.

It is stated that since E. B. Thomas took control of the N. Y., P. & O. division of the Erie system fully 60 per cent. of the subordinate officials have been removed and largely replaced by men who were with him on the Bee-line. The management is making a determined effort to make the earnings cover the fixed charges and operating expenses in the coming year. The last year they failed to do it by the sum of $343,643.

The notice which has been served on Western lines which may send business over the Philadelphia & Reading road, that it will exact its full proportion of old rates on through business prevailing before the reduction, will be enforced after Dec. 1. The adherence to the low rates relates to local business on the line of the Reading system, and to points east of Buffalo and Council Bluffs. The Interstate Dispatch freight-line is not especially favored by the Reading, but the Blue, White, Nickel-plate, Erie Dispatch, Lackawanna, Commercial Express, Traders' Dispatch, Lehigh Valley and Wabash, and Interstate Dispatch are all operated over the Philadelphia & Reading on a similar prorating basis.

LETTERS FROM THE PEOPLE.

National Election Law.

To the Editor of the Indianapolis Journal:

It is almost certain that after March 4, 1889, the law making departments of the national government can be controlled by the Republicans. The Constitution, Article 1, Section 4, and the amendments will uphold a national election law. Such an enactment would, I believe, be applauded by all fair-minded voters. One uniform rule—defining voters, the manner of casting and counting ballots, and how to declare the results of an election would crown and supersede the State systems as our present currency did the "wildcat" bank notes. The ballot of a voter is as sacred as his money. The matter ought to be discussed as a national question. S. P. THOMPSON.

RENSSELAER, Nov. 28.

Dabney's Slander of Monroe County.

To the Editor of the Indianapolis Journal:

The citizens of this place have been treated to a dessertation upon their political morals which is not only a revelation, but an outrage. Reference is had to an article in the Nation by Prof. R. H. Dabney, of the State University of this city, who, with an assumption of virtue that would shame a saint, deplores the baseness of Republican methods here displayed in the recent election. This immaculate doctrinaire of political ethics professes to have witnessed an amount of corruption by Republicans that smote harshly on his tender sensibilities. Evidently he is in sympathy with the organized effort of the Democracy to create the impression that Indiana was carried for General Harrison by the corrupt use of money alone. This communication of his in the Nation is only the dying wail of a presumptuous partisan, whose political creed is a cross between that of an unreconstructed rebel and a mugwump.

Were this all we would not complain. If he had adhered to the truth with half the persistency with which he followed the lead of his blind but vaulting imagination, we would not stop to censure. But his article is a misrepresentation of the election in this city. It represents that for days preceding the election the homes and houses of Republicans were filled with the class called "floaters," that on the day of the election these same Republicans drove their victims to the polls, forced tickets in their hands and immediately thereafter "paid them the price of their degradation;" that from the "corralling" of a horde of floaters in a house a conflagration ensued that destroyed a block of buildings. Especially is the heart of this censor of public morals touched at the manipulation of colored voters by Republican workers. His fancy pictures these colored brethren reaping individual harvests of "three glittering five-dollar gold pieces" from fields of Republican sowing. He is shocked beyond measure that a white Republican rode to the polls between two "filthy negroes"—inasmuch as all negroes are filthy to a man of Professor Dabney's political estheticism. All this and a great deal more the Professor assumes to have gathered from a personal observation. What he has said upon this subject makes one suspect him of being either a willful maligner or a presumptuous fool. No one will deny that there are floaters in Indiana, as in all other States. Neither will it be denied that their aid is sought by all political parties. But that Republican corruption existed here on election day as asserted by this man Dabney is an untruth, intended to deceive those who are unacquainted with the character of our citizenship. Corruption did not exist here on the 6th of November as represented. The negroes of this city, as everywhere else, are Republicans from principle. There are not a dozen exceptions here, and those that are have been the notorious wards of the Democracy throughout the whole campaign. The fire referred to by the Professor originated from the housing of "floaters" by Democrats in property owned by Democrats. The "fight over a colored voter" was an attempt by a Democratic thug, wearing the badge of a United States marshal, to intimidate a colored man from voting the Republican ticket.

Who is Prof. R. H. Dabney, anyhow? A Virginian; presumably of the F. F. V's.—interpreted by the veteran soldiers of Indiana who made them a study on many a battlefield as meaning "fleet-footed." Hailing from a State whose soil is red with the blood of freedmen who attempted to exercise the right of the ballot, he flies into a passion at seeing the triumphant exercise of that right in a State which was ever loyal and true; a man to whom Union and human liberty, as championed by the Republican party, are a provocation; an imported addition to the faculty of Indiana University having no interests or sympathies in common with the people upon whom his presence is an infliction generally deplored; a disciple of Calhoun and Cobden engaged in the dissemination of their hateful doctrines; a person whose presence here is endured, but never enjoyed. W.

BLOOMINGTON, Ind., Nov. 27.

A Saloon-Keeper's Opinions.

To the Editor of the Indianapolis Journal:

You seem to be laboring under a false impression, as you do Republican saloon men great injustice when you state that every saloon in the State voted, worked and bought votes for the Democratic party. I am one among nine others, from this city alone, who worked and voted for Harrison and protection. In 1872 I cast my first vote for Gen. Grant, and have ever since been faithful the head of my ticket, and if I have diverged, in a few cases, as regards State and county representatives, from the true path of Republicanism, my attitude was chiefly due to the rash misstatements and uncalled for abuse of the Journal toward Republican saloon men. I am a daily subscriber to your splendid paper, and love its principles and teachings, which the great Republican party should be proud of, but I cannot lay under the foul imputation that I worked, voted and bought votes against Harrison and protection, and especially a party which deserves the vote of an honest man and patriot. No; far from it. When influence was brought to bear upon me, my answer was that I would prefer my saloon (the best in Brazil) to sink twenty thousand miles below hades rather than cast my vote against the author of "the gates of Castle Garden swing inward" and protection. While admitting that I may not be as holy as your troublesome temperance correspondents, yet I feel within me a patriotic and compassionate sentiment for my country and protection far above that Godforsaken class of hypocrites, who, in time of our country's sore need, prostrated themselves at the Democratic shrine. In the face of this treachery, I often ask myself the question, Why should this great Republican party of glory, fame and renown continually truckle to a combination of fanaticism, bigotry, tyranny and usurpation? Surely the Republican party has been taught lessons enough to form the opinion that they contend against a greater organization (the liquor business) and for no purpose other than defeat. The Republicans have not elected a Representative from Clay county since 1872. In 1886 the Legislature would have been Republican if it had not been for the evil influence of a few temperance people of Brazil. I could say the same of 1888. No Representative could be elected from this county if the Republican saloon men combined their forces with the Democrats. But the question of protection was so vital to the public welfare we did not combine. No sensible saloon-keeper can store up hatred against the Republican party. Let the Republicans but drop this little party of conspiracies, local option planks, etc., and all will go well. For my part, I will continue to vote the Republican ticket, because I can't help it, don't want to help it, don't care who knows it, and don't want any thanks for it.

BRAZIL, Ind., Nov. 28. MIKE RYAN.

Woman's Condition a Menace to Free Labor.

To the Editor of the Indianapolis Journal:

The Knights of Labor convention just held in Indianapolis has probably attracted universal attention throughout the United States. The organization, in spite of internal dissensions, is still a powerful one. It is powerful because it represents the force of thousands of free citizens united for the benefit of their common interests. But aside from such organizations, though perhaps indirectly through their influence, workingmen are becoming more and more generally recognized as an important factor in American society, and therefore in American politics. The deference paid by both political parties, in the late campaign, to workingmen proves conclusively that they are both feared and respected. It may be said of them that they hold the balance of power in our government, and if they were, as a whole, better educated, as they will be in time, their words and opinions might easily become the supreme law of the land, and, as a rule it would probably be a wise and a just law. One other provision besides education must be met, however, before laboring men can gain so high a position in the nation's affairs, viz., American labor must be made and kept wholly free.

The abolition of African slavery and the enfranchisement of the black man elevated American labor to a place of respect it had never known before. Since the emancipation proclamation labor in our country has been generally regarded as relieved from the stigma of a slave class within its ranks. Yet many thoughtful people are beginning to realize that one class of our laborers is not free—working-women, whose legal condition is the greatest menace to American labor.

To term working-women slaves would not be a sensational nor a sentimental expression. Compelled by necessity, in most cases, to earn their bread, working-women are largely at the mercy of their employers, who are too often cruel taskmasters, or tyrants of a baser order. Multiplied evidences of this fact might be given if they were necessary. But every thoughtful person knows that to be powerless where the making and execution of laws are concerned is to be deprived of the best means of self-protection—a protection so essential to everyone in a battle with the world. It is this deprivation of legal power which is filling Siberia with political exiles, and is keeping the great body of the people, the men as well as the women, of despotic nations, under the dominion of hereditary rulers and privileged classes. Such a deprivation is a seal of bondage, as perfect in its ways as actual slavery.

Space will not permit any further argument here concerning woman's helplessness under man-made laws. A matter of still greater importance demands general attention at the present time. The effect of this bondage, where working women are concerned, upon the entire laboring class, can no longer be safely ignored.

Capitalists know what power there is in a workingman's ballot. They know, further, that a working-woman has no such power. They realize fully that through this power they are compelled, directly or indirectly, to give greater consideration to the interests of their man than to those of their female employes, and to pay to the former higher wages than to the latter for the same work equally well done. This discrimination on account of sex is the rule in almost every kind of employment engaged in by both men and women, from that connected with a professional life to that of the least skilled laborers in a factory.

The peculiar effect of this unjust discrimination may be constantly seen, and it is surprising that it should be so constantly overlooked. Not only do women's lower wages cause suffering to them, but their woes are shared by the men, whom they are everywhere to so great an extent superseding.

Capitalists and corporate bodies naturally employ those over whom they can exercise the most authority and who will work the cheapest. Women are therefore slowly but surely crowding out the men from occupations for which both are equally suited. More than this, women's lack of law-making power causes her to be a fit subject for the oppressor. More work is exacted from her than she ought to perform, and work, therefore, which should be distributed among a half a dozen is often confined to three or four.

A feeling of rivalry towards working women has blinded most workingmen to the cause of these economic evils. They are apt to regard their co-laborers of the gentler sex as usurpers and unfair competitors.

The degradation of labor by the ill-paid work of women is no doubt universally felt in a vague way. Yet the increasing power of capitalists through the same means is apparently wholly unrecognized by the vast majority of people. A thorough awakening to these two facts is needed if the boasted dignity of American labor is to be maintained. When the eyes of American men are fully opened to the cause of many of their troubles and to the dangers that threaten them from woman's political condition, they will probably demand that women be placed upon an equal footing, in every respect, with themselves. They will realize how much better it would be to have women as free, rather than as slave, competitors. MARY E. CARDWILL.

INDIANA'S MUNICIPAL DEBTS.

What Cities and Towns Owe, Together with the Valuation of Taxable Property.

An interesting table has recently been prepared by the State Statistician, which contains information of much value not only to citizens of Indiana but to people outside of this State, who are contemplating removal or investment here. It contains a statement of the population, value of real estate and personal property, bonded and floating debt, and rate of taxation of the several cities and towns of Indiana, as reported by Mayors and presidents of town boards, and is methodically and conveniently arranged, so that the principal cities and towns in each county can be easily referred to. Below will be found such portion of it as can be readily handled in newspaper forms:

CITIES AND TOWNS.	Value of Real and Personal Property.	Bonded Debt.	Floating Debt.	Tax Rate on $100.
Decatur	$796,920	$14,000	$300	$0.88
Ft. Wayne	12,561,140	711,000	None	1.00
Columbus	2,150,685	67,000	500	1.00
Fowler	312,188	None	None	.40
Hartford City	519,410	None	None	.....
Lebanon	1,050,770	19,000	None	1.05
Nashville	75,385	.....	.....	.....
Delphi	936,760	40,000	None	1.00
Logansport	3,693,820	312,000	20,000	1.75
Jeffersonville	2,683,742	373,000	None	2.00
Brazil	677,214	50,000	162	1.40
Frankfort	2,014,790	15,000	None	.92
Leavenworth	75,015	.....	.....	.....
Washington	1,093,258	.....	.....	.....
Lawrenceburg	1,241,895	65,000	None	1.35
Aurora	1,509,100	21,000	None	.99
Greensburg	1,698,600	None	None	1.00
Auburn	345,565	8,000	1,500	1.65
Garrett	241,870	7,000	None	3.50
Muncie	2,087,180	26,000	None	1.05
Jasper	243,715	.....	.....	.....
Huntingburg	385,645	.....	.....	.....
Goshen	1,812,755	23,000	None	1.00
Elkhart	2,018,790	17,000	10,000	1.10
Connersville	1,489,142	None	6,000	.90
New Albany	8,027,660	381,000	25,000	1.56
Covington	383,825	.....	.....	.....
Attica	657,532	15,000	None	1.50
Brookville	847,355	.....	.....	.....
Rochester	655,669	14,500	None	1.49
Princeton	1,258,675	2,500	500	1.50
Marion	1,481,800	28,000	1,000	2.25
Worthington	395,305	8,000	.....	2.44
Noblesville	635,100	None	None	1.24
Greenfield	878,215	3,000	None	1.83
Corydon	273,643	3,500	863	.95
Danville	565,377	6,000	None	1.87
New Castle	1,215,286	4,000	5,000	1.90
Kokomo	1,585,260	21,000	None	.90
Huntington	1,741,850	25,000	5,000	1.50
Brownstown	142,985	.....	.....	.....
Seymour	1,143,290	.....	.....	.....
Rensselaer	504,115	9,500	None	.60
Portland	733,345	20,000	None	.....
Madison	3,202,240	270,000	16,046	1.20
Vernon	153,820	250	None	.30
North Vernon	376,955	5,000	None	1.25
Franklin	1,472,210	18,000	None	.75
Edinburg	740,690	500	None	1.45
Vincennes	4,169,465	40,000	None	1.10
Warsaw	1,194,928	42,000	None	2.60
Lagrange	609,885	.....	.....	.....
Crown Point	494,090	18,000	None	2.25
Hammond	680,605	None	None	.50
LaPorte	2,761,355	80,000	None	1.15
Michigan City	2,223,299	40,000	8,000	1.31
Bedford	889,750	.....	.....	.....
Mitchell	331,430	8,000	None	.70
Anderson	1,325,835	22,000	475	1.25
Indianapolis	50,485,620	1,914,000	885,000	1.82
Plymouth	825,500	None	None	1.80
Shoals	195,812	.....	.....	.....
Peru	1,495,265	160,000	None	1.55
Bloomington	1,515,570	27,000	5,000	1.20
Crawfordsville	2,294,605	4,000	None	.99
Martinsville	829,725	16,000	300	.55
Kentland	257,119	1,000	None	2.28
Albion	330,764	.....	.....	.....
Kendallville	664,286	.....	.....	.....
Ligonier	741,012	1,000	None	1.75
Rising Sun	518,760	.....	.....	.....
Paoli	166,335	.....	.....	.....
Spencer	624,770	11,600	None	.73
Rockville	718,245	.....	.....	.....
Cannelton	440,720	None	6,000	.70
Tell City	379,415	None	None	.70
Petersburg	468,690	3,000	800	1.95
Valparaiso	1,542,800	50,000	None	1.15
Mt. Vernon	1,325,800	37,000	None	1.45
Winamac	267,260	1,000	300	2.30
Greencastle	2,032,400	16,000	None	1.00
Winchester	1,071,285	None	2,000	.65
Union City	792,100	40,000	None	.86
Versailles	95,620	None	None	1.61
Rushville	1,036,795	None	None	.90
Scottsburg	111,361	None	None	.15
Shelbyville	2,184,840	19,000	2,000	.83
Rockport	745,760	8,000	6,000	.75
Knox	62,111	1,000	1,000	1.70
South Bend	5,912,300	229,600	None	1.25
Mishawaka	766,000	14,000	500	.80
Angola	422,690	.....	.....	.....
Sullivan	811,316	9,600	None	1.81
Vevay	553,615	.....	.....	.....
Lafayette	8,374,010	300,000	None	1.28
Tipton	449,800	8,000	1,000	.80
Liberty	575,215	.....	.....	.....
Evansville	16,198,235	2,000,000	None	1.66
Newport	235,550	.....	.....	1.69
Clinton	246,410	3,000	None	.85
Terre Haute	14,392,415	283,000	50,000	1.15
Wabash	1,814,262	20,000	None	1.10
N. Manchester	602,330	5,000	None	.35
Williamsport	267,735	.....	.....	.....
Boonville	524,730	.....	.....	.....
Salem	691,980	.....	.....	.....
Richmond	9,105,288	78,000	None	1.00
Bluffton	857,165	16,000	1,500	2.35
Monticello	445,700	15,800	1,500	1.27
Columbia City	852,720	None	None	.90
Totals	$224,915,419	$8,143,759	$1,063,246	

A marked feature of the information furnished by the Statistical Bureau of this State is its practical and useful character, and the above is a fair sample of the work turned out by Messrs. Peelle and Praig, now in charge of the bureau.

ABOUT THE SPOILS.

A Mugwump Journal Kindly Supplies Advice for the President-Elect.

Boston Herald.

It is the duty of all good citizens to strengthen the hands of the incoming President in every effort he may make to improve the civil-service system of the country. We welcome, therefore, all evidence of intention on his part toward such an end. We have had less confidence in his intentions on this point during the campaign than we should have had had he been less a partisan; but we shall gladly recognize any action on his part that tends to prove that we have done him an injustice. There are some reasons why Gen. Harrison should conceive a peculiar disgust toward the spoils system. He has seen it in operation in his own State more objectionably almost than in any State in the country. There is no commonwealth in the Union, unless it be Maryland, where the Democrats have behaved quite as badly with the civil service as they have in Indiana. General Harrison as a Senator made an especial investigation of what they had done here, and exposed it in an effective speech. If he can only prove himself to be statesman enough to appreciate that the blame for this does not lie altogether in the Democratic politicians, but exists somewhat in the system as well, he will have obtained a lesson that will prove of much value in the trial that is before him.

We believe that we are in accord of opinion with the great majority of the American people when we say that we do not care a copper which party has the minor national administrative offices, provided they are in honest and competent hands. We go further, and hold that, beyond the money that may be levied from them for use in elections, they are an actual weakness to any party. It would be too much, perhaps, to say that, if no removals had been made in the present administration, the Democratic party would have been stronger at the late election. There were too many Democrats hungry for office to have allowed this, perhaps, to be possible. But we do express the belief, without misgiving, that, as the offices were distributed, it injured the party. When the Democratic demand that it be done was complied with, there were more dissatisfied people than there were pleased ones in the party. If a law had existed that forbade any changes in the offices, except for cause, the Democrats would have been better off than they proved to be.

The Democratic President was compelled to make wholesale removals from office because of assurances conveyed to him that the Democratic party could not be held together at the coming election unless it was done. There was too much reason to believe these assurances were true. The people believed them to a great degree, and this belief lessened the independent vote that was cast with the Democrats. Now, can the same thing be said of the Republicans? Much of the future of the party may depend upon the answer to this question. Our belief is that certainly in the northern section of the country, where the Republican strength almost entirely is, much the larger portion of those people whom we have designated as not caring who holds the national offices, provided they are well held, are in the Republican ranks. Ought they not assert themselves now? Let the incompetent officials be weeded out, of course, and let the scrutiny be made as close as may be asked for; but if the changes can be so conducted as to go no further, and if that ravenous greed for a "clean sweep" which so disgraced the Democrats can be avoided, then President Harrison may secure for himself that opportunity for enviable distinction that President Cleveland lost, and the Republican party may put itself on a basis which will command the support of the disinterested patriotism of the country that it has not occupied since the days of the late war.

To such an end we trust that the independent opposition to President Harrison in the late election will now give him that support which was not accorded to President Cleveland by any portion of the opposition that he encountered. President Cleveland began his administration with sound professions as regards the civil service. He had not half the encouragement in them to which he was entitled. When they were accepted as sincere by his opponents, the opinion was invariably added that it would be found impossible to carry them out. This foreboding weakened his hands instead of giving them the support to which they were entitled. It aided to accomplish the prediction which it is all too much to be feared there was often the desire to have brought about. By this and other means that end was attained. We bespeak for President Harrison better treatment. We propose to put faith in any professions he may make on the subject of reform in the civil service, and to have confidence in his sincerity until the contrary is demonstrated; to assume that the better element in his party will sustain him until compelled by proof to believe otherwise, and to hope that it may be the prevailing element.

STAMPED TINWARE.

How the Public Buy Tin and Get Iron—Secrets of the Trade.

Chicago News.

"I doubt not that it will be a surprise to a great majority of purchasers," said Charles W. Ellsworth, of the Chicago Stamping Company, "to learn that the tin of common use if not the real article, but only sheet-iron, or steel, with an infinitesimal covering of tin on the surface. It is this fact that, in a measure, makes dupes of the public and works to the disadvantage of reputable manufacturers. In a box of good tin plate which weighs 112 pounds there are only about five pounds of tin, so you can see how delicate the film is. Yet tin plate is imported constantly that weighs but ninety pounds to the box. Besides, there is a difference in the quality of the filling, or black sheets, as we call them. Coke-finished iron sheets are much inferior to charcoal-finished, and these, in turn, to Bessemer steel. Hence there there is a wide field for inferior manufacture, and the market is glutted with goods that retail at a lower price than serviceable articles could possibly be manufactured for. When the public can get neat-looking stamped ware made of inferior plates at a mere song the better staple of goods is run out of the market.

"The cost of manufacturing poor stamped ware is approximately the same as it is for the best. The difference in the retail price of the two lies in the stock. Poor plate tin requires more intermediate steps before the manufactured article is finished, since the brittleness of the filling will not bear much of a strain without being seamed and cracked. After being stamped into the form required the one takes no more rubbing to get out the tiny creases than the other. It is all machine work, you see. The beaded rim on the inferior goods is an imitation, merely, there being no wire inserted to strengthen the rim as in the case of the better staple. The masses think that tin is tin and that it is the process of stamping that makes the articles retail so cheap. They ought rather to think that most tin is sheet steel, and that when they want good stamped ware they should go to a hardware store and not to 99-cent counters."

"Does the manufacture of stamped tinware require much skilled labor?"

"No; less, probably, than any other class of tin-work. A man of ordinary intelligence can learn to operate a stamping machine in a day or two, since all he has to do is to put the sheets in proper form under the die. Rubbing out creases, turning rims and re-dipping in molten tin when this is done, can scarcely be called skilled labor. It is rather a little higher form of common labor. Boys do most of the light stamping. In fact, in tin manufacture the workmen require less preliminary training and get better wages in proportion to the work done than in any other industry I know of. There is not a detail of the trade that a bright man could not become proficient in in from eight months to a year, and be competent to earn from $12 to $20 a week by piece work. In stamped tin-work the wages run about $2 or $2.50 a day. Even girl solderers earn from $5 to $12 a week on comparatively little experience.

"A significant fact regarding the manufacture of stamped tinware is that the workmen do not advance or grow, as the phrase goes. The work doesn't offer facilities for the development of personal skill. It is chiefly feeding machines, and in a certain sense the men become machines. A man of ten years' experience is of little more value than a recruit of a month or two's standing. A boy fifteen years of age is worth as much for light stamping as he will be ten years later, since the machines necessitate or induce a certain degree of speed or dexterity."

AN OLD SALT'S YARN.

How Peter Johnson Was Used as a Plug to Stop a Leak on Shipboark.

New York Evening Sun.

Old Peter Johnson, a familiar "landmark" of South street, and who, in the memory of the oldest dock hand in this city has never been known to stir away from his seat on an old box at the corner of South street and Coenties slip, tells a most remarkable tale of the troubles through which he had to pass to become an American citizen, and to run away from his birthplace in Sweden.

It seems that Peter, whose name is not Peter at all, but something in which all the letters in the alphabet are combined, was born in a little hamlet in Sweden. Ever since he first read a translation of "Robinson Crusoe," at the age of ten, Peter had a violent passion for the sea. One day he heard of America. He asked how far off this great land might be, and his father replied that it was on the other side of the great Irish sea and across the Atlantic. The next day Peter made up a little bundle of necessaries and started off to find this glorious El Dorado. He reached Leis, a small fishing port on the coast of Sweden.

Walking along the wharves he saw a bark of about 800 tons that was advertised to start for New York on that very day. He had never heard of New York, but as he clambered over the port rail of the little ship he blindly hoped that it was somewhere near his goal. On board he found all deserted. By accident Peter stumbled into the hold of the ship. He secreted himself among a number of barrels, and as he was very tired he fell asleep. About ten hours afterward he was awakened by a peculiar clanking noise. The ship was rolling horribly. Her wooden sides were being strained to the utmost extent, and Peter's heart stood still.

"Well, the end of it was," said the old man last evening to the writer, "that I went on deck. I was a mighty sick colloose, I can tell you. But I wasn't too sick to see that something hor'ble had happened. The cap'n stood near the wheel looking hopelessly toward shore, and didn't even notice me. The sea was runnin' high. A heavy gale had caught us to leeward and we had sprung a leak. Our ship was pretty fast and we were out of sight of land. The leak was a big one and our ship was fillin' fast. All the men were at work at the pumps, but the water was gainin' on 'em and they were losin' heart and hope. When the cap saw me he didn't fire off and cat-tail me. No; he just caught me by the shoulder here and he jest looked up to heaven thus way, and he jest said, 'Thank God!' sorter happy like.

"Then he hurried me down into the hold and then he said somethin' to one of the men as was at the pumps. The man went away, but he soon come back 'n told the cap that all was right.

"Then the cap'n took me down into the bow of the old hulk. That's wher' she'd sprung a leak. Ther' was a hole 'bout the size of your body on the starboard side. The cap'n, he and the man then cotched me up, an' mates, would you believe it? they just stuck me in that hole up to my armpits, they did, blast me if they didn't! It was mighty oncomfortable to me, but it stopped the water from flowin' in. After a while the water was all pumped out, an' then the carpenter fixed the hole. For my part of the work the cap'n gave me a free passage, and here I am."

And then Peter Johnson closed his teeth on an old clay pipe, nor would he open them again to say one word in explanation of his strange adventure.

Facts in Human Life.

Golden Argosy.

There are 3,064 languages in the world, and its inhabitants profess more than 1,000 religions. The number of men is about equal to the number of women. The average of life is about thirty-three years. One quarter die previous to the age of seventeen. To 1,000 persons, only one reaches 100 years of life; to every 100, only six reach the age of sixty-five, and not more than one in 500 live to eighty years. There are on the earth 1,000,000,000 inhabitants. Of these 33,033,033 die every year, 91,824 every day, 3,730 every hour and 60 every minute, or one every second. The married are longer lived than the single, and, above all, those who observe a sober and industrious conduct. Tall men live longer than short ones. Women have more chances of life in their favor previous to fifty years of age than men have, but fewer afterward. The number of marriages is in the proportion of 75 to every 1,000 individuals. Marriages are more frequent after equinoxes—that is, during the months of June and December. Those born in spring are generally of a more robust constitution than others. Births are more frequent by night than by day, also deaths. The number of men capable of bearing arms is calculated at one-fourth of the population.

Valuable Patents.

Norristown Herald.

The original inventor of the bell punch sold his patent for $300, and the company purchasing it made hundreds of thousands of dollars out of it. It is not known what the original inventor of the whisky punch sold his patent for, but hundreds of thousands of dollars have been made out of that too.

DAILY WEATHER BULLETIN.

Indications.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 29.

For Indiana—Light rains; slightly colder; northerly winds.

Local Weather Report.

INDIANAPOLIS, Nov. 29.

Time.	Bar.	Ther.	R. H.	Wind.	Weather	Prec
7 A. M.	29.98	36	91	N'wst	Cloudy	.....
2 P. M.	29.97	40	84	N'wst	Cloudy	.....
7 P. M.	30.02	39	87	N'wst	Cloudy	.....

Maximum thermometer, 41; minimum thermometer, 36.

Following is a comparative statement of the condition of temperature and precipitation on Nov. 29, 1888:

	Tem.	Precip.
Normal	29	0.12
Mean	38	0.00
Departure from normal	*9	—0.12
Total excess or deficiency since Nov. 1	*42	*1.52
Total excess or deficiency since Jan. 1	—906	—2.28

*Plus.

General Observations.

INDIANAPOLIS, Nov. 29—7 P. M.

Station.	Barometer.	Thermometer. Exp.	Min.	Max	Precipitat'n	Weath'r
New York city	29.70	40	.....	44	T	Cloudy
Buffalo, N. Y.	29.82	36	.....	36	.08	Rain.
Philadelphia, Pa.	29.80	40	.....	46	.04	Cloudy
Pittsburg, Pa.	29.90	36	.....	40	.02	Rain.
Washington, D.C.	29.86	42	.....	40	.....	Cloudy
Charleston, S. C.	29.96	48	.....	60	.....	Clear.
Atlanta, Ga.	30.06	44	.....	50	.....	Clear.
Jacksonville, Fla.	30.06	48	.....	56	.....	Clear.
Pensacola, Fla.	30.12	50	.....	58	.....	Clear.
Montgomery, Ala	30.10	50	.....	56	.....	Clear.
Vicksburg, Miss.	30.10	52	.....	58	.....	Cloudy
New Orleans, La.	30.14	50	.....	54	.....	Clear.
Little Rock, Ark.	30.16	44	.....	50	.....	Cloudy
Galveston, Tex.	30.16	54	.....	.....	.....	Cloudy
San Antonio, Tex	30.22	54	.....	60	.....	Cloudy
Memphis, Tenn.	30.12	46	.....	52	.....	Cloudy
Nashville, Tenn.	30.06	44	.....	50	T	Cloudy
Louisville, Ky.	30.04	40	.....	42	.....	Cloudy
Indianapolis, Ind.	30.02	40	36	42	.....	Cloudy
Cincinnati, O.	30.00	42	.....	42	.....	Cloudy
Cleveland, O.	29.92	38	.....	38	.06	Rain.
Toledo, O.	29.82	38	.....	40	T	Cloudy
Marquette, Mich.	29.98	32	.....	36	.04	Cloudy
S. Ste. Marie, Mich	29.88	32	.....	.....	T	Snow.
Chicago, Ill.	30.00	36	34	38	.....	Cloudy
Cairo, Ill.	30.12	40	40	42	.01	Rain.
Springfield, Ill.	30.12	34	36	38	T	Rain.
Milwaukee, Wis.	29.96	34	.....	36	.....	Cloudy
Duluth, Minn.	30.12	32	.....	36	T	Cloudy
St. Paul, Minn.	30.10	30	.....	34	T	Cloudy
Morehead, Minn.	30.22	22	.....	26	.....	Cloudy
St. Vincent, Minn	30.24	20	.....	22	.....	Cloudy
Davenport, Ia.	30.08	34	34	38	.02	Rain.
Dubuque, Ia.	30.06	34	34	38	.....	Cloudy
Des Moines, Ia.	30.14	30	28	32	T	Cloudy
St. Louis, Mo.	30.12	38	38	42	.01	Rain.
Kansas City, Mo.	30.22	30	30	32	T	Cloudy
Fort Sill, Ind. T.	30.18	40	34	52	.....	Clear.
Dodge City, Kan.	30.22	32	28	42	.....	Clear.
Omaha, Neb	30.22