

NEW HALL HOUSE MEMOIRS.

A FAVORITE RESORT FOR OLD-TIMERS IN POLITICS AND BUSINESS.

The secret passages through which they... A Murder in the Harbors—Two Disgraced Barbers—Theories About the Fire.

MILWAUKEE, Jan. 18.—The Newhall house was a favorite with the old politicians and the professional business men of Wisconsin.

It was their headquarters. A great many of them would almost as soon have gone to the police station as to any other hotel.

They knew it was a fire-trap, but they did not care. They knew it would go up in fire and smoke; they stopped there just the same.

They could be seen, any evening sitting or walking in its spacious corridors. Old Milwaukeeans, wishing to renew old acquaintances or talk over old times, would drop in evenings and on some kind of a social visit.

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Nihilists in Geneva.

The Carr's Spies—Nihilist Journals and their Views of Russia's Future.

GENEVA, Dec. 24.—For more than half a century the Swiss Republic has served, and it yet serves, as an asylum for Russian conspirators and political exiles.

It was the famous Decembrists of 1825, the aristocratic constitutionalists for whom conspiracy was a self-sacrifice, ideal virtue, and who have since become the heroes of many a Russian poem and novel.

They were followed by the scientific constitutionalists of 1836, the followers of Prof. Petrushevsky, who were seized and transported to Siberia before they agreed upon any plan of action.

Then came the revolutionaries of 1848, the followers of the philosophic socialist system now called anarchism. Even the iron Carr Nicholas regarded these three as dangerous to his throne.

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SWIMMING AMID THE ICE.

THE SORT OF BATHING WHICH MR. STEIFFEL TAKES.

A Demonstration that a Man Can Go Into the Water in Winter Without Suffering has been given by a Very Odd Student.

Mingled rain and snow were falling heavily on Wednesday afternoon when Mr. Louis Steiffel, of 8,026 Third avenue, in company with a Stux reporter, splashed, tramped, and slid through the deep icy slush of 116th street, on the way to the Harlem Beach bath houses on the margin of the East River at the foot of that street.

Mr. Steiffel was going in bathing—bathing, he has for many years been very fond of swimming, and has customarily gone in considerably earlier and much later every season than most other persons would do, but it was not until last autumn that the happy thought occurred to him that he might just as well enjoy his favorite pastime all the year through.

He read in THE SUN an interview with a bath-house keeper on the Jersey coast, wherein the affirmation was made that, while occasionally people did attempt surf bathing in the winter time, the same person was never known to try it twice.

That spurred him to the endeavor. Custom, he argued, would enable him to stand the cold of a winter swim; he intended stopping when Mr. Steiffel was dressed, he kept his eyes open as opportunity enabled him to do so.

He kept a little stationery and music store, teaches the art of violin playing at home, is an instructor in the Violin Conservatory of Music, and occasionally goes to the city to give lessons. At the time he is pretty well taken up, and the only chance he has to go swimming is on Wednesday.

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THE CHAMPION QUAIL MATCH.

Mr. Short on the Game His Thoughts on the Match and on the Quail.

"Gabriel, how is the quail today?" "He says that he is all right," replied the landlord; "but I notice that he begins to linger over his birds."

Mr. Walcott, the gastronomical wonder who has undertaken to set a brace of quail for thirty consecutive days, sat behind a large table in the dining room of the hotel.

Mr. Walcott said that the quail was dressed for the purpose of presenting the birds while brooding. If a sufficient supply was obtained before the last of January, no one but a busy-body would interfere.

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ARE THEY THE RIGHT MEN?

THE SENATE'S KNOWLEDGE OF THE RAILROAD COMMISSION.

Vote on their Confirmation Postponed Until Next Wednesday—Mr. Thomas Says That He Will Not Resign.

ALBANY, Jan. 18.—The Senate was in executive session early two hours today on the question of confirming the Governor's nominations for Railroad Commissioners.

Mr. Thomas (Rep.) moved to postpone action on the confirmation of the Railroad Commissioners until next Wednesday.

Mr. O'Donnell (Dem.) opposed the motion, and thought it was the duty of the Senate to act promptly on the nominations, in order that the Commission might be organized and put in working order.

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FINANCIAL AND COMMERCIAL.

Exchange Rates (By Quotation).

Table with columns for various exchange rates and prices, including gold, silver, and foreign currencies.

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NOTICE OF THE STOCKHOLDERS OF THE PACIFIC RAILROAD OF MISSOURI.

A Notice of Interest to the stockholders of the Pacific Railroad of Missouri is printed in another column.

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