SIGHTSEEING IN MATANZAS.

FIRST UNDER THE PALM TREES, AND THEN AMONG THE STALAGMITES.

The Golden Lion and its Redsnappers—A Self-Made Mayor—An Illumination in the Plaza—Better Row and the Bais Outdone—A Beautiful Cave—The Scenes Scrape.

MATANZAS, Feb. 7.—"If you visit Matanzas, breakfast and dine with me, for you can't get anything to eat at the hotels." These friendly words were addressed to the writer in Havana by a hospitable Matanzero. He did indeed live in a hospitable Matanzas. The Hotel Leon de Oro is a remarkably comfortable inn, with better cooking than we have found at the more pretentious establishments of Havana; with civil servants, fair rooms, and an abundant supply of fish. The great fish of Matanzas is the redsnapper, and he is served in every possible style, the best, probably, being with a sauce made of fresh water crayfish, which are caught in the river and grow to about the size of a French *écrevisse*.

Two excellent railroads run from Havana to Matanzas. By one, the Ferro Carril de la Bahia de la Havana, the time is only two hours and a half, while the run over the Ferro Carril de la Havana, which makes a long detour to the south, takes an hour longer. Gen. Grant had a special train, deadhead, and two of the Captain-General's aids-de-camp thrown in. Señor Reyna, the Governor of Matanzas, is not a Captain-General, but only a Marshal, and his palace has but limited accommodations. So it was found necessary to billet the Grant party upon different private families. The Spanish Government is not a good paymaster, and the tradespeople are not anxious for orders from its representatives. Consequently when Grant arrived here and every volante in the town was ordered for his use, there was some hard swearing; for here payment any time in two years is rash, so far as officials are concerned. But the people are utterly cowed, and never speak openly about the Government; even a waiter at the hotel, who told us he had been to school "at Amherst Edh, near Lunnon," was afraid to express any opinion about politics. This terrorism is general throughout the island. Even poverty is imperial as Matanzas, where life and property are as safe as in New York, one sees placarded in the streets semi-military regulations, prompted by an evident fear of insurrection. One of these, which had just been posted up, made it a capital offence to commit a robbery in the company of two other persons, though for robbery committed by one person the punishment is very light.

While we were there, two men stole a watch from a person walking in the street. It was broad daylight, and the thieves managed to reach the river. There, being hotly pursued, they jumped in. Both banks were quickly lined with soldiers, who began a brisk rifle practice. It was quite dark, and nothing came of the chase of the fugitives; but, after a few minutes they both came ashore, badly wounded and exhausted. The authorities are now busy trying to prove that some third person was with them at the time of the robbery.

The military and civil governments of Matanzas are separated. A Mayor and Aldermen are elected every two years, and the citizens have kept their municipal elections free from politics and party feeling. The present Mayor, Señor Guma, is serving his second term. Three years ago he was a poor laboring man; now he is one of the richest merchants in the place and greatly respected for his probity and public spirit. In all probability he can continue to hold the office for the remainder of his life. It was lucky for Grant that he had to deal with so wealthy and free-handed a man, who was able to spend his own money. Señor Guma is not with the tradespeople and the stablemen.

On the afternoon of our arrival a number of carriages belonging to the principal townspeople were in waiting at the depot, and later we had visitors in the shape of invitations to dinner. The party was driven to the Valle de Yumuri, a famous valley, or rather table-land about two miles from the town. The drive was somewhat curtailed, for there had been a heavy shower of rain, and the red clay of the roads was churned into a sticky mass impassable.

In the evening the Plaza de Armas was brilliantly lighted up, and an excellent military band played a selection of popular music. The palace, which occupies one side of the Plaza, is a massive building with a clock tower in the middle. Under the clock the legend "Viva la Reina" is inscribed. At either side of the clock tower are laurel wreaths enclosing the letters A and M. These initials stand for Alphonso and Mercedes, the poor young Queen whose untimely death was so soon followed by her husband. The lower story of the palace contains the telegraph office, which is always under governmental supervision in Cuba, and some other offices of the Government. But most of it is let out in shops to bankers, glove sellers, and so on. Hard by, at one corner, an enterprising dealer has established a stand for selling old books and junk. On the other sides of the Plaza are handsome private houses, cafés, and shops. The two clubs of Matanzas are also here. The Union Española is supposed to represent the Spanish element, while the other, which calls itself simply the Club, is more Cuban in its organization and in the sentiments of its members.

In the centre of the Plaza are several magnificent palm trees, planted in a circle, and diverging from them are eight paths lined with flowering shrubs to the roadways. On either side of these paths are rows of stone benches, which are crowded every evening with townspeople, smoking and enjoying the cool night air. Upon the night of our arrival it was evident that the population had turned out to see the new comers, although every one made it a point to inform us that the Plaza was always just as lively as we saw it when the band played. The scene was wonderfully picturesque—the palms swaying slowly in the night breeze, the verdure and flowers exhanting the most delicate colors, the paths crowded with some of the loveliest women in the world, and in the roadway an unbroken stream of open carriages and victorias flowing backward and forward, the horses, liveries, and general equipment not worthy of the Bois de Boulogne or Hyde Park, but still very creditable. Never, in any place worthy of the name, a fashionable throng, and never anything approaching the wonderful display of beauty that Matanzas can boast. As one carriage after another passed with its fair freight, the American bystander felt a gleaming regret that nature had not formed all women alike, that the Venus de Medicis, the Greek Slave, the Madonna, and Beatrice Cenci, the windows of the palace were brilliantly lighted, and every now and then the squat form of Grant could be seen on a balcony in animated conversation with the Governor and an interpreter, or Mrs. Grant's buxom figure would emerge into the mirror for a moment as she stepped out upon the balcony.

Early on the next morning the volantes were drawn up before the palace to convey the party to the caves of Bellamar, which are situated in one of the hills surrounding the bay. A charming drive it was, for rain had brought us fragrance and freshness into the hill. The road is in fair condition, with long lines of limestone rock at the side to prevent the carriages from sliding into the ravines. Of course, there are no guard rails for these roads, and the caves are reached without any trouble. A small house has been built over the entrance, and a pull at a rope will bring a man who will take tickets and guide from his house. Upon ringing the bell, we had to wait for quite a time before the door was opened by a Spanish, French, and English, speaking negro who had to break the rusty and unoiled lock, and any person desirous of carrying away a long stalactite or stalagmite can procure one from the guide in exchange for a quantity of rum, either in *one* or *pipes*. In one second hall was room for a large painted table and benches, and in another a bar containing a plentiful supply of these liquids which are, in the Spanish I mean, necessary to keep him warm and to quench his thirst in the bowels of the earth, and both warm and cool upon the surface. The temperature of the caves is about 80°, and as the warming is difficult in spots, it is better for the visitor to remove some of his outer garments. Grant, however, resolved to go down in his ordinary apparel and the inside of the word cave, probably for the first time, a stout elderly gentleman in a black cloth frock coat and tall hat.

La Cueva de Bellamar was discovered in 1861 on the estate of a Don Manuel Santos Parga. His workmen were breaking limestone for a macadamized road, in which case they struck his chisel into the cave and fell headlong into a room some well. Upon investigation a steep pit was discovered. Señor Parga entered it and explored the recesses of the cavern. At present, two flights of steps lead into the first chamber, or the cave, and ropes, bridges, and steps are provided at all the dangerous places.

The Gothic Temple, as the first chamber is called, is the largest in the cave. It was impossible for us to see the roof 3 feet, as the only lights were two candles in the guide carried, and when illuminated it only the part of the roof immediately above his head shone. However, the guide is authority for the statement that the Gothic Temple is 300 feet long by 240 wide. The stalactites here are wanting in the purity of color and fineness of texture that we found later in the cave, but they are of magnificent size. One of them, to which the name of the Mother Countess has been given, is 60 feet high and varies from 8 to 21 feet in width. The name is really appropriate, for it exactly resembles some aged matron in black hanging in ground folds, and upon a large scale that could hold easily enough for a room. At the foot of the Mother several large stones, stained like moss, are seen, and the lively imagination of the guide finds in them a likeness to devotees who are prostrate at the base of the garment of the great discovery. Opposite the Mantle is a large niche, called the Altar, apparently decorated with rude statues. In front stands an enormous stone, called the Guardian of the Cave from its commanding position. Two paths lead out of the Gothic Temple and join again about a mile farther down in the cave. The guide takes the path to the left and enters a long, narrow passage called the Gallery of the Fountain, from a spring of pure water that wells up about the middle of the gallery. The water is pleasant to the taste but rather warm, the temperature varying, according to the guide, in the inverse ratio of the heat of the air outside—in other words, is warmer on cold days and cooler on hot. In the Gallery of the Fountain the stalactites are still large, coarse, and discolored by the brownish-red clay through which the water percolates from above. But after leaving this gallery the stalactites are of a dazzling whiteness, and the roof is covered with very small ones twisted into curious shapes, often so fine as to look like point lace. In some places there is a delicate pink tinge, like coral, while everywhere they have taken most fantastic forms, resembling beasts, birds, and inanimate objects.

But the pride of the cave is the Hall of the Benedictions. This chamber is forty-two feet long by twenty-four wide, and is thirty-six feet in height. It received its name from the Bishop of Matanzas, who, when he entered this chamber for the first time, became so enthusiastic that he could not refrain from solemnly blessing it. The Bishop was, perhaps, a little free with his benedictions, but many more unworthy objects have often received a churchman's blessing, for it is impossible to imagine a more lovely scene than this hall presents. The floor, the walls, and the vaulted roof are all of the most dazzling whiteness, and the crystals shine like diamonds whenever the lights strike them. Here and there the stalactites and stalagmites have joined, and form rows of slender pillars, formed apparently of the purest marble. Close to the walls masses of stalactites, often six feet in width, hang like curtains, so thin and white that a light placed behind them renders them transparent. One of these masses is called the Mantle of the Virgin. It falls like a translucent cascade, the border being beautifully carved, as if by the hands of a sculptor. The surface is slightly undulating, and is covered with crystal grains, each about an inch square, which shine with all the brilliancy of precious stones.

Underneath the Mantle of the Virgin is a stream of water, which has never been traced to its source. Some years ago Señor Parga, the proprietor of the cave, nearly lost his life in an attempt to follow it. He started early in the morning with men and lights, and found the water very shallow, but the crystallizations so numerous and sharp that they lacerated the feet and bodies of the explorers. After going some distance in safety, the lights were suddenly extinguished, leaving to each the horror of the position. It was found that the matches had became damp, and would not ignite. For hours the unfortunate explorers groped their way in the dark, in constant danger of being precipitated into some one of the numerous abysses with which the cave abounds, and bruising themselves at every step against the sharp rocks. At last they gave themselves up as lost; but fortunately Señor Parga's wife became alarmed and sent a number of men to search for them. After eighteen hours of darkness the lost ones were found, half dead with mental and physical agony; but the source of the spring remains as mysterious as ever.

The greatest depth of the explored cave is 360 feet, but it is highly probable that there are many other galleries as yet undiscovered. On the day of our visit a new gallery was opened for the first time, and Señor Parga is constantly at work improving the paths and searching for new wonders. The formation is limestone, and innumerable fossil shells cover some portions of the vault. Potter's clay is also found in considerable quantities, but nothing has as yet been found to indicate that the cave was ever inhabited.

Matanzas is a thriving town, with a population of about 40,000 inhabitants. A river runs through the town and empties itself into the harbor, which is both spacious and picturesque. There are two bridges, one for horses and the banks of the river are lined with large warehouses where sugar is stored until shipped. Two two great industries of the place are the exportation of sugar and the importation of jerked beef from South America. This beef is extensively used for negroes, more especially on the plantations, where the negroes rarely get any other meat. The firms engaged in business are mostly German, and they have nearly entire control of the sugar market at this point. The depressed condition of the trade is very felt in Matanzas. The warehouses are full and the harbor is crowded with ships of every nationality, many of them with cargoes of sugar which the shippers are unable to sell. During the few days that we were in Matanzas a large iron steamer British lay in the harbor, laden with sugar. The house shipping it had telegraphed to every commercial centre of importance in the world, for the steamer could have gone to any port; but the invariable answer was, "Sale impossible." Still all the sugar men expect higher prices, and insist that this year's crop will be below the average.

As the owner of the sugar plantation which Grant was to visit is at present very ill, the latter's stay in Matanzas was cut short, and the party returned by a special train to Havana at a late hour last night. The carnival begins to-morrow, but neither here nor in Havana are the people in a carnival temper.

THE WINTER PALACE PLOT.

Previous Attempts Upon the Lives of Kings and Emperors Recalled.

The past two years have witnessed a series of attempts at the assassination of European rulers quite unexampled for frequency and persistency. It is true that, in former epochs, close successions of such attempts have given rise to the theory of epidemics in king killing, which is another form of expressing the obvious truth that one attempt suggests another. In 1848 there were unsuccessful attacks against Emperor William (then Crown Prince), and against the Duke of Modena. Four and five years later, in 1852 and 1853, occurred attempts on Napoleon III., first at Marseilles by an infernal machine, and afterward in Paris, near the Opéra Comique; on Queen Victoria, on the Emperor of Austria, and on King Victor Emanuel. From 1854 to 1862, inclusive, there were nine attempts, nearly half of which were directed against Napoleon III.—Pianori's, who fired at him in the Champs Elysées in 1855; the Orsini plot of 1857, the Orsini plot of 1858, and the second Italian plot of 1862. The other five of that period were the stabbing of Ferdinand II. of Naples, the attempt of Fuentes on Isabella II., the mortal wounding of the Duke of Parma, Becker's attempt at the life of Prussia, and that of Brusius at the Queen of Greece. Then a lull ensued, broken by the beginning of attempts on the Czar. In 1866 he was attacked in St. Petersburg, and the year following in Paris. In 1868 the Prince of Servia was assassinated, and after that for ten years there came a cessation of attacks upon European rulers, except the one upon King Amadeus of Spain. However, in that interim, Gen. Prim, in Spain, and the Earl of Mayo, in India, fell victims to the assassin, and attempts were also made on Minister Zorrilla, on the Viceroy of Egypt, and on the Mikado of Japan.

The present group of attempts at assassination—for their clear connection with each other requires them so to be classed—began in 1878 with Hoedel's attempt on the German Emperor in May, followed by Nobiling's in June, and Cesarini's by Moncasi's attempt against King Alfonso of Spain in October and Passanante's against King Humbert of Italy in November. The year 1879 opened with the assassination of Prince Krapotkine, Governor of Kharkoff, in March. Quickly upon that followed the attempt of Solovieff against the Czar at St. Petersburg in April; in December came the dynamite train plot at Moscow; shortly after followed the second attempt against King Alfonso of Spain, and now has come the Winter Palace plot, the fifth attempted against the Czar's life in all, and the third within a year.

It is true that royalty has not alone been aimed at by the assassin in the period of thirty odd years we have reviewed. The date of Lipscomb shows that republics are not exempt, and the Presidents of Peru, Bolivia, Ecuador, and Paraguay, all four of whom perished between 1872 and 1877, teach the same lesson. But the striking fact of the present epidemic is the introduction of a political principle into assassination; in according with which assassins have sought the lives of kings and emperors because they were kings and emperors, and not always from individual hate or from a sense of personal grievance.

Assassination will continue to terrorize the courts of Europe; for the increase of destructiveness in weapons and hostile appliances, due to modern science, makes such plots more difficult to guard against. Dynamite and gun cotton in some sense level the odds between majorities and minorities. It is when a small, easily concealed package of dynamite, with a slender electric wire, will do the work that kegs of gunpowder and large trains of fuses were once required to do, that attempts so audacious as the one of the Winter Palace and its predecessor of last December at Moscow become possible.

Stables Burned and the Supposed Incendiary Perishing in the Flames.

PROVIDENCE, R.I., Feb. 22.—Hayward's stables, at Newport, were destroyed by fire this morning, with twenty carriages, eight horses, two ponies, and other animals, forty tons of hay, and 500 bushels of grain. The loss is about $12,000. The owner, who narrowly escaped being burned to death, testified that he believed the fire was the work of a military man, and that the incendiary perished in the flames. The body of John Shay, who was employed in the stables, has been found in the ruins. He was in the habit of sleeping in the hay-loft, and that his life is thought to set out the horses. Shay had been arrested on suspicion of burning other stables.

Sudden Death of the Rev. Dr. Bush.

ALBANY, Feb. 22.—The Rev. Dr. Bush of New York, Secretary of the American Board of Foreign Missions, delivered a lecture in the First Congregational Church here to-day, on "Fifty Years of Mission Work in Turkey," and their accompanied Mr. Hon. Boddington R. Wood to his residence. At 2 P. M. he complained of not feeling well, and in a very short time expired. His death is attributed to the bursting of the heart.

Paterson's Big Bore.

The big bore at Paterson, N. J., at the rolling mill, has reached 1,000 feet, and the drill is still hammering on hard red sandstone. The State Geologist, Watts Cook, is making the strata in this well a study. He expects to find upon the reached bar heavy supply of water running on a bed of granite. The geological nature of the rock of New Jersey and not been tested deeper than 1,000 feet.

BRADY'S STAR ROUTE GRABS.

ASTONISHMENT IN WASHINGTON OVER MR. MONEY'S VACILLATION.

An Insight into the Practices of the Contract Ring—An Extract from One of Mr. Money's Speeches when he Thought Differently.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22.—Nothing that has occurred here since the Democrats assumed control of the House has created more painful surprise than the course of Mr. Money, Chairman of the Committee on Post Offices and Post Roads of the House, in becoming the advocate of the $2,000,000 deficiency demanded by the Post Office Department for the star route mail service. In 1878 Mr. Money was a member of the committee of which he is now Chairman, and was on a sub-committee to investigate the operations of the star route service. He displayed unusual ability, courage, and energy on that inquiry. He made himself entirely familiar with the working details of the contract office, which was then, as now, presided over by Gen. Brady, Second Assistant Postmaster-General. This was an undertaking requiring great labor and close study. It is true that the investigation in 1878 accomplished no other practical result than the taking of several hundred pages of valuable testimony, which was printed and is available, now that Congress is called upon to grapple seriously with a monstrous evil. This testimony is a mine of great value now, because, taken with what has been and will be developed by the inquiry now being made by the Committee on Appropriations, it will enable the House to understand the methods of Ring contractors and their dishonest coadjutor, Gen. Brady. The inquiry of 1878 had to do principally with the Contracts let in March, 1878, for service on star routes to begin July 1, 1878. It is chiefly these contracts which have been manipulated by Brady so as to enrich mail contractors and to bring in a bill of deficiency of $2,000,000 against the Government. The march letting, 1878, comprised most of the routes in the Territories and for Western States, on which the Ring mail contractors for years past have been coining money at the expense of the taxpayers of the United States. The contract office of the Post Office Department has been run in their interest. The investigation of 1878, together with the facts already brought out by the inquiry now in progress before the Appropriation Committee, shows the modus operandi of the Ring, and how they are aided by the contract office. The routes are advertised in a manner which proves that there is collusion between the contractors and the department. The rate of speed is always advertised low, and the number of trips few. The Ring contractors bid low, knowing that if they underbid all competitors and once get possession their pay will be raised by adding trips and increasing the rate of speed. The investigation of 1878 showed that the combination of Ring contractors put in irregular bids and defective bonds. Had they not had an understanding with the department, every one of their bids would have been rejected for informality, in the ordinary course of things. But they were the lowest bidders on 158 routes. The facts proved before the Committee of Post Offices and Post Roads in 1878 were so conclusive that a Republican member, who had always manifested a disposition to defend the department, said that there was no doubt in his mind that the bonds sent in by the men were defective. But the department accepted every one of these bids, and gave as a pretext that they were so much lower than it was expected the service would cost that it was to the Government's advantage to overlook these defects, and accept the bids. The contractors, then, the department and the Ring contractors claimed that it would save $160,000 a year by disregarding minor defects. This was done, but instead of the Government saving money by this operation, it has lost nearly a half million dollars. One-half of these 158 contracts (as shown in an inquiry by the clerk of the Second Assistant Postmaster-General, until the increased pay alone on seventy-six of them amounts to $461,320. To the specific, the contract price of seventy-six of the 158 routes was $54,616.61, and the present pay is $55,936.61. The pay on these seventy-six routes has been raised to $1,174,259 28, an increase of $934,990.03. To comprehend the full enormity of this steal, attention is invited to the following facts: The star mail service in the States of Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, and Maryland, with a population in 1870 of 13,204,659, and 26,593 miles of star mail routes, cost only $847,761 a year. All the Northern States except Ohio and Arkansas, with Ohio and Indiana, with a population of 13,566,343 and 70,356 miles of star mail routes, only had $1,087,740 a year to pay for their star mail service. Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, Iowa, Minnesota, Nebraska, Kansas, and Missouri, with a population of 11,053,062 and 53,262 miles of star mail routes, have spent in them annually $1,041,135 for star mail service. And yet twelve routes in the Territories, run by Ring contractors, cost annually $1,184,259.28. The increase pay alone is $934,990.03, and the total cost of these star mail routes in the United States, New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware, and Maryland is only $843,750.

The methods by which these things were accomplished are familiar to Mr. Money, and, in a general way, many of the facts given above were known to him some time ago. In his speech, delivered in the fifty-fifth Congress he made a speech on the Post Office Appropriation bill in which he unveiled with a masterly hand the gross abuse in the administration of the Post Office Department. He discussed this very question of deficiency in star mail appropriations, and said:

"One great source of deficiency in the postal service is this: When the routes, throughout the West particularly, are let by contract to the lowest bidder and the service goes into operation, they are doubled and trebled in their trips per week, and the rate of speed increased, and yet this immense sums entirely disproportioned to the value of the service are paid by the department. I have here a history of some twenty or more of the principal postal routes of the great West. I will take as sample tricks of the manner in which this branch of the service is conducted the largest and the smallest of the routes, which show an unwise and wasteful expenditure of the public money, done under color of law, but to the excessive profit of the contractor, the loss of the Government, and in violation of the spirit of the law. I ask the attention of the House first to the route known as the Fort Worth and Fort Yuma route on the books of the department, No. 31,454. This route was let to the lowest bidder at $131,000, daily trips, with a schedule time of seventeen days. Operations were begun on the first day of July last. On the fifth day of August an order was entered upon the books of the department increasing the pay of this route to $134,000 a year. The time was shortened from seventeen days to thirteen days, and simply for expediting the mail four days on this wilderness route the pay was increased from $134,000 to $299,000.

"Now, to fully appreciate the remarkable circumstances I have related, it is necessary to go further and state that the pay of the route was set out at $124,000 in 1870, from Mesilla to San Diego twice a week. The speed was increased, and the service was raised first to three times and then to seven times a week, and the price was raised from $124,000 to $218,400 a year in 1874. The department again put out this route to the lowest bidder, and reduced the trips from seven times a week to three times. The contract was let for $57,000. A short time afterward the trips were increased to seven times per week, the time expected, at the price raised to $233,331. The House will please take notice that this route was first raised from two to three trips a week, and then to seven trips, and the amount paid the contractors for carrying the mails on the route was raised in proportion. Then, when the route was again let in 1878, it was reduced to three times a week, and if it had been done for the sole purpose of enabling the contractor to realize an enormous bonus when the trips were afterward raised to seven a week, it could not have been better arranged. The rate at which this last contract was carried was about 5% times per cent. When the contract was let last July, instead of reducing the number of trips per week, the schedule of time was made lower, and the route was bid off at $134,000. Now, this route let at $131,000 a year, to run over a length of route 1,326 miles in extent, covering the whole of the department, only 1,434 miles according to estimates of a subcontractor. Mr. Tayoe, as stated in his evidence, was to have the service performed in seventeen days. That seventeen days' service put the mails on the route at the rate of 5 miles per hour, including the time for delays. In a month and a half after the contract went into operation the time was shortened four days and the schedule made five miles an hour, and for that slight increase of speed, which, at the best, was slow time, the contractor was paid out of the Treasury an extra allowance of $165,000."

Mr. Money gave the history of another route, as follows: "I have given one specimen of the manner in which contracts are let in the department, which, I think, will explain something of the demand for deficiency appropriations. I have, for instance, a little route over in Maryland. I take the smallest one I can put my hand on, from Edgewood to Bel Air. Between those two places there are every week twelve trips and six half trips. The distance is 11½ miles. For carrying the mail over that route and six miles beyond to Hickory the contractor gets $779 a year. There are twelve trips and six additional half trips every week. In other words, there are three daily mails to the town of Bel Air, a town, I am informed on, of 1,500 inhabitants. The inhabitants of that village receive three mails a day. The running time between Edgewood and Bel Air being three hours, to quicken it to two hours for the eleven and a half miles, and give Bel Air its mails an hour earlier, the contractor is allowed $1,070 additional. He carried the mails five and a half miles beyond Bel Air twelve trips a week for $779. To increase his speed he got $1,070. Of course he made oath that his increase of stock and men were in proportion, but who cannot see that it is impossible for it to be so?"

And yet Mr. Money intends next Monday to move to suspend the rules to pass a bill appropriating $2,000,000 for the benefit of the Ring mail contractors. No wonder his friends are surprised, amazed. And he intends to do this while the Committee on Appropriations, acting by the instructions of the House of Representatives, is investigating this very subject and seeking to find out how this immense deficiency has been created.

THE TWO KILLED FIREMEN.

Cassidy's Remains Recovered—The Funerals To-day—The Stout-Hearted Dougherty.

The members of Hook and Ladder Company No. 1 and Engine Company No. 7 draped the front of their house in Chambers street yesterday with the customary mourning emblems. Across the lintel of the centre window of the second story was placed a scroll bearing the words: "We honor our dead. In memory of Thomas J. Dougherty and John P. Cassidy, who died at their post Feb. 20, 1880."

The remains of Cassidy were found in the rear of the ruins of Friday's fire at 384 and 386 Broadway about 8 o'clock yesterday morning. The leaning party wall at the north had been secured by four huge clamp contrivances, which were fastened on the roof of 388. As soon as this wall had been made safe, the workmen ventured into the ruins to search for the body, which was found about forty feet from the rear of that wall, and a few feet from the other wall, wedged between timbers, and covered with brick and mortar, which had protected it from the flames. It was only slightly burned, the face being almost unscorched and the uniform hardly injured. Coroner Brady viewed the body and that of Dougherty. He issued burial permits, and in due time will hold an inquest. Cassidy's remains were removed to an undertaking establishment in Madison street. At 10 o'clock this morning, in St. James's Catholic Church in James street, funeral services will be held. The remains of Dougherty lay in his sister's house, in Greenwich street, yesterday. The funeral will rise at 9 o'clock, celebrated in St. Peter's Church, in Barclay street, at 1 o'clock to-day. The two processions will meet in Barclay street, and move together until they are obliged to diverge on Long Island. Dougherty will be interred in the Cemetery of the Holy Cross, and Cassidy in Calvary Cemetery. Arrangements are being made to allow the entire force of the engine company, as well as the hook and ladder company in the Chambers street house, to attend the funeral. In addition, an escort from the force at large will be detailed to do honor to the dead men.

"They were always men," said Police Captain Saunders, speaking of the death of Thos. J. Dougherty. "I had his brother Bill with me; a better policeman never lived. He died of consumption, which he got through jumping into the river, one cold winter's night, to save a drunken man. Frank Dougherty, another brother, was a fireman on a railroad locomotive. He stooped down, while his engine was going thirty-five miles an hour, and picked up a three-year-old child, that otherwise would have been killed. Frank was afterward dashed to pieces. The child was told to jump to his engineer, but he answered, 'There's no jump in me; I'll stick to her.' The Coroner's jury said that he was foolish. I'll never forget the death of poor Bill Dougherty. He sent for me, and when I came to his house, he said, 'Cap., my time is come at last. I wanted to show you that I could die like a man.' Tom Dougherty, the one who was killed at the fire, was there, and he was paler than his dying brother. Tom said to Bill, 'Cheer up. How can you tell that you are going to die?' Bill replied, 'I know it, I know it, I feel it, and I feel it's a coming now—I feel it in my legs. Twice I fought it away, but this time it's got the best of me. It's a coming, Tom; it's a coming, and I want you to stay here and see whether I will not die like a man.' At the very last moment Bill threw himself up. It looked like five minutes to 12. He looked steady at us for a second, raised his hand to his forehead, and said, 'Good by, boys, good by; it's time for me to go on post.'"

TEACHING CHINESE YOUTHS.

Mrs. Augusta Carto's Sunday Labors in a Gallery of the Trinity Baptist Church.

A class of ten Chinese youths has been gathered in this city by Mrs. Augusta Carto, formerly of San Francisco. Her principal object is to teach them Christianity; theirs is to learn to read English. They read out of the Bible and other Christian books, and Mrs. Carto adds explanations and suggestions, while at the same time she conscientiously corrects their pronunciation. She is assisted by several other ladies, and when it is possible each Chinese pupil has a teacher assigned to him. They accept the teachings of Christianity with expressions of interest and emphasis. When the story of the crucifixion was told them, one said: "But they didn't really nail Him on the cross, did they?"

"Ou! yes," was the reply.

"Who did?"

"The Jews."

"Bad Jews, bad Jews," exclaimed several of the pupils, with execration expressed on their countenances.

Then Mrs. Carto told them that it was sin that caused his death, and that all who sinned must hold themselves responsible for the crucifixion. The Jews were only the instrument. This explanation was accepted by them.

Ah Wing, who studies drawing in the Cooper Institute School of Design, is Mrs. Carto's chief assistant. It was through him that she was able to bring together so many of his countrymen. They are all well dressed, but in the Chinese fashion. All wear glossy, braided queues coiled on the tops of their heads. Ah Wing, who is about 22 years old, has a handsome watch, which he carries in a pocket on the right side of his coat or tunic. Yesterday he brought to the Trinity Baptist Church, in the west gallery of which the class meets, at 3 o'clock every Sunday, an album belonging to a young lady of the congregation, in which he had drawn in water colors a bird perched on a sprig. The drawing was much admired. Above the bird, in a blank space left for the purpose, was a sentiment composed by himself in good English, expressing the hope that, as the birds sing and are happy, so might the life of his friend be one of happiness and song. The handwriting was excellent. The method of teaching is to allow the pupils to spell the words out as well as they can, and to help them when they fail. They are polite, as well as eager to learn, and the teachers find it a pleasure to instruct them. On the other hand, they are so warmly greeted by every one connected with the congregation that when a stranger approaches them inside the church they accept to extend their hands, under the expectation that he means to shake hands with them. The Rev. Dr. James B. Simmons, the pastor of the church, is warmly interested in the Chinese, and when Mrs. Carto explained to him a difficulty that met her when she first began to work among them in New York—that is, her inability to get a place where a class could assemble comfortably and in quietude—he at once offered the use of his church during Sunday school hours. She selected the gallery, in order to remove the strangely-costumed youths from the curious and distracting attention of the many children on the floor.

THE JEFFERSONIAN DEMOCRACY.

An Address to the Party at Large, and a Letter from the Hon. S. S. Cox.

At a special meeting of the Executive Committee of the Jeffersonian Democracy of this State, Dr. Thomas Cottman in the chair, an address to the Democratic voters of the country was read and unanimously adopted. The first paragraph asserts that the Democracy of this State is now united and compact; the second declares that the preservation of republican institutions requires the overthrow of the Republican party; the third is as follows:

Our faith in the solidity and endurance of the Democratic creed, on which our political system rests, may be too strong, we fear, for our safety. The form of liberty always survives its spirit. Cæsar and Sylla the Napoleons with all their wonderful institutions only asked for a third term, and they succeeded in simply over the forms of their republics. The great body of the Republican party now lies in the path of a third term. They are the party imperial by instinct and by training. Their leaders are bold. They have mutiny, use elections, and care little for the law. It was simply the Republican party that made Grant President. This means empire with them—with us it means a revolution.

The secretary of the committee read the following letter:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, WASHINGTON, D. C., Feb. 9, 1880.

To Dr. Charles W. Rode:

DEAR SIR: I understand from our mutual friend, Col. Kearney, that the Jeffersonian Democracy of the State of New York is being organized with General as Secretary of the State Central Committee. I suppose some steps for the revitalization of their remains (I mean the disciples of that immortal statesman Thomas Jefferson) will soon be taken in this direction. Inasmuch as I have been the only Democrat who ever represented the Jeffersonian idea in the Congressional Record, I feel a deep interest in the organization of the Democratic party in this State. The time is ripe for a return to the principles of Jefferson. The Democratic party is now in a condition to do good work for the people. If the Democrats of New York will only stand by the principles of Jefferson, they will be sure of success. The Democratic party of this country is now in a condition to do good work for the people of all the States, but it will only exercise of the supreme law. The existence of our Democratic party is a sure guarantee against the usurpation of the Executive, and the Democratic party is the only party that can be relied upon to bring back to the Constitution, which are the ways of transgressions and restore all the ways which exalt a nation. I am, yours truly, &c. S. S. COX.

Chest, Lung, and Throat Diseases.

Emulsion and scrofula can be completely cured by using Poullin's Palatable Cod Liver Oil, in combination with Phospho-Nutrine. All druggists. Depot, 2 Platt st., N. Y.—Adv.

THE WAGES OF WORKINGMEN

ADVANCES DEMANDED BY MEN OF SEVERAL DIFFERENT TRADES.

Meetings of Furniture Makers, Longshoremen, Clothing Cutters, Printers, House Painters, and Those who Paint Frescos.

Henry Herrman is a furniture manufacturer at 182 Mott street, 195 Chrystie street, 376 Broome, and West Twenty-seventh street, corner of Eleventh avenue. His employees are paid by the piece. Last year the prices were raised ten per cent. On Feb. 14 of this year a committee visited Mr. Herrman and requested an additional advance of ten per cent. He said he would give them a reply last Thursday. The result of his answer on Thursday was a strike of the hands in most of the departments to the number of about 450. To a mass meeting of about 300 furniture makers from Mr. Herrman's and other shops, held in Germania Assembly Rooms at 9 o'clock yesterday morning, members of the committee reported that on Thursday Mr. Herrman had announced to the committee that he would not grant the increase asked for, but that, if the men would consent to his taking off the ten per cent. raise of last year, he would make a scale of advance as follows: To a workman who earned $16 on the old scale of prices in two weeks, he would add $2; to earnings of $18 in two weeks, he would add $3; to earnings of $20 he would add $4; to $22, $5; to $24 and over, $6. Since Thursday, the committee learned, Mr. Herrman had revised his offer. He is now willing, it was reported at the meeting, to add $3 to bi-weekly earnings of $16, $3.50 to earnings of $18, $4 to $20, $5 to $22, $6 to $24, and $7 to $28. This latter schedule of advance was equivalent, he explained, to 18¾ per cent. advance for those earning $16 in two weeks, and rose to 25 per cent. advance to those earning $28. As the men had only asked 20 per cent. advance, or 10 per cent. added to the 10 per cent. of last year, Mr. Herrman thought they ought to be satisfied with his proposition. The committee, however, say that over 150 men among them cannot make $16 in two weeks, and that while to the committeemen, who all make good wages, the proposition would have been entirely acceptable, they could not, in fairness to their fellow workmen, accede to it. Moreover, since the strike it had been resolved to demand an advance this year of 15 per cent. instead of 10 per cent., making an advance of 25 per cent. on the old scale.

Mr. Herrman, it was said, had threatened to close his factories rather than accede to the demands of the men. The machine workers in the shops were reported as on the point of striking, and the carvers were also inclined to strike.

Mr. Carl Schiff of the Steinway & Sons' pianomakers, now on strike, addressed the mass meeting, urging the men to be firm and united. He said that American workmen should take care that they were not reduced to the helpless condition of those in Europe. Mr. Charles Siegel was Chairman of the meeting. It was resolved to keep up the strike, and to use all proper means to the fullest extent to keep the poorer workmen from suffering. A collection was taken at the door as the men went out.

There will be a meeting in the Germania Assembly Rooms every morning at 9 o'clock during the strike.

The Longshoremen's Convention of Feb. 15, which adjourned to yesterday, did not meet a second time, as the officers of the three unions had agreed to a postponement until Feb. 29. Union No. 3 held a session yesterday and agitated the question of refusing to work with the scabs who became members of the Union on the strike. Considering that shipowners can easily replace strikers now with men from the rivers, canals and lakes, who are wintering in this city in quest of work, the unions fear that it would be useless at present to attempt any coercion in regard to raising wages. A number of the men employed by C. H. Mallory & Co., Morgan & Son, and James E. Ward & Co., who struck in the early part of this month, are still idle, though some have found employment elsewhere. Union men among them renounced their unions, and accepted thirty cents an hour for day and night work.

The clothing cutters met in the Germania Assembly Rooms, to the number of three hundred, to organize a union. They are receiving from $12 to $24 per week. It was resolved that, as "a majority movement of the workingmen of this country seems to be the order of the day, we hereby intend to organize labor in order to extend and protect its rights, and to enable it to secure its portion of the so-called better times," the clothing cutters bind themselves to "form a strong union, for the purpose of being led by united action to success, and striving for their families and themselves a better standard of comfort."

The German printers' Typographical Union No. 7 held a meeting at Coburger Hall, at which delegates reported that thirty offices had acceded to the demand of the union to raise the price of composition five cents per thousand ems. The President said that he believed the increase would be granted in all the offices, and a strike obviated.

A meeting of house painters was held in the old Beethoven Hall, and a union formed. They will demand an increase of wages on April 1. A meeting of the fresco painters was held in Germania Hall, at which it was decided to simultaneously strike.

The model makers meet to-morrow at 216 East Forty-first street to form a union, and the cigar makers will meet to perfect arrangements for a mass meeting in the Cooper Institute, at which the tenement house system will be denounced and higher wages demanded.

Sacred Concert at St. Stephen's Church.

A sacred concert was given last evening at St. Stephen's Church, and was very largely attended, every seat in the immense edifice being filled. The programme comprised, among other things, Beethoven's violin concerto, a quintet for piano and wind instruments by Mozart, and Rossini's "Stabat Mater." The quintet was not well selected for the occasion. It is a beautiful work, but too much of the character of chamber music to be adapted to so large a building, or to find favor with so general an audience.

Rossini's "Stabat" was, on the whole, very well sung. To compare it with the recent performances of the same work by the Italian Opera Company, we should draw the distinction by saying that the solo parts were for weaker last evening than they were for the Italian artists, and