FROM CHURCHES TO HOMES

The Day for Feasting as It Was Observed with All That Makes It Enjoyable.

How and Where Thousands of the City's People, as Their Tastes and Fancy Suggested, Expressed Thankfulness on the Great Holiday.

The Several Services of Songs of Praise, Followed by Eloquent Sermons.

Why the People Should Be Thankful as the Preachers Told It from Their Pulpits—Dinners of the Charitable—Notes.

FEATURES OF THE HOLIDAY.

How It Was Observed by the People as Their Fancy and Tastes Suggested.

The fact that the Thanksgiving Thursday fell upon Nov. 28 recalled to the older residents of the city, with more than usual force, a remembrance of Indiana's first celbration of the day, in accordance with Governor Morton's proclamation in 1861, two years before President Lincoln established it as a national holiday. The observance of that day was not the joyous celebration of yesterday. Nov. 28, twenty-eight years ago, was a day of earnest prayer, of mingled hope and dread. The horrors of civil war had come, and the flower of Indiana was on the field or in camp, awaiting orders to move to the front, and from every home went up the prayer that the sons, brothers, husbands and fathers might be returned safe and in honor. Nearly three decades have passed since then, but the memory of '61 and the four dark years that followed gave a touch of added sincerity to the thanks offered up in hundreds of homes yesterday.

The day opened crisp and cold, with a light skift of snow on the ground—the first day of real winter that Indianapolis has enjoyed this season. As business was very generally suspended, people were left to put in the day according to their own inclinations, and the methods chosen were almost as various as the individuals who chose them. As usual, the early morning saw the scattering of a small army of sportsmen, with guns and dogs, into the surrounding country, and the quail had no more reason to give thanks than the turkey. The great majority, however, preferred the style of celebration originating with the holiday itself in New England of attending church in the morning and returning home to participate in a delightful family gathering and enjoy the traditional feast of turkey and "the trimmin's." The various churches where union services were held were well attended, and never had ministers a better theme than that of thanksgiving in this year of unparalleled prosperity and bounteous plenty. After services came the Thanksgiving dinner, the feature of the day, when almost every home in the city was the scene of a family reunion, with all the pleasures that such a gathering implies. The hotels vied with each other in the preparation of elaborate menus, and every one of them excelled their previous efforts in the way of a Thanksgiving dinner. Traveling men have learned by experience to appreciate these dinners, and every one caught for the holiday in Indiana makes it a point to stop here for the day. The dining-rooms were well filled, not only with commercial men but many residents, as well, who had deserted their boarding-houses and even their family tables. Even within the various asylums and charitable institutions the day was one of festivity and good dinners. Little as one may see to be thankful for he can always return thanks that his misfortunes are no worse, if he only looks at it that way. Apparently, however, all do not. Last evening a reporter called up, among other institutions, the County Infirmary to ask for particulars of the celebration there. "You must have the wrong number," came back, in reproachful tones, over the wire. "This is the poor-farm." There was a whole tale of woe condensed into that sentence, and it began to dawn upon the young man, perhaps for the first time in his life, that even those who work on holidays have something to be thankful for.

As such a holiday as yesterday brings with it great pleasures, so does it intensify certain miseries by contrast. Next in misery to the poor fellow who feels more keenly his hunger and scant clothing as he looks upon his sleek, well-fed and happy neighbor, is the young man, either homeless or far away from home, of whom every large city has its thousands. He may be comfortably fed, clothed and housed through his own earnings, and he may be reasonably happy most days in the year, but on a holiday so peculiarly devoted to the joys of home, he is an outcast, a lonesome, desolate sufferer from a vague craving that he would call home-sickness if he had a home. The homeless young man was out in force yesterday, wandering about the streets in groups or singly, some visiting the Y. M. C. A. rooms, but more trying to kill time in the billiard-rooms, or by just simply loitering about from one corner to another. There are occasions when the evidence that marriage, with its proper concomitants of a cheery wife and happy children, is not a failure, and yesterday was one of them.

The School for the Feeble-Minded.

Superintendent John G. Blake used all his energy, backed by boundless resources of love and kindly feeling, to make the 270 children in the School for the Feeble-minded Youth, temporarily placed at Richmond, know what a happy Thanksgiving is. To this end he was backed by his board of trustees and the entire corps of officers and teachers. The one end in view was to make Thanksgiving a red-letter day with the children, and one to be remembered. Chapel exercises occupied the entire morning, from 9 to 12 o'clock. The children sang songs; they spoke pieces; they responded intelligently and decorously in the religious services—alternate readings between superintendent and the children from the Bible. Addresses were then made by Colonel Star, of Richmond, Superintendent Blake, and Drs. W. N. Wishard and A. W. Brayton, of Indianapolis. Then to the tables, where fifty turkeys with all appurtenances thereunto belonging were served to as neat and well-behaved a lot of youngsters as one would see in any school in Indiana. The afternoon was also an off-session from work and tasks, and the evening was devoted to dancing, calisthenic exercises with rods and dumb-bells, recitations, songs, dialogues and games.

To one who goes for two hours with Superintendent Blake among the living and school-rooms of the institution his intense personality is a revelation. The children flock to him, caress his hands and cling to his garments. Each one is called by name, and told some kind, witty and appropriate thing—a word of love that sinks into the heart and illumines the mind. In these walls are the unfortunate indeed—worse than blindness or deafness—next to insanity for the care and tenderness they need. Here are seventy epileptics, more than sixty of whom were born of epileptic parents! Here are twenty paralytics, and a score or more of those in whom the light of reason is but a glimmer. All are welcome; none were refused until the buildings which are finished were full, for Superintendent Blake has nothing less in mind than the making of a permanent home for the 1,800 feeble-minded children of Indiana, where they may learn to work, to take decent care of themselves, and be made at least as happy and comfortable as their mental state will permit.

The new home building at Fort Wayne is to be occupied next June, and will give room for four hundred occupants. The present quarters, though built for the insane, do very well. Some wards are used for living-rooms, others for schools, some for work-shops. Already the children make all their suits, all their shoes, all their socks and underwear. They keep as neat a kitchen and dining-room as can be found in the State; they make, with the aid of experienced cooks, the best of home-made bread. The entire "plant," as arranged and carried out by Superintendent Blake, his officers and board, is so nearly self-supporting that all the expenses of teaching and keeping the home of nearly 300 are kept within the limit of $10 a month for each inmate—a sum too small for the best good. Ohio and Illinois allow $15 a month for this purpose. It is remarkable that such a class—mental and physical invalids throughout—falling at their work or study from epilepsy, shaken with paralysis, deformed in body and features, are kept so comfortable and happy at so little cost. The State has made a noble beginning in taking care of even a portion of this class, although 130 applications have been refused since last August.

In Superintendent Blake, noble and generous by nature, full of love and sympathy for all the suffering, conquering the most rebellious and stupid by kindness, quick and appreciative, the State of Indiana has a man as brave and as useful as any warrior or politician that has ever served her needs. He loves to have the company of his friends, and says a visit or a word of sympathy touches him, as it does the broken forms in his keeping. The place is an uncanny one, stuck in wet and swampy ground, but every obstacle has been surmounted; gas put in, walks made, shops established, and a homelike air pervaded the place yesterday, and the visitors departed wondering that such a transformation in mind and body and material surroundings could have been made in the two years since Mr. Blake was elected superintendent for the Indiana School for the Feeble-minded Youth.

At the Charitable Institutions.

The inmates of the charitable institutions all had a day of rejoicing. The days set apart for contributions were not forgotten by the public, and yesterday extra dinners were served at each institution. Some special service was held in the morning, and in the afternoon there was an entertainment, or merry-making. At the Insane Hospital, all the patients who were able to do so enjoyed the performance of the burlesque operetta, "The Last Will and Testament," by Karl Merz. It was given by Misses Jessie Broughton, Anna Baggs, Nettie Dietrich, Winifred Hunter, and Mrs. Max Leckner. Mrs. Zelda Seguin Wallace also gave two or three songs.

Family Reunions.

There were numerous family parties yesterday. Among them was that at Dr. Henry Jameson's house, where four generations were present, Mrs. Judge Newman, Mrs. H. G. Carev, Mrs. Henry Jameson and her two daughters. At Mrs. Abby Cady's the entire family gathered. Dr. Nelson Cady and family, of Logansport, and Mr. Jed Cady, of Chicago, being present. Mrs. Sullivan observed the day with her son, Mr. George R. Sullivan, and family and daughter, Mrs Emil Wulschner and family. Mr. and Mrs. Henry Schnull, with a large family party, opened their new home on Central avenue.

Thanks of the Orphan Asylum Managers.

The managers of the Indianapolis Orphans' Asylum are very grateful to the young adies who gave the operetta, "The Last Will and Testament," on Monday evening for the benefit of the asylum. They also say they are indebted to the merchants and others who contributed liberally to make the performance the success it was.

Notes of the Day.

Mr. Emil Wulschner presented each of his employes with a fine, large Thanksgiving turkey.

The registers of the principal hotels in the city showed an unusually large number of families who took their dinners away from home yesterday. The number was said to be greater than on any previous Thanksgiving.

While the local charity organizations did all in their power yesterday to supply the wants of the poorer classes, there were many who could not be reached. It is said that a large number of families spent the day without a particle of food, and that many places of the poor were without fires.

Some time ago George O'Donovan, living at No. 446 West Washington street, had both ankles broken at the Sarven wheel-works, and his family, consisting of a wife and six children, were reported to be in destitute circumstances. A number of his friends sent around a good supply of Thanksgiving delicacies.

The O. L. and S. C. held interesting Thanksgiving exercises at the residence of the Misses Hawkins, No. 452 East East Market street, last evening. A. E. Winters and Benton V. Canfield, delivered addresses, Miss C. R. Livingston gave a recitation, and Miss Anna Hasely read the society paper. Musical selections were rendered by F. J. Richman and a quartet. Oysters were served at the close of the programme.

THE DAY AT THE CHURCHES.

Dr. Van Anda's Sermon at the Union Services at Meridian-Street Methodist Church.

At Meridian-street M. E. Church, yesterday, Dr. Van Anda, of Roberts Park Church, preached the Thanksgiving sermon, the two congregations uniting. He took as his text the seventh verse of the one-hundred-and-forty-sixth Psalm: "They shall openly utter the memory of thy great goodness." The Doctor said the proclamation of the Nation's chief magistrate, which called the people together on that day, is of itself a cause of thanksgiving, because when rulers recognize God as king there is ground to hope that the people will do so. He divided his sermon into three heads: First, the ground of thanksgiving to God; second, the occasion for it; third, the mode of giving thanks. "Our relation to God," said he, "lies in the fact that He is our creator, and we are intelligent creatures subject to law, and capable of appreciating His goodness; we are able to return love for love and to recognize mercies, and thus it is reasonable we should acknowledge the goodness and mercy which gave us such an exalted rank in being—next to the angels, if not above them. The fact that we are sinful creatures, and that God does not call us to judgment, but continues us in this state of being with all blessings, would make us ungrateful, indeed, did we not recognize Him in His mercies. These occasions for thanksgiving are so numerous that we know not where to begin. A man, if he sits down to think of it, remembers Addison's words:

When all thy mercies, oh, my God,
My rising soul surveys,
Transported with the view, I'm lost
In wonder, love and praise.

"Of course, there is an occasion to-day for thanksgiving, because of an abundant harvest, safely garnered, enough for all our people and a surplus sufficient to feed our brothers of destitute lands. We have had such material growth in manufactures that we are actually searching the world over in order to find a market to dispose of our surplus goods. Sections of the country, of course, have suffered slightly, but it may still be truly said that our granaries are abounding in all manner of stores. As to spiritual blessings, this has been one of the most successful years in reformatory and religious work. An advance has been made in all departments of charity, humanities and church work. The church never was doing so much through its schools and its press, and it is moving forward in evangelistic work on all sides, with every promise of a yet brighter future. When I speak of modes of Thanksgiving I refer to the custom of gathering the household together, the reuniting of families, which is a beautiful feature; and from New England, where it began, it has spread all over the land, the children coming home on that day to old familiar scenes. Thus the country is filled with happy, reunited households. While there is here and there sadness because of vacant places, sickness and infirmity, we know it is only a chastening sorrow, which will work tenderness and gentle patience of spirit to those who have faith that Providence rules."

Thankfulness to God.

At Central-avenue M. E. Church, yesterday morning, the service was attended by the congregations of the Mayflower Congregational, Third Christian, North Baptist, United and Memorial Presbyterian and Hall-place churches. Rev. James P. Cowan, pastor of the United Presbyterian Church, talked upon the general idea of thanksgiving, choosing for his text the 4th verse of the one-hundredth Psalm: "Enter into His gates with thanksgiving, and into His courts with praise; be thankful unto Him, and bless His name." The thank and burnt offerings, he said, were so closely connected that the presentation of the one implied the other, and thanksgiving for deliverances and for blessings received runs like a golden thread through the Bible. "We should be thankful to God," the preacher said, "because He is God. Our idea of God controls the spirit of our worship. We cannot be thankful to an evil, revengeful person. If he is stronger than we, we are afraid, and live in uncertainty as to our life and property. Neither can we be thankful to a person who is strange, distant and cold. But to that one whose face beams with love, benevolence and sympathy, to him who has a hand extended to save and open, to give our heart responds with thankfulness. God has drawn our hearts toward himself because He has revealed himself as good. We love Him because He first loved us. We should also give thanks to God, because of what He has done for us. We are also thankful for the character of our people. There is no cause for alarm about the increase of evil. Any one who will consider the work of the religious denominations of our country for the past year, their strength through organization and well-doing, cannot but know that the moral strength of the people is predominating over evil."

The address was followed by that of Rev. E. C. Evans, pastor of Mayflower Congregational Church. He congratulated the first speaker on the fact that he accepted this as a day of thanksgiving and not of mourning. There were enough national sins, but this was not the day or place to consider them. It was pleasing to God to have people with thankful hearts. There are many things to be thankful for and one he would especially mention, was the growth and liberal spirit of the Catholic Church in America. The beneficent influence of the liberal institutions of the United States was very marked in that church, and all Christians, of every name, could thank God for the growth and work of the Catholics in America; not that Americans indorse all their beliefs, but the church is doing a good work. Christian unity is another feature of great thankfulness. On all hands the several churches are agreeing more and more in the great essentials of Christian life and character. But chief of all should the people be thankful that the American Nation fully recognizes that God reigns over all.

What and Why Thanksgiving.

The sermon of the Rev. D. R. Lucas, at the Central Christian Church, yesterday morning, was suggested by the words in the eighteenth verse of the fifth chapter of the First Thessalonians: "In everything give thanks." It is a wonderful fact, said the preacher, that millions of intelligent beings will look up to the power above them today and give thanks. Man is satisfied from reason, and all the sources of evidence at his command, that that power is eternal and infinite, as it appeals to his reverence and awe, and leads him to worship and adore; that it is superior and omnipotent, as it leads him to a sense of his own weakness and appeals to his humility to worship; that it is the giver and source of blessing, as it leads him to feel his dependence upon it. His own helplessness leads him into the presence of the forces of earth, wind, fire and water about him to look to the source of all for protection and help. It is no wonder that the idolators of Egypt worshiped the sun, moon, stars, earth, clouds and water, for reverence, humility, dependence and gratitude are as universal as the race. They worshiped as well as they knew with their conceptions of their relationship to the surroundings.

"This leads us," continued Mr. Lucas, "to the philosophy of thanksgiving. It grows out of relationship. We do not worship the sun nor any of the elements of nature around us, for by the revelation of God we are enabled to realize that it is the hand of an omnipotent father that scatters the light of the sun, and blesses the earth through all the forces of the material world, and so we thank Him. I need not recount to you the blessings of peace, prosperity, abundant harvests and other blessings. If man could live by bread alone he might thank God alone for food; but we ought to rise higher than that. If Plato, in his day, could say, 'I thank God that I am a man, and not a beast; a Grecian, and not a barbarian; a philosopher, and not a fool,' it seems to me that I might well thank God that I am a man in the image of God; an American, and not a heathen; a Christian, with a grand hope of a future life."

Here the speaker read the President's proclamation, with appropriate comments, and closed by a discussion of the proposition that it is impossible for us to conceive of an intelligent being like man, realizing his own reverence, humility, dependence and gratitude, without a full realization of the fact that there is an intelligent power above him capable of creating and destroying, of giving and withholding. If this be not true, there is no truth in the universe capable of demonstration. "As we have our homes, our friends, our country, the church, and all the blessings of life here," said the preacher, "as we look up in gratitude to God for his blessings, let us not forget the poor and unfortunate ones who are in want, and, as stewards of God's bounty, let us imitate Him in deeds of love and benevolence. Thus shall we prepare for the great thanksgiving, as recorded in Revelation, and be permitted to join therein."

Condition of National Prosperity.

At the First Baptist church, yesterday morning, the Rev. W. F. Taylor preached on "The Chief Condition of National Prosperity." His text was the ninth verse of the twenty-ninth chapter of Deuteronomy, "Keep, therefore, the words of this covenant, and do them, that ye may prosper in all that ye do." The gratitude on this day that is felt toward God, said the preacher, is for material blessings, principally, for one should always be thankful for their spiritual advantages. It is the abundant harvest during the year, the continuance of furnace fires and the running of looms that give the people cause to rejoice. They cannot forget the suffering of past years, when men wandered everywhere in search of employment, but they recognize that their duty to-day is to perpetuate and increase the present prosperity. But to accomplish that end there must be first an abundant supply of food. Ireland's condition to-day is attributable to the famines that have swept over her people. Australia in some parts is no better, but the United States, through the industry and skill of her people, is prosperous.

There has been stagnation in the country's trade in the past, said the preacher, but it was not caused by a lack of food or voluntary idleness of laboring men. The times were not bad, but the men were. The records of past depressions of trade were records of ruined reputations and lost souls. The present prosperity can only be maintained by keeping the law and the covenant of God. Obedience to that law means national prosperity.

Sermon of Dr. Tevis.

The sermon at the Seventh-street Methodist Church yesterday morning was preached by its pastor, Dr. Tevis. His theme was "Deo Gratias," the text being the 20th verse of the 147th Psalm. After referring to the general character and cause of the American thanksgiving the preacher said that at the close of their long captivity the Jews were permitted to return to their native land with authority to correct the disordered state of the nation, rebuild the walls of Jerusalem, and set up the worship of the true God. When the walls were rebuilt they were dedicated, the 147th Psalm probably being used in the service. They sang of the goodness of God, and epitomized the entire service by the sentence: "He hath not dealt so with any nation." While at a great distance in point of time, and it may be in some other ways at a disadvantage, we humbly essay to imitate the example of Nehemiah in calling your attention to God's goodness to us.

That God is the creator and upholder of all things, continued the Doctor, none will deny, but some question the doctrine of a special oversight of the little things in the world by Him. A general providence must have its particulars, as every whole must have its parts. A sparrow is as much the object of the All Father's care as the king. From the landing of the Pilgrim fathers upon American soil until the present day the foot-prints of the Divine are as traceable as the most important events in our national history. Since those days the mightiest nation, all things considered, that has inhabited any division of the earth has grown up. His providence has been wonderful. All has not been peaceful, however. Nations have dark days and stormy times as well as individuals. God's judgments are all for the good of the people, and judgment without mercy is the lot of the damned. Floods devastate, but they enrich the soil; storms tear away forests, despoil cities, but they purify the air. War sent a wail of mourning all over our happy country, but it broke shackles from the arms and hearts of millions. Judgments are levelers of men. They bring down the high and elevate the lowly. They teach men there is a God who rules, and that He must be feared.

"Again," continued the Doctor, "if we look to the south and see Mexico and South America with petty governments and jealous rulers; or east and west, across oceans, we behold uneasy monarchs and restless subjects, and hear the tread of vast armies, while at home sixty millions of people, with thousands of miles of coasts, with a standing army of a mere handful, we have peace and plenty, and no one is afraid of domestic or foreign foe. Deo gratias should come from every heart, for 'He hath not dealt so with any nation.' We should show our thankfulness by keeping intact the best form of government under the sun. Every man here is a freeman, and should exercise the elective franchise vested in him. Ballot-box stuffing and ballot intimidation will curse any people and dethrone any nation. Stamp the life out of political intrigues as you would destroy the viper whose poison is fatal. Americanize foreigners or they will foreignize us. All who come to our shores should understand that Americans rule America. We should show our thankfulness in honoring God by maintaining religious institutions; the sanctity of the Sabbath, keeping one day out of each seven for the sake of Him who made it a day of rest, and seeking by all possible means to bring the world to Christ."

Christian Optimism

The First, Second, Fourth, Fifth and Tabernacle Presbyterian congregations were at the first-named church yesterday morning to hear a sermon by Dr. J. A. Rondthaler, of the Tabernacle. His text was taken from Hosea, vi, 3: "Then shall we know, if we follow on to know the Lord. His going forth is prepared as the morning," and from John, ii, 8 (revised edition): "The darkness is passing away, and the true light already shineth." The Doctor, in beginning, said that it is lawful on Thanksgiving day to indulge in a little optimism. Thanksgiving is optimism in religion; it is belief in the best, a joyous faith, a hopeful philosophy. Christian optimism declares with thankfulness the growing faith of the Lord from night to morning. It praises God because He shines more and more to the clear day. It watches for the morning instead of brooding in the night. The essays that are written to show how the world is going back, the sermons that bemoan the low state of everything, the statistics that show increasing poverty and crime, the spread of infidelity, the growth of anarchism, and all that adroit arrangement of figures that informs God that He is not very successful with this world—all this lugubrious composition is largely night-work.

Between the nettles of the cynic and the quagmire of the epicurean, the Doctor continued, there is a clear, solid path, where energy and hope are not stung to death by discouragement and earnestness bemired in self-complacency. It leads hopefully through the wrong to the right. Between the disheartening wail of the pessimist and the false cry of "peace, peace where there is no peace," there is a broad working territory. Men and women of hope gather there, and, finding that something has been done already toward improvement, use that fact as an inspiration to do more.

A week ago the clock of national life was suddenly moved forward many hours. Brazil goes to bed as an empire and wakes up a republic. Blood is no longer the necessary accompaniment of reform. A revolution can after this take place without groans and death-throes. The time has not yet come to assert that war shall be no more, but Brazil has certainly made it more difficult for Mars to show his horrid front. Tyranny is not dead yet. There remains the Czar of all the Russias, with his terrible system of oppression and heartless treatment of prisoners in Siberia. The funeral rites of monarchism and imperialism have not yet been performed, for Bismarck is not dead. But it means something when a whole continent, like South America, is a map of republics; when the name of Castelar comes to the front again; when Portugal dares to talk of liberty; when Australia questions about its possibility of a free national existence. Brazil has outstripped the United States of America when, in her infancy she makes intelligence the basis of the right of suffrage. No one claims that all the wrongs are being righted, or will be in this generation or in the next, but there is proof that there is a power constantly at work that works for righteousness. The hopeful man and woman must work from this basis. The thankfulness of a true optimist ought to raise one to an appreciation of individual responsibility. Truthfulness counts; getting as near as one can to the Golden Rule counts; faith in God counts. And God adds up the columns, and when there is force enough He gives the command for the morning to break.

Episcopal Services.

The congregations of St. Paul's and Christ Episcopal Church held union services, yesterday, at the first-named church. The chancel was handsomely decorated with flowers, and the impressive service was appropriate to the sentiment of the day. Dr. Jenckes preached the sermon and enumerated the causes of prosperity that attended the country, each of which was in itself a reason for thankfulness.

Assaulted by Footpads.

Miss Cora Lewis, No. 375 South Illinois street, says she was assaulted by a man Wednesday night on one of the streets in the south part of the city. He attempted to snatch her pocket-book, but failed. He carried off her umbrella, however. Special policeman William Gerber, of the Park Theater, captured a man in the I., D. & W. yards, late last night, who is supposed to be the one wanted for the deed. He was lodged in the police station on a charge of assault and battery. Louis Vogt was assaulted by two men in the alley in the rear of the New Denison the same night, but his calls for assistance frightened his assailants away. In the struggle, however, he was slightly bruised about the face and head.

Meeting of Prohibitionists

A joint meeting of the Prohibition State central committee and the executive committee of the Indiana Prohibition League was held at No. 66½ North Pennsylvania street last night. It was decided to use that hall as the meeting-place for both organizations hereafter. The State convention will be held on Feb. 20, 1890. The annual meeting of the League will be held in Masonic Hall, at 10:30 o'clock this morning, at which officers will be elected. Mr. Bennett, of Kansas will address the meeting.

Federal Offices in Philadelphia.

Philadelphia Inquirer.

These are all admirable appointments and are conceded to be such by those who are not in political sympathy with the administration. Each official, as he was appointed, was most cordially commended by nearly every newspaper in the city, irrespective of politics. Some of them have not been the first choice of those directly interested in politics, but they all assure the best public service.

In this work the best pledges of the administration have been kept, and the result will be to the party advantage because it will be to the public advantage. It is in notable contrast to the beheading of officials that went on in this city under President Harrison's predecessor, who, in spite of it all, established something of a reputation as a reformer of the civil service.

There are still three presidential offices in this city in the hands of the Democrats, the marshal, the assistant treasurer, and the district attorney, and there is no reason outside of politics for the disturbance of either of them. It has been taken for granted that all will be permitted to serve out their terms, and there has been very little suggestion of their successors. There certainly is no chance for fair mugwump complaint—if there is such a thing—in the record President Harrison has made in this city.

New Fad in the Northwest.

Chicago Journal.

A man was lynched yesterday in Minnesota, not for any particular thing, but on general principles. For the sake of the population of a number of Eastern cities, it is to be hoped that the new fad will not come this side of the Mississippi.

THE CIVIL-SERVICE LAW.

Common-Sense Criticism of the Attitude of Senator Farwell.

Chicago Tribune.

It seems to be settled that Senator Farwell will introduce a bill at the forthcoming session of Congress for the repeal of the Pendleton civil-service law, and in a recent interview the Senator states his reason for the action which he contemplates, and for his hostility to the competitive-examination system. The policy which he lays down in this interview comes so close to the wide-open, corrupt, spoils system of the Democracy that it is only just to the Senator to assume that he has overstated his reasons. It is certainly difficult to believe he is in earnest when he expresses the fear that the advocates of the reform of the civil-service will gradually carry the idea of competitive examinations up from the grade of government clerks through the chiefs of divisions, members of Congress, the Cabinet officers, and Supreme Court to the presidency! There is no danger that these examinations will ever pass the limits assigned to them in the country whose system we have copied. This part of his argument, therefore, needs no further answer. The Senator need lose no sleep worrying over the danger that the civil-service reformers will ever oblige him to pass an examination in geometry, history, geography or evolution as a preliminary to his election to the Senate, or any other office.

Senator Farwell says: "Administration of the affairs of the government is business, and nothing but business. I could not run my wholesale dry goods store and make a success of it by pursuing these methods."

Would he be any more successful in running his private business upon the methods he advocates for conducting the public business? How long would his great wholesale dry goods store last if it were run on the Democratic spoils system, and his cashiers, book-keepers, traveling-men, clerks, credit men, and the other employes down to the teamsters were selected without regard to their intelligence, ability, honesty, or experience, but only for the partisan service they had performed, their ability to run primaries or manage conventions—in a word, their success as henchmen of their party employers?

The system which the Senator so bitterly assails does not materially differ from the system which he uses in conducting his large private business. Under the civil-service law, whenever there is a vacancy in an office coming within its stipulations it is provided that there must be at least three candidates for the examination. There may be a hundred; indeed, there is more likely to be a hundred than the minimum figures. Assuming that they pass the examination, the superior officer is not obligated to select any special one of the three. For instance, he may take No. 1 or No. 3, and his choice, all other things being even, will be guided by considerations of experience, of personal character, of recommendations, and by the general air of superiority which the successful candidate may present. The questions submitted do not of themselves constitute a lien upon the office. Their purpose is to establish the general intelligence of the candidate for the position and bar out ignoramuses. The question of intelligence having been settled, the superior officer can then pass to other considerations which are equally important in making his choice. Is not this system similar to that which Senator Farwell uses in selecting his employes, or, rather, is not the latter even more rigid? When there is a vacancy in his store he does not select the first applicant. He scrutinizes a number of them, examines their recommendations, tests their intelligence, ability and experience, and, all other things being equal as between them, selects the one who has the appearance of personal superiority. In this business of filling offices there are two extremes to be avoided. The one is the spoils Democratic system of selecting partisan henchmen of this or that leader on account of party bummery they have performed in nominating and election campaigns. The other extreme is the selection of men on purely clerical or technical grounds, without regard to the other qualifications of morals, and character, and aptitude which should govern it. There is a golden mean between these two extremes, and that is the safe course to follow. Senator Farwell in trying to avoid the one extreme has swung nearly over to the other, unless, as we suspect, he has overstated his position. If there is any more practical way of reforming the civil service, if there is any shorter and less technical route to the selection of men for the subordinate offices by reason of their ability, intelligence, honesty and skill and their retention in office, let the law be amended. That result, however, is not to be secured by abolishing the law as the Senator proposes. It is doubtful whether any Congress under a Republican administration will consent to take such a step. It is probable, on the other hand, that a Democratic administration will be unwise enough to face such a responsibility and restore the corrupt spoils system, which is one of the fundamental doctrines of Democracy.

Identifying a Poem.

Washington Post.

Can you tell me who is the author of the following little poem?

The goober is a lowly nut
Wherever it is found.
It is not Rio coffee, but
'Tis hard to tell the goober nut
From the coffee when 'tis browned
And ground.

Yours truly, W. M'L.

We believe this touching little stanza is from Col. Henry Watterson's volume of "Kentucky Ballads." We have never seen the distinguished Colonel's collected ballads, but the grace and, above all, the ever-living truth of these beautiful lines remind us of his style, and they certainly set forth a picture familiar to him and his excellent people.

Sad Lot of the Opinion Molder.

Chicago Mail.

Editor John C. Bickle, of the Daily Vindicator, of Cameron, Mo., is in trouble; not only that, but his trouble is of a rather serious character. His course as a daily vindicator has been by no means a path of roses. Twice in the last six weeks he has been horsewhipped by people who didn't admire his system of vindication. The last time it was a woman who did the job, and she cut his face with a raw-hide till it looked like a rare beefsteak. Then, fearing that she was missing a good opportunity, she stood off and fired rocks at him with a deadly aim that belied her femininity.

Newspaper Black-Mailers.

Rochester Democrat.

If a man has sustained injuries in the columns of a newspaper he is quite justified in seeking the redress which seems to him best, but he must not be confounded, for an instant, with the gentry of doubtful reputation who are associated with lawyers of similar character in a speculative assault upon a newspaper. They are black-mailers of the most contemptible type, and the best way to deal with them on all occasions is to give them and their dishonest enterprise the widest publicity.

Expert Opinion.

Hartford Courant.

Col. Calvin S. Brice, who certainly has the credentials of experience, says he considers it all right to use money in politics "to the same extent as in church work, or any other business of general concern." He does not believe political morals have suffered from the large expenditure in recent campaigns, "except in a few localities, and to a limited extent in these."

In the Line of Promotion.

Philadelphia Record.

The selection of Mr. William H. Shelmire for pension agent in Philadelphia is, it should be said, in strict conformity with the spirit of civil-service reform. Mr. Shelmire has proved a competent and trustworthy subordinate, and he was entitled to the promotion.

Practical High License.

Baltimore Sun.

Which is better: Three thousand saloons and less than $150,000 revenue, or 1,200 saloons and a million revenue? The question answers itself, and shows what the practical value of high license will be to this city.

Was Sure of It.

Harper's Bazar.

"That's a great mine. I tell you there's money in it." "How do you know there is?" "Well, I put $50,000 in it myself."

The Indiana Hospital Company.

This company contracts to pay $5 to $20 weekly indemnity on sickness or accident, and furnishes doctor and medicines free. For further particulars call at company's office, Rooms 47 and 48 Vance Block, corner Washington street and Virginia avenue.

Quick Time to Florida and New Orleans,

VIA PENNSYLVANIA LINE (J., M. & I. R. R.)

Commencing Monday, Dec. 2, the J., M. & I. will have a train leave Indianapolis 7:40 a. m., arrive Louisville 11:20 a. m., and Jacksonville, Fla., the following day at 1:55 p. m., and New Orleans the following day at 12:25 noon, thus covering the distance Indianapolis to Jacksonville in about thirty hours, and to New Orleans in about twenty-eight hours. Persons going to Florida or any point South are invited to call at the Pennsylvania office, corner Washington and Illinois streets, for detailed information about rates, sleeping car accommodations, etc., or to address H. R. DERING,
Asst. Gen. Pass. Agt., Pennsylvania Lines, In-Indianapolis.

Advice to Mothers.

Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup should always be used when children are cutting teeth. It relieves the little sufferer at once; it produces natural, quiet sleep by relieving the child from pain, and the little cherub awakes as "bright as a button." It is very pleasant to taste. It soothes the child, softens the gums, allays all pain, relieves wind, regulates the bowels and is the best known remedy for diarrhœa, whether raising from teething or other causes. Twenty-five cents a bottle.

TENDER lungs cannot long withstand the irritation of a violent cough. They first become inflamed and then tuberculated, unless the mischief is arrested. One bottle of Hale's Honey of Horehound and Tar will generally cure the worst cough and prevent all danger. Sold by druggists.
Pike's Toothache Drops cure in one minute.

PEARS'S Soap secures a beautiful complexion

AMUSEMENTS.

GRAND OPERA-HOUSE

TO-NIGHT,
EUGENE TOMPKINS'S SUPERB COMPANY,
In an elaborate production of the latest New York and Boston success,
"MANKIND,"
By Paul Merritt and Geo. Conquest, authors of "Youth," "The World," etc., and public creators of sensational dramas.
PRICES—25c, 50c, 75c and $1.
Coming—ZIG-ZAG.

ENGLISH'S OPERA-HOUSE

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A TIN SOLDIER.
Better than ever. Greater than ever. Funnier than ever. All the great features retained and many new ones added. Rats, the gentleman. Her Highness, the cook. His Nobs, the plumber, and the Heroes of Gettysburg, will all be there, and they will sing, dance and make you laugh. Pretty girls. Catchy music. Graceful dances. New business, new specialties.
PRICES—15c, 25c, 35c, 50c and 75c.
Coming—EDWARD HARRIGAN.

HARVARD QUARTET.
PLYMOUTH CHURCH, DEC. 4.
This company is greatly strengthened by the engagement of Mrs. Laura Dainty, the popular reader, and Miss Gertrude Lufkin, cornetist.
Seats reserved at D. H. Baldwin's, Saturday morning, Nov. 30. Admission—50 cents; no extra charge for reserve seat.

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113 Wall street, New York.

JEFFERSONVILLE, IND., Nov. 27, 1889.—Sealed proposals, in triplicate, subject to usual conditions, will be received here until 11 o'clock, a. m., (central standard time), Saturday, the 28th day of December, 1889, for furnishing at the Q. M. Depot here, various articles of quartermaster's stores, such as stationery, hand-carts, wagon parts, range and stove castings, rubber hose, painters', carpenters' and saddlers' tools, miscellaneous hardware, etc. Preference will be given to articles of domestic production or manufacture, conditions of quality and price (including in the price of foreign productions or manufactures the duty thereon) being equal. Government reserves the right to reject any or all proposals and to accept the whole or any part of the supplies bid for. All information furnished on application to this office. Envelopes containing proposals should be marked "Proposals for Quartermaster's Stores," and addressed to HENRY C. HODGES, Assistant Quartermaster-general, U. S. Army, Depot Quartermaster.

NOTICE TO ABSENTEE

To Joseph F. Hoffman: You are hereby notified that the real estate owned by you in the city of Logansport, Cass county, Indiana, is suffering waste for want of proper care, and the sale of a part of said property is necessary for the payments of liens and incumbrances thereon. ROBERT CARROLL,
By Nelson & Myers, his Attorneys.