NEWS OF THE MINING WORLD.

LOW PRICES DISCOURAGE THE ANTHRACITE COAL MINERS.

Idaho Prospectors Beginning to Reap a Rich Return for Their Labors—Snow Stops the Hunt for New Mines in Colorado—New Silver Districts in Arizona.

POTTSVILLE, Nov. 10.—The much-looked-for spurt in anthracite coal mining and coal selling, especially for domestic sizes, has not yet materialized. There was an attempt to bolster up the prices of the summer schedule, but even this has been abandoned, and the very low figures continue to be shaded. Buyers of domestic coal are not in the market and the dealers don't seem to want any stock at any price. Production continues as restricted as ever, but the market cannot absorb near all that is sent to tidewater. If a cold snap does not soon increase the demand for coal, there may be a still further shutting down of Philadelphia and Reading collieries in this basin, as all hopes of making an unusually good showing at the close of the fiscal year have been abandoned. Unless this is done, the companies will have to begin to store coal in the mining country. There is a report that immense bins are to be erected for this purpose, but this is not likely to happen for the present. Should there be a general shut-down in the mines, thousands would be thrown out of work, but this is looked upon as one of the possibilities in order to give the stock in hand a chance to dwindle down.

It is generally believed that for November and December only enough hard coal will be mined to keep the motive power of the various companies employed during the winter months. The trade for manufacturing sizes continues fairly up to the mark, and the industries of the East were never more active than now. Prices for lump, furnace, and steamboat coal continue higher. Coal of all kinds mined and sent to market thus far in 1889 amounts to 29,604,086 tons, as against 31,714,566 for the same time in 1888, and the total production for the week was 158,856 tons less than it was for the same week in 1888. Decrease for the year, 2,110,480 tons, distributed among the eleven mining companies.

The Lehigh Valley is rushing considerable coal to market, and its total production for 1889 now exceeds that of the Reading Company.

HARDY PROSPECTORS IN IDAHO.

IDAHO CITY, Nov. 1.—Throughout Idaho the news from the mines is encouraging, and the progress made for the year is better than was expected when it became evident that no great amount of outside capital would be invested. A large number of prospects have been developed into mines and several new mills erected. Most of the progress made has been by men without means—the poor and hardy prospectors, who advance into the unknown regions, discover the mineral veins, and pave the way for advancing civilization. As a rule, the prospectors realize but little to recompense them for the hardships and privations endured, but in Idaho the prospectors are developing their mines, and many of them are realizing returns for their labors in the shape of rapidly increasing fortunes. It is very gratifying that such is the case, for they are a whole-souled, deserving set of men. They know the value of good mines and always pay the highest wages.

A good deal has been published in THE SUN at different times of the Sheep Mountain and Seafoam districts. They are destined to come to the front soon, and be known far and wide as a great mining country. To give your readers an idea of how the ore from that section "pans out" I will give some returns of the Ketchum sampling works: A lot of eight tons from the Birdie R., sampled last week, yielded 335 14-100 ounces silver, 2-10 ounces gold per ton, and 29 per cent. lead, netting the owners of the mine $2,312. The ore shipped from this mine at different times during the summer yielded handsomely, but none ever gave such handsome returns. As the ore comprising the last shipment was from the lowest level, the owners are justly highly elated over their mine. Shipments from some of the other mines at different times during the past three or four months gave returns hardly credible.

H. C. Erman of St. Louis has been visiting the Fourth of July property at Custer. A 10-stamp mill is going up, which, it is expected, will be ready to commence crushing by the middle of December. The Custer 30-stamp mill at the same place is again crushing. The Dickens-Custer mine, owned by the same company, is working fourteen men. The works have been cleaned out, and the main shaft is going down to a new level. This mine was purchased two or three years ago by a London company for $1,250,000. Rumor has it that another rich body of ore has been discovered, and that a repetition of the stampede of 1879-80 will soon take place for the Yankee Fork district.

A new five-stamp concentrating mill, with three jigs, has just started up at Kinnikinic Creek, at Clayton, Custer county. It was erected by the Salmon River Smelting Company.

At Broadford, on Wood River, the Minnie Moore and Queen of the Hills mines are still making their regular ore shipments. In the same vicinity work is pushing in the Star mine, which, in past years, shipped some exceedingly rich ore.

For some time past the Walker Brothers have been prospecting a mine at the foot of Lookout Mountain, near Bellevue, but until lately no important discovery had been made. Now, however, they have seventy tons of ore on the dump that will give returns of from $20 to $60 per ton gold and $110 silver, with 20 to 60 per cent. lead. This important strike has created considerable excitement at Bellevue, and many claims have been located on the mountain. Rich ore has been discovered in several of the locations.

Since putting in Frue vanners at the Buffalo mill, at Atlanta, Elmore county, 200 tons of ore have been crushed. After paying the cost of the machinery and running expenses $1,500 was left for the stockholders. Besides this, about $8,000 worth of concentrates from this ore have been sent to Denver for reduction. The vein in the mine from which this ore was taken is twenty feet wide. The superintendent says that he is milling the ore at an expense of only $3 per ton. Mr. Gaetz is constructing a five-stamp mill at Atlanta, which will commence crushing in a few days.

The Harrison mine, near Idaho City, is developing splendidly. John Keane, one of the owners, brought some rock to town yesterday that was speckled all through with gold. About ten tons more will be crushed in the arastra, when a clean-up will be made.

MINING IN COLORADO.

DENVER, Nov. 6.—Considerable development work is going on at the present time at the Mount of the Holy Cross. The Mountain Queen keeps up her record as a staple producer.

The Denver City mine at Crystal River recently shipped a car load of ore that netted the lessers $3,400. The great mineral attractions of Crystal River include silver and iron veins.

The Yankee Girl at Ouray has shipped about $75,000 worth of ore during the past two months. One car load has returned $29,965 and another nearly $13,000.

A rich strike of gray copper was made a few days ago in the North Star at Silverton, and shipments of a car load per day are made.

The prospects of Mineral Creek are developing into good mines rapidly. From the Bandora shipments are coming regularly into town; also from the Lady Helen, while the Carver property has equal ore bodies in sight. With the exception of the American, at Ouray, these properties are equal to any on the gold belt.

The gold mines at Ophir have made an excellent showing during the past year. The number of tons milled has been fully twice as great as in any preceding year.

Considerable work is going on at Summitville this fall, and the indications are that some of the heavy companies will be operating there during 1890.

The Black Hawk on Sheep Mountain shows up a fine body of lead carbonates, which keep improving with every foot of development.

There is more activity among the mines of the Rico district at present than ever before. Throughout the district exploration work is being vigorously crowded.

Prospectors are coming into town slowly at present. The first snow in the mountains early in October started the great majority of this restless class on their travels, and those who have deferred their coming until now certainly felt confident that they were leaving a bonanza unopened in the hills.

ITEMS FROM ARIZONA.

TUCSON, Oct. 31.—James Woods is doing development work on the Silver Spur, adjoining the Golden West, from which is being taken some rich ore. The ore is silver-copper glance, with lead chlorides, and runs over $200 in silver. The ore body is about four feet wide. At the Golden West there has been a great deal of difficulty in boring for water. The hole is now down 550 feet, but the tools were lost last week, which caused a suspension of work. Mr. Chris Loss has invented a machine which will pull up anything from a well, from a six-inch steel drill to a darning needle, and it is expected that all will be in readiness for sinking again in a few days.

The Mountain Queen mine, near the Vekol, is being worked by John Cummings. It is in first-class shape, and some ore of a good grade has been shipped. The Vekol is now turning out as good ore as it has during its history, but it is very base, and the mill will not work it. The ore is being shipped at the rate of about five car loads per week. As an indication of its richness, one car, it is said, gave a profit of $20,000.

The Combination shaft, now being operated by A. H. Elliot under a bond, is attracting considerable attention. It is between the Vekol and the Great Eastern mines. The rich ore bodies of the Vekol pitch into the Combination shaft, and this mine gives promise of being the equal of the Vekol in every respect. An incline is now being sunk on the property, at an angle to tap the original shaft at a depth of 200 feet. The surveys of the Vekol show that the ore body will be tapped in the Combination shaft at a depth of 220 feet. A company is being formed in Chicago to develop this property, and its promise is good.

At the Central Silver camp things are being pushed. A good force of men is at work in the mine, the smelter is up, and the superintendent has just purchased a twenty-stamp mill at Willcox, which will be erected at once.

The Blue Bird mine in the Olive district is owned by Phillip Chambers. The croppings of this mine follow a permanent porphyry dyke, and all surface indications are good for a large and valuable property. The principal pay streak is eight inches thick, well defined, and assays 150 ounces in silver per ton, besides running very high in lead. Several smaller veins of very rich ore are distributed throughout the gangue. Very high grade chloride silver ores, pure galena, and fine argilasite ores are found in several open cuts and shafts but a few feet in depth at many different places on the claim. Three men are working the mine.

The Keystone mine in the same district is owned by L. F. Freise. The shaft is 100 feet deep, and pays most of the way down. At the bottom of the shaft the pay streak is fifteen inches thick, compact, and continuous in its downward course. The ore is copper-silver glance and assays as high as 400 ounces in silver.

The Wedge mine is one of the finest mines in this camp. The owners have spent more than three years of faithful work, enough to discourage the most sanguine miner, but after exhausting every other available spot, as a last resort, took the lowest and apparently the most unlikely one in which to find ore, and once more got the pick and shovel at work. Imagine their surprise when at a depth of only ten feet they struck the veritable vein of the Olive, good size, and carrying two hundred ounces of silver to the ton. There are now several tons of ore on the dump ready for shipment to the smelter, and they are still busy taking out more of the same kind of ore. The Olive, the most reliable mine in the district, is yet holding her own against all new claimants for honors. The present workings are on the 180-foot level, with four foot of gangue matter interspersed with several pay streaks of high grade ore, the principal of which is two feet in thickness, and runs $200 silver to the ton.

Col. John Weir of the El Plomo mines was in the city this week arranging for more burros to carry bullion to the mill from the mine. He has contracted for the use of 200 of these animals for this purpose, and they will carry about thirty tons per day. He has great faith in his mines, and thinks that soon he will be turning out some high grade bullion. The mining industry is certainly on the up grade in Pima county, and new discoveries are being made almost daily, showing that the country has not by any means been half prospected. The Superintendent of the Red Rock Mining Company was in this week, and reports a rich strike in that mine, as well as a good supply of water in their new well.

NOTES FROM LAKE SUPERIOR.

MICHIGAMME, Mich., Nov. 10.—A controlling interest in the Michigamme Company has been secured by Messrs. Pickands, Mather, Chamberlain, and other Cleveland capitalists and iron men who are prominently identified with the Cleveland Iron Mining Company, owning a big mine at Republic and a $400,000 fleet of steel ore carrying vessels. The books will be balanced this month and a complete reorganization will take place on Dec. 1. The controlling interest was secured at the rate of $400,000 for the entire property.

ISHPEMING, Nov. 10.—The big boilers sent to the Michigan gold mine yesterday are being set in place, and the last shaft, 70 feet deep, will be unwatered and mining work resumed with as many men as can be employed advantageously. Some wonderful outputs of gold are expected within the next few weeks, as the Michigan Company has now no reason to conceal the richness of its mine.

L'ANSE, Mich., Nov. 10.—All the working iron mines of Baraga county are now in the hands of Cleveland capitalists. Schlesinger, the Milwaukee iron magnate, The Webster, Wetmore, and Norwood mines have been bought by Schlesinger and are now being worked under the supervision of Capt. Morcom, recently of the Minnesota Iron Company.

MONTANA MINING INTERESTS.

HELENA, Nov. 10.—There is considerable new activity just now, and mining gossip is about all that is occupying the attention of visitors to this city, a number of whom are interested in mine. W. H. Morrell of New York has been spending a couple of months in Helena with a view to engaging in a mining venture, and succeeded in coming across a group of prospects near Birdseye, a short distance from Helena. Mr. Morrell has bonded these properties, and employed a force of men who yesterday started for the camp well equipped with building material and utensils for development work. The Minah mine near Wickes will probably change hands this month, an English company having bought a two-third interest in the mine. Mr. J. O. Briscoe will retain a third interest and continue as resident manager for the first year at least. This mine is without doubt one of the richest in Montana, and will now be backed with capital sufficient to work it on the most improved plans.

The total product of the Granite mine at Government standard value has been $14,335,135, while the total receipts were $10,988,860, showing that the demonetization of silver by our Government has cost the company to July 31 $3,346,335, or over 30 per cent. of the gross income. President Rumsey says:

"I am glad to say that our company has acquired about all the property necessary for our purposes in the conduct of our enterprise, so that we may now devote our energies and means to the working and development of properties already acquired, and the enrichment of our stockholders, and to add largely, we trust, to the material prosperity of the nation and world. During the fiscal year ending July 31, 1889, we have paid out in twelve dividends $1,900,000. This makes an aggregate of $6,700,000 paid out in fifty-five dividends. To anticipate a part of the report for the next fiscal year let me say that on Nov. 9 we shall pay dividend No. 56, which will make $7,600,000 returned to stockholders since April 8, 1885, or $19 per share on our capital stock, consisting of 400,000 shares of the par value of $25."

The trustees of the Champion Mining Company have borrowed $20,000, and given a mortgage on the property for that amount. The company is not in debt, but they have contracts ahead that will involve that amount for improvements, and they are now prepared to meet this demand.

ST. LOUIS BEER MAKERS.

Eighteen Breweries are to Pass Into the Hands of a Foreign Syndicate.

ST. LOUIS, Nov. 10.—The first authentic announcement of the foreign syndicate that has been negotiating for the eighteen local breweries that make up the St. Louis Brewers' Association was made to-night by Messrs. Monroe and Murray, agents of the syndicate. These gentlemen arrived in the city yesterday for the purpose of closing up the deal. They refused to go into details, merely saying that the breweries would pass into the hands of the syndicate this week. From another source the terms of the transfer were ascertained.

The association is capitalized at $5,000,000, and the syndicate agrees to take the stock at $140 per share and assume a bonded indebtedness of $500,000. This would make a total of $12,000,000. The bonds draw 6 per cent. interest. Every share of the stock has been assigned to the syndicate, and all that is now necessary to close the deal is the first payment and signing of papers.

It was also learned that this same syndicate has an option on the capital stock of the United Elevator Company at par. The conditions call for the entire capital stock, $2,465,000, which the syndicate will take on or before Dec. 15. The United Elevator Company control eight elevators on the river, and if the syndicate buys it it will control both the warehouse and brewery interests of St. Louis.

SUNDAY BEER AND NO LICENSE.

A Freeman from Hoboken Finds Things Different Over Here.

A group of men were sitting at tables drinking beer in the saloon at 1,409 Broadway, on the corner opposite the Metropolitan Opera House, at 7 o'clock last night, when Policemen Kemp and Perkins sauntered through the side door in plain clothes. Young Appel, the son of the proprietor, and Harry Mehrtens, a German bartender, were behind the beer counter. Mehrtens served a glass of beer to Kemp, and failed to produce a license when Kemp asked to see it. Kemp brought Mehrtens around to Sergeant Sheldon at the Thirtieth street station, and told him that the saloon was being run without a license.

"You can't blame me," pleaded Mehrtens. "I didn't know anything about the way things are run in this town. I belong in Hoboken, and have been in business here only two days."

The Sergeant held the Hobokenite, and told him that it would be a good thing to study the excise laws of any State in which he proposed to earn a living selling beer. Appel, who did know the law and didn't obey it, couldn't be found by the police last night. The former license of the saloon was in the name of Appel's father-in-law.

President Platt Did Not Predict a Drop.

President Thomas C. Platt of the Tennessee Coal and Iron Company was questioned by a number of financial men yesterday about an interview of his published in a financial paper. In it he was made to say that the advance in the Tennessee Coal and Iron stock was not based on anything that the management was doing, but was the result of speculation and interests outside of the management; that it had made the price too high, and that the price was likely to drop back as quickly as it went up. Mr. Platt assured all his questioners that he had never said that the stock was too high, or that it was likely to go down as fast as it went up.

Stein's Pass, New Mexico, copper ores, Johnny Bull mine, average 8ounces silver, 3ounces gold, vein, 20 feet. Owner, W. H. Henry, New York. Ores self fluxing.—Adv.

IN THE REAL ESTATE FIELD.

A Good Many Interesting Transactions Under Way.

The recurrence of election day has broken into the week with the real estate men and interfered with the aims of both auctioneers and brokers. The offerings on 'Change have been singularly moderate, and of these quite a number of parcels have been withdrawn. Owners and agents seem to have arranged their own schedule of values, and the indications are that they propose to adhere to them. Although the transactions for the week have been comparatively few and more or less uninteresting, it is known that negotiations of magnitude are pending and that early developments are anticipated.

The auctioneers have interesting announcements extending over the entire week.

Brokers' sales include:

West Thirty-sixth street, 334 to 342, the five four-story brick tenements, 20x80.6 each, by Fred A. Carll for Thomas Stillman to Peter Schaeffler, $94,000, for improvement.

Broadway, northeast corner of Fifty-seventh street, two lots purchased by S. T. Meyer, $75,000.

West Twenty-fourth street, 317, the three-story high-stoop brick dwelling, 18.9x76.8x98.8, by H. V. Mead & Co. for J. W. River to Mrs. Tillie Kyle, part fee and part leasehold, $12,500.

West Forty-eighth street, 224, the brown-stone dwelling, 18.9x50x100, by S. M. Blakely for Mary Jane Bogert, $16,000.

West Twenty-seventh street, north side, 398 feet west of Ninth avenue, by H. J. Beaudet to Max Redding, private terms.

Henry street, 259, the five-story and basement brick and terra-cotta apartment house, by Morris Schoenhoff to Henry Waters, private terms.

East Eightieth street, 24, the brown-stone dwelling, 25x74, by the C. Graham & Sons Co. to Henry W. Schmidt, $30,000.

West Eighty-eighth street, south side, between Eighth and Ninth avenues, the four-story brown-stone front building, 25x55x100, by Hider & Scott Brothers for E. T. Lynch to A. Lehman, $60,000.

West 135th street, 247, the five story brown-stone single flat, 25x100x100, by H. V. Mead & Co. to J. C. Moon, $25,000.

Third avenue, 1,837, a five-story brick tenement and store, 25x80x100, by William S. Anderson and J. W. Mudgett for Mary Young to Mr. Scholes, $27,500.

West 103d street, 183, five-story single flat, 19.8x85x100, by Frank L. Fisher & Co., $20,500.

The estate of Gen. Lloyd Aspinwall has sold a plot, about 60x128, on the northeast corner of University place and Tenth street, with stone-front dwelling and stable, to A. S. Rosenbaum of the Hotel Albert for $130,000.

The Woolsey estate has sold the premises, 130, 132, and 134 East Fifteenth street, 74.6x84, known as Nilsson Hall, for $95,000.

A. Boehm has sold to Conrad Stein the five-story brick and stone flat with four stores on the northeast corner of Tenth avenue and Fifty-third street, size 24.3x90x100, for $70,000.

Simon M and Samuel Rosenhatt have purchased from William Inglehart and Anna U. Peck the five-story brick United States bonded warehouses, 246 and 247 South street, running through to Water street, size 43x168, on private terms.

It is reported that Van Wagner & Card have sold to Edward Eden a plot 126.8x100.9x147.2x100.5 feet, situated on the north side of Sixty-ninth street, 305 feet west of West End avenue, for about $30,000.

M. M. McKee & Co. report having sold to Mead & Taft of Cornwall, N. Y., the single flat, 247 West 125th street, for J. Rork, and 240 West 135th street for F. S. Moore, for a total of $72,000.

William S. Anderson and J. W. Fielder have sold for J. Mallon two five-story double flats, 25x70x100, on the west side of Park avenue, fifty feet north of 119th street, to Charles F. Williams for $60,000, and for Mr. Williams to J. Mallon eight lots on Boston avenue between 164th street and Teasdale place, for $44,000.

Wm. H. Mason has sold for Isaac Mannheimer the three-story and mansard dwelling, 25x75 feet, West Thirty-ninth street, for $13,000, and the four-story brick and three-story frame dwellings, 25x60.9, at 310 West Thirty-ninth street, for $15,750.

Jane A., wife of Chas. F. Wildey, has sold the three-story dwelling on the southeast corner of Seventy-eighth street and Lexington avenue on private terms.

J. Jay Smith has sold for P. A. Muller a plot of regular size on Riverside drive, 27 feet north of 116th street, at $20,000, to Augustin Daly for improvement. Mr. Daly purchased through Mr. Williams. Mr. Muller has also located Jacob Ruppert and Miss Ada Rehan in the same locality.

Richard Butler have leased to L. Pompinello the three-story brown-stone dwelling, 18.9x80x100, 50 West 126th street, for ten years at an annual rental of from $1,600 to $2,250.

A. Ward Benedict has leased for Oscar Hammerstein, to James Reid, a store, 25x100, the basement, 50x100, and a billiard room and banqueting hall, 50x100, in the new theatre building, 47 West 125th street. Also for 125th street, 125 feet west of Seventh avenue, for ten years, at a rental of $6,000 per annum. The billiard room is located on the banqueting floor. Ground is not yet finished, but the terms of the lease call for occupancy on the lessee's part by Dec. 10 of this year.

BROOKLYN.

John Pullman of Union street and Fifth avenue has sold for Wm. Irvine the five four-story buildings on Fifth avenue, between Union street and Berkley place, to a Long Island capitalist for an investment, at figures between $75,000 and $80,000; also the three four-story and brownstone fronts, one of which is on Union street, east of Fifth avenue, for $36,000, to a New York investor.

O. B. Treadwell has sold the four story brick dwelling, 25x100, 113 Manhattan avenue, to Charles W. Lewis for $15,000.

Wm. S. Anderson and J. W. Mudgett have sold for Mr. Scholes to Mary Young three lots on the north side of Seventeenth street, about 100 feet west of Ninth avenue and three lots on the south side of Prospect avenue, about 100 feet west of Ninth avenue, for $6,750.

J. P. Holmes has sold for H. W. Weber the four-story frame store property, 20x75, at 102 Manhattan avenue, to Cornelius Hurley for $6,000.

Corwin Bros. have sold for Andrew Stulz the four-story brick building, 25x100, 184 Eagle street, to Gabriel Robinsky for $8,200.

J. S. Sturdevant has sold for W. O. Thompson to Mrs. H. Benedict the three-story and basement brick house, 54 Rogers avenue, 18x80x61, for $5,000.

The *Record and Guide* sums up the Brooklyn situation for ten months thus: "The conveyances, mortgages, and projected buildings of Kings county during the first ten months of the current year show a general increase over the figures of the corresponding period in 1888. This is particularly the case with the conveyances, from which it appeared that there were 14,849 this year, as against 11,841 last year, while in amount they aggregated $69,757,552, as against $47,732,920, an increase of $22,468,286. The mortgages number 12,043, as against 9,464, and total $49,830,509, as compared with $34,694,247 last year. Of the whole, no less than 7,106 were recorded at 5 per cent. interest per annum or less, while there were only 5,261 last year, the aggregate amount being $31,779,094 in 1889, as compared with $21,618,276 in 1888. It therefore appears that $10,160,818 more was loaned on Kings county real estate at lower rates of interest this year than last. The projected buildings numbered 4,466, as against 3,640, while their cost was estimated at $23,660,960, as against $19,973,652 in 1888, showing that the activity in building is not by any means on the wane in our sister city of Brooklyn."

To-morrow Jere. Johnson, Jr., will have an important sale of lots near the Hunt estate, and on Thursday A. H. Muller & Son will sell a further installment of the Hunt estate, comprising 597 lots.

ENFORCING PROHIBITION IN MAINE.

Now Constables Make it Impossible to Obtain a Glass of Lager in Lewiston.

LEWISTON, Me., Nov. 10.—This is the first day in the history of Lewiston that it has been impossible to obtain lager beer or ale. Not a glassful is obtainable, and the newly appointed constables are doing very effective work. This casts a bad reflection on the administration of their two associates, Stubbs and Prentiss, whose duty it was to seize liquor before the lax enforcement of the law was called to the attention of Gov. Burleigh, and it now looks as though the charges of bribery had foundation in fact. The result of the vigilance of the new constables proves that there has been great laxity heretofore in this direction, and the public are watching anxiously to see if this vigilance will continue. The fact that the constables obtain a commission on all liquor seized makes the matter interesting. If they persist in their present course about 300 dealers will soon be driven from the business, and this is what previous "spotters" did not do. If a chosen few are permitted to make money, or if a revival of the traffic occurs, the people will then know what is going on. The new men have demonstrated one thing, at least, that so far as Lewiston is concerned, the prohibition law, properly enforced, is not a failure at present, but a practical success.

BEER IN A HAND BAG.

A Novel Device for Working the Growler Safely on Sunday.

An ingenious inventor has supplied the uptown saloon keepers with a "long felt want" in the shape of a Sunday "growler." Hitherto the violators of the Excise law have discouraged the Sabbath "can trade," because the processions in and out the side door of people carrying pails or pitchers called public and police attention rather too forcibly to the fact that they were selling liquor within the period prohibited by statute. A favored few were permitted to buy beer for home consumption on condition that the vehicle of its transfer from the saloon to the residence should be wrapped in paper. But all this is changed now, and yesterday marked the beginning of the new era. The liquor sellers have procured for themselves stacks of what look like small hand bags. They are in reality, however, tin boxes covered with leather and supplied with handles. They hold ten cents' worth of lager or ale, and are furnished to customers for 25 cents each, the deposit to be returned when the "grip" is.

The plan worked admirably yesterday, and for a while the police were puzzled at seeing hundreds of men and women rushing about the streets all armed with travelling bags of the same size and color. Many people who would under no considerations be seen engineering a foamy pitcher of beer down the avenue seized the opportunity for laying in a home supply without eliciting comment.

A Railroad Crash at Roselle.

ELIZABETH, Nov. 10.—A west-bound coal train on the New Jersey Central ran on a misplaced switch last night and plunged at full speed into the company's yard at Roselle, crashing into a train of five empty passenger cars on the siding. One car was telescopedby the big locomotive, which had its smoke stack knocked off in the collision and its front part badly damaged. Although the engineer and fireman stuck to their posts they did not get a scratch. Four passenger cars were hurled down the embankment, which at this point is twelve feet high. They were completely wrecked. A dozen coal cars were smashed and piled on top of each other. The road bed was ploughed up. In the first passenger coach struck was Jesse Halsey, a car sweeper. He escaped death by leaping through a window. It took two wrecking crews until to-night to clear away the debris and repair the damage.

CUSTOM HOUSE GOSSIP.

MAYBE THE AXE WILL BE WORKING THIS WEEK.

It Is Said to Be In Prime Condition—Collector Erhardt and His Chief Clerks—Surveyor Lyon Makes Some Changes.

With election day gone the uneasy feeling in all the departments has revived. It is believed that one of the recommendations made by Collector Erhardt and before the President concerns most of the chief clerks and acting deputy collectors, and that the Washington people are considering the advisability of speedily withdrawing these places from the Chinese rules. The argument for this is that the present incumbents were the personal appointments of a Democratic Collector and a Democratic Secretary of the Treasury, and that only in the last year of Mr. Cleveland's administration were they put in the civil service class. But the chief argument is that the places are of a fiduciary character, and that Collector Erhardt has a right to name the men who in a sense are co-responsible with him to his bondsmen. Postmaster Van Cott took this stand, and his recommendations in the matter were regarded. It is probable that Collector Erhardt will go to Washington this week to see how things are getting on.

The flash of the blade of the axe has been seen like lightning close at hand.

Surveyor Lyon has just abolished Surveyor Beattie's bureau of roundsmen. This consisted of twelve customs inspectors, with a staff officer at their head, detailed to visit all the districts and report on the conduct of the men. It was charged before the Senate Civil Service Investigating Committee that these roundsmen were little more than spies on the subordinates, the main object being to secure cases for removing employees not in sympathy with the Democratic party. Mr. Beattie always vigorously disputed the charge. Surveyor Lyon has abolished the system.

Michael H. Whalen, superintendent of the barge office under Mr. Beattie, and now in the the ranks as a customs inspector, is to be put in charge of a district.

Naval Officer Willis has been in Washington a couple of days urging the appointment of Brother Smith of the Brooklyn *Standard-Union* as his private secretary. It is just possible also that Mr. Willis returns with information of interest to Deputy Naval Officer John Mugwump Comstock. There was a report up town last night to the effect that Mr. Comstock was to lose his place as Deputy Naval Officer. He will still have the Auditorship left—for a while.

It is well known that harsh treatment, approaching brutality, has been inflicted by petty officials in the Surveyor's department upon subordinates. Surveyor Lyon intends to have this changed. His five chief subordinates, Mr. Blatchford, Mr. Corning, Mr. Collins, Mr. Catlin, and Mr. Lockwood, are to report to him daily. The Surveyor himself is also around town somewhat, and besides all hands can see him at the Custom House at any time. Mr. Lyon has just recommended the removal of an official for persecuting his inferiors. This is a man who was a good Republican until Cleveland came in, and then considered it his duty to hector and persecute Republicans. When Harrison came in he thought it to be his cheerful duty to make Democrats wish they were dead. He himself will, in a day or so, hear from Washington that his services are no longer required.

Customs Inspector Cocheu is one of the experienced men in the service. He is convinced that the women travellers on the ocean steamships do not care a rap about having women customs inspectors detailed to examine their baggage. Mr. Cocheu and others say that men are very much preferred, except when it comes to a personal examination of a suspected woman smuggler.

Acting Secretary Babcock of the little Chinese mill is hard at marking the papers of the candidates for oblivion at the recent Chinese examinations. Just about 950 poor creatures in this town and elsewhere are anxiously awaiting to hear how they came out. About 250 of them want to be clerks, 350 want to become customs inspectors, 50 desire places as women inspectors, and the other applicants are for places as night inspectors and assistant weighers and watchmen. Mr. Babcock says the marking of the papers will perhaps be completed in a couple of months. Collector Erhardt already has eligible lists with nearly a thousand names on them. The new comers will possibly get jobs in the next century.

From to-day Col. Erhardt's office will not have the unusual spectacle of a roaring parade. Superintendent Murray and his assistants have been busy for forty-eight hours putting down carpets and making the place look tidy and comfortable, as in the days of Collector Arthur.

A squeak has been raised that Mugwump Burt was tumbled out of the Naval Office before his term of four years had expired. Gen. Graham, Col. Burt's predecessor, was appointed Naval Officer on Feb. 15, 1883, and was removed by Mr. Cleveland on June 30, 1885, having been two years, four months and fifteen days in the chair. Col. Burt, from the day of Mr. Cleveland's election, worked like a beaver to get Gen. Graham's place, and he stepped in July 1, 1885. He was removed on Oct. 1, 1889, having had the place four years, three months and twenty-nine days. There were no charges of any kind preferred against Gen. Graham, and, besides, he was a war veteran with many scars. But Col. Burt wanted his place. He got it, and now he has lost it again.

WAS IT A REVOLUTIONARY BOMB?

Brilliant Wind Up of Freddie Andrews's Bonfire of Leaves.

An explosion took place in the back yard of George W. H. Andrews, at 100 Ashford street, Brooklyn, about dusk on Saturday, while Mr. Andrews was at dinner. Mr. Andrews's ten-year-old son Freddie brought home a rusty iron ball, about four inches in diameter, about a year ago. He and a companion found the ball embedded in the ground in a field near the old New Lots road. His father examined it at the time and concluded it was the end of a hammer used in hammer-throwing contests. There was a circular hole in the ball about an inch and a half in diameter, but this had been plugged up with lead. The children in the neighborhood played with the ball occasionally during the year.

On Saturday afternoon Freddie swept up the fallen leaves, weeds, and other debris in the back yard, and made a bonfire of the mass, with the iron ball in the centre of it. The fire burned slowly in the rain at first, but afterward it began to flare up, and Mr. Andrews suggested that the flames were becoming dangerous. The boy then took a dipper and proceeded to drench the burning mass with water. While this was going on the explosion occurred. It rattled the dishes on the table and alarmed the neighborhood for blocks around. Mr. Andrews ran to the door and met Freddie screaming on his way to the house.

The child's face was blackened and burned with powder, and the back of one of his hands was torn and bleeding. An investigation showed that the iron ball, which he now believes was an old bombshell of the Revolutionary period, had exploded. A piece of the shell passed through a rear window into the house of his neighbor, Mr. Bannon, tearing away a part of the sash, injuring the plaster of the opposite wall and embedding itself in the studding. Yesterday Mr. Andrews picked out of the fence and off the ground seventeen leaden bullets, each about three-quarters of an inch in diameter, with which the shell had been filled. The bullets had evidently been cast in an old-fashioned hand mould.

The boy was not seriously hurt, and nobody else was hurt at all.

A Quebec Priest Publicly Burns Hundreds of Bibles Belonging to his Parishioners.

OTTAWA, Nov. 9.—A gentleman who has just returned from visiting the province of Quebec says that in one parish after mass on Sunday morning he saw several hundred Bibles publicly burned on the square in front of the church at the instance of the curé of the parish, who had collected them from his parishioners. Agents from one of the Bible societies have been selling large numbers of the New Testament in this particular part of the province, and after warning his congregation against purchasing the curé went from house to house collecting from those of his flock who had disobeyed his orders the books they purchased. The Bible Society has now devised a scheme by which they intend bringing the priest before the courts if he attempts to repeat his sacrilegious work. The agents of the society will loan the Bibles to those desiring them, writing within its covers, "the property of"—the name of the agent or society being filled in, who will then be in a position to prosecute should the books be destroyed or taken from the holder.

Assistant Corporation Counsel Wickes Resigns.

Thomas P. Wickes, second assistant Corporation Counsel, has resigned, the resignation to take effect on Jan. 1, when he goes into private practice. He was appointed in 1876 by William C. Whitney, Corporation Counsel Clark responding in complimentary terms to the letter of resignation, expressing regret at the loss to the office.

The editor of the *Kenilworth Eastern Star* says: "The Shaw stockings are the easiest for the feet, and at the same time the most durable." All styles at H. B. Kimball's, 303 Canal st.—Adv.

THE RIGHT OF PRIVATE OWNERSHIP.

The decision of the General Term of our Supreme Court in the Sugar Trust case involves a principle of the most serious importance to all owners of property. As the late lamented James Fisk, Jr., remarked of a newspaper editorial which thwarted his scheme to corner gold in 1869, it is one of those things that we dwell on. To be told in this nineteenth century that if a number of men engaged in the same business agree among themselves not to carry on a ruinous competition with each other they become in the eye of the law criminals, is rather a surprise, to say the least. The decision I speak of applies in form only to combinations of corporations, but corporations are composed of individuals, and what men may not lawfully do as corporations, it is equally unlawful for them to do as individuals. The broad doctrine which the Court lays down is that the antiquated mediæval legislation of Great Britain against conspiracies to enhance the price of the necessaries of life remains in force to this day here, and is a bar, not only to the formation of what are called trusts, but to all similar devices for regulating trade.

The judgment of the General Term has yet to be reviewed by the Court of Appeals, and that august body may possibly reverse it. It may hold, as it has done in previous cases of a similar nature, that the old British statutes and decisions against combinations like those of the Sugar Trust, were local and temporary only, and form no part of our common law. Or it may take the wider ground that under the conditions of modern civilization, and the vastly increased power which our democratic institutions give to the people, it is for the Legislature and not for the courts to restrict private enterprise and limit the scope of business operations. In these days of universal suffrage, of newspapers, Post Offices, and telegraphs, of railroads and of steamers, it is not possible for conspirators to make famine prices for food and other necessaries, as they could in ancient times in the towns and cities of England, between which transportation was slow and difficult, and the means of communicating information were imperfect. A corner which could be successful then is almost sure to fail now. Witness the breakdown of the Secretan copper syndicate, of the various wheat syndicates which have been made up from time to time at Chicago, of the cotton corners in Liverpool, and, in this very article of sugar, the recent collapse of the great Magdeburg syndicate. It is a legal maxim that when a reason ceases to exist the rule founded on that reason ceases also, and so the Court of Appeals may decide in this instance. As far, too, as respects the Sugar Trust the affirmance of the General Term decision against it would merely require a modification of its organization. There is no law forbidding the ownership by a single corporation, nor even by an unincorporated partnership, of all the sugar refineries in the country, and those now belonging to the Trust could easily be thus placed out of danger.

But, whether the Court of Appeals affirms or reverses the decision against the Sugar Trust, and whether it maintains or repudiates the old common law against combinations to keep up prices, there still remains to be fought a battle in the Legislature on behalf of private rights against public control. The Supreme Court of the United States several years ago decided, in the Milwaukee elevator cases, that State Legislatures were not prevented by the Federal Constitution from practically confiscating private property for the public benefit without compensation, whenever the use of that private property affects the public in general, and our Court of Appeals recently decided, in a case also regulating the charges of elevators, that the Constitution of this State permitted similar legislation here. The act of 1887 reducing the price of gas, whether manufactured by corporations or by individuals, was passed on the same ground of the supremacy of public over private interests, and the law fixing the maximum rate of interest for the hire of money has been on the statute book from the beginning of our State history.

The interesting thing connected with the subject is, to me, the way in which public opinion approves these invasions and confiscations of private rights. The usury laws have always had an overwhelming majority in their favor; the Wisconsin elevator law would not have been passed if it had not been demanded by a preponderating public sentiment, and, though our elevator law is unpopular in this city, it is well supported in the interior. So, too, the law fixing the price of gas was welcomed almost enthusiastically by consumers, and the manufacturers of it got no sympathy even from their personal friends. It was felt—whether rightly or wrongly made no difference—that gas was bought by so many people and sold by so few that the many, having the power to dictate the price they should give for it, had also the right to do it. The sellers were, in their opinion, making too much money out of the buyers, and their profits ought to be cut down. This feeling is the same which lay beneath the mediæval laws against combinations which has just been used against the Sugar Trust, and it is a force the existence of which we must recognize, whether we like it or not.

Across the Atlantic, also, we have conspicuous illustrations of the same tendency. To say nothing of the communism which is rampant in France and in Germany, we witness the spectacle of a great political party in Great Britain headed by one of the most eloquent orators of modern times, making strenuous efforts to secure the adoption of measures which will result in depriving many owners of land in Ireland of nearly the whole of their present property. For, no sane person can fail to see that the struggle which ostensibly is for Home Rule, is really for the forcible reduction of rents, and, to that extent, for a confiscation of landlords' rights. The argument is that the rents which the landlords demand are more than tenants can afford to pay, and that the landlords must not be allowed to attempt to exact them. When the landlords plead for permission to