CONGRESSMEN IN A MAZE.

BEWILDERING COMPUTATIONS IN REGARD TO APPORTIONMENT.

Mr. Cox Lets Light Into the Darkness Peculiar Results of the Seaton Method of Calculation—Pension Arrears Advocates.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—The House has been wandering in a maze of figures for three days. Members sit through a three hours' debate on the Apportionment bill, and come out of it as dazed as a lot of college boys after a rousing cotillion. The bill that is being considered gives the next House 320 members. There is not much fault found with that. The number is only one larger than that which the bill passed last winter fixed. The number is based upon a ratio of 151,285. The total number of districts obtained by a division of the population of each of the States by that ratio is 302. The balance of eighteen members would represent the sum total of fractional excesses. It so happens that, in any event, there can be no dispute where fifteen of these eighteen members would be allotted. But as to the remaining three, it is a question whether New York, Pennsylvania, and Illinois shall have one each, or whether Rhode Island, Florida, and California shall have one each. Out of the various computations and mathematical calculations respecting these three have arisen a bewildering mass of figures, from the simplest sum in arithmetic to the subtle sixth root of 6.

To-day Mr. Cox of New York took hold of the matter. In a speech of less than an hour's length he put the logarithmic calculations into plain English, revealed the injustice of the bill as reported, won that dearly prized victory of taking the House with him, and could have had the bill recommitted to the committee with instructions but for the fact that he had promised not to make a motion to do this until several members had had an opportunity to speak. So great was Mr. Cox's success that he not only held the undivided attention of the House, but also was greeted by general applause.

Mr. Nimmo, the Chief of the Bureau of Statistics, once said that figures may be made to do almost anything. According to Mr. Cox, the Chief of the Census Bureau is a skilled hand in figuring truth into falsehood. He has devised a new method of fixing the apportionment which he claims is superior to the old method. Mr. Cox thought that the old method came near to doing this rather difficult thing as was possible, and Mr. Cox spent a good many hours last winter in preparing an apportionment bill. Mr. Seaton, the chief census officer, by his new method enables the States of New York, Pennsylvania, and Illinois each to receive an additional member, while Rhode Island, Florida, and California lose a member each, which, under the old system, they would not do.

The question of providing for the representations of fractions in an apportionment bill has always been a very perplexing one. Some remarkable bills have been passed. Many times once actually obtained seven more representatives than the ratio allowed her. These seven were credited to the fractions. To make the matter plain, it should be borne in mind that the ratio of representatives is obtained by dividing the whole number of the population of the United States by the number which it is proposed the lower House shall consist of. In the Apportionment bill now before the House the number selected is 320. Dividing the population entitled to representation by this sum gives 151,285. This, then, is the population entitled to one representative. In other words, if there should be set off in the United States districts each containing that number, there would be 320 such districts. If there was nothing to do but this, apportionment would be as simple as A, B, C. But now comes in the perplexing part. The Representatives must be apportioned among the several States according to their respective populations, and when the ratio is applied to State populations fractions result. New York, on the 320 basis, would have 32 districts, each containing 151,285 people, and there would be left, as a fraction over, 145,751 people. Such fractions occur in all States, and that leaves enough to figure which would permit 18 additional members. In other words it happens that when the districts all through the country containing the full ratio of population are added up, the number will be found to be 18 less than 320, the membership of the House that the bill contemplates. Where, then, are these eighteen members to be placed? What State or States are to get the additional members? The question has set a great many Congressmen's pencils and pocket rules to work for many and profound have been the arguments in favor of this, that, or the other theory. One member has said that the principle which governed Congress up to 1830 in this matter was to go as you please and get all you can, a principle that gave Massachusetts an apportionment which that State never refused to make the most of. More recently it has been the custom to give the State which had the largest fraction over one of these remaining representatives, and the State with the next largest fraction another, and so on. This was the principle adopted by Mr. Cox when he prepared the bill that was before Congress last winter. Whether this principle or the Seaton plan is now adopted, the result is the same with fifteen out of eighteen States. If it should be now adopted and the number fixed at 320, Florida, California, and Rhode Island would gain one, which they would lose if Mr. Seaton's method be adopted. Mr. Seaton, by a painfully bewildering system of computations, figures that the number of his modulus Illinois Congressman would represent 146,565, a New York Congressman 149,496, and a Pennsylvania statesman would represent 147,685; and because these figures are nearer the ratio fixed than the representation figures of Florida, California, and Rhode Island, these three are therefore the great States ought to get the three members.

Rhode Island, Florida, and California were greatly appalled at first to Mr. Seaton's explanation. He got rid of his present by using a modulus, he explained. The question came up ever it was going to cost each of the fifty States a representative, a result which they looked upon as a very unsatisfactory determination of the 4th rod of it. Mr. Cox showed to-day that the old method, by process of addition and division Mr. Seaton's modulus made a representative from Rhode Island represent 276,531 persons, the Florida member 269,467, and the California member 172,039, while the New York, Pennsylvania, and Illinois members were to be the representatives of the much smaller numbers given above.

Rhode Island has some smart men, said Mr. Robinson, but hardly any smart enough to overlike the State, and represent 276,531 on the scale of 151,285. When the Legislature Bore of Michigan applied his microscope to Mr. Seaton's modulus he discovered that on the ratio above, and giving New York thirty-four members, that State would have one member who represented no constituency at all, for at the ratio of the bill New York would have thirty-two full districts and be entitled to about eight-tenths of another member. That is so near a full sized district that New York would get another member making her quota thirty-three. Although on this basis she would be minus about two persons of full thirty-three districts yet Mr. Seaton's modulus gives New York thirty-four members. Where does that thirty-fourth man find his constituency? It will be pretty safe to say that Mr. Seaton's modulus will not control the next Apportionment bill.

Mr. Cox went on at great length, showing that by every possible system of computation, even accepting Mr. Seaton's modulus and the determination of the 4th rod of it, the nearest result would be about as unjust an apportionment as could be devised. All the indications when Mr. Cox finished his speech were that Congress will not accept the logarithmic system of getting at it, but will follow the old system.

A bill was introduced by Mr. Hewitt of New York, providing that Presidential electors shall meet and vote on the second Monday in January. Between the time of the choosing of the electors and their meeting, the title of any person claiming to have been chosen shall be determined and certified to the Executive of the State in such manner as the State may prescribe. Where there has been a controversy in any State, and no certified decision of the highest tribunal has been transmitted, the contested votes shall not be counted unless both Houses of Congress concur, and if there be several electoral certificates upon a judicial decision, the certificate held by both Houses to be executed by the proper authority shall be conclusive unless rejected by both Houses. The title of any person declared President to have been elected may thereafter be tried by quo warranto suit in any United States Circuit Court with a right of appeal to the Supreme Court. The bill is advocated by David Dudley Field, who will submit an argument in its favor to the committee on the subject.

The House adopted resolutions calling for detailed information in regard to land grants to railroads and an itemized statement of expenditures of the signal service.

Mr. McCook of New York reported a bill for the retirement of Gen. Meigs with the rank of Major-general.

In the Senate the protests of Mr. Beck of Kentucky against the burdens imposed by the Pension Arrears act do not meet with support from the ex-Confederates. They outdo even Mr. Ingalls in their compensation of the act. Yesterday Mr. Pugh of Alabama argued that the act could not be promotive of fraud, because the claimants came from a class who would not defraud the Government.

The pending resolution approves the act and declares that it ought not to be repealed. Mr. Call offered an amendment favoring pensions to the survivors of the Indian wars prior to 1815, including the Black Hawk, Creek, and Seminole wars. Mr. Garland of Arkansas urged additional pensions for disabled veterans of the Mexican war.

Mr. Beck said the amendments suggesting laws to include the survivors of other wars would enable some men with millions to receive six or eight thousand dollars. Everybody was willing to provide for the needy among those survivors, but here it was proposed to include all the old soldiers, and this raised a query as to where the money was to come from, and how much would be necessary for this new drain. As showing the necessity for better safeguards against fraud, he read from the letter of a constituent to the effect that in his section of Kentucky the writer knew of fraudulent payments of thousands of dollars in pensions.

The resolution went over without action. It is evident that a bill for the repeal of the act would have practically no support.

An attempt was made by the Democrats to elect Noble Brown, reading clerk of the House last session, to the position of Chief Clerk of the Senate. Mr. Harris of Tennessee moved the appointment, and it was defeated by the votes of Mr. Brown of Georgia, as David Davis voted with the Democrats. Mr. Brown's vote with the Republicans made the result a tie. Mr. Brown, in explaining, said he had not been present when any caucus action was taken, and as he had left out the matter as to the officers and committee chairmanships of the Senate he had been asked much and solicited by the Senate. He thought it was now too late to disturb it. Mr. Pendleton of Ohio presented a civil service reform petition signed by Judges of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania and of the Common Pleas Courts of Philadelphia and eighteen other counties, by the Mayor and heads of departments of Philadelphia and by 2,500 citizens of Philadelphia and Pittsburgh.

Mr. Conger of Michigan, from the Committee on Commerce, reported a bill increasing the efficiency of the life-saving service. It adds to the number of stations, allows the Secretary of the Treasury to pay station keepers as much as $800 a year, provides that in case of disability incurred in the service pay may be continued for two years, and in case of death in the service the man's family shall receive his pay for two years. Brigantine and Seven-Mile Beach, N. J., are included among the additional stations which are to be located.

MR. POTTER'S TESTIMONY.

Opinions as to the Cause of the Fire—Two Memorial Services.

The remains of Mr. Joseph Cunningham, lately foreman of the *Observer* composing office, and one of the victims of the Potter building fire, were deposited in the Marble Cemetery yesterday afternoon. Memorial services, conducted by the Rev. Geo. Hepworth, were held at the residence of Mr. Cunningham's mother-in-law, Mrs. J. C. Hart, at 71 West Fifty-third street.

Services in memory of Alfred W. Harris, the assistant foreman of the same composing room, were held last evening in the Spring Street Presbyterian Church, of which Mr. Harris had once been a member. The Rev. Alfred H. Moment conducted them. The Rev. Dr. Edward D. G. Prime said that Mr. Harris had always been deeply interested in the prosperity of the church. "He was a Christian," continued Dr. Prime, "just as much in the work of his hands, in his every-day occupations, as he was in the prayer meetings." Mr. James Yeramore alluded to Mr. Harris as a sunny Christian who took a delight in his religion. Mr. C. G. Morse, with whom Mr. Harris had learned his trade, spoke of his gentle disposition and his love for his mother. Mr. G. S. Chasin testified to the fidelity of Mr. Harris's Christianity. Mr. Charles Carlock and Mr. Seaton also with others spoke.

Fire Marshal Shaughnessy, Mr. O. B. Potter's testimony yesterday. The slight fires that had occurred in the building, Mr. Potter said, were none of them due to defects in the building itself. The bottoms in waste pater in the subcellar, which the Paper Company then occupied. The walls of the new Otis elevator were, on one side, the wall of the building on two sides, wire screen work, and on the fourth side, wood. The shaft was about 4x6 feet. The underwriters allowed the building of this elevator without an increase of rates. Mr. Potter described the change from the new to the old flue when it was found that a beam protruded into the new flue and had been charred. He had never heard that the new flue was hot till Bookseller Clark called his attention to it. But then he ordered Carpenter Weir to see that it is safe at once. The day before the fire the flue was quite warm, but not warm enough to discolor the paint on the wall. Mr. Alfred E. Beach complained that afternoon that his office was cold, but said nothing then of the heat of the flue. At about 6 P. M. Mr. Beach said he smelled burning wood, and that the wall in his room over the new flue was warm. No one else smelled burning wood. Mr. Potter found the wall warm, but not hotter than he had frequently found the flue in his own house. He did not think there was no danger for the flue had been closed. The wall had cooled perceptibly before Mr. Potter left the building, between 7 and 8 P. M., and he ordered the janitor and carpenter not to leave till it was entirely cool. With the old flue, which had been used nearly twenty years, said Mr. Potter, he had no thought that the building was in danger. Nearly all his tenants recently renewed their leases. There were at least four fire-extinguishers in the building.

John Bissel, the machinist of the building, testified at the coroner's inquest yesterday that when the new flue was opened the arched flue over the boiler was enlarged, so as to increase the draught. When the change was made back to the old flue, which was ten feet nearer the boiler, there was more trouble. The old flue was too near the boiler to endure the heat which the enlarged arch made. It became so hot that it set fire to the flooring. The hatchway acted as a great flue, and sucked the fire to the top.

William R. Tasker, who repaired the boiler, repeated the testimony he had given before the Fire Marshal. He dissented from the last witness's opinion. The difference in heat occasioned by the proximity of the flue to the fire was not material, he said, and the enlargement of the arch did not affect it. His theory of the fire is an explosion of gases condensed in the base of the flue by reason of the bad draught.

George P. Edgar of Rahway, N. J., an insurance agent, testified that benzine had soaked the floors where type setting had been done, and had leaked on the stairs when it was carried up and down.

Other witnesses testified that they had found the walls hot. Finally the jury protested against the repetition of testimony. Mr. Potter repeated the statement he had made before the Fire Marshal. The leases, he said, prohibited keeping gunpowder in the building. The gross rental was from $50,000 to $78,000. Last year it was $60,000. The entire insurance was $105,000 on the building, and $45,000 on the rent. He placed the latter insurance because he estimated that if the building should be destroyed he would be entitled to rent while rebuilding. No further search for bodies was made at the ruins yesterday.

A. Bell McJunson, Jr., who had a law office in the building, has begun suit against Mr. Potter for $1,500 for the loss of his office furniture and books.

GOOD WORK IN THE RACKET COURT.

Moore Comes Out Ahead in the Last Day's Play, and Wins the Club Prize.

The last contest of the series of professional games played before the members of the New York Racket Club and invited guests took place yesterday. The galleries of the court were crowded with quite a fashionable assemblage. The contest was a match of seven games in seven games between Beakes and Moore, the former playing the New Yorker an extra hand out.

Beakes opened with the lead and at the end of the eighth inning the score stood at 5 to 3 in his favor. Then Moore rallied well and by some remarkable play in both the inner and outer courts, he got ahead of his opponent. At the end of the thirteenth inning the score stood even at 7 to 7. Then Beakes and Moore got the best of the set 10 to 8, and came in ahead by the appended score

Beakes	1	2	2	0	3	0	1	0	0	3	1	0	2	0	—15
Moore	0	1	0	2	0	1	0	1	1	1	0	3	0	3	—10

Even games in the advantage Moore received a winning lead in the second game. For some time at the end of the seventh inning stood 12 to 5 in his favor. Then Beakes made a plucky rally and at the end of the inning stood 12 to 10 in his favor. Moore rallied and at the eleventh inning Moore scored the winning stroke and won in the figures of the game as follows:

Moore	2	0	2	2	2	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	—17
Beakes	1	3	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	3	1	—11

Moore then had work to do if he began to fall upon his good in the third game he fell off so far play, while Beakes piqued up to a very high game. The score was

Beakes	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	1	1	2	2	3	—15
Moore	1	2	1	1	3	4	1	2	1	0	0	0	0	0	—17

In the fourth game Moore ended the third inning with a score of 5 to 3 in his favor. Beakes then rallied and added eight aces to his score in the next three innings, while Moore only gained 6. At the end of the eleventh inning the score stood at 9 all. Then Beakes and Moore made up in the order in the appended score

Beakes	1	1	1	1	2	1	1	1	1	0	1	1	0	1	—13
Moore	0	0	2	2	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	—15

Moore, on winning the fifth game in the game, ended the fifth inning with 11 to 8 in the favor. A fine score of 15 aces in the game was made in the match, and 17 in the game and 10 in the 5th. The score was as follows:

Moore	2	0	2	2	2	1	1	0	1	1	1	1	1	0	—15
Beakes	1	3	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	3	1	—11

This gave the match and the club prize to Moore, who throughout the three days contests, had credibly sustained the reputation of the New York professional for skillful play. In the games Moore scored a total of 70 aces to Beakes's 62, but Beakes got out 34 balls to Moore's 25. The total aces by service were for Beakes 22, Moore, 18. Aces by returns Moore, 52, Beakes, 40.

Trials of Small Postmasters.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 9.—Under present regulations, the gross receipts of a Post Office must exceed $75 per annum before it is entitled to a letter balance and cancelling apparatus. Many of the Postmasters, not being able to buy the necessary outfit, use inferior ink for cancellation, and crude apparatus or none at all for weighing, thereby causing losses which, under the law, they are compelled to make good. The shortage from this cause alone was over $200 for last month.

The Fairies Outdone.

The Princess in the Fairy Tale, dropped pearls from her mouth when she opened it, but to her once that talisman of science, Sozodont, will have a mouthful of pearls that will never drop out, darken, or decay.—*Adv.*

Auction Sale Bassford's House Furnishing.

China, and glassware stock, Cooper Institute, continued to-day at 10 A. M. Paintings and statuary sale Monday.—*Adv.*

THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE WAR.

Triumph of the Regular Ticket by a Small Majority.

Even the usually sedate members of the Farmers' Club joined in the stirring scenes that marked the annual election of officers, which occupied the hours between 10 A. M. and 8 P. M., at the rooms of the Institute in the Cooper Union yesterday. Farmer Sutherland, in a straw hat, worked laboriously for the opposition ticket, headed by William J. McAlpine, C. E., and among his aids were Farmers Trimble, Lambert, and Vanderveyde, Dr. Heath, Farmer Martin, and Farmer Post Cutter worked for the regular ticket, headed by Nathan C. Ely, and comprising all the present officers.

The election was one of the most closely contested in the history of the Institute, and among the voters were many of the veteran members. Alexander Knox, the oldest living member, who joined in 1828, voted the regular ticket, although his name was on the opposition ticket. He said his nomination was without his consent. Among other old members voting was Samuel Willet, whose Quaker costume attracted attention. He voted the regular ticket. Each side had scouts at the door, buttonholing members all day as they came in. Every member who entered the door was surrounded before he had time to fold his umbrella. If he was a pronounced adherent of either side he was allowed to pass, in with the remark from the appropriate side, "He's all right." If the member changed to be unknown he was besieged with arguments by both sides.

As the opposition ticket had plain white backs, and the regular tickets had a shield surrounded with a blue ground of scroll work, the bystanders were enabled to keep a correct account of the election as it proceeded. Judge R. H. Shannon, of the opposition, secured a good place early in the day near the voters and kept tally. Two others recorded the name and address of each voter. The room was lined with members and others interested, and each voter on his way to and from the ballot box had to run the gauntlet of friends and opponents. The room was poorly ventilated. The air was heavy with vapor, and the rule against smoking in the rooms was suspended.

As the day wore on it was evident that an unusually large vote would be polled. Gradually the regular ticket got a few votes ahead, and as the time for closing the polls drew near it was evident that the regulars had won. When the polls closed at 8 o'clock both sides said that the regular ticket was successful. The number of votes cast was 477, the largest number since 1868, except 1873, when there were 605 votes cast. The regular ticket was elected yesterday by about 30 majority, although there was some scratching, particularly of the candidate for President, Mr. Ely. There were, however, 241 straight votes cast for the regular ticket, and only 236 for the opposition. The opposition were much encouraged by their success in making a close fight, and said that they had laid the foundation for victory next year.

The following are the names of the successful candidates: President—Nathan C. Ely. Vice-President for the year: Charles H. Carter. Vice-President for the year: James Delamater. Vice-President for the year: Edward Schell, William B. Schermerhorn. Managers—Alexander M. Eagleson, George Whitefield Abraham Lent, William H. Godney, Charles F. Rand, John J. Kenworthy, Jr., Charles Henry Howell, Ang. Wetmore, Jr., J. Trumbull Smith, Edwin B. McCarty, Benjamin R. Western, Peter W. Mead, Aaron L. Northrop, John H. Walker. Auditors—William A. Camp, for three years; James G. Powers, for the unexpired term of Seymour Dexter, deceased. Inspectors of Election—Benton H. Martin, Joseph E. Dunham, Thomas B. Briggs.

SIR HENRY PARKES HERE.

The Mission of the Premier of New South Wales—Sydney Newspaper Enterprise.

Sir Henry Parkes, Premier and Colonial Secretary of New South Wales, arrived in this city yesterday, and is at the Windsor Hotel. He is on his way to England, where he hopes to spend five or six months in absolute rest from public business. In order that he might not be tempted to do something during this vacation, he left his private secretary behind, and brought with him his daughter instead.

Sir Henry had two reasons for returning to England by way of the United States. He wished to make the transcontinental railroad journey, and he has a mission to attend to at Washington. He is to set forth the reasons why the people of Australia and New Zealand think that the tariff imposed upon their products by this Government, especially upon wool, ought to be reduced or abated. He will also undertake to convince the Government that a part of the annual subsidy of about $350,000 now paid to the Pacific Mail Steamship Company should be withdrawn from the United States. He will address the New York Chamber of Commerce on the same subjects. He is already overrun with invitations, among them an invitation to dine with the Lotos Club, which he has accepted. He is suffering from a cold contracted during the journey from San Francisco, and will remain indoors as much as possible for a few days. He expects to go to Washington on the 15th, and will sail for England in the first week of March.

The drawing room car California of the Central Pacific Railroad was put at Sir Henry's disposal for his railway journey. A correspondent of the Sydney *Express* had been despatched by the steamer in which the Colonial Secretary embarked at that port, a fact which did not come to his knowledge. The Sydney *Morning Herald* until the steamer was nearly two days out. How to overtake its early rising contemporary became an important question in the *Herald* office. One of the proprietors of that journal was in England. He was notified telegraphically, and the result was that Hallett Lord of the London *Standard* had been engaged, and was on his way across the ocean with instructions to proceed directly to San Francisco, there to await the arrival of the Colonial Secretary and the best of the Sydney writers for any one. Sir Henry had in his party in the journey from San Francisco, besides his daughter and the two journalists, Gen. Dimond and Mr. Beddington, a merchant, both of whom left the train at Chicago. The party stopped to take a look at Niagara Falls, and at Albany Sir Henry visited the Legislature and dined with Gov. Cornell.

Sir Henry is about 65 years old. He is tall and erect, and his hair is white. His handsome face has the glow of robust health. He went to New South Wales in 1839 a friendless man, and so poor that, as he relates himself, he picked up in the street one day a sixpence and bought with it bread, which, but for that, he must have gone without.

PARKER—STEVENS.

The President of the Produce Exchange Married at St. Thomas's.

Mr. Forrest H. Parker, President of the Produce Exchange, and Miss Mary Appleton Stevens, daughter of Mr. Asa Stevens, were married in St. Thomas's Church last evening by the Rev. Dr. William F. Morgan, the rector. The bride wore a dress of white satin merveilleux, with train, the front brocaded with silver thread, the corsage cut square, and the trimmings duchess lace. Her diamonds were the gift of the bridegroom. She carried a large bouquet of orange blossoms. The bridesmaids, Miss Mary Jardine, Miss Howell, a sister of the bride, and who wore a white silk dress and pearl jewelry, the bride's cousin, Miss Minnie Hasket, of Brooklyn, who wore a white satin dress and pearl jewelry, Miss Emma Shaw, who wore a dress of tea rose silk and lace, with diamond jewelry, and Miss Maude Sheppard of Morristown, N. J., who wore gold blue satin strada brocaded, with pearl and turquoise jewelry. Miss Stevens and Miss Hasket carried baskets of red Jacqueminot roses, and Miss Sheppard had baskets of pink rose buds. The best man was Mr. De Witt Parker, brother of the bridegroom. The ushers were Mr. Frank H. Stevens, brother of the groom, Mr. Richard L. Evans and Mr. William A. Delano, of Boston, cousins of the bride, Mr. L. J. Dunning, and Mr. Wm. A. Hazard and Mr. Edward D. Lange of the Produce Exchange. Among the guests were Mr. and Mrs. Cyrus W. Field, Mr. and Mrs. E. S. Whitney, Mr. and Mrs. L. J. N. Stark, Mr. E. D. Lacombe, Mr. H. Grant, Mr. S. N. Brown and Miss Brown, Mr. Burke, Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Hall and Mr. and Mrs. Dodge. After the wedding there was a reception at the house of the bride's parents, of East Fifty-second street. The employees of the Produce Exchange had sent a basket of flowers, and the Board of Managers a French clock, as wedding presents. Mr. and Mrs. Parker will go to Jacksonville, Fla., on their journey.

The Ice Harvest on the Hudson.

ALBANY, Feb. 9.—The *Evening Journal*, in an article on the ice harvest, says that, there being a freeze in the river when it froze up on Jan. 24, most of the ice now being gathered is very cloudy, and some of it is fit for nothing but packing purposes. The ice averages in thickness from eight to fourteen inches, and some Mr. Frank H. Stevens, who is directing the work, tells a large number of new houses have been erected within fifteen miles of this city, and add housing room for about 10,000 more than there was a year ago. Last season the total quantity housed was 2,500,000 tons.

This year crop promises to be equal to that of 1879, which was 2,800,000 tons. The quantity housed up to the present time amounts to 1,000,000 tons, including 500,000 tons left over from last year. At Lake Mohansic the Knickerbocker Company are loading barges with 500 tons a day, and transporting it to New York, and at Rockland Lake 1,000 tons a day are shipped.

A Chinaman Hanged.

MINNEMUCCA, Nev., Feb. 9.—Charley Hing, a Chinaman, was hanged to-day for the murder of Ah Lick, a fellow countryman. On the scaffold he said that he committed the act in self defence, and claimed that $600 had been used to bribe witnesses to swear falsely. When the trap was sprung Hing fell with a scream, which was cut short by the dislocation of the neck.

Killed by an Explosion of Giant Powder.

NEWBURGH, Feb. 9.—A quantity of giant powder accidentally exploded last evening in a rock cut in Cornwall. R. F. Cushman of West Fifty-sixth street, New York city, foreman, and Hilmar N. Tiff, a Norwegian laborer, were killed. William Buckley was hurt.

Keep's custom shirts to measure, 6 for $9; perfect satisfaction guaranteed. Keep Manufacturing Company, 637 and 1,194 Broadway, 80 Nassau st.—*Adv.*

KING OF THE ST. LOUIS JAIL.

A CONDEMNED MAN WHO HAD A LAW SCHOOL IN MURDERERS' ROW.

A Plucky Fight for Life After Committing a Most Cowardly Murder—Yesterday's Decision that Gives him his Fifth Trial.

ST. LOUIS, Feb. 9.—Justice Miller of the United States Supreme Court has granted a writ of error, which acts as a supersedeas, in the case of Charles E. Kring, who was sentenced by the Supreme Court of the State of Missouri to be hanged on Feb. 24. The case will come up in the United States Court in October. Kring was convicted of the murder of Dora Broemser in January, 1875, and this is his fifth trial. He has fought the law with surprising skill and dexterity.

In the face of death Kring has never faltered, but has maintained a dignified composure, and, although represented by competent counsel, has counselled his attorneys to be guided by his instructions. Even on technical points of law his knowledge was invariably equal to the occasion, and always at the most critical moment hit upon a sallyport of escape.

Kring came to the United States from Germany in 1866, in his youth, and went to farming in Illinois with his brothers. The same year he gave offence to his parents, and to avoid trouble left his home. In 1867 he established himself in business at Du Quoin. He soon became involved and sold out, removing to St. Clair County. In the fall of 1869 he married. According to his own story it was an unhappy marriage, and his quarrels with his wife were continual. In 1870 he removed to St. Louis. Here again he became involved, and was forced to surrender his goods to his creditors and get work as a commercial traveller. Hearing of his misfortunes, an old country friend, Jake Broemser, sought him out and offered him a place in his drug store at Rock Springs, a suburb of St. Louis. Kring went to work for Broemser in 1872, and in the course of time was introduced to Dora Broemser, the wife of his employer. To quote the murderer:

"There was an inexpressible feeling took possession of me right away. I loved her, although I showed it in neither my actions nor my words; and in after years, when that love developed into the full-blooming passion flower, she, too, confessed that she loved me immediately, but that at our first meeting she too shivered with a secret fright she could not explain."

In the fall of 1872 Broemser's store was burglarized and Kring again became a wanderer. This time he was confronted by many insolvent obligations, all of which he rejected, for no apparent cause. Gossip began to link his name with Dora Broemser's. Finally, Broemser found them together in his house at midnight and ordered Kring from the house. Several days later Kring, returning home from a drive, saw Dora Broemser sitting in her own house, crying passionately. He entered the house, and learned that Broemser had been to the house with Mrs. Kring, and in her presence had compelled Dora to make a confession. Kring learned Dora's story, and he left her to Labor, when they would begin life anew. Dora refused. They met again in Broemser's house. Dora was despondent and tired of living. She suggested to Kring that they take chloroform together. They saturated two cloths with the drug, and wrapped each other's arms, begun to inhale the vapor. Dora's fortitude forsook her at the last moment, and she succeeded in gaining her feet and struggling out into the fresh air. When she recovered the use of her faculties she returned to the room, and by the combined efforts of the operatives, revived Kring, who was unconscious.

Broemser appears to have known of Kring's continued intimacy with Dora. One day he had Kring arrested on a charge of fraud, on which he was tried and convicted in Chicago. Released from prison in October, 1874, he renewed his relations with Dora Broemser, after she had at first repulsed him and ordered him to return to his forsaken wife. Kring's murderous plot appears to have dated from this time. Several days after New Year's, 1875, he induced Amanda Broemser to drive out to his home to her sister's, with the intention of utilizing her as a decoy to inveigle Dora out of her house. At the corner of Fourteenth and North Market streets the carriage halted, and, under the pretence of attending to the horses, Kring left Amanda to get into the carriage by herself. Amanda did his errand, but Dora refused to come out. For a second and third time Kring compelled Amanda to renew the solicitation. Dora finally yielded, and descended the back stairs, closely muffled in a shawl. Kring had crept unnoticed to the back door, and when he saw the two women approaching he silently moved toward them, and, seizing Dora, proclaimed his love for her, and demanded:

"Will you be my wife? Say yes or no."

The woman looked into his face, and with a smile answered, "No."

Without a word, Kring retreated a step, and drawing a revolver, discharged it in her face. Then he turned it against himself, but it was empty. Flinging it away, he ran down the street several blocks, and, entering the house of old Dan Broemser, told him that he had shot and requested the old lady to go and attend to her dying daughter. Then he sauntered out, and entering a neighboring police station, denounced himself.

Since his imprisonment he has aimed at notoriety, and in his seven years' fight with the law he has acquired a reputation as the King of the Jail. He established a law school, and devoted his hours of recreation to teaching the inmates of Murderers' Row how to set to work to go scot free or to cause the execution of the prisoner against whom Kring was tried at the March term, 1875, for the murder of Dora Broemser, and was tried and convicted in the St. Louis County Criminal Court at the November term. The judgment was reversed by the Supreme Court. Subsequently there were two mistrials, and the case was continued from time to time until Nov. 12, 1879, when, by consent of the Circuit Attorney and with leave of the Court, Kring withdrew his plea of not guilty and entered a plea of guilty of murder in the second degree, and was sentenced to imprisonment in the penitentiary for twenty-five years. He asked leave to withdraw his plea, asserting that he had been informed by the Circuit Attorney that the highest punishment under it would be ten years. The Court overruled the motion. From this judgment he appealed to the Court of Appeals, by which it was affirmed, and on appeal from that court to the Supreme Court the judgment of the lower court was reversed, and the case was remanded to the Criminal Court.

Further continuation brought the case to April 27, 1881, when, on an application for change of venue, a Judge of the Second Judicial Circuit was assigned to try the case. The trial resulted in the conviction of Kring of murder in the second degree, on the second ballot. He was sentenced to be hanged on Jan. 27, 1882. Every effort was made to secure a stay of execution, but Executive clemency failed, and, owing to absence of Judges of the Court of Appeals on vacation, no order could be issued.

The day for the execution came, and everything was in readiness, when a messenger arrived with Judge Shepherd of the Supreme Court, who issued the inquisitive order. Public indignation was intense, and an effort was made to have the law carried into effect by the Coroner, but that official refused to assume the responsibility of hanging a prisoner in violation of an order from a Judge of the Supreme Court, and Kring has remained in jail.

Judge Miller bases his interference on this: "The provision of the Constitution of the State, in force at the time the offence was committed and the indictment returned, provided that one who had been convicted and had pleaded guilty of murder in the second degree could not be again put on trial for murder in the first degree. The new Constitution of the State provides that he can. I have no hesitation in saying that I think the latter is a strong case of ex post facto law, and it is therefore that I grant the appeal." Judge Miller then signed the writ of error and the supersedeas. The writ is made returnable to the Supreme Court of the United States on the second Monday in October, which will commence Kring's eighth year in jail.

Tony Pastor in Trouble.

Tony Pastor owns and runs a first-class theatre on Fifth avenue, New York, and has collected about him the best troupe of variety artists that can be hired anywhere. The company has just concluded a profitable engagement at the Walnut street Theatre, Philadelphia, and during the time it lasted there engaged in a Tony Pastor's own theatre in New York city. Mr. Pastor is the originator of his peculiar school of characterizing, and has made Bowery life, commonly popular, having resulted in his taking a large fortune.

The order of this city, just Mr. Pastor usually at the Bijou Opera House, in Philadelphia, and found, in company with a friend, a gentleman who happened to be present in private as he, according to his custom, in his conversation I inquired to be to his physical health, and he replied that "nothing disturbing the stress upon him to be discharge of his personal duties." He was rejected. He had occasionally severe pains, relief from one of the chronic attacks, which, and any consumptive that character to be of troubles his long, so he set out to find out a remedy for all such annoying affections. I asked him what the remedy was, and he replied, "St. Jacobs Oil." I inquired from Mr. Pastor that he considered the great and excellent preparation for the cure or relief of rheumatism, and that it was about the only thing we found in our travels that did him good. He said he always took bottles of it with him wherever he went travelling, and would not be without it and also that it was very popular with a number of members of his own troupe also. A representative and subsequently with various members of the organization revealed the fact that St. Jacobs Oil had been producing more than ordinary effect for them in the way of curing them of rheumatism. Nearly every artist in the troupe used it, and was enthusiastic in its praise, and the writer was really forced into the conclusion that it must be certain in fact, in having such a reliable an article known and employed by his immutable good company of performers, for it cannot even one to be absent in his place, thus requiring comfort to the management and genuine satisfaction to the public. Tony Pastor would certainly be in trouble without St. Jacobs Oil, as least other managers whose artists have been temporarily incapacitated have noticed the difference between St. Jacobs Oil in stock and St. Jacobs Oil out of stock among the members of their companies.—*N. Y. Clipper.*—*Adv.*

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THE CLAYTON-BULWER TREATY.

Lord Granville's Reply to Mr. Blaine's Note Respecting the Panama Canal.

LONDON, Feb. 9.—Lord Granville, in his despatch of Jan. 7 to Minister West in reference to the Clayton-Bulwer treaty controversy, denies any analogy between the cases of the Panama and Suez canals. He cordially concurs in Mr. Blaine's statement in regard to the unexampled development of the Pacific coast, but denies that it was unexpected. He says the declarations of President Monroe anterior to the treaty show that he and his Cabinet had a clear provision of the great future of that region. The development of the interests of the British possessions also continued, though possibly less rapidly. The Government are of the opinion that the canal, as a waterway between the two great oceans, and Europe and eastern Asia, is a work which concerns not only the American continent, but the whole civilized world. With all deference to the considerations which prompted Mr. Blaine, he cannot believe that his proposals will be even beneficial in themselves. He can conceive a no more melancholy spectacle than competition between nations in the construction of fortifications to command the canal. He cannot believe that any South American state would like to admit a foreign power to erect fortifications on its territory when the claim to do so is accompanied by the declaration that the canal is to be regarded as a part of the American coast line. It is difficult to believe, he says, that the territory belonging to the Isthmus States would be long kept independence. Lord Granville believes that an invitation to all the maritime States to participate in an agreement, based on the stipulations of the convention of 1850, would make the convention adequate for the purposes for which it was designed. Her Majesty's Government would gladly see the United States take the initiative toward such a convention, and will be prepared to endorse and support such action in any way, provided it does not conflict with the Clayton-Bulwer treaty.

Lord Granville, in a subsequent despatch, draws attention to the fact that Mr. Blaine, in using the argument that the treaty has been a source of continual difficulties, omits to state that the questions in dispute, which related to points occupied by the British in Central America, were removed in 1860 by the voluntary action of Great Britain in certain tre