

BIG SANDY NEWS.

Aut inveniam viam, aut faciam.

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CURRENT TOPICS.

The population of Austin, Texas, is now 27,000.

KANSAS CITY is building a \$400,000 opera house.

Mrs. LOGAN is pestered by many begging letters.

A RETURN of the untidy dragging skirts is threatened.

SPONGES have been discovered in the lake of Chautauqua.

SOME Georgians get 800 bushels of sweet potatoes out of an acre.

Mrs. DUNN refused to take off her bustle before going to the gallows.

THE antlers of 200 elk were shipped from Oregon to England last year.

SAM JONES preached twice at Toronto, recently, making \$1,000 thereby.

A "MOTHER of triplets" writes to Mrs. Hendricks for money to buy a cow.

NO MAN'S LAND, Kas., and the State of Connecticut are about the same size.

JUDAS MASSET, of Douglasville, Ga., killed eleven partridges at one shot.

THE three Cole brothers, of Harrison, Ga., have their hearts on the right side.

IT would be well if experts were to examine railroad bridges before the accidents.

A WELL at Yakutsk, Siberia, has been estimated to be frozen to a depth of 612 feet.

THEODORE TILTON is living in Paris and devoting himself in part to literary pursuits.

ALLEGED corruption in the municipal affairs of Brooklyn is being investigated.

THE King of Italy now has a whole Pullman car to himself when he wants to travel.

A TWENTY-EIGHT-TON cat, with one yellow and one green eye, is exhibited in New Haven.

TO MAINTAIN peace for the next seven years Germany is to have an army of 468,400 men.

Mrs. BAYARD TAYLOR and her daughter Lillian have returned to Germany to reside permanently.

JEFFERSON DAVIS says he is too old to travel, and never expects to be in Washington again.

THE Empress of Austria is said to have literary ambitions and is intending to publish a book soon.

AN apple tree over 100 years old and four and a half feet in diameter, has been cut down in Lyme, Conn.

THIRTEEN of the noted twenty passes of the Rocky Mountains are more than 10,000 feet above the sea level.

WORK on the steam cruisers, Boston, Atlanta and Chicago, has been suspended for lack of appropriation.

SINCE the adjournment of Congress a marble bust of John C. Calhoun has been placed in the Senate gallery.

CARDINAL MANNING has heartily indorsed the policy advanced by Cardinal Gibbons toward the Knights of Labor.

MARIE DEVAL, notorious courtesan of Indiana and Tennessee, will reform since she has been left a large fortune.

THE Louisville and Nashville will build this year 134 miles of new railroad, of which 104 miles will be in Kentucky.

A VILLAGE, suburban to Atlanta, Ga., and to be exclusively for colored people, has been laid out and is to be incorporated.

CHARLES H. HAISER, an umbrella mender in Pittsburgh, has inherited a fortune of \$73,000 from a cousin who died in Australia.

THE President has given his check for \$100 to the fund for the erection of a monument to the late Vice-President Hendricks.

THE inventor of the repeating rifle recently adopted for the Austrian army has been decorated by Emperor Francis Joseph.

THE name Dakota is a corruption of "Pa-ha-sota," meaning many heads—the craniums of buffaloes being scattered thick on all the trails.

A SOUTH CAROLINA mother has a record of seventeen children in nine years. The first was a solitary voyager. The others came in pairs.

IT costs the Government for each United States Senator \$5,000 a year salary and \$5,997 a year additional for attendants and incidental expenses.

THE President, treasurer and counselor of the "British-American Claim Agency," were arrested in New York, a few days ago, charged with fraud.

AT Detroit, Mich., Fred Frisbee said to his landlady: "If you insist on my paying my board bill I will kill myself." She insisted. He shot himself.

THE widow of Garibaldi lives in a quiet street of Turin, the walls of her little parlor covered with flags, medals and other mementoes of the dead hero.

AN inmate of the Middletown (N. Y.) Asylum is worth \$500,000. He became insane over religion, and imagines he is President of the United States.

MR. CONNERY, the new secretary of legation to Mexico, will leave for his post about the last of this month. Mr. Connery will collect the data for a history of Mexico.

JOSEPH CARTER, of Rocklesstown, N. J., recently butchered thirty remarkably fine hogs. The lightest weighed 665 pounds the heaviest 975; and the total weight was \$1,284 pounds.

JAMES TAYLOR, while digging a well on his farm near Excelsior, Wis., found in a bed of gravel twenty feet below the surface a lot of beautiful amethysts and also very large and valuable ruby.

PEOPLE who buy fancy candy and find it to be very sticky may lay this flattering unctuousness to their souls, namely: That they are eating glucose, which is the output of cornstarch and sulphuric acid.

ON one of the principal streets of Thomaston, Ga., the same room is occupied by a physician and shoemaker—the physician's office being in front and the shoemaker's shop in the rear. Over the door is chalked the sign: "We repair both sole and body."

DEBTS OF NATIONS.

Our Uncle Sam is Comparatively Well Off.

Four First-Class Powers Exceed Her in Piling Up Indebtedness.

WASHINGTON, March 16.—The worry that is being indulged in just now by some people about the fact that our public debt is being paid faster than was anticipated when the loans were made, and the talk of buying in the bonds before they are due, lends interest to some facts about the National debt and its comparison with that of other nations. It is estimated that the close of this fiscal year will find the three per cent. bonds all paid up. There will then be left two lots of bonds yet to be paid to clear the National debt incurred by the war. One of these is a bunch of four-and-a-half per cent. bonds that are payable on or after 1891, four years hence. These four-and-a-half per cent. represent two hundred and fifty million dollars. The other bunch of bonds outstanding amounts to seven hundred and thirty-seven million, bearing four per cent. interest and are not payable until 1907. These two lots of bonds will cover the entire interest-bearing debt of the country, after the few remaining three per cents. are paid of ninety days hence. There is also a debt of five hundred millions, bearing no interest, and composed mostly of greenbacks and gold and silver certificates, but as there is cash in the Treasury to nearly balance this debt, and no prospect that these obligations will be presented for payment, this can scarcely be counted, as in reality, a part of the public debt. By the close of the present fiscal year, June 30, the public debt, "less cash in the treasury," will be just about a round billion of dollars. This is a good deal of money, but a very small sum compared with the condition of the debt twenty-two years ago. Then the debt less the cash in the treasury was nearly three billions. It was at that time \$78 per capita for the population of the country, and the annual interest was \$4.25 per head; now the debt is only about two dollars per capita and the annual interest charge \$1.25 per head. If we could go on paying off this debt at the present rate of the surplus to wipe it out entirely, a debt of a billion dollars seems a good deal, yet it is small one, not only compared with what we had twenty years ago, but also small compared with that of some of our neighbors of the world. There is Italy, for instance, her debt is two and one-fourth billions, and her per capita rate is \$80 of her population. Russia's debt is three and one-half billions, and the per capita \$30. Great Britain's debt is three and three-fourths billions dollars, making the per capita rate over \$100 each of the population. The debt of France is over six billions, or \$160 per capita of her population. Our heathen neighbors on the west, the much reviled Chinese, set a good example in this regard, as their debt amounts to about ten cents per capita of the population, while Persia, in the far east, has no debt.

A Prehistoric Image.

WASHINGTON, March 16.—The Easter Island image, secured by Lieutenant Stone, of the "Mohican," for the Smithsonian Institute, is on its way here. It is supposed to be prehistoric, and stands eight feet high, four feet wide and three feet thick. The carving is rough and unskillful. Images like the one obtained are scattered all over the island, many of them broken and thrown from their pedestals. The present inhabitants of the island know nothing about the origin of these images.

Prohibition Amendment Voted Down.

SPRINGFIELD, Ill., March 16.—The galleries of House were crowded with spectators this morning to witness the action of the House upon the resolution to submit a prohibitory amendment at the next general election. The motion was lost by 73 nays to 65 yeas.

Extra Session Virginia Legislature.

RICHMOND, March 16.—The Virginia Legislature is holding an extra session. The Governor's message, sent to-day, recommends the appointment of a commission to consider the State debt, and recommends other measures.

Engineer and Fireman Killed.

MARIETTA, O., March 16.—The engine of a train on the Marietta, Columbus and Northern road jumped the track at Reddy Trebble, killing H. Lisle Vincent, engineer, and Albert Boothby, fireman, and injuring three others.

Two Farmers Killed by Cars.

ST. LOUIS, March 16.—Robert Furnace and Jesse Jennings, two farmers, while crossing the railroad track about a mile from Nokomis, Ill., in a wagon, last evening, were struck by a train and instantly killed.

"Bald Knobbers" Arrested.

ST. LOUIS, March 16.—Christian County, Mo., is greatly excited over the murder of Charles Green and William Eden by "Bald Knobbers," an organized lawless gang. Thirteen of them have been arrested.

Nova Scotia to Vote on Secession.

HALIFAX, N. S., March 16.—It is now reported that the Nova Scotia Government will at an early day submit to popular vote the question of secession from the Dominion. The local Government was elected purely on the secession issue, and it feels that it must carry on the agitation unless it receives instructions to the contrary from the electorate.

A Noble Bequest.

NEW YORK, March 16.—Jose Sevilla, of Lima, Peru, has left \$300,000 for the establishment in New York of an institution for the education of poor girls.

FOUGHT THE FIGHTERS.

Scenes at a Mexican Bull Fight Not Described in the Programme.

SAN RAFAEL, MEX., March 17.—A bull fight took place here yesterday in the presence of fully 80,000 people, none of whom had paid less than \$5 for a seat or standing-room. The bulls refused to fight and finally the spectators burst into the ring and made an indiscriminate attack upon the bulls and the fighters with chairs and other convenient missiles. The troops were called upon to suppress the riot and several times were compelled to charge the crowd with drawn sabers before the maddened people would desist from their attack upon the bull fighters. The people resisted the soldiers and large numbers of the former, more or less wounded, were arrested.

Gigantic Stealing.

NEW YORK, March 17.—After an unblemished reputation of forty years as an honorable business man, Walter E. Lawton, president and treasurer of the Navassa Phosphate Company, is a fleeing criminal, leaving creditors for \$500,000 or possibly \$1,000,000 behind him. The Navassa Phosphate Company owns one of the West India Islands, and a quarter of a century or more ago made Lawson Bros., No. 83 Broadway, their agents. One of the brothers died, but the firm name was continued by W. E. Lawton, who, through a successful management of the phosphate company's interests, was promoted to the position named. He is sixty years of age, is married, but childless, and has a beautiful home at Spouten Duvy.

American Cardinals Halted.

ROME, March 17.—Cardinals Gibbon and Taschereau were "halted" in the public Consistory this afternoon. The ceremonies were on an elaborate scale. At the conclusion the two Cardinals were warmly congratulated. Cardinal Pecci, the Pope's brother, received the new Cardinals yesterday and accompanied them to the Throne-room, where the Pope conferred upon them the Mozzetta and Crimson Beretta. Cardinal Masella addressed the Pope, who replied. The Pope also preconized the new Archbishops and Bishops in Canada, the United States, India and Australia. The Pope has telegraphed the Czar congratulating him on his escape from assassination.

Another Three-Per-Cent. Call.

WASHINGTON, March 17.—It is expected that a call for \$10,000,000 three-per-cent. bonds will be made in a few days to mature May 1. The amount of these bonds now subject to call is \$39,898,850. There are \$5,000,000 of past due three per cent. outstanding. There are also outstanding \$9,029,250 in bonds of the 14th call, which will mature April 1. The total redemptions under the open calls to date amount to \$8,111,900.

Celestials Importing a "Joss."

WASHINGTON, D. C., March 17.—Application comes to the Treasury Department for the free entry at San Francisco of a wooden "joss" for a Chinese joss-house there. It is proposed to bring it in free of duty as an "image and regalia for the use of religious associations." The god of regalia and paraphernalia when put together will make a figure 150 feet long, composed of wood, cloth, paper, tins and metal.

New Guns.

WASHINGTON, March 17.—An eight-inch rifled gun, intended for the new cruiser Boston, has been completed at the Washington Navy Yard and sent to the proving ground at Annapolis, Md., for trial. Another gun of the same caliber, two twelve-inch rifles and several six-inch guns, all to form part of the armament of the Boston, are now in process of manufacture at the Washington Navy Yard.

Carbonated Glycerine.

PERCOLA, Ill., March 17.—Rev. P. M. Donohue, of Charleston, who was lately named Lieutenant in the French Army by General Boulanger for discovering a very destructive explosive for use in torpedo warfare, has decided to call his new invention "carbonated glycerine." He says that it has ten times the destructive power possessed by nitro-glycerine and can be handled with a great deal more safety.

The Grant Memorial Fund.

NEW YORK, March 17.—Since the death of ex-President Arthur the position of President of the Grant Memorial Fund Association, which was held by him, has been vacant. It will probably be filled at the next meeting of the association. The fund has been increased by a contribution of four nickels during the week, and now amounts to \$123,835.36.

The Ready Car-Wheels.

OMAHA, March 17.—John Prossner, station agent at Edgar, Neb., on the St. Joe Grand Island railroad, has lost two sons in one week by the fatal car-wheels. Both were brakemen. Five days ago Charles, the elder, was run over and killed at Sutton, Neb., and to-day William fell under the wheels at Hansen, Neb., and in two hours died.

Slight Earthquake Tremors.

CHARLESTON, S. C., March 17.—There were two slight earthquake tremors here about nine o'clock this morning. They were also felt at Summerville, and were heavier there than in this city, although no damage was done in either place.

Indiana Borrowing to Pay Debts.

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind., March 17.—The Governor and State officers met to-day and authorized a loan of \$33,000 to pay the interest on the State's foreign debt. The loan is made through Coffin & Stanton of New York, and bears 3-1-10 per cent. interest. This is the smallest per cent. ever secured by the State on a loan.

Juvenile Murder.

CHARLESTON, S. C., March 17.—William Baxley, colored boy aged sixteen years, was stabbed to the heart and killed by three small colored boys this afternoon. The murderers escaped.

AN AWFUL FATE.

Twelve Persons Perish in a Hotel Holoocaust.

The Splendid New Richmond at Buffalo Licked up by the Fire Demon.

BUFFALO, N. Y., March 18.—A fire in the Richmond Hotel was discovered at 3:30 this morning. An alarm was sounded and the fire department responded promptly. The house contained a large number of guests. Their heartrending shrieks could plainly be heard. Ladders were raised as soon as possible and as many as could were taken out. A large number of them were unable to effect their escape. At 4 o'clock the entire Richmond, St. James Hall and other property in the block were doomed to speedy destruction. The whole place burned like tinder. The corridor in the center of the building acted as a great funnel, and as the flames streamed upwards the guests found themselves imprisoned by walls of fire. The screams of the unfortunate could be heard for blocks, and at many of the windows they could be seen in their night clothes calling wildly for help. At one of the third floor windows two guests were seen by the crowd to fall back into the flames. One man jumped from the fifth floor to the roof of a two-story wooden building adjoining. He was seriously injured. The estimate of the loss of life is stated to be twelve. There were 125 persons in the hotel, seventy of whom were transient guests, eight boys and the remainder porters, bell boys, the families of the proprietors and clerks. Twenty-two of these were rescued from the windows by the firemen, twenty-two are at the hospitals and a large number made their escape by other means.

A B-A-D MAN NO LONGER.

One-Eared Bill Dodge Falls to Dodge Judge Lynch.

CHICAGO, March 18.—A Times special from Albuquerque, N. M., says: The news of the capture and lynching of "One-Ear" Dodge, a desperado and horse thief, near Lordsburg, has arrived. For a long time past the southern part of the Territory has been infested with a gang of desperadoes, who made life and property unsafe, and the chief of the gang was William Dodge, who was fond of calling himself "a b-a-d man," and exacted respect and drinks from tenderfeet at the point of the pistol. About a year ago Dodge tried the same game on a cowboy, who pulled a bow-knife and lopped off the right ear of Dodge, giving him the name of "One Ear" Dodge. Having been suspected of being concerned in stealing a large number of horses, Dodge was watched, and seen a day or two since passing Clayton's ranch going toward the Mexican line with three stolen horses. A pursuing party captured him and invitations were sent out to owners of stolen stock to attend Dodge's trial, which took place yesterday on Mexican soil, the court being presided over by Judge Lynch, who sentenced the prisoner to death. In a few moments Dodge hung on a tree.

Most Important, if True.

PHILADELPHIA, March 18.—Dr. V. N. McLaughlin, Physician-in-Chief of the City Hospital, reports marvelous success in treating consumptive patients by the lately discovered French system of rectal injections of a preparation of carbonic acid gas, all other medicine being abandoned. Of thirty patients in the last stages of consumption all have greatly improved under this treatment, and to all appearance, are rapidly recovering their health. Dr. McLaughlin believes a complete cure for consumption has been found.

Two Dead Tramps.

PITTSBURGH, Pa., March 18.—The bodies of two unknown tramps were discovered in the hot-air flue at the Isabella Furnace by watchmen this morning. The man had evidently crawled into the flue or tunnel to escape from the cold last night and had been suffocated by the coke-gas while sleeping. There was nothing about their persons which would furnish a clue to their identity.

Girl Horribly Burned.

LAFAYETTE, Ind., March 18.—Alice Jones, aged eighteen, a domestic in a city restaurant, was probably fatally burned to-day, her clothing igniting from the range. She is still alive this evening. Joseph Pettit, in his efforts to save her life, had both hands badly burned. The flesh on the unfortunate girl's back was literally roasted, and hung in shreds.

Heavy Earthquake at Summerville.

CHARLESTON, S. C., March 18.—A dispatch from Summerville says that an earthquake shock at 6 o'clock this evening was the worst that has occurred in two months. It causes some excitement, because it was thought to be severe enough to do the town some damage.

Farmer and Daughter Drowned.

FRONTONIA, Ill., March 18.—A farmer named John Lunden, riding into town yesterday with his daughter and son, drove off the plike, which is covered with water, and the vehicle was overturned. The father and daughter were drowned.

They Care Not for the Kaiser.

WABASH, Ind., March 18.—Two German employes of a furniture company are in receipt of notice from the War Department of the Fatherland to report at once for military duty on penalty of having their property confiscated. Both decline to return, however.

Honor to Buffalo Bill.

OMAHA, Neb., March 18.—Governor Thayer has commissioned W. F. Cody (Buffalo Bill) as aid-de-camp on his staff, with the rank of Colonel, and also as Commissioner of the State of Nebraska to the American Exhibition in London.

RIOTOUS POLES.

Renewal of Church Troubles at Detroit—A Large Mob Makes a Furious Attack on the Police.

DETROIT, Mich., March 20.—Trouble broke out again to-day in Polacktown. About 3,000 people hung around St. Albert's Church all day, looking for trouble. The adherents of Kolosinsky, the deposed priest—who had circulated a report that he was to be reinstated by Archbishop Elder—gathered on one side of the church and those of Dombrowski, the pastor appointed by Bishop Borgess, on the other. About five o'clock a squad of thirteen policemen tried to disperse the crowd. The Dombrowskians made no trouble, but the Kolosinskians were sullen and ready for fight. Some one reached out from their ranks and snote Policeman Schaffron on the head with a brick, mashing his nose and cutting open his eyes. The officer arrested his assailant, and the mob pounced upon the small squad of police and pelted them with bricks, stones and clubs. Three pistol shots were fired at them. The officers fired into the air, and then forced the crowd back sufficiently to allow them to reach a patrol box with their prisoner. As the wagon came up some one threw a brick, which struck Officer Rodgers, the driver, on the head, and knocked him from his seat. His injuries are likely to prove fatal. Reinforcements were sent and the crowd fell back. When the police counted up their injuries they found that officer Schaffron, besides having his face mashed, had a broken hand; Officer Rodgers had his head broken open, and was carried home unconscious; Officer Diercke had the bones of his hand broken and his hip badly injured; Sergeant Nolan had a scalp wound from a club and his knee badly hurt by a stone, and Captain Mack was struck in the back by a flying brick. The crowd has been disorderly, and has broken into riotous conduct since, but at last accounts was reported to be still holding its ground.

United Labor Ticket in Cincinnati.

CINCINNATI, March 20.—The United Labor party, of this city, held a convention in Workmen's Hall, yesterday, and nominated a city ticket. A platform was adopted affirming the platform of the recent Union Labor Convention in Music Hall, and declaring among other things that the street railways, gas supply, electric lighting, local telephone and telegraphic communication should be taken out of the hands of private corporations and placed under the control and direction of the local Government, and that the Southern road should not be sold, but managed by the city when the present lease expires.

The Remarkable Prayer of a Brewer.

CHICAGO, March 20.—The brew masters of the United States are to hold a convention here to-morrow. A preliminary meeting was held to-night, which Louis Hook claims that some unexplainable force impelled him to the river's side this morning, and to the very spot opposite where the body was. This is the fifth body he has found in an almost similar manner, one of them being that of Berlin, who was murdered by Henry Berner and buried a short distance east of this city.

Body of a Drowned Lad Recovered.

VINCENNES, Ind., March 20.—The body of John Murphy, aged seventeen years, who was drowned on the evening of March 7, was found this morning within a short distance of where he fell in. Deputy Postmaster Roseman, who found the body, claims that some unexplainable force impelled him to the river's side this morning, and to the very spot opposite where the body was. This is the fifth body he has found in an almost similar manner, one of them being that of Berlin, who was murdered by Henry Berner and buried a short distance east of this city.

Handsome Gift.

HARTFORD, Conn., March 20.—David Clark, a retired merchant, has given his farm of 108 acres, in the suburbs of this city, to the Hartford Hospital and the Old People's Home. The donation includes twenty Jersey cattle and all the farm property. The whole is valued at \$70,000. Mr. Clark intended the gift as a memorial of his son, Lester Clark, a merchant of New York, who died a short time ago.

Killed in Court.

HASTINGS, Neb., March 20.—Dr. G. W. Randall, while in court to answer a charge of criminal assault on Lora Hart, an eleven-year-old girl, was shot dead by her brother. The slayer walked out of the court-room unmolested. A mob afterwards surrounded Randall's wife's place crying for her blood. The two had made it a practice to ruin girls and procure them for immoral purposes.

Prohibition in Vermont.

BENNINGTON, Vt., March 20.—Thos. Stewart was yesterday fined \$40 and costs for ninety-one offenses against the prohibition law. Should he be unable to pay this he will be sent to the House of Correction for as many days as there are dollars in his fine. This is the second prosecution by the Law and Order league, and others are promised.

One Hundred Thousand Dollars Wrong.

MINNEAPOLIS, Minn., March 20.—S. H. Baker, a real estate dealer here, has disappeared, and is said to be \$100,000 wrong in his accounts with the stockholders of the United States Mortgage Trust and Debenture Company, of which he was president.

Alexander Has the Call.

LONDON, March 20.—The Post's Vienna correspondent says: A majority of the Bulgarian delegates are resolved to reject Alexander King of Bulgaria just as soon as the Regents deem it opportune.

SCIENCE AND INDUSTRY.

—There are three thousand men employed in drift-mining in California, and the product is \$5,000,000 a year.

—Experiments tried with a new electrical device for use in feeding sheets of paper to printing presses prove quite successful. It is automatic, and notices of any trouble is signalled at once by ringing a bell.

—During the past ten years the Baldwin locomotive works have made over four thousand locomotives, of which they have exported about nine hundred. Of these, fully seven hundred have gone to South America. They not only furnish engines to South America, but have supplanted English locomotives in New Zealand. They have sent many to Australia and to New South Wales.—*Philadelphia Press.*

—Prof. J. Emerick, of William and Mary College, has been studying a meteorite which fell in that neighborhood a year ago, weighing about two hundred tons. Its composition was found to be chromium, nickel, aluminum, copper, magnesium, tin, and other metals and metalloids. It contained eighty-seven per cent. of iron in a metallic state. Its specific gravity was 7.412.

—Railroads are now giving preference to "sawed" ties when obtainable. They can be transported and handled at less expense, and make a smoother track, with less labor and less time. Sawed ties can be made from timber that can not be utilized for other purposes. This branch of industry is proving profitable, as the demand for railroad ties is increasing and the prices are advancing.—*Chicago Tribune.*

—While agreeing in general with the theory that comets have their origin beyond the limits of the solar system, Prof. Daniel Kirkwood finds proof that some of those of short period are minor planets, whose orbits in the asteroid zone have been changed through the perturbing influence of the large planets. The third comet of 1884, for instance, seems to have been drawn from the Asteroids by Jupiter in May, 1875.—*Boston Budget.*

—A new kind of nail, for attaching mouldings and other light lumber, which leaves no nail holes, is made with a point at each end, and with an outwardly-projecting head or shoulder midway between the points. The nail is first driven into the wood by means of a punch, which straddles the protruding point and bears on the head. When enough have been driven in the moulding is placed over the nails and driven down.—*Boston Bulletin.*

—A well-known firm of Berlin engineers is now making a device for signaling the passage of a train by means of mercury. The deflection of one rail of the line caused by the passing of a train is caused to press upon the elastic diaphragm of a vessel fixed under the rail, and containing mercury. The mercury is forced up a side tube so as to complete an electrical circuit and ring a bell or work some other indicator.

PUNGENT PARAGRAPHS.

—The office-boy remarked to us that the city seemed to be less cooled every day while the thermometer went lower. He has been discharged.—*New Haven News.*

—A Boston contemporary undertakes to say that the latest thing out is a night-key. Now everybody who has "been there" knows that the night-key invariably goes in before the chap who carries it.—*St. Albans Messenger.*

—The Buenos Ayres Herald says: "The ladies of Lima are all eyes." We shall expect to hear of a general exodus of spectacle-venders to Lima forthwith. There should be a fortune there for the entire profession.

—A literary critic says of Browning: "He has been writing poetry for nearly half a century, and still lives." Poets should not presume upon this, how ever. They may not meet with such lenient people.—*Pittsburgh Chronicle.*

—A young lady having read a very long paper at a missionary meeting showing the triumphs of the Gospel, the minister gave out the hymn beginning "Hallelujah, 'tis done." He wondered why everybody smiled.

—"How is Jim Bullard getting on?" asked a stranger at the railway station of a Western town. "Jim kerrited suicide 'bout a month ago," replied a native. "Committed suicide! How did he commit suicide?" "He called me a liar, stranger."

—A good healthy mince pie for supper is cheaper than going to the menagerie, and you know all about the animals just the same, particularly when you awake in the middle of the night to shake the baby hippopotamus off your elbow.—*Fall River Advocate.*

—A cultured gentleman from Connecticut settled in a frontier town and started a school. One day he asked a bright little boy: "I've got \$9 in my pocket and your father lends me six more; what have I got then?" "What have you got if my father lends you \$6?" "Yes, Johnny, what have I got?" "You've got to pay pa back his \$6 when he asks for them, or he will shoot the top of your head off."—*Texas Siftings.*