Monessen tinplate plant, under a special scale, and the hoop plants of William Clark's Sons' Company, J. Painter & Sons' Company, and Lindsay and McCutcheon, and probably the big sheet plant at Wellsville, Ohio.

In return the Amalgamated Association is to keep hands off the Carnegie plant and the big sheet plant at Vandergrift for the present. In general, the final proposition of the Amalgamated Association in the last session of the wage conference has been taken up and followed further. The association is to be privileged to enter certain plants without hindrance, and on its part is to promise immunity from labor troubles for certain other plants of the corporation, in particular those originally involved in the present strike.

EXPECT SETTLEMENT THIS WEEK.

WHY SHAFFER WENT TO NEW-YORK TO CONFER.

Pittsburg, July 28.—The strike of the steel and tin workers of the Amalgamated Association against the United States Steel Corporation will probably be settled this week. The conference held in New-York Saturday between the officials of the United States Steel Corporation and President Shaffer and Secretary John Williams, of the workers' organization, has resulted in paving the way for the renewal of negotiations between the two conflicting interests.

It is said that a basis for such a conference has been arrived at. This basis is still locked up in the minds of the officials of the two organizations, and will not be divulged until later this week. If the basis is satisfactory to the general executive committee of the Amalgamated Association, the conference between the association and the manufacturers will proceed immediately. If, on the other hand, the basis is what the Amalgamated Association will not permit to be considered as negotiable grounds, the strike will be continued.

SHAFFER RETURNS FROM NEW-YORK.

President Shaffer and Secretary Williams, of the Amalgamated Association, returned from New-York this morning. They left the Metropolis at 8:30 o'clock Saturday night, after an eventful day. They had spent many hours in conference with the leading officials of the Steel Trust, had evaded all of the New-York reporters, and had come home with hopes for an early ending of the present contest that is being fought so deliberately by both sides. In Pittsburg little was known of the conference, but the greatest interest in the outcome was shown among the manufacturers. Vice-President Pope of the Carnegie Steel Company said that he had heard absolutely nothing of the results and did not know that the conference was on. I. W. Jenkins, general manager of the American Steel Hoop Company, and Superintendent Harper, of the same company, were equally in the dark.

PLEDGED TO SECRECY.

Secretary Williams was found at his home this evening. Mr. Williams was courteous and promptly admitted that he had been with President Shaffer in New-York and had seen J. P. Morgan, but as to what had taken place there he said with firmness that he was pledged to secrecy and could not talk. If there was anything to be given out it would have to come from President Shaffer, but he was positive President Shaffer would not be at liberty to talk for some days yet. When asked if he regarded the situation as hopeful for a settlement, he declined to even offer an opinion.

He was also asked if the terms as printed in the papers this morning, which covered the settlement of the strike, were correct. He replied that they were purely guess work. No terms could possibly be made, he said, without the full consent of the general executive committee of the organization. It is learned here that a meeting of the executive board has been called for Tuesday.

DETAILS OF NEW-YORK CONFERENCE.

Additional information regarding the New-York meeting of the industrial leaders was afterward picked up from trustworthy sources. It was stated that the two Amalgamated officials left Pittsburg late on Friday night, and when they arrived in New-York went direct to the private office of J. P. Morgan, in the banking house in Wall-st. The meeting between the Pittsburg men and Mr. Morgan lasted from about 11 o'clock in the morning until 4 o'clock in the afternoon. At no time did the conference adjourn to the Empire Building, where the head offices of the United States Steel Corporation are situated.

In course of the conference President C. M. Schwab and ex-Judge E. H. Gary were present most of the time. Another conferree was Mr. Dawkins, one of Mr. Morgan's partners. The Amalgamated officials directed their attention almost entirely to Mr. Morgan and President Schwab. They went over the grounds on which the strike began, and discussed a settlement basis. After getting the views of the steel officials and giving theirs in return, Mr. Shaffer and Mr. Williams left the office and spent their time away from public places, avoiding hotels and taking their meals in restaurants.

WHY TRIP WAS TAKEN.

In explanation of the hurried trip that the two officers made to New-York on Friday night, it was said that until nearly 5 o'clock in the afternoon neither of the officers knew that they would be required to leave Pittsburg, and had made plans for entirely different pruposes. Prior to that time Colonel George B. M. Harvey, manager of Harper Brothers, the publishers, of New-York, was a caller at the office of President Shaffer. When Colonel Harvey went away the invitation to go to New-York had been extended and had been accepted.

It was positively stated to-day that the meeting between the heads of the Amalgamated Association and the Steel Corporation was due to no other person or persons than Colonel Harvey, and that there were no others present at any time before or after the visit of Colonel Harvey to help the cause along. Colonel Harvey was a passenger on the same train as President Shaffer and Secretary Williams, but was not with them and was not seen by them until they reached Mr. Morgan's office. He was not in the private office of Mr. Morgan at any time in course of the conference and was not again seen by the Amalgamated officials until after they had left the conference.

STATEMENT CONFIRMED.

When Secretary Williams was asked to-day if it was true that Colonel Harvey was in the Amalgamated offices prior to his going to New-York he said it was. He also repeatedly and emphatically denied that M. M. Garland or Joseph Bishop had anything to do with the conference in any way so far as he knew.

It is believed that before the end of the week the mills will all be ready to run again, providing repairs are completed that have been undertaken since the strike began. Should the whole project fail of coming to an amicable end, however, the fight promises to be more bitter than ever. For this reason those back of the present negotiations are extremely anixous to have everything kept as quiet as possible and that nothing should be made public regarding the basis for a conference until it had been accepted by both sides.

TO ATTEND PITTSBURG CONFERENCE.

Wheeling, W. Va., July 28.—Vice-President Walter Larkins, of Martin's Ferry, of the Amalgamated Association's local district, stated to The Associated Press to-night that he was just in receipt of a call from President Shaffer for a meeting of the national executive board of the Amalgamated Association, to be held on Tuesday morning in Pittsburg.

Speaking of the call Mr. Larkins exhibited great elation and said that it meant that another conference would be held by the board with the representatives of the steel combination on Tuesday at Pittsburg. He feels confident that the strike will be settled at this conference. Asked whether the calling of the national board was direct evidence that another conference would be had with the steel company's representatives, he answered in the affirmative and said that the national board would not be called for any other purpose.

BELIEVED TO BE NEAR END.

ANNOUNCEMENT REGARDING STRIKE EXPECTED IN A FEW DAYS.

The Tribune's announcement of yesterday that a conference on the steel strike was held on Saturday afternoon by J. Pierpont Morgan, his associates of the United States Steel Corporation and President Shaffer and Secretary Williams of the Amalgamated Association, and that hopes were entertained of a speedy settlement, was officially confirmed yesterday.

The fact that President Shaffer and Mr. Williams left the city for Pittsburg on Saturday evening was also looked upon as corroborative evidence that the negotiations here had been satisfactory. The Amalgamated officials will report the result of their conference here at the meeting in Pittsburg to-day.

It was said yesterday that an informal meeting of the officers of the United States Steel Corporation will be called this afternoon for further discussion of the situation. At this meeting it is thought that a plan will be decided upon as how best to meet any new demands of the strikers.

It was the general opinion yesterday among those familiar with the situation that a definite announcement of the settlement of the strike, barring an unforeseen delay, could be looked for before the middle of the present week.

Mr. Morgan, who spent Saturday night at the Fifth Avenue Hotel, went to the Union Club at 10 o'clock yesterday morning. He was accompanied by Clinton B. Dawkins, his London partner. They returned to the hotel about noon and at 1 o'clock were driven to the Grand Central Station. It was said at the station that they went to Mr. Morgan's country home at Highland Falls. A friend of the banker, however, said that on Saturday the master of Mr. Morgan's yacht, the Corsair, had received orders to take the vessel to Bar Harbor and there to await the arrival of Mr. Morgan. When the yacht left this port John L. Cadwalader, of the law firm of Strong & Cadwalader, No. 40 Wall-st., was a guest on board.

Ex-Judge E. H. Gary, chairman of the board of directors of the United States Steel Corporation, who is at present staying at the Waldorf-Astoria, left that place early yesterday morning. He returned there last evening, but would not commit himself upon the strike question except to say that there had been no meeting of officials in the course of the day. President Schwab of the corporation, left his apartment at the Lorraine, and spent the day in an automobile beyond the borough limits.

It was reported yesterday that John D. Rockefeller had a secret conference on Saturday with President Schwab, Mr. Morgan and other members of the corporation, and that he advocated an immediate settlement of the strike.

D. G. Reid, of the American Tinplate Company, cruised yesterday on Long Island Sound on his steam yacht Alcedo. A number of tinplate officials were said to be on board. The yacht put in at the Larchmont Yacht Club in the afternoon for a short time, and then went out again, bound east.

A. F. L. READY TO ACT.

OFFICIAL SAYS MEMBERS "HAVE EVERY HOPE" THAT THE STRIKE WILL BE SETTLED BEFORE AID IS ASKED.

The Amalgamated Association of Iron and Steel Workers, being affiliated with the American Federation of Labor, the officers of the latter, it was learned yesterday, are paying particular attention to the strike of the steel workers. A circular has been sent by the federation to all its affiliated unions, informing them to be ready to take action regarding the strike if it is considered expedient to do so. Should no settlement be reached and the strike be extended, it is expected that an appeal will be made to the federation for financial aid, when, it is said, the executive council of the federation will meet and may levy an assessment in behalf of the strikers.

"We have every hope that the strike may be settled before financial aid is asked," said a prominent federation organizer yesterday, "but if an appeal for aid to the federation is considered necessary it will be attended to."

A meeting of the board of delegates of the building trades will be held this evening at Brevoort Hall, Fifty-fourth-st., near Third-ave., when, it was said yesterday, the strike of the steel workers will come up for consideration and will be indorsed. The board has affiliated with it forty building trades organizations, with an aggregate of 60,000 members.

"The members of the unions represented in the board will refuse to work in any cases where non-union structural iron or steel are used on any buildings," said an officer of the board. "The same action will be taken, I believe, by the members of every building trades union in the United States. Rival building trades unions would throw aside rivalry to help the steel workers and refuse to handle non-union material, even if it ties up every building in the city. I do not know how long the present supply of structural iron for buildings in the city would last, but I do not think it would last long."

A member of the Building Trades Council, a rival of the board of delegates, said that the members of his organization would also refuse to handle non-union structural iron. Several of its affiliated unions have already passed resolutions to that effect.

No one could say yesterday how the bricklayers' unions would act in case the union bricklayers were asked to handle non-union iron and steel. By an agreement with the Mason Builders' Association the union bricklayers are pledged not to join in any sympathetic strikes, but some of the labor leaders believe they would make an exception in this case if called upon to act.

MAY BE STRIKE IN FLOUR MILLS.

NAILERS AND PACKERS WANT INCREASE AND CONTRACTS.

Minneapolis, Minn., July 28.—The 535 nailers and packers employed in the twenty-two flour mills of Minneapolis are in a position to force the temporary suspension of the great industry of this city. These employes presented to their employers on Saturday a demand for a return to the wages of 1892, which were $2 75 a day for packers and $2 25 for nailers, 25 cents more than they are now receiving. Accompanying the demand was a clause requiring a contract for five years. The employers agreed to raise the wages, as desired, but would enter into no contract.

The employes met to-day and, after much discussion, decided upon a demand for a one year contract. A conference will be held with the employers to-morrow morning, and the demands of the nailers and packers will be presented. The mill owners are reticent as to what action will be taken, but they admit the situation is critical. The employes are well organized and will undoubtedly be able to force a conclusion of some kind. If an active strike shall be declared, the nailers and packers will have the support of the thousands of other employes in the mills. While the latter probably will not institute a sympathetic strike, they have pledged themselves to see that no non-union men are placed in the mills to fill the places of the strikers. In such event, a general strike of employes will be ordered.

TAILORS' SETTLEMENT DELAYED.

MANY OF THE STRIKERS DO NOT WANT TO RETURN TO WORK YET.

On account of a hitch in the settlement of the strike of the garment workers the fifteen thousand strikers who were expected to return to work yesterday failed to do so. Only a few thousand of them returned, though the shops were ready for them. The hitch was caused by the contractors demanding increased prices from the manufacturers who had settled. The manufacturers were not prepared for any new demand, and the shops of these contractors will not be opened again until a settlement is reached.

Many of the tailors do not want to go back to work until the end of this week. They want to be out a fortnight altogether. The executive committees of the various unions, beginning with to-day, will insist on all strikers returning to work as soon as they settle with the contractors and manufacturers.

It was announced last night that the Italian tailors will be organized to-night as a branch of the United Garment Workers by Dominique Moderino, at No. 24 Prince-st.

It was announced yesterday that the Italian tailors of New-York will be organized and admitted to the National Garment Workers of America. This will mean an increase of between seven thousand and eight thousand members.

Dominique Moderino, who is a member of the executive board of the National Garment Workers, was assigned to the duty of engineering the movement, and at his call a mass meeting will be held in the Italian theatre, at No. 24 Prince-st., this evening.

With the addition of the Italians to the ranks of the union tailors the leaders think that the workmen will be masters of the situation.

FOR A LEGAL FUND FOR LABOR UNIONS.

John F. Nubel, ex-delegate of the Clothing Cutters' Union, submitted a resolution at yesterday's meeting of the Central Federated Union for indorsement, calling on the American Federation of Labor to raise $500,000 to defend cases in the courts against trades unions. It proposed that the Federation levy an assessment for the purpose. A preamble stated that the employers' organization had money enough to hire the best lawyers when fighting unions by injunction proceedings in the courts, and the unions should have enough of a defence fund to enable them to do the same thing.

William J. O'Brien, of the granite cutters, said that the American Federation of Labor would take up the matter anyway. He did not think the Central Federated Union should touch it in the mean time.

It was decided to place the preamble and resolution on file for the present.

ALL READY FOR LAND DRAWING.

THE THOUSAND WHOSE CHANCES COME FROM THE WHEEL TO-DAY WILL GET THE BEST.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE TRIBUNE.]

Wichita, Kan., July 28.—Major Scott, of the 6th Cavalry, has given orders to have the military reservation surrounding Fort Sill cleared of homeseekers to-morrow, and troops are now at work carrying out his orders. The homeseekers are beginning to run into El Reno, where the big land drawing begins to-morrow morning at 9 o'clock. Commissioner Richards will have charge of the drawing, to be assisted by Judge Frank Dale, of Oklahoma, and Patrick Dyer, of St. Louis. Hundreds of persons are flocking to El Reno to-night to attend the drawing.

Five hundred names from each land district will be drawn out to-morrow morning—one thousand in all. These persons will get the best land in the whole reservation. The first prize in the Lawton district is said to be worth from $25,000 to $40,000. The drawing will be conducted by clerks; that is, they will draw out the names from the two big wheels in plain sight of everybody. The drawing will take place on a big platform now being erected. Commissioner Richards is to complete the drawing in three days.

ONE IN THIRTEEN TO GET FARM.

DETAILS OF THE SYSTEM BY WHICH NAMES WILL BE DRAWN.

El Reno, Okla., July 28.—All is expectancy to-night among the thousands of homeseekers here over the grand lottery that begins to-morrow morning. There are 13,000 claims to be distributed, and each of the 165,865 persons who have registered in the last fifteen days has about one chance in thirteen of winning. It is a long shot, but every one apparently feels confident of being numbered among the lucky, and, in consequence, the best of good nature prevails. While the scene lacks the great excitement of the "run," which has heretofore been a part of other land openings in this part of the country, the last act in the throwing open to settlement of the Kiowa-Commanche reservations will not be without life and animation.

The drawing will take place in the centre of the city, and will be witnessed by thousands of persons. It will take place on a large platform, in the open, around which the sloping hillsides form a natural amphitheatre.

The actual drawing will be both novel and extremely interesting. On the platform will be two oblong box wheels, each fifteen feet in length, one to hold the names of the applicants for homesteads in the El Reno district and the other for those of the Lawton district. In these wheels will be placed envelopes containing the names of all the registered applicants. The envelopes first will have been brought to the platform in packages consecutively numbered. A corresponding series of numbers upon slips will be placed in another receptacle, from which they will be drawn out at random. The packages of envelopes bearing the first number drawn will be the first to be placed in the drawing box and well distributed, when another number will be drawn and another package of envelopes distributed, and this course will be continued until all of the envelopes shall have been placed in the box wheels, after which the wheels will be revolved for a sufficient length of time to insure a thorough mixing of the envelopes.

In each wheel there are five apertures, from which the envelopes will finally be drawn. Ten men, one for each aperture, will perform the actual drawing. The order in which they will begin will be determined by lot.

The first envelope drawn will be No. 1, which will be at once opened and the identification slip which it contains will have a corresponding number, and the name and residence which appears upon the slip will be publicly announced. This course will be pursued, numbering each envelope and its contents consecutively, until twenty-five numbers shall have been drawn from one box, when an equal number will be drawn from the other box in a similar manner. This course will be pursued until five hundred names shall have been drawn from each box, when, if the commission shall deem it best to do so, arrangements will be made for drawing simultaneously from both boxes.

After the names have been drawn and announced they will be recorded and a notice prepared to be mailed to the one whose name is drawn. The drawing will proceed in this manner until every envelope in the boxes shall have been drawn.

Only one thousand envelopes, five hundred for each district, will be drawn on Monday. After the first day the drawing will proceed with greater rapidity and it is expected that the last envelope will have been drawn by Thursday night. The lucky ones will be permitted to file claims in the order in which their numbers have been drawn from the wheel. Each of the applicants for homesteads has been permitted to inspect the land beforehand to select a claim in case he or she shall be lucky enough to draw a number.

Besides the three commissioners appointed to superintend the drawing and the ten men who will draw the envelopes from the wheel, space on the platform will be provided for newspaper reporters. Commissioner Richards declined to-night to disclose the names of the ten men who will draw the numbers from the wheel, and said that the selections will not be made known until just before the drawing shall begin.

INDIANS TO MAKE ENTRIES FOR LANDS.

Oklahoma, Okla. T., July 28.—Keo Tuck, a Sac Indian, has given notice at the Land Office of El Reno of his intention to file upon the quarter sections of land adjoining the town site of Lawton, which has been the principal town in the Kiowa and Comanche reservation. This is probably the most valuable tract of the entire reservation to be opened. The application is made under a section of United States law passed in 1887 which gives every homeless Indian the right to go to any part of the public domain and to make entry for any tract of land that is not in possession of a homesteader. The section has never been repealed, and the right of the Indians who have no allotments or who were omitted from the tribal rolls, is one that they can exercise at any time.

With Keo Tuck were sixty members of Sac and Fox tribes, who propose to make entries, and attorneys throughout the country are said to be searching for other Indians, who have not secured possession of homestead tracts. It is believed there are five hundred in the two tribes who can secure choice claims in advance of those who have registered by simply making their filings. The plan is to select the lands they desire and then go into court and ask for a restraining order to prevent the registers and receivers from accepting filings on the tracts selected.

YACHT CAPSIZED ON LAKE ST. CLAIR.

ONE GIRL DROWNED—OTHERS ABOARD ALL SAVED.

Detroit, July 28 (Special).—Intense excitement prevailed here to-night over a report that twelve lives had been lost by the capsizing of a yacht on Lake St. Clair, in a squall, but the report proved unfounded. One girl, Maud Randall, eighteen years old, was drowned, and the yacht was capsized, but the rest were saved.

GRAY ARRAIGNED AND REMANDED.

William Lewis Gray, who is suspected of the Fosburgh murder, was arraigned in the Jefferson Market court yesterday morning by Detective-Sergeant McMillan and was remanded back to Police Headquarters by Magistrate Deuel until this afternoon, when he will again be arraigned.

WYETH OPPOSES KOCH.

REASONS FOR DISSENTING FROM THE GERMAN SPECIALIST'S CONCLUSIONS.

Long Branch, N. J. July 28 (Special).—Dr. John A. Wyeth, president of the American Medical Association, in speaking to-night of the theory recently put forward by Professor Koch, in London, that tuberculosis is not communicable to human beings by eating the meat or drinking the milk of tuberculous cows, said:

Notwithstanding the reports that Professor Koch has stated that bovine tuberculosis is not transmissible to man, we should not cease to take all precautions to destroy the bacilli that are found in milk and beef. It is by no means proven by Dr. Koch or any one else that this transmission of the disease is impossible. Moreover, it is the general belief and opinion of the best experts and investigators in this department of medical science that milk from tuberculous cows is a dangerous source of infection to human beings, especially to children of low resistance.

Dr. Koch is reported to have based his opinion, in part, on the fact that primary tuberculosis of the intestines is extremely rare, and that in a large number of post-mortems made in Berlin he had seen only two or three subjects in which primary tuberculosis had occurred in the intestines.

Every practitioner of large chemical experience knows that tuberculosis infection is very common from the mouth and tonsils. The bacilli lodging there find their way into the system through minute abrasions or raw surfaces which are exceedingly common on the gums and lining membrane of the mouth, tongue and tonsils. From these points the germs pass into the lymphatics and cause the swollen glands or lumps so frequently seen under the jaws and along the sides of the neck in children thus infected. It is therefore not necessary for the germs to pass into the stomach and intestines in order to affect a lodgment.

It is graitfying to observe the great interest the public is taking in this question of tuberculosis—a disease which destroys more lives every year than any other ten of the ills flesh is heir to. The expectorated matter from consumptives is without doubt the greatest means of spreading this disease, and since strict laws have been passed in New-York City forbidding expectoration in public conveyances in that city the death rate from tuberculosis has been very materially reduced. If these same laws could be enforced to prevent expectoration on the sidwalks and in the streets a much greater benefit would be derived. The best results, however, cannot be obtained until the people in general are educated to the necessity of these precautions.

The law now requires that a physician shall report to the Board of Health very case of tuberculosis. These patients should at once be impressed with the danger of the spread of their disease to others as the result of their spitting on the sidewalks or in the streets, for the matter expectorated is loaded with bacilli, which are hard to kill and which are blown about in the dust of the streets and carried by inspiration into the nostrils, mouths and lungs of those not yet infected.

If they would use a cheap gauze cloth or handkerchief, expectorating into this and carrying it home to be destroyed by boiling or burning, all the germs would be killed. Both the American Medical Association, which meets in Saratoga in June, 1902, and the New-York State Medical Association, which holds its annual meeting in October, 1901, at the Academy of Medicine, New-York City, will take action upon this most important of all subjects, especially with a view of appealing to the public at large to aid the medical profession in their efforts to completely eradicate this most pernicious and destructive disease.

In my opinion, another century will not pass without seeing consumption relegated to the category of diseases which have ceased to destroy the human race.

WOULDN'T STOP INSPECTION.

DRS. BRYANT AND HUBER THINK MEASURES TO PREVENT TUBERCULOSIS IN CATTLE SHOULDN'T BE RELAXED.

Dr. Joseph D. Bryant said yesterday to a Tribune reporter that he hoped the recent statement of Dr. Koch regarding bovine and human tubercle bacilli would not bring about a relaxation in the measures to prevent the spread of tuberculosis among cattle. He also expressed the hope that the inspection of meat and milk would be continued as vigorously as at present.

"I do not think that Dr. Koch has proved conclusively that bovine tubercle bacilli are not transmitted to human beings," continued the doctor. "There is no doubt that tuberculosis is rampant among cattle. To stop the inspection of animals, which is undertaken for the purpose of learning whether or not they are suffering with tuberculosis, and thereby checking the spread of the disease and keeping diseased meat and milk from the markets, would not be judicious. This inspection should be carried on as carefully as in the past, even if Dr. Koch's theory be proved to be correct by investigation. The thought of eating meat and drinking milk from tuberculous animals is not at all nice. And, moreover, eating such meat and drinking such milk would certainly be unwholesome, and might be seriously detrimental to the health. By discontinuing the inspection of cattle tuberculosis would soon be more widespread among them."

Dr. John B. Huber said about Dr. Koch's statement:

"It has been scientifically demonstrated through meat and milk of tuberculous cattle that tuberculosis has been transmitted from animals to the human race. It would certainly be most inadvisable without the most thorough investigation of Dr. Koch's theory to relax the present thorough inspection of cattle, for the purpose of preventing such transmission.

"Dr. Koch is the foremost bacteriologist of our time, but he is not a clinician, and those who have investigated disease at the bedside and in the office would need accumulative testimony of many co-workers in this line before the statement could be accepted by them.

"The theory that the virus of tuberculous animals is modified in the human system is fairly well established. Any given micro-organism in its transmission from one species of animal to another is modified. For instance, smallpox given to a cow will be modified so that the cow will get what is called cowpox. Then we use the virus of cowpox with which to vaccinate human beings."

AUSTRALIAN OPAL MINING.

A SETTLED INDUSTRY IN QUEENSLAND AND NEW SOUTH WALES.

Considerable quantities of opal are found in Queensland and New South Wales. In the latter State the commoner kinds are found in many localities, especially in the neighborhood of Orange, but they possess little or no commercial value. Precious or noble opal is obtained principally at White Cliffs, in the dry western country, about 780 miles from Sydney and sixty-five miles from Wilcannia. The latter township is about one hundred miles from Broken Hill, and the whole country is said to be rich in minerals, but the deficient water supply seriously retards the efforts of prospectors.

According to E. F. Pittman, in his work on "The Mineral Resources of New South Wales," the precious opals of White Cliffs, as in the case of many other valuable mineral deposits, were discovered by accident. In 1889 a hunter, while tracking a wounded kangaroo, picked up a piece of the brilliantly colored mineral on the surface; after the find had been reported a careful search of the locality was made, with the result that several more pieces were discovered; prospecting trenches were then excavated, and the gem was found in situ. Since that time mining operations have been carried on continuously, though sometimes under great difficulties, as in time of drouth the locality is very badly provided with water; opal mining has, however, now become a settled industry, and a thriving township has been established at White Cliffs.

The area within which the mineral has been found in the district is about fifteen miles long by about two miles wide. Prospecting for precious opal is a decidedly hazardous business, because, as a rule, there are no indications whatever on the surface of the occurrence of the mineral below. It is only in very rare instances that an outcrop of the gem can be seen, and the usual procedure is to dig a trench or pit in such a position as fancy may dictate, and trust to luck. Fortunately, sinking is easy, as the rock is of a soft nature, and, in a fair number of instances, the opal has been met with at a very short distance from the surface, though a large majority of the pits are unsuccessful.

Many valuable opals have been found from time to time, one, weighing about four and a half ounces, being sold by the finder for £100. Of course in London it would bring a considerably higher price. Another opal, weighing nine ounces, was accidentally broken in two, the pieces weighing seven and two ounces respectively, and was valued locally at £700. The value of the opal obtained since the discovery of the deposits in 1889 to the end of 1899 is estimated at £376,599, but much of the opal obtained is not officially reported.

THE ARMS OF WALES.

From The London Chronicle.

The King is said to be favorably disposed to the inclusion of the arms of Wales in those of the future princes of Wales. It is to be hoped that the dragon will not be used as the symbol of this inclusion, for nothing, heraldically, could be more absurd. The dragon does not occur in the coats of arms of any of the ancient Welsh princes, or in those of any of the old Welsh families. It is sometimes spoken of as the emblem of the Tudors; but Owen Tudor, the founder of the Tudor family, was not armigerous; and the red dragon which Henry VII adopted was not that of the Tudors, but was a compromise between the white bull of York and the red lion and greyhound of Lancaster.

TWO BOYS SCALDED TO DEATH.

THE STEAM VALVES WERE TURNED ON WHILE THEY WERE IN A CLOTH TANK.

Gloucester, N. J., July 28.—George Augenbaugh and Elmer Green died at their homes to-day in terrible agony, the result of being badly scalded while at work yesterday. The boys were employed in the Gloucester print works. They went into a tank to get out cloth. Some one, not knowing the boys were in the tank, opened the steam valves which led to it, and the boys were badly scalded before they could be rescued. When Augenbaugh was taken out his agony was so great that he attempted suicide by knocking his head against the tank. The Prosecutor is making an investigation.

A RAID IN MULBERRY BEND PARK.

TWENTY-ONE TRAMPS AND DISORDERLY WOMEN ARRESTED.

Captain Charles Wendel, of the Elizabeth-st. station, with fifteen policemen, yesterday arrested six women and fifteen men in Mulberry Bend Park on charges of vagrancy. The policemen alighted from the patrol wagon at the Bayard-st. entrance to the park and immediately surrounded it.

This was the first raid of its kind in a long time. It was the result of many complaints that had been made to Captain Wendel about the vagrants who had slept on the benches in Mulberry Bend Park recently.

Catholic and Protestant clergymen complained some time ago about the manner in which respectable men were accosted in Chatham Square by beggars, fakirs and disorderly women. In consequence extra plain clothes men were detailed from the Elizabeth and Oak-st. stations to keep these people from the square. In danger of being arrested they flocked to Mulberry Bend Park.

Captain Wendel made a personal investigation of the conditions in the park. The prisoners offered no resistance to the policemen. While the first batch was loaded into the patrol wagon, a squad of officers kept the remaining offenders surrounded.

FUNERAL OF THOMAS H. CULLEN.

WOOLLEN MANUFACTURER SUCCUMBS TO GASTRITIS AT LONG BEACH.

The funeral of Thomas H. Cullen will be held at his home, No. 52 West Seventy-second-st., at 11 a. m. to-day, the Rev. Anthony Evans officiating. The burial will be in Kensico Cemetery.

Mr. Cullen was a well known woollen merchant. Born at Pawtucket, R. I., in 1840, he came to this city in 1852 and entered business at once. Subsequently he became a member of the firm of Converse, Stanton & Cullen, of No. 83 Worth-st. Since he retired, three years ago, he had been a special partner. He was president of the Dundee Woollen Company, of Passaic, N. J., and a director of the Domestic National Bank, of this city. He was a member of the Colonial Club and the Merchants' Club, serving as a trustee of the former. He served in the Civil War with the 22d Regiment, and became a member of Monroe Post, G. A. R. Later he served as a major in the 22d Regiment. In 1884 he was an ardent Cleveland supporter.

Mr. Cullen suffered a stroke of paralysis seven years ago, but recovered. The illness leading to his death, acute gastritis, began on Wednesday, and he died peacefully on Friday night at the Long Beach Hotel. He is survived by a widow, who was formerly Harriet A. Morrison, of this city, and three children, Thomas H. jr., Mrs. H. W. Martin and Miss Cullen.

SHOOTING AFFRAY AT OHIO MINES.

ONE DEAD, THREE WOUNDED AND A NEGRO THREATENED WITH LYNCHING.

Cambridge, Ohio, July 28.—One man dead, one dying, another probably fatally shot, and a fourth with the back of his head crushed in—this, with the threatened lynching of a negro, is the result of a free-for-all fight at Kings Mines to-day, a short distance from Black Top Mine, where a riot between Hungarian and Slav miners occurred on Saturday. The dead man is Grant Taylor. The injured are "Joe" Reedon, shot twice in the bowels, one bullet going through the body; Melvin Sheldon, shot in the breast, and Mack Sheldon, head crushed by a stone at the hands of Lawrence Busby, colored. All the other men are white. Busby was arrested and is in jail here.

He was saved from lynching only by quick work by the sheriff. He is blamed for the trouble. Taylor and his wife had been warned to leave the neighborhood. Mack Sheldon met Busby near the company's store to-day, and after a few words Busby knocked him down with a stone. Melvin Sheldon and Reedon quickly appeared, but Busby ran to his home and armed himself, threatening to shoot any one trying to get him. Taylor, walking along the street, made a remark to Sheldon and Reedon, and all three drew revolvers and began firing. Sheldon and Reedon falling to the ground fatally wounded. The prompt work of Sheriff Dollison and his deputies saved Busby from being lynched. All is quiet at Black Top, and eight men are here in jail.

CUBAN LEADER TO MEET GENERAL WOOD.

Dr. Joaquin Castillo, once a leader in the Cuban Army, was a passenger on the French steamer La Champagne, which arrived here yesterday. Dr. Castillo received a cable dispatch from General Wood, who will arrive from Cuba to-morrow, asking him to meet him here. The reason for their meeting could not be learned.

TELEGRAPHIC NOTES.

Keene, N. H., July 28.—A fire early this morning in the building of the Holbrook Grocery Company, in St. James-st., caused a loss of about $75,000 to the company, of which $72,000 is on stock and $3,000 on building. Insurance, $40,000.

Saco, Me., July 28.—The three-masted schooner E. I. White, loaded with coal, that has been ashore in Saco River for three days in the channel near Cow Island, blocking navigation to this port, was floated to-day. The vessel is the largest that ever came up the Saco River.

Detroit, July 28.—The News-Tribune, a naphtha launch used to deliver newspapers to the residents of the Lake St. Clair flats, capsized about two miles north of the lightship to-night during a sudden squall. Miss Maud Randall, of this city, one of the four passengers, was drowned. The captain and the other passengers were rescued.

Gloucester, Mass., July 28.—The schooner Briganza arrived here from the fishing grounds to-night, bringing the intelligence that two of her crew, Frederick Sampson and Vincent Dillon, were probably lost while tending trawls. Sampson belonged in Arichat, C. B., and Dillon in St. John's, N. F. On the trip two of the schooner Thalia's crew became separated from their vessel, and were picked up by the Briganza, being later placed on their own vessel.

Scranton, Penn., July 28 (Special).—In the raids on "speakeasies" the police arrested Stephen Misler, of Providence. Misler had constructed a well in his garden, where he kept his beer for Sunday trade. As Misler served his drinks over a fence, he set up the strange defence that he did not sell intoxicants on his premises. Neverthelss he was fined $50.

Bradford, Vt., July 28.—The general store and dwelling house of F. P. Cunningham, the home of Dr. Dow, the only church in the village, and the school building at West Topsham, Vt., were burned this morning, causing a loss of $20,000. The buildings destroyed comprised nearly all of the business part of the town. The fire started in Dr. Dow's stable from an overturned lantern.

Denver, July 28.—William Radcliffe, owner of the lease on the Grand Mesa Lakes, in Delta County, has been summoned to Washington for consultation with the State Department. This gives an international aspect to the recent shooting of two men by a deputy game warden, the burning of Radcliffe's hotel, and the threatened lynching of himself by a mob of Delta County citizens. Radcliffe claims to be a subject of King Edward, and has appealed to his government to protect his life and have him reimbursed for the loss of his property.

Cleveland, Ohio, July 28.—In a row at Forest City Park late last night Otto B. Seefried, manager of the park, it is asserted, shot into the crowd which was raising a disturbance, and injured Thomas Murtagh, of No. 647 Broadway, probably fatally, a bullet going through his abdomen. Edward Yarnhan, of No. 424 Woodland-ave., was shot in the knee, but is not seriously injured. A squad of policemen from the Broadway station found Seefried inside an engine house with a revolver in his hand. A number of persons surrounded the engine house and were in an angry mood over the shooting. The policemen dispersed them and sent Murtagh to St. Alexis's Hospital, where he lies in a dying condition to-night. Seefried is under arrest.

Miami, Fla., July 28.—Andrew Brown, late chief officer of the schooner Lucy W. Snow, of Providence, R. I., made an affidavit here to-day charging that J. B. Scott, master of that vessel, permitted one of the boat's crew, whose name is believed to be Ramon Casaderall, and who is believed to have been a Spaniard, to drown without attempting to aid him. According to the affidavit, the man fell overboard about eight miles north of Jupiter Light, Florida. The affidavit adds: "The weather being fine, said Commander Scott did not order a boat out nor make any effort to save the seaman, merely remarking to the said chief officer, Andrew Brown, that it was no use, no use."

CHANGES IN THE WEATHER

SOME THEORIES ADVANCED TO EXPLAIN THE SEEMING INCREASE OF HEAT AND DECREASE OF COLD.

The hot weather of last summer and the still warmer weather of the last month have set people to wondering if a gradual change has for years been coming over the climatic conditions of this part of the country. Where, too, it is asked, are the old fashioned winters, when sleighing continued for weeks uninterruptedly and people frequently crossed the East River on the ice?

Many theories have been advanced regarding the seeming change in the Eastern climate. The influence of sun spots, the course of the Gulf Stream and the destruction of forests have each in their turn been suggested as possible explanations. Dr. Daniel Draper, when asked about this subject last week, expressed himself as sceptical regarding any real change in the climate. There were fluctuations, he said, but the working of permanent change, if going on at all, was so slow that in the thirty-three years in which observations had been made no permanent change had been remarked. The fluctuations came in no regular groups of years, and were governed by no apparent laws.

The destruction of forests, Dr. Draper asserts, has not changed the rainfall, and, therefore, does not affect the climate. Nor are the sun spots accountable for changes in temperature, he thinks. In India, he said, an attempt had been made to work out a theory in regard to sun spots, but at present, though the laws obtained might hold good for India, they could not apply to the rest of the world. Theoretically, they ought to hold good anywhere. To formulate satisfactory laws on the subject of climatic changes observations extending through many years would be necessary, and the observations must not be confined, as formerly, to isolated places, but extend over large tracts.

The disappearance of the old fashioned winter Draper denies. He points to the famous blizzard of 1888 as one of the heaviest snowfalls ever known in this city. People, he said, might still occasionally cross to Staten Island on an ice jam, as General Washington did in Revolutionary days, if the continuous shipping did not keep the harbor open, and they might still go about in sleighs for many weeks at a time through sheer necessity if better means of locomotion had not been contrived. Believers in the old fashioned winter took old instances of intense cold that impressed them at the time and later exaggerated the importance of them.

On the question of the old fashioned winter E. B. Dunn differs from Dr. Draper. Mr. Dunn holds that the seasons were formerly better defined than now; the winters steadier in cold and the summer with fewer sudden contrasts in temperature. Yet the average temperatures of the less blended seasons of former years Mr. Dunn thinks is about the same as the average temperatures of the present. Neither the direction of the Gulf Stream nor the destruction of the forests strikes Mr. Dunn as a possible explanation of the change. Since weather conditions pass from West to East, the Gulf Stream has no effect whatsoever on this climate is his contention. The heat of a forest, too, can no more modify a cold wave than the heat of a great city.

The explanation that Mr. Dunn thinks plausible lies in the great extension of irrigation through the West in the last twenty-five years, for the blending of the seasons has been noticed from the Atlantic seacoast to the Rocky Mountains. There are now from 5,000,000 to 7,000,000 acres in the West under artificial irrigation. This great area of irrigated land creates moisture and a tendency to the development of low pressure storms. In Mr. Dunn's opinion, therefore, the great extension of irrigation in the West may be one cause of any change now noticeable.

If, then, as seems generally agreed, the average heat of recent seasons is as much as it has been in the thirty-three years of observation, there is no reason to fear a steady increase in the heat here.

THE QUALITY OF FRUIT.

DEALERS DENY HOUSEKEEPERS' CONTENTION THAT IT IS NOT AS GOOD AS IT WAS.

The complaint is frequently heard from housekeepers nowadays that in the last five or six years there has been a noticeable decline in the quality of fruit. The complaint is by no means limited to the defects of the present season, which has not upheld the standard of recent seasons in regard to the small fruits, and which promises to be a decidedly off year with apples. For several years, it is asserted, the markets have afforded no such plentiful supply of the best fruit as they placed before the purchasers of eight or ten years ago.

A number of plausible reasons have been brought forward as accounting sufficiently for the so-called present decadence in the quality of fruit. The vast amount of fruit raised in every part of the country suggests overproduction as one cause. Again, the very high prices that American fruit commands in the capitals of Europe make it likely that the choicest fruit raised here does not find its way to the American markets, but is set apart for the foreign export trade.

It must in justice be admitted that the fruit dealers take a somewhat more hopeful view of the case than that held by the housekeepers. Wholesale dealers seem agreed that fruit received to-day is as good, if not better, than that of eight or ten years ago. The California growers have brought the raising and shipping of fruit to a science, and farmers throughout the East are doing their best to compete with them. Georgia peaches have an established reputation, and New-Jersey peaches were never finer than at present. Farmers are realizing in all parts of the country that the demand for poor fruit is small. The opinion, too, of prominent grocers and retail dealers bears out the statements of the wholesale men.

Mr. Morse, of Charles & Co., says that the quality of fruit it steadily improving, and, though he admits that much of the best American fruit is shipped abroad, he believes that finer fruit never found its way to the home markets than that coming in now. The improvement in Western fruit is especially notable. As good apples as are grown anywhere now come from Oregon and Colorado. Eastern farmers would do well to copy the excellent methods of fruit packing now universal in the Pacific States. Instead of sending to market pears packed in barrels, they would do well to wrap each pear separately, and then to pack them in boxes, according to the Western custom.

Mr. West, of Brandeis Brothers, thinks that just as good fruit as is shipped abroad is sold in Boston and this city. The improvement in Jersey peaches is steady, and Georgia peaches furnish admirable crops. In Delaware, too, the canning industry is steadily on the increase. Mr. West finds that farmers hereabouts are striving to vie with the farmers of the West in producing nothing but the best quality of fruits.

One fact both wholesale and retail men frankly admit, that the price of fruit has gone up. Perhaps the housekeepers feel that the advance in price only tends to confirm their original theory. At any rate, it would be a difficult task to convince them that the quality of fruit is now quite as good as it was eight or ten years ago.

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