CITY AND DISTRICT.

THE GOLD FEVER OF '49.

The Speck of Yellow Metal that Started the Great Excitement

NOW BOTTLED UP AND SAFELY KEPT AT THE NATIONAL MUSEUM—A TALK WITH AN ARGONAUT—EARLY SCENES IN SAN FRANCISCO—THE RESTLESS PROSPECTERS.

The original cause of the great California gold fever—the first fever germ—is at the National Museum. It is securely sealed in a little glass bottle, and there is no longer any danger of contagion. It is a little flattened piece of gold about the size of a gold dollar. It is the piece found by Marshall while digging a mill race the year before the fever set in. It was sent direct to the Smithsonian in August, 1848. The following is a copy of the letter that accompanies it:

SAN FRANCISCO, August 23, 1848.

This paper contains the first piece of gold ever discovered in Northern part of Upper California. It was found in February, 1848, by James W. Marshall in the race of Capt. Jno. A. Sutter's sawmill, about forty-five miles from Sutter's Fork, on the South branch of the American Fork. It was beaten out with a hammer by Mr. Marshall to test its malleability. It is presented to the National Institute, Washington, D. C.

J. L. FOLSOM.

J. L. Folsom was a captain in the United States service. There are many pieces of gold in California claimed to be the first found, but none of them have the facts in favor of their claim. The discovery of this piece of gold by Marshall led to the search for more, and it was found. It was the seed that up to 1880 had produced $1,200,000,000 in gold. Prior to this discovery Indians and a few missionary priests had been collecting some gold in other parts of the State, but this was the very first piece found in the gold belt, and it led to the great rush to California in '49.

RECOLLECTIONS OF AN ARGONAUT.

Dr. R. M. Dawes, the dentist of West Washington, was one of the forty-niners who started out from Washington. He was talking over the matter with a STAR reporter for a little while last evening.

"A party of us," he said, "took a sailing-vessel at Baltimore in March, and we were seven months and fourteen days making the trip to San Francisco. There were my brother and ex-Senator Sargent, then a local reporter in Washington, one or two other Washington boys, and myself; and there were quite a number of others from Baltimore to make up the party. That was the way Sargent first went to the State he afterward represented in the Senate. We had a pretty hard voyage. The captain of the vessel treated us so badly that when we got to Rio de Janeiro we complained to the consul and had him removed. This caused a delay of fourteen days. Then at Valparaiso we had to unload a steam engine and other cargo, which caused a delay of twenty days more. It was a very weary voyage before we got to San Francisco. Sargent did not go all the way with us. He got off at Valparaiso, and from there sailed to San Francisco in another vessel. I remember that he studied Spanish all the way from Baltimore to Rio de Janeiro.

EARLY DAYS IN SAN FRANCISCO.

"When we arrived at San Francisco several of our party who were carpenters stopped there. They got $16 a day for working at their trade there, and thought it better than taking the chances in the mines. There were six in my party who went into prospecting. Everything was fever and excitement there then. All sorts of sensational reports of big finds were circulated, but there was not as much outlawry as many people suppose. In San Francisco there was considerable gambling. It was not much of a city then. All the buildings were frame, and the gambling houses were like the frame barracks they put up for soldiers. The gaming rooms were in front and the bar in the rear. Gamblers would pay $50 a night for each table. They never counted the money, but just stacked it up on the table, and measured it in that way. The gamblers were the only men who wore white shirts.

DISPENSING JUSTICE.

"There were no courts. If a man committed an offense in the diggings he was tried by twelve men selected for the occasion, and their decisions were prompt and just. For that reason there were few crimes committed. Our gold was left in camp without any one to guard it and it was never stolen. I would sometimes leave a day's digging in a pan out in the sun to dry. No one ever disturbed it. For serious crimes the jury of twelve would hang a man, for petty larceny they would horsewhip him and give him twenty-four hours to get out of camp. If a man sunk a pit and threw a pick or shovel in it, he could go on prospecting, and if he returned any time within ten days, he would find his claim to the diggings respected.

"When our party landed," he continued, "we went to Sacramento, where we got three yoke of oxen and a wagon that had come overland, and started for the diggings, well stocked with provisions. We went first to South Fork, then to North Fork or Feather River. There was so much mud that we had to abandon our cattle and wagon and carry our packs on our backs. We did pretty well, but I was sick and had to keep out of the trenches and give up mining for a while. When we dissolved partnership at North Fork a sack of flour fell to my share, and I sold it for $200. I then bought a boat and gun and shot quail and jack rabbits and sold them in San Francisco. Quail brought $7 and $8 per dozen dead, and $12 alive; and jack rabbits $7 and $8 each. The second time I went back to San Francisco the cholera was raging there. Men were dropping dead like sheep.

GOLD BY THE PANFUL.

"I went into the diggings again, and we came across a big rock near middle fork standing high out of the water, which whirled in a swift eddy around it. We knew if there was any gold in that locality it would be right in this eddy. So we filled bags with sand, made a dam to turn the water aside so we could get at it. The very first dip of my pan brought up $218 worth of gold. After working there a week we divided up and each got $900 as his share. There were six of us.

"After we got that hole worked out we began on the high banks and it paid well, but the work was too dangerous. There were large loose rocks overhead, and one day I just saved myself by swinging to a ledge in time to let one pass under me as it rolled down the bank. After that we stopped work there. The next rich place we struck was in Onion Valley. When we got there it was so cold that we could work only two hours a day, but each of us made from $30 to $40 a day. The gold was in large nuggets. Some were found worth $30 to $40. It was very late when we struck there and could not stay long on account of the cold. We left a party there, and my brother told him that they had been snowed in without fuel, and most of them were severely frostbitten, and some died from exposure.

THE RESTLESS MINERS.

"None of us got rich," Dr. Dawes continued. "The trouble was with all the miners that they did not stay in one place long enough to make it pay. If they had been content to stay where they were, making $10 to $20 a day, they might have done well. But there were always false reports of immense finds somewhere else, and they would pull up stakes and move on only to find that they had been fooled. No matter how well they were doing a report of something better carried them off. In this way they spent as much in prospecting as they made in digging. Some of them got terribly demoralized. I have seen strong men crying because they could not get home to the East. Their folks could not send them money to bring them back, and they could not earn enough.

"With all our good luck I guess the most money I had at any one time was about $1,500. Each week the members of a company had a way of guessing at the amount of gold they had accumulated, the man who came farthest from the mark to pay for a bottle of whisky. None of my company could made out how it was that I never had to pay for the whisky. I always guessed last, and put the figures just between the two extremes; so there was always some one farther from the mark than I.

"It was roughing it with a vengeance out there. I have slept out in the winter rains without a tent, and merely something over my head to keep the rain from battering my face, and little trenches dug around my body to carry the water off."

Danenhower.

(IO TRIUMPHE!)

Written for THE EVENING STAR.

In the flush of his manhood and glory
He passed to the thitherward shore,
And warm was the welcome there given,
By the heroes who had gone on before.

With the surge of the Arctic still ringing
In his ears, and bewildering brain,
With the glare of the floe and the iceberg,
Still making of eyesight a pain;

With his heart ever bowed down in grieving
For the sufferings through which he passed—
The sufferings mortal of others,—
Not of self, for that ever was last;

With long days of darkness before him
It might have been, God only knows;
With nerves that could never recover
Hunger's strain, and tempest's fierce blows;

With honor that never was tarnished,
With fame that will ever grow bright,
He passed from the earth into heaven—
To the land that knows nothing of night.

He passed—not the poor, shattered body,
Wrecked and weakened by want and disease,
In the long, bitter, merciless struggle,
Fought to victory in borean seas;

But the spirit unstained and stainless,
Back to God went as pure as at birth,
For He in His love and His kindness
Looks at nothing of body or earth.

No marble is needed above him,
His name for the ages to keep,—
It is carved on the ice rocks eternal,
By the chiseling foam of the deep.

And grander than e'er builded by mortals
The monument ever will rise,
Illumed by the flash of the north-lights,
And kissed by the soft summer skies.

—WILLIAM H. BUSHNELL.

Washington, D. C., May, 1887.

THE WITTMORE CLUB.—At the meeting of "The Wittmore" Wednesday evening, at the residence of Mr. De Ford, 901 O street northwest, short exercises were held in honor of its anniversary, the society having been formed in May, 1884. Officers were elected for the coming half year as follows: Mr. E. A. Byrnes, president; Mr. Wm. C. Eldridge, 1st vice president; Miss S. S. Atkinson, 2d vice president; Miss C. B. Thomas, 3d vice president; Mr. E. L. Harvey, secretary; Mr. J. F. Defandorf, assistant secretary; Miss C. M. Clark, treasurer; Miss S. E. Burrough, historian; Miss Myra T. Hillman, Miss Fannie B. Bailey, Miss Myrtie G. Hughes, Miss Sallie E. Burrough, Miss Mary A. Barnes, Mr. E. H. Eakle, Mr. W. E. Wright, Mr. S. C. Brown, Mr. F. D. Fletcher, Dr. B. F. Gibbs, directors.

QUACKS OF OLD.

Surgeon-General Hamilton Tells About Some Notable Cases.

FAMOUS CHARLATANS WHO HAVE FLOURISHED—DR. GRAHAM'S "TEMPLE OF HEALTH"—THEOSOPHY AND MIND-CURING—DIFFERENT FORMS OF QUACKERY.

The charlatan lives for himself, said Dr. John B. Hamilton, Surgeon-General of the Marine Hospital service, in his address to the graduates of the medical department of the University of Georgetown, at their commencement last Monday night. He affects to despise the labors of the past, although he daily makes use of their fruits. He arrogates to himself knowledge superior to every one of his time, and especial superiority over his associates; but he takes care never to add anything to the general stock of medical information, by divulging any of the great secrets of which he alone is the possessor. These characteristics have belonged to the charlatan in all ages, so far as contemporary history has limned his portrait. There is one difference between the ancient and modern charlatan, and that is, that owing to the existing state of science and the many morbid processes unknown generally, the ancient quack was frequently able to stumble on some physiological fact or especial line of treatment.

AN EARLY QUACK.

Asclepiades, who flourished in the first century of the Christian era, may be taken as a primal type of the charlatan. He treated the writings of the past with contempt; Hippocrates' system of medicine he nicknamed a "Study of Death." He rejected publicly the various classes of medicines that had come down to him from the past ages, but he handed down his name to posterity by applying the atomic theory then prevailing in physics to medicine, and he founded a medical school. Astrology, theosophy, and uranoscopy were later variations, and it is not a little curious that we still see advertisements announcing that such-and-such a person casts nativities and treats cases by the aid of the stars.

Uranoscopy seems to have been a survival of the ancient Pagan custom of divination from inspections of the tissues of freshly-killed animals, for as that custom finally was overthrown by the increase of knowledge it was deemed necessary to come somewhere near the human body in ascertaining its condition. During the reign of Justinian indignities were everywhere heaped upon the followers of rational medicine. The medical school at Athens was destroyed, and throughout the Roman empire legitimate medicine and the study of anatomy was suppressed—so far as official orders could do it.

LAYING ON OF HANDS,

charms, relics and superstitions of all sorts, incantations and the like, were the means resorted to for the cure of disease and the prevention of epidemics. It was then that the Arabian schools sprung up through the influence of the Nestorians and legitimate medicine was transferred to the Arabs. It was the age of intolerance; the slightest differences between Christians gave rise to internecine feuds and bloody wars, and when Rome was overrun by the barbarians nearly every vestige of medical learning based upon anatomy was extinguished in Europe.

The ecclesiastics then took up the study in secret, and nearly a thousand years elapsed before the truths of medical science were again brought forward.

The Arch-quack Paracelsus did the world some service by reviving interest in chemistry and overthrowing alchemy. His general style has seldom been improved upon even by the most modern quacks, with all the aid that the age of letters can give them. His real name was Hohenheim, and he was born in Zurich, but as soon as he had imbibed a smattering of the effect of chemicals on the human body he imagined himself the wisest of mankind and gave himself the name, by which he has since been known, of Paracelsus or Phillipus Aureolus Theophratus Bombastus Paracelsus. He was, the speaker said, a drunken scoundrel, but then, as now, there were hundreds of men who viewed this habit as an undoubted evidence of genius of the highest order. He claimed that reading never made a physician, that "countries are the leaves upon which nature's laws are written and patients are my only books." It should be remembered to the credit of Paracelsus that at this time the general habit of the medicasters of the day was to put a very little medical truth in a vast deal of astrology and so-called climatology, by which each hour was assigned a particular force on each organ of the body, according to the decision of the horoscope. Among the Chinese at this period, and perhaps long previously, this belief was universal. The sign most important to observe was the position of the moon. When that romantic satellite was found in the sign of Cancer, then was the time to give medicines with the greatest effect, and her conjunction with Saturn absolutely forbade the use of medicines by rendering them nugatory, especially purgatives.

THEOSOPHY.

Theosophy, with its mind cures and the mystic rites of the Rosicrucians seems almost to reach the extreme limit of absurdity. This singular sect was instituted by Father Rosenkreutz, in Germany, early in the fourteenth century. The exact date is unknown, and although their existence was known at the time, they seem to have well preserved their secrets. They, however, became almost extinct until the year 1615, when the society was revived, and printing being general, their secrets were no longer kept. The neophytes swore fidelity, promised absolute secrecy and wrote in hieroglyphics. The sect believed that the secret philosophy of the Egyptians, the magi of Persia, gymnosophists and Brahmins of India, and all ancient oriental lore, was embodied in their teaching. They also claimed, in imitation of the Masonic fraternity, that much of their information was handed down by King Solomon to King Hiram at the construction of the temple. It is probable that many golden grains of truth were contained in the doctrines of orientalism, but these were for the most part the sheerest nonsense.

It is one of the duties of the medical profession to set their faces against these superstitions and denounce them.

HOW WAR PROMOTES MEDICAL SCIENCE.

It is somewhat singular, Dr. Hamilton said, that the art of war—the science of destroying mankind—has been preservative of legitimate medicine. Each commander, while anxious to destroy his enemy, is quite as anxious to preserve the vigor of his own force; consequently we find that armies have early made effort to eliminate the charlatans from their medical staff. The pages of history glow with accounts of the exploits of particular charlatans, but singularly enough, although a large proportion of the human family seem to love dearly to be humbugged, they seldom like to mention it after they have experienced the consequences of their folly.

A NOTED QUACK.

One of the most noted quacks of the last century was a certain Dr. Graham, who was a graduate of Edinburgh, and settled in London in 1782. Practice opened very slowly for the doctor, and he established himself in a Pall Mall mansion, which he named the "Temple of Health." He covered the front of the building with emblems of hygeia and an enormous gilt sun. The interior rooms were superbly furnished; the walls were covered with mirrors, candelabra, with gilded and tinsel mountings; birds sang in unexpected corners, rare plants lent their fragrance to the air, and the enchanted palaces of the east were sought to be reproduced. Here this interesting person delivered lectures on health at the rather extravagant price of two guineas each; this price, together with the novelty of his subject and the elegance of his apartments, drew together large audiences of the wealthy and dissipated class. He entertained a female of beautiful figure, whom he called the goddess of health; and it was her business to deliver a concluding discourse.

As a further means of attraction Dr. Graham hired two giants, provided with enormous cocked hats, and with showy and bulky liveries, whose business it was to distribute bills from house to house. But his two-guinea auditors became exhausted and he dropped the price of his lectures to one guinea—one-half guinea—five shillings—and finally to half a crown, and when this failed he exhibited the temple itself.

This talented individual also discovered an elixir of life, whereby a person taking it might live as long as he pleased, and he demanded one thousand pounds for a supply of it, and more than one nobleman paid the price. These barefaced swindles after a time became known and he had to resort to earth or mud bathing. Both he and the goddess allowed themselves to be exhibited while immersed in earth to the chin.

AN AMERICAN ENTERPRISE.

In the meantime, the speaker continued, there had sprung up in America a new quackism, known as Thompsonianism. This was the invention of an impecunious, uneducated, but probably honest, citizen of western New York, named Samuel Thompson. He claimed to originate the theory of the elements of man; that he was composed of four elements—earth, air, fire, and water—and that disease was animal heat confined! He published a work on medicine, and his followers were found everywhere. His book abounds in curiosities; for instance, his opening remark on the subject of carbuncles is unique. "The carbuncle is a large bile!" and of feruncles he said: "The bile is a distressing visitor!" Thompson secured a patent on his system, and his followers paid for the right to use in their own families. We have had other sets of indigenous pretenders, some of whom still live.

Permanent Exposition.

A STRONG INDORSEMENT FROM NEW YORK.

The New York *Independent*, which has been particularly friendly to the Exposition project at Washington, and has devoted much space to descriptions of its plans, purposes and progress, says this week:

Wm. Euclid Young, in a letter to the *Tribune*, of this city, proposes that a World's Fair be held in 1892, in commemoration of the four hundredth anniversary of the discovery of America. Mr. Young is about four years late with his proposal. The *Independent* began to agitate this question in 1883, publishing interviews with King Alfonso, the Duke of Veragua (the direct descendant of Columbus), Senor Castelar and others, and articles by the leading historians, scholars and legislators of this country. On the 24th of February we published an article giving an account of the steps taken by Congress toward holding a World's Fair in Washington in 1892. The project will, undoubtedly, be carried through. The "*Sociedad Columbina*," to which Dr. Curry refers in his article on another page, is stimulating Spain to enter upon similar plans of celebration. The anniversary of this momentous event in the world's history will not be neglected.

The article alluded to is by Hon. J. L. M. Curry, U. S. minister to Spain, describing what he calls a "patriotic pilgrimage to Palos," from which port Columbus sailed on his remarkable voyage of discovery. After giving an elaborate and interesting description of the place Dr. Curry concludes as follows: "On 21st March, 1880, the '*Sociedad Columbina*' was organized. The society is collecting funds for the erection of a monument at Palos or the convent, or between the two places. What a pity! Like our Yorktown monument it will stand where few will ever see it. The fact of discovery rather than the accidental point of departure of the voyage deserves to be commemorated."

The ship Ocean King, which was the largest American ship afloat, has been burned at sea, off the Pacific coast.

Over a score of persons are seriously ill in New York city from drinking impure milk.

STORIES TOLD BY FIGURES.

How the Work of the Bureau of Statistics is Performed.

HISTORY AND ROMANCE CONDENSED IN STATISTICAL TABLES—THE STORY OF AMERICAN PROGRESS—WHAT ONE READS BETWEEN THE LINES—HOW AND WHY THE FIGURES ARE COLLECTED.

There is one branch of the Department service at Washington never visited by the curious tourists on their search for wonders. The brides and grooms, the Masonic conventions, the sweet girl graduates, and the sober scientists never visit it. Its very location is not known to many people. It is the bureau of figures—or the "Bureau of Statistics," as the sign over the door says. There is something about figures that does not seem promising to the seekers after the curious and interesting. The bureau is almost as quiet as death. It might be a sort of sleepy hollow, were it not that everybody is actively at work. All sight-seers shun it; yet it is altogether an interesting place if you look at it right. There is more information to be had in a smaller space there than anywhere else in the United States. Everything is told in figures. Science, political economy and diplomacy are treated of in figures. History and stories of adventure are recorded in figures. For any one who will study the language of these little crooked characters, there are many strange and wonderfully interesting things to be found. The eloquent speeches of orators are contained there in the condensed form of figures. Great statesmen translate them into eloquent phrases that thrill the auditors and fill the world with their fame. Most of the great speeches that are made in Congress are translated from these figures. It is the mastery of them that makes great men. Most of the great speeches of the campaigns are got here.

HISTORY TOLD BY FIGURES.

The history told in this language of figures is more wonderful and more correct than that told in any other form of expression. There is progress, pride and pathos portrayed in these concise and emphatic phrases. They tell of romance and adventure, and treat of characters and conditions of men. The adventures of the frontiersmen are told in the number of feet, pounds or bushels of commerce they drew out of the wilderness. The fluctuations show their failures and their successes. This long line of figures here means prosperity, wealth and happiness; smiling fortune, love and marriage, settlement and advancement. Those short-cut figures there are a short story soon told. It is of disaster. Terrific storms, perhaps, with all the fearful adventures of death and narrow escapes attending them. Some heroic, self-sacrificing deeds may be; perchance some fearful crime committed in the struggle to be the uppermost. Tales of ruined fortune, blasted hopes and long, hopeless separations.

Here are figures that tell of hundreds of boats plying backward and forward upon the broad rivers. You can detect the sound of the paddle-wheels splashing the waters into foam; you can hear the whistles along the water in the still night; you can see the bright fires of the passing steamers and hear the songs across the tide. They tell you, too, of great business ventures that had in them those elements of risk and excitement that center your interest about the hero of a novel. You may hear the songs of the slaves as they handle the cotton bales.

Read on and you will find many changes. Gradually the lights of the engines and the splash of the paddle boxes fade and die away. There are rotten hulks lying in the water. It is a story of prosperity, progress and decay, with a compensation in change to other scenes of prosperity and progress.

TALES OF MODERN LIFE.

And here are some more figures—stories of a more recent date—if you had time to read them. They are tales of life in the great metropolis. They are tremendous in their plot. There is the "Romance of Wall Street," "The Ruined Banker," "The Great Conspiracy; or, The Corner in Grain." All very exciting stories. Then there are many sober works on finance, commerce and history, if you prefer something common-place—even dry and ordinary subjects may be treated of in figures! The field of research is very broad and fertile.

In collecting all these figures the Government is influenced by motives entirely practical. It is a mere matter of business, the purpose being to keep informed as to the extent and value of our commerce, both foreign and domestic. The work of the Bureau of Statistics is conducted on purely business principles, and the employes are very guarded and careful not to permit the figures they have to deal with to lead them into romances and the realms of the poetical and visionary. At night sometimes clerks who have been for many days reading and writing figures to show the importance of American hogs have dreams of droves of hogs running, squealing over their beds, followed by Prussian soldiers prodding their fat sides with sharp bayonets; but these visions are never permitted to occupy their minds during working hours. They have been trained not to get too excited over figures. They can handle the most thrilling array of ciphers, ones and twos, and sixes and nines, with perfect complacency.

HOW THE WORK IS DONE.

The manner of doing the work is quite perfect and the commercial value of the information collected is very great. The chief, Col. Switzler (appointed under this administration), and the chief clerk, Mr. Whitney, a man of longer experience in the service, form, with their force of clerks and computers, the great central Bureau of Statistics, figures, or information, whichever you are of a mind to call it. All the customs officers in the United States have to report to this office all the business done at their ports. In this way they get the figures as to our foreign commerce. Then they have agents at work throughout the States, collecting information as to internal commerce. They cannot cover the entire field of internal commerce at one time, so they take up distinct branches of it that happen to be of interest and collect figures on these. Mr. Switzler's predecessor accumulated many figures about railroads, for instance. Mr. Switzler's first important work was to collect statistics as to the new South, and now he is at work on wool and the commerce of the Mississippi River. The bureau is guided largely in the selection of a subject of inquiry by the public.

DEMAND FOR INFORMATION.

Hundreds of letters are received daily asking for figures on different subjects. Some are old subjects and some are new. And then Congress is constantly seeking information. When there is a great demand for information on some new subject, inquiries are put on foot at once to collect it. Circulars are sent out to all persons likely to possess the information, and the agents are put to work. When the figures come in they are an immense mass that must be gone over and digested. After due process they come out edited and compiled in the form of a report, to which the public has free access. The figures thus collected are of great value, aside from any entertaining qualities they may possess to the lovers of light romance.

A Tribute.

TO MRS. ....

Written for THE EVENING STAR.

When troubled ran the stream of life,
And tangled in its weeds
Lay Hope, begirt by care and strife,
Dimmed were all Godly creeds.

Then Heaven a kindly spirit sent
To bid the soul rejoice,
And Care goes forth to banishment
To the music of her voice.

Grim sullen Strife let go his hold,
With many a lingering glance,
Heeding this voice, so sweet yet bold,
Commanding Hope—advance!

Sprung from a brave undaunted race,
To whom high thoughts belong,
Her every motion has the grace
Of rythm unto song.

Dear Honor waits on all her ways,
And all her ways are right
To tale of wrong her soul's ablaze!
And with her Right is Might.

Such higher nature few can know,
Because—they know her not,
The white soul pure as new-born snow,
With neither spot nor blot.

In Learning's stately halls she dwells,
Amid the great of old,
Enchantress in Love's hidden spells,
And mysteries manifold.

Oft-times she quite bewilders me,
So great her knowledge grows—
I ask, if she can mortal be,
From whence this wisdom flows?

She stands in her grand womanhood,
A queen, by right divine!
By lesser soul least understood
This spirit-friend of mine. —T. H. S.

April, 1887. Rear Admiral U. S. N.

Transfers of Real Estate.

Deeds in fee have been filed as follows: Margaret Edes to W. W. Curtis et al., part 5, Beall's addition to West Washington; $500. A. M. McLachlan to Mrs. M. Coney, lot 89, Lanier Heights; $2,500. C. W. Hoffman to Amorett J. Clark, sub lot D, sq. 692; $3,625. Mary R. Hughes to P. D. Lipscomb, part 15, sq. 275; $3,500. L. R. Tuttle to G. R. Goode, lot 68, Widow's Mite; $5,500. Sarah E. Flynn to D. Downing, part 5, sq. 585; $1,000. D. W. Brown et al. to T. M. Crocker, lots 3 and 4, sq. 1035; $5,952. W. A. Babcock to C. Vance, east half 17, sq. 990; $2,800. F. A. Richardson to Antoinette F. Manney, part 11, sq. 194; $15,000. J. F. Ennis, trustee, et al. to J. W. Richardson, sub 37, sq. 105; $5,947.50. W. Mayse to J. F. Bundy, parts 1, 33 to 35, sq. 511; $2,100.

Amnesty to Irish Prisoners Improbable.

Through efforts of Mr. Gladstone most of the Fenion prisoners of the "rising" of 1866 were pardoned by Queen Victoria. A movement is now on foot in favor of her Majesty signalizing her jubilee by granting an amnesty to the political prisoners confined in Ireland. There is little hope, however, that any of them will be pardoned. The matter came up in the House of Commons last evening. Mr. Norris, progressive conservative, asked the government whether, in the event of the passage of the coercion bill, they would consider the question of recommending to the Queen, as one of the features of her Jubilee celebration, the granting of general amnesty to all prisoners in Ireland under detention for agrarian crimes but not guilty of personal violence. Mr. W. H. Smith, answering for the government, said they were not in a position to make any such engagements.

Lean Diaz, the Apache Indian chief charged with the murder of Lieut. Mott, U. S. A., on the San Carlos reservation, has been convicted of murder in the first degree.

REAL ESTATE TALK.

Suburban Property Still the Feature of the Real Estate Market.

THE PROSPECTS OF THE BUILDING SEASON AS VIEWED FROM THE ARCHITECT'S STANDPOINT.—SOME NEW HOUSES NOW BEING ERECTED.

Suburban property seems to be still the feature of the real-estate market, although unimproved land within the city is in good demand, and the prices realized show no depreciation. There have been, however, no large transactions in suburban property during the week. The only block of land sold was a tract of 87 acres lying off the Tenleytown Road, in the vicinity of Secretary Whitney's country residence. Mr. A. T. Goldsborough, who has represented a syndicate of Richmond gentlemen in several large land investments recently made in this locality, was the purchaser. He paid $18,430 to Mr. Chas. Counselman for this property. The land around the new hotel and the Country Club House has been subdivided and laid off into lots, as stated recently in THE STAR. Woodley Lane is to be extended through this property, and where the latter joins the Tenleytown Road, opposite the President's house, Mr. A. G. Heaton has purchased two lots, each 50x200 feet. The price paid was $4,500, or 22½ cents per square foot. This is the first transfer that has been noticed of lots in this new subdivision, and it is stated that most of this land which has been subdivided will be placed on the market. It is to be known as "Fairview Heights."

The present subdivision of Kalorama and Belair Heights is to be extended if the owners of the ground consent, so as to join the subdivision of Washington Heights. The streets as at present laid out will have to be curved somewhat, so as to join the streets to be laid out in the subdivisions named. If the necessary consent is obtained the subdivision of land will then be continuous from Columbia Road and Woodley Lane to Rock Creek as it gradually winds toward the city. This property, like all the other suburban subdivisions placed on the market recently, has been quickly bought up at good prices and the real-estate men say that there is a demand for more.

SKETCH PLANS, BUT NO HOUSES.

Some of the architects are of the opinion that the season is going to prove to be a rather dull one in the building line. They say that they have been busy all the spring in making sketch plans for houses, which have not yet emerged into the more tangible form of brick and stone. There is no commission in making sketch plans, and this accounts in fact for the dissatisfaction, which the uncertainty in the intentions of those who are thinking about building causes in the architectural mind. There are a great many people, it is said, who are thinking about building, and in the meantime are looking over some sketches, but they go no further. The architects think that there are more of this class than ever before, and some of them are inclined to blame the activity in real estate for this state of things. They maintain that people invest all their money in land, and in consequence have none for building. There is, however, a good deal of building in progress throughout the city, and the builders, as a rule, have all that they can attend to. A great deal of the work now in progress was left over from last year. While there are a large number of new buildings going up, yet the opinion seems to be general that the season is not going to be quite what was expected.

BUILDERS AND CONTRACTS.

It is found that the bidding on new buildings is, as a rule this season, very close between the competing builders. Recently, when the bids were opened for a house which was to cost about $25,000, there was a difference of only $9 between the lowest bid and the next highest. The contract was awarded to the lowest bidder and the $9 was saved. When bids are invited upon the plans and specifications for the erection of a house there is no obligation to accept the lowest bid, or, indeed, any of the bids. Any one of the bids may be accepted at the discretion of the owner. It often happens that when there is a difference of only $2 between two bids that the lowest bid is accepted, and then again a bid two or three hundred dollars higher than all the others is accepted in preference to all the rest. When all the bids are rejected then new bidders are invited to make estimates, and sometimes the plans and specifications are modified so as to reduce the cost. It is very often the case that the contract for building is awarded without competition. The owner asks the builder to make an estimate of the amount that he will build the house for, and then he tells him to go on with the work. People who have had experience in building say that there are builders and builders, and that there is as much difference in them as there is in tailors.

SOME NEW RESIDENCES.

Messrs. Poindexter & Co. have prepared plans for two residences to be erected for Mr. Bugher. One is to be located on the north side of K street, between 16th and 17th streets, and adjoining the residence of Dr. W. W. Johnston. It will cost about $20,000. The other residence will be on the south side of I street, between 17th and 18th, in the vicinity of the handsome new residence which Mr. Calderon Carlisle is building, and which was described a few weeks ago in THE STAR.

Mr. Thos. M. Woodruff is building three houses at the southwest corner of 21st and R streets. The corner house will have a frontage of 26 feet on 21st street, and there will be a tower at the corner and a bay window on the R-street side. The two houses adjoining will have a frontage of 22 feet on 21st street, and the front of one will be varied by a square bay window, and that of the other by a rounded bay window. The houses will be three stories high, and will have conveniently-arranged interiors. Messrs. Langley & Gettinger are the builders, and they are using plans furnished by the brother of the owner, who is an architect in New York city.

SALES ON BELAIR HEIGHTS.

Messrs. Fitch, Fox & Brown, the agents for the Belair Heights property, report that, during the thirty days it has been on the market, the sales have aggregated $355,000. The grading of the streets and lots is being pushed forward rapidly, and a force of 200 men is at work.

THE F-STREET BRANCH POST-OFFICE.

Mr. Thos. A. Brown is erecting, on the vacant ground next to the Glover Building on F street, between 14th and 15th streets, a small office building, which will probably be used by the branch post-office. The present quarters will adjoin the new building. For some time past more room has been needed for the work of the branch office, and Congress, at the last session, made an appropriation for the purpose of securing a more commodious building. The Department has not as yet decided how this money will be expended.

A VERMONT AVENUE HOUSE.

Mr. Asa Whitehead will soon begin the erection of a brown stone front residence on the west side of Vermont avenue, near L street, adjoining Mr. W. W. Burdette's residence, which is nearing completion. Both of these houses are designs of T. F. Schneider, architect, who has, in designing Mr. Whitehead's house, kept the same general heights of the other front, but the style is of an entirely different character. The entrance is very wide, and its heavy arch is supported on thick, short stone columns, with elaborately carved capitals. The keystone of the arch is handsomely carved in romanesque designs. Above the entrance is a double window with stone mullion. The stone work on the sides of the windows and about the entrance is dressed, while the rest of the front is rockfaced. A circular tower extends to the slate roof, terminating with a cone roof, beneath the projecting eaves of which is a tier of small windows, with little stone columns between each. At the second floor a carved frieze extends around the tower. The cornice is bold and is supported on stone dentals. The crestings are of copper. The broad stone approach leads into an entrance hall nine feet wide, and in the farther corner there is a handsome mantel and fireplace. The staircase is in a large hall back of, and separated from, the entrance hall by an arched screen, and is made of oak. The halls have high oak panneling. The interior will be finished in oak and cherry. A feature of the dining-room is a small circular tower, on one corner of which is a slide to the pantry.

MR. W. W. BURDETTE'S HOUSE.

The interior of Mr. Burdette's house is of the same general plan as the above. The feature of the front is its stone portico and entrance. A graceful bay extends to the third floor, ending with a stone balustrade. A handsome gable extends above the red slate roof, and is guarded on each side by a terra cotta griffin four feet high. Over the entrance at the second story there is a pretty basket balcony, and above the bay at the third floor is a large triple-arched window. The front is of rock-faced and dressed brownstone and pressed brick. William P. Lipscomb is the builder.

MRS. CHEATHAM'S DIAMONDS.

Detective Mahon's Story of How the Loss Was Discovered.

Detective Mahon, from this city, who is in Chicago to receive Charles Major, alias "Diamond Harry," who is wanted here for stealing the diamonds of Mrs. General Cheatham, told quite an interesting story to Chicago reporters of how the loss of the diamonds was discovered. "Four weeks ago," said he, "Mrs. Cheatham, who lived at No. 5 Iowa Circle, Washington, went to New York and left her diamonds—$15,000 worth in all—in the keeping of a lady friend, also a widow, and a member of a wealthy Southern family well known in society circles at the Capital. A few days after her departure Mrs. Cheatham was taken suddenly ill at the Fifth Avenue Hotel in New York, and telegraphed for the sister of her friend to come to her. A few evenings after that this lady friend and another were reading a work of fiction which told how a certain queen had kept her diamonds laid away, but one day she went to look for them and they were gone. On the instant the reader sprang up and said: 'What if Mrs. Cheatham's diamonds should be missing? I'll go and see at once.' She went to the place where they had been kept, and sure enough the little bag was missing. Then she discovered that a roll of bank notes of her own was also gone. She reported to us, but we were not at all surprised at the theft when we learned that this colored man, Chas. Major, had been employed at the mansion all winter. The darky disappeared, but we learned where he had offered a ring for four dollars to a jeweler. I have a receipt in my pocket from Tiffany, in New York, showing that the ring cost $500. As he was caught here in Chicago before, after stealing $500 from George W. Adams, of the WASHINGTON STAR, we thought he might return, and he seems to have been fool enough to do it."

The officer had a talk with his prisoner, and, after a great deal of persuasion, obtained information that will lead to the recovery of every jewel taken."

Extensive forest fires are reported from Wisconsin and Michigan.

Dr. Swift, director of the Warner Observatory, at Rochester, has been notified by Prof. Barnard, of the Vanderbilt University Observatory, Nashville, Tenn., announcing the discovery of a new comet. It is moving slowly northeast and is very faint.

THE BALL PLAYERS.

Washington Again Defeated by Kelly's Boston Nine.

HOW THE WASHINGTONS ARE PLAYING—PRESIDENT YOUNG'S OPINION—THE LEAGUE RECORD UP TO DATE—SOMETHING ABOUT THE HOME NINE.

The Nationals were defeated again in Boston yesterday by a score of 8 to 5. Their defeat was due to their costly errors, for they outbatted the Boston team. They were unable, however, to bunch their hits.

The Philadelphias took satisfaction out of their New York rivals yesterday by beating them 6 to 1, and the two clubs are now tied for third place in the league race. Detroit strengthened its grip on first place by beating Chicago to the tune of 17 to 7, and Indianapolis improved its position by beating Pittsburg 3 to 2.

In the American Association the Athletics again went down before the Louisvilles, 4 to 1. The St. Louis champions widened the gap between themselves and the Baltimores, by beating Barnie's boys 11 to 4. The Cincinnatis had no trouble defeating the Mets 12 to 4.

Following is the standing of the clubs to date:

LEAGUE.	Won.	Lost.	ASSOCIATION.	Won.	Lost.
Detroit	12	2	St. Louis	15	3
Boston	8	4	Baltimore	11	7
New York	7	6	Brooklyn	10	5
Philadelphia	7	6	Cincinnati	12	8
Pittsburg	5	6	Louisville	11	8
Chicago	5	6	Athletic	7	10
Washington	3	9	Cleveland	3	16
Indianapolis	3	11	Metropolitan	2	14

THE NATIONALS RECORD.

Although the Nationals have not made as good a record as was hoped for, there is no reason for feeling at all discouraged. No one for a moment thought them pennant winners, but before the opening of the season it was predicted that no club could capture a game from them without playing their strongest. With but few exceptions every game played thus far has been stubbornly contested by the Nationals, and in many of those lost the home team just missed scoring a victory by chance. Spectators like to see closely contested ball games, and surely those that have taken place at Capitol Park this year have generally been so well played as to merit large attendance, even though victory did not perch with us as often as was hoped. The Nationals have won three games and lost nine, of which four were lost by only one run. The home team did what was not expected on the trip this week in snatching two games from the New Yorks, who were placed by many as champions. The third game had to belong to New York under any circumstances, for the people would not have stood three successive defeats of the gilt-edged Giants at the hands of the supposed tail-enders. The score with New York is even on the books, but Washington has really the best of it, in that her victories were genuine ones, while the three credited to New York were won by only one run each, and in two of them the Giants were clearly outplayed. "We broke New York's back last year," said a base ball enthusiast the other day, "and we have killed her this year." It has not been so bad as that, but when the New York papers acknowledged that the Statesmen showed the Giants how to play ball, the public may rest assured that the boys are game.

THE BOSTON NINE.

In Boston, however, the Nationals struck a snag. They received a severe handling by Kelly's combination on Thursday, and on Friday another defeat was administered. The boys have another chance to-day, but it is somewhat against them. Boston cannot win from us every time, but it is a hard team to beat. Many who have closely watched the games predict that it will push Detroit hard for the first place before the season is over. It does not seem to be the same organization that played last year, but somehow or other it plays with an energy and dash that is refreshing. This is probably owing to Kelly's influence. He seems able to inspire them to a rally at a critical point in the game, and then fine team-work is accomplished. It is predicted that Detroit will meet with many a defeat when she crosses bats with the Eastern clubs. Boston is able to compete with her on equal terms. Philadelphia is playing a remarkable game, considering her crippled condition, and New York is expected to make a strong rally from the roasting it has received lately. The Statesmen are not to be despised when the would-be champions meet them.

The Nationals will return home and meet the Chicagos at Capitol Park on Monday, and a very interesting series may be expected.

PRESIDENT YOUNG'S OPINION.

"What do you think of the Nationals?" asked a STAR reporter of President Nick Young yesterday.

"I think they are playing cracking good ball," was the reply. "I can't see that any club is playing better, except Detroit. They have played but one poor game since the season commenced. They have had bad luck, and deserve at least two games that were lost. They are not quite as steady as they ought to be, but I look for a decided improvement in this respect before many weeks have passed. The boys are deserving of support, for they are playing good ball, and make nearly every game exceedingly interesting." Individually the Nationals have showed up remarkably well, but they are undoubtedly somewhat ragged in their team work, and are often unable to pull together at the supreme moment. They are improving steadily, however, and if they do not become disheartened, they will frequently place victories to their credit.

THE PLAYERS.

The season has advanced far enough to enable a very fair estimate to be made of their individual merits. Take the batteries first. Shaw and Whitney are both holding their own with the crack twirlers of the country. Whitney is a terrific batter, and Shaw has surprised everybody by the way in which he is pounding out base hits. Gilligan is the same plucky little catcher that did such good work last year. He has few superiors as a back-stop. Mack did not receive for Whitney very well at the start. His work was not clean, but the best of it was that he knew it and worked hard to get into trim and succeeded. O'Day has surprised everybody by his erratic delivery. He used to pitch the ball with exceptional accuracy, but now he sends man after man to his base on balls. There is no question of the effectiveness of his delivery, but he must get command of the ball if he expects to win games. To do this he must retain command of himself and not lose his head when he thinks the umpire is not treating him impartially.

Dealy has not shown up quite as well as was expected. He is still off in his throwing. Krieg is covering first base in fine style, and, better still, he continues to inspire his comrades by the energy and determination he displays in his work. Capt. Jack Farrell plays second base in fine style, second to none, and justifies all the predictions made regarding him before the season opened. He is batting and running well also.

Donnelly bids fair to become one of the leading third basemen in the country. He is young and willing and is steadily improving. He runs up on infield balls well, and handles thrown balls in good shape. He does better than was expected at the bat and runs bases with perhaps better judgment than any man on the team.

Myers, it must be confessed, is, to a certain extent, a disappointment at short-stop, for great things were expected of him. His fielding is not first-class. He can pick up a ball with a skill and grace that cannot be excelled, but he is not as sure as he ought to be. He is sluggish still, but will probably improve as he gets into better condition. Carroll is caring for left field in better style than ever. His right-handed batting is evidently an advantage, and his running is fine. Hines is limbering up some, and is fiuding the ball frequently. His handling of ground balls is better than at the opening of the season. No player in the country has shown more marked improvement in every way than Shock, and he puts such life and vim into his playing that it is a pleasure to watch him. He now judges balls well and throws home with accuracy. His batting, base running and sliding are all excellent.

Sam Crane will probably be retained as general substitute, and O'Brien will be released. He will be an admirable man for one of the weaker association teams.

MANAGER GAFFNEY

thinks that the game with New York on Wednesday belonged to the Nationals. He has sent word to Secretary Hewett that Shock's fine of $40 should not be paid, as it was illegally imposed. That may or may not be, but if it succeeds in breaking up the habit of keeping up a perpetual fire of useless talk when a man is running bases the better class of spectators, who like to see base ball played on its merits, will be pleased. Proper coaching of runners is a strong point in the game, but ceaseless parrot talk drowns out the umpire and is of no earthly advantage to the runners, who cannot afford to pay attention to it. It is, of course, intended to rattle the other side, particularly the battery, but that isn't base ball. Shock and Krieg are both excellent coachers and have done splendid work. If they will confine their efforts to necessary words of admonition and advice, they will doubtless prove of more assistance than by attempting to confuse the pitcher.

THE SPECTATORS.

Those who attend ball games in Washington used to be considered the most generous and just of any such gatherings in the country, but the continued bad luck of the home team has rendered them irritable and unreasonable, and they are apt to raise a rumpus unnecessarily. It is not intended to excuse Umpire Wilson's bad judgment when he was here, but the spectators should remember in the future that by hooting and jeering the umpire they are injuring themselves, for such treatment has a tendency to rattle the umpire if not anger him, and repeated errors of judgment follow.

Umpire Powers is down to officiate at Monday's game. Notwithstanding the fines imposed on the Washingtons Wednesday, he is regarded as a good one. Manager Gaffney said before the last New York game that he was the best he ever saw. It is hoped that the Washington spectators will not think that the umpire is trying to beat the home team as soon as they disagree with a decision, and then so forget themselves as to become disorderly.

Base Ball Notes.

Pittsburg has demonstrated that she is no match for Detroit.

It is said that Larry Corcoran's release from Nashville cost Indianapolis $500.

The *Sun* says that the New Yorks may engage O'Brien, of the Washington Club.

Little Paul Radford is doing exceptionally fine work for the Mets at second base.

Esterbrook still insists that he can play short field as well as anybody when in good trim.

Burdock and Wise are accused of making a regular practice of interfering with base runners.

King, St. Louis' new pitcher, formerly laid bricks for $3 per day, but is now receiving $300 per month.

Tommy Bond, the once famous pitcher, is now in the grocery business with his father in Boston.

The Washington team presents a business batting aspect now, having its three outfielders to lead off.

The New York *Sun* says that when Kreig, the Washington's first baseman, runs bases he always gallops.

Capt. Anson says that the Chicago official scorer beat him out of first place in the batting averages last year.

Washington's club is said to have offered Louisville $2,800 for the release of White.—*New York World*. A mistake.

Defeat came early to Detroit this year. Last season they had a long string of victories ere they dropped their first game.

The Indianapolis people are getting discouraged about Healy's and Kirby's pitching and are on the lookout for other material.

Nobody thought Washington amounted to anything, but it's certain she's playing much better ball than New York.—*Herald*.

Bassett is playing a remarkably steady game at second base for the Indianapolis team, but Farrell is good enough for Washington.

Washington is showing up in excellent style. She will not bring up the tail end of the league by several knots.—*St. Louis Republican*.

Phenomenal Smith, now with Baltimore, is said to be a sufferer from neuralgia, which accounts for the poor showing he has made thus far.

Cook, Hecker's catcher on the Louisville team, hasn't had a passed ball this season. Washington would have kept Cook if it had been possible.

Deasley makes the best third-baseman the New Yorks have yet tried in that position, but he can be only occasionally spared from behind the bat.

New York couldn't hit Shaw on Monday because of his necromancy; she couldn't hit Whitney yesterday because of his chain lightning.—*N. Y. Herald*, 11th.

"Jack Farrell is playing the greatest second base I ever saw. If he can keep it up you will have the star second of the country."—*Manager Mutrie, of New York*.

There is a rumor that an effort is being made to secure Doescher, the league umpire, as manager for the Indianapolis Club, but it is denied by those interested.

The Detroits commenced the season of 1886 $22,000 in debt, and are now just $15,000 ahead. It pays to give big money for big men, and Boston begins to realize it.

Pittsburg has now tried three pitchers against Detroit, and all three of them have been knocked out by the big Wolverines—Galvin, the old leaguer, suffering least of all.

Many people believe that three strikes, five balls and the old square pitch (not throw) would make the game about right for spectators—who are the ones to please.

Washington cannot show quite as prettily uniformed a set of ball players, but nine of them walked right away from the local team, because they played ball.—*New York Times*.

Paul Hines insisted on coming home after being declared out at third in the last inning in Wednesday's game, and for that and not showing proper respect for the umpire was fined $25.

When Kelly steps into the batsman's box June 24, at Chicago, he will be presented with a beautiful gold watch and chain, on which these words will be prominent: "Our loss Boston's gain."

An attempt will doubtless be made next winter to limit the number of men a club can hold under contract. The practice of signing men simply to hold as a speculation has grown into an abuse.

If the New Yorkers cannot defeat the Washingtons, what earthly show have they with Detroit, Pittsburg, Philadelphia and Boston? That is what the *Mail and Express* wishes to know.

It speaks volumes for the faith that Messrs. Reach and Rogers, of Philadelphia, have in the permanence of the national game that they should invest a sum not far short of $100,000 in their new ground.

McCormick has been taking his practice work too strong, and his arm gives him an occasional twinge. He says he will go a bit more moderate from this out, and not try to get into condition in a single day.

Washington was on her mettle and disputed every inch of ground manfully. Had she done a little free hitting in the early innings of the game there is hardly a doubt that she would have won. *Herald*, 12th.

Glasscock told the Detroits: "You people up here are mistaken about your team. You are not playing fast enough ball to win the pennant. Wait till you strike the Eastern clubs, and you'll see."—*Indianapolis Journal*.

Farrell ran from behind second to the right field foul flag, where he caught the ball within a foot of the ground. Round after round of applause testified to the spectators' appreciation of the catch. This was in the last New York game.

Brooklyn players are under instructions to wait until two strikes have been called on them before striking at the ball. Washington players are lacking in patience occasionally, and a little instruction of this character might help some.

Chicago is also after Vian, the St. Paul pitcher, who puzzled Detroit. New York, it is said, has offered $3,200, Detroit $2,500 and Knowlton thrown in; Cincinnati has, it is said, also made a bid, as well as Harry Wright. Von der Ahe offers $100 more than any other club.

The poor manner in which the New York club played at Philadelphia has cast consternation among its supporters in this city. The local enthusiasts wearied of such playing last year. If the club cannot play better than that it ought to get into some minor league at once.—*New York Tribune*.

The first thing Kelly wants to know every day after his own game is finished is how the Chicagos came out. He has been chuckling over them, and the other evening, after they were beaten badly, he said he was tempted to send Captain Anson a telegram, begging him to "win a game for old time's sake."

Probably no clubs show greater improvement than the Boston, Pittsburgs, Indianapolis and Washingtons. The Bostons will be among the leaders this season, while Washington will keep everybody guessing. Boston has a better nine now than it has had for some years. Its fielding is something wonderful, while its batting and base running are up to the standard. The worst fault the club has is the easy way in which it goes to pieces. When one man loses his head all become more or less rattled. Kelly is gradually improving the team in this respect.

Joe Gerhardt says: "I was laid off because I could not bat. The club (New Yorks), when they first engaged me, knew this, but they said that they did not care if I did not hit a ball once in a year. I have no hard feelings toward any of the men, but I tell you that the loss of the championship by this club for two years was caused by two men alone. No man on that team can play ball above a certain standard without getting himself in trouble, and it is this that will sooner or later break up the team. I would not play with the nine again if I never played at all."

According to the *World* this is how Shoch came to be fined $40 in Wednesday's game. Shoch stood near first base and entreated Farrell to run home in this style:

"Come on, Jack; come on! Don't mind the pitcher. I'll watch him. Take a little more ground, Jack. Now come on, Jack. Whoa! Get back there, Jack. Come on, Jack."

The umpire stood it for a time, and then said to Shoch: "Go sit down." Shoch paid no attention to Powers, but renewed his cries, "Come on, Jack. Take a little more ground." Powers said, "Ten dollars, Mr. Shoch." The Washington man heeded not and again the order went up, "Ten dollars, Mr. Shoch. Again did Shoch cry, "Come on, Jack," and again did Powers say, "Ten dollars, Mr. Shoch," but at the fourth dose Shoch weakened and sat down on the players' bench, palpably squelched with the knowledge that it had cost $40 to say "Come on, Jack."

Mrs. Grant Near Death.

SHE WAS DANGEROUSLY ILL WITH DIPHTHERIA, BUT IS IMPROVING.

The New York *Mail and Express* of yesterday announced that Mrs. U. S. Grant has been near death's door for some days. Her ailment was of such a malignant character as to necessitate the immediate removal from her house on Sixty-sixth street of her grandchildren, who were with her at the time. Mrs. Grant was out riding on Thursday week and prolonged her ride longer than usual. When she returned she complained of feeling cold. Nothing serious was thought of the matter until the next day, when her symptoms became so alarming that Dr. Castle, the family physician of Mrs. U. S. Grant, Jr., was called. Mrs. Grant's symptoms became so marked that on Sunday the doctor pronounced her suffering from a severe attack of diphtheria. Mrs. Fred Grant was at home at the time with her children. Colonel Grant immediately sent them to Morristown, N. J. Jesse Grant and his family are visiting his brother "Buck" in Westchester county. Mrs. Dent has been in constant attendance upon her sister, and has not left her since her illness. Colonel Grant has also remained with his mother. Yesterday afternoon Mrs. Grant was pronounced out of danger, and on the fair road to recovery. Her week's illness weakened her very much and greatly reduced her in flesh. Dr. Castle declined to discuss Mrs. Grant's condition, but said that the crisis had been passed, and that the lady was now convalescent. She will not, however, be able to leave her room for some time. Dr. J. P. Newman, Mrs. Grant's former pastor, is in New York staying at the Murray Hill Hotel. Mrs. Sartoris—Nellie Grant—is in London with her husband and family, but is expected to return to this country in August.

The Policy was Valid.

AN INTERESTING DECISION AFFECTING LIFE INSURANCE COMPANIES.

An important life insurance case which has attracted much attention and discussion throughout the country was decided in the United States Court in Chattanooga, Tenn., yesterday by Judge D. M. Key. The case was that of Yonge vs. the Equitable Life Assurance Co. of New York city. Yonge made application for $3,000 of insurance, and the policy was issued, but was not presented at the assured's place of business until two weeks after its date. When the policy was ready for delivery it was learned that the assured was sick, and, although the premium was tendered, it was refused. Five weeks afterward the assured died, and the policy, being still in the hands of the local agent, an injunction was secured, preventing its return. The company contested the claim, because the application for insurance contained a clause providing that the first premium must be paid during the life and good health of the assured. Judge Key gave judgment for the plaintiff for the face of the policy, with interest and costs, and decided that the policy went into force when the application was accepted and the policy issued; that the clause upon which the company predicated its defense was waived by the fact that the agent of the company had given the application indulgence as to the payment of the premium, and that the company was responsible for the delay in the delivery of the policy, which was occasioned by an error on the part of the company's medical examiner.

SELLING THE FRENCH CROWN JEWELS.—At the sale of the French crown jewels on Thursday the tenth lot, a necklace consisting of four rivieres made of 222 diamonds, weighing 363 carats, was, after 35 minutes of very spirited bidding, knocked down to the Paris representative of the Messrs. Tiffany, of New York, for 183,000f. This was beyond all comparison the finest lot of the day's sale. It was not bought for a customer but for the firm. Tiffany's agent said everything went for fifty or a hundred per cent more than the intrinsic market value. The only lot which went for a reasonable price was the necklace. The Orleans princes were heavy buyers. The sale was continued yesterday, realizing 446,500 francs. The total sum so far realized is about $200,000.

John L. Sullivan said in Buffalo yesterday that he would pay no attention to Kilrain's challenge, as he considered it a bluff, but when he got back to New York he would see if Kilrain had any fight in him.

GRADUATING DAY.

Program of Closing Exercises of the Spencerian College and the Nurses' Training School.

The graduating exercises of the training school for nurses, the sixth class graduated, will take place next Monday evening at the Columbia University building. The program includes addresses by the president, Dr. P. J. Murphy, Prof. Theodore N. Gill, and Dr. H. L. E. Johnson. The graduates are Harriet B. Black, Virginia; Sallie M. Cartwright, Washington; Henrietta Davis, Virginia; Maggie Garges, Washington, and Jane Boyd Meigs, Washington.

The officers of the school are as follows: P. J. Murphy, M. D., president; P. G. Pool, M. D., secretary; Misss Susie Britton, treasurer; H. L. E. Johnson, M. D., dean. Trustees for 1887: Mrs. A. T. Bentley, Mrs. Miranda Tullock, Mrs. J. W. Powell, Mrs. H. A. Willard, Mrs. D. W. Prentiss, Dr. J. P. Murphy, Dr. Wm. Lee, Dr. Henry D. Fry, Dr. P. G. Pool, Miss Susie Britton. Lecture faculty: Dr. G. N. Acker, Dr. J. R. Bromwell, Dr. H. M. Cutts, Dr. H. D. Fry, Dr. G. B. Harrison, Dr. H. L. E. Johnson, Dr. A. F. A. King.

The graduating exercises of the Spencerian Business College are announced to take place at Albaugh's Opera House at 3 o'clock next Tuesday afternoon.

The gentleman's salutatory will be delivered by David B. Goldstein; the ladies' salutatory by Emma Noud; the gentleman's valedictory by Wharton E. Lester, and the ladies' valedictory by Margaret A. Kelly. Recitations will be given by Judson A. Lamon and Anita Hudrie, and remarks will be made by J. Ormond Wilson and Miss Clara Barton. Commissioner of Education Dawson will award diplomas to the following graduates:

Ladies—Day Class.—Flora A. Berger, Nellie E. Burse, Anna Jean Carr, Katie C. Fletcher, Margaret A. Kelly, Jeannette Ray.

Gentlemen—Day Class.—Samuel H. Bogley, Warren F. Brenizer, Harry Brock, jr., Wilmer M. Browne, Benj. F. Butterfield, Chas. W. Cornwell, Jas. M. Fowler, jr., J. Frank Hamlink, Will C. Hecox, Chas. E. Hellen, Benja. U. Keyser, jr., Wm. L. F. King, Judson A. Lamon, Edw. E. Lawler, Wharton, E. Lester, Edw. P. Loughran, A. Lewis Lukens, Russell Magruder, Henry E. L. Meyers, Meyer Nordlinger, Daniel J. Normoyle, Wm. E. Predmore, Jas. P. Quinn, Francis X. Quinlan, Jno. B. Schroth, Beverly T. Sener, Harry G. Shaffer, Geo. B. Sheriff, jr., Wm. C. Strauss, Frank A. Swartwout, Robt. R. Taylor, jr., Wm. A. Van Doren, Maner L. Wade, Wm. E. Warren, Geo. H. Webber, Jno. W. K. Young.

Ladies—Night Class.—Estelle P. Adams, Emma Noud, Mary L. Rathbone, Jennie M. Spears.

Gentlemen—Night Class.—Byron S. Adams, Chas. E. Benton, Patrick J. Brennan, John J. Carroll, Wm. A. Dorsey, Richard W. Emmons, Selmosuke Fukuda, David B. Goldstein, James Henry Harvell, Henry Kiefer, Finis D. Morris, Asa W. Piper, Bernadine Smith, John Robert Sutton, jr.

Stenography and Typewriting.—Martina Beall, Mary C. Chapman, Ruby D. Crowell, Elizabeth M. Dilli, Jessie Lamb Entwistle, Anita Hendrie, Maud M. Howlett, Ellen Leary, Clara R. A. Nelson, Robt. E. Logan, Jno. G. Urquhart.

O'Brien's Canadian Campaign.

TORONTO LOYALISTS TRYING HARD TO KEEP HIM OUT OF THAT CITY.

The excitement in Toronto is growing as the time for Mr. O'Brien's visit approaches. The loyalists are very bitter and trouble is feared, though the *Globe* announces, it is said on Lord Lansdowne's authority, that the government wishes Mr. O'Brien to have full liberty of speech. Mayor Howland yesterday sent another dispatch to Mr. O'Brien again urging him not to come to Toronto, but saying that if he did come he would afford him all the protection possible. It is feared that Mr. O'Brien will attend the loyalist meeting at Toronto to-day. If he does, trouble is thought almost inevitable. The meeting will adopt resolutions denouncing O'Brien's attempt to stir up hostile feelings against the governor-general, expressing unabated confidence in the latter, and declaring that the imperial parliament can be trusted to do justice to Ireland.

O'Brien's friends have not yet secured a hall for Thursday evening, when Mr. O'Brien intends to lecture in Toronto. They have begun proceedings against the city government to compel it to keep its contract with them, and rent St. Andrew's hall for the meeting. Mr. O'Brien yesterday telegraphed from Montreal that it was of the utmost importance that a meeting should be held in Toronto, and that a hall must be secured, however small it might be.

Mr. O'Brien made a tour of Montreal yesterday, and was everywhere received with great enthusiasm.

LANSDOWNE TRIES TO HAVE O'BRIEN ARRESTED.

A special to the Chicago *Herald* from Ottawa says that Lord Lansdowne, when certain that O'Brien was coming appealed to the privy council to prohibit his speaking, and urged his immediate arrest on crossing the line. The council refused on the ground that Canada, as a British colony, was a free country. Two Scotland-Yard detectives have shadowed O'Brien since his first intention of visiting Canada was declared, following him in order to report upon any treasonable statements or speech he may make.

Cardinal Gibbons and the Knights.

Bishop Keane's Rome Letter in Catholic Standard.

He (Cardinal Gibbons) was indeed anxious to hinder an ecclesiastical condemnation of the association called the Knights of Labor, and to state clearly and strongly the reasons which made him, in common with the majority of the bishops and archbishops of the United States, desire that the task of dealing with them, and with other forms of labor organization, should be left to the conservative good sense of the American people, to the strong legal authority of our country, and to the paternal prudence of our hierarchy. But his letter had, as you well say, a wider scope than that. He aimed at impressing upon the ecclesiastical authorities here that which we believe to be so well understood by the civil authorities in our country, that the wisest method of dealing with the toiling millions is the method of gentleness, of considerateness, of open-handed justice, of conscientious respect for all their rights; that this is the best method for making the laboring classes not only happy but law abiding, for making capital secure in its just rights, and our country peaceful and strong in the love of a contented people. And he desired to place in as clear a light as possible the great difference between our American assertion of popular rights and the various forms of tendency toward social dissolution which we find at work in various European countries. With the latter we have no sympathy; to the former we give our cordial adhesion; the latter the church must unite with every civilized State in condemning and resisting; the former, as developed in our popular institutions and tendencies, she may well encourage and bless.

All this the cardinal stated in language meant only for the eye of ecclesiastical authority; and when he heard of its having been surreptitiously given to the world his distress was very great. But I am happy to state that the result has been most gratifying. The statements of the cardinal to the holy see have served to show our country how sincere is our devotedness to her, and to convince the millions of our people that the church is indeed their friend; it has been most favorably received in Rome and has produced a profound impression; its reception by the Catholic press throughout Europe has been simply enthusiastic; it has poured oil on troubled waters in more countries than our own.

We are confident that the good sense of the entire American people will appreciate the cardinal's motive and heartily indorse his action.

Maryland Day at Pimlico.

The spring meeting at Pimlico, Md., closed yesterday.

The first race, for two-year-olds, five furlongs, was won by Salvini, Tonique second, My Own third. Time, 1:04½.

Second race, one mile, $500 purse, Valiant won, Al Reed second, Tom Hood third. Time, 1:45¼.

Third race, Preakness stakes, for three-year-olds, $50 each, club added $1,000, of which $200 to second, one mile and a half, Dunbine won, Mahoney second, Raymond third. Time, 2:39½.

Fourth race, free handicap sweepstakes of $20 each, club added $700, one and one-quarter miles, Telie Doe won, Panama second, Nettie third. Time, 2:09¾.

The fifth was one mile for a purse of $500. Nellie Van won, Belmont second, Frankie B. third. Time, 1:43.

Saturday Smiles.

A falsetto voice does not necessarily imply a falsetto teeth.—*Life*.

A tall, lank, red-nosed man came into a country store with a large jug, which he placed on the counter with the remark; "I want a gallon of rum—baby's sick."—*Boston Gazette*.

"The impression is growing that it would be wise for the czar to hire a substitute."—*Richmond Dispatch*.

Wife (reading the papers)—I see that Henry George and Dr. McGlynn think that they will eventually abolish poverty.

Husband—Yes, and the New York Giants have an idea that they can play ball. Dear, dear, it's a queer world!—*New York Sun*.

A Kansas View—Kansas City man—I suppose you've never been in Kansas City, have you?

Omaha Man—I was there last week.

"Last week! Oh, but you ought to see it now."—*Omaha World*.

The practice of paying bills is what keeps so many people poor.—*Philadelphia North American*.

How to raise young lambs is a question for discussion at a farmers' meeting. Our way would be—ewes' milk.—*Lowell Courier*.

"Dogs are among the flowers that bloom in the spring," remarked the snake editor. "What is the matter with you?" asked the horse editor. "Nothing. This is the spring, isn't it?" "Yes." "Well, I went into the woods yesterday, and found the dog would blossom."—*Pittsburg Chronicle-Telegraph*.

Policeman (in citizen's dress, to brother officer in saloon Sunday morning)—It's whisky, Dennis; and we've got the waiter dead to rights! Shall I arrest him now?

Dennis—No; let's have a few more drinks first!—*Puck*.

A healthy-looking tramp, clothed in rags and dirt, applied for alms at an up-town house. When asked why he didn't go to work and earn his living he replied, in a tone of disgust: "Work? Why, I am a member of Henry George's Anti-Poverty Society, and we don't work?"—*Norristown Herald*.

A writer on etiquette says that no man is a gentleman who parts his coat-tails when he sits down, "because a gentleman is above caring whether his coat-tails get wrinkled." The man who gets full of wine, rolls under the table and goes to sleep on the floor, not caring a cent whether his coat-tails are wrinkled or not, must also be a gentleman, according to the foregoing code of etiquette.—*Norristown Herald*.

A man on whose person was found a number of cards with the name of Alfred Feedeman was found dead at Fort Monroe yesterday.

A petition was sent yesterday from Palatka, Fla., to the Interstate Commerce Commission, a remonstrance against the suspension of the fourth clause of the interstate commerce act.

ODD THINGS IN NEW YORK.

Drift from the Great Stream of Life Caught by Cummings and Hall.

MILLIONAIRE HERMITS OF THE METROPOLIS—MEN WHO NEVER SMILE AND ARE ALWAYS ALONE—FORTUNES IN RAGS AND BONES—THE ITALIANS WHO "TRIM" THE GARBAGE AND ASH SCOWS.

Special Correspondence of THE EVENING STAR.

NEW YORK, May 13.

I feel sorry at times for the men who are always alone. I have no doubt that they would resent such a sentiment on my part, but they are such mournful and forsaken looking beings as they wander desolately about the streets of a crowded city, that they inspire pity in spite of the airs of hauteur and exclusiveness which they invariably assume. I have known one man by sight for ten years who never by any chance speaks or bows to any one, and who is yet a frequenter of the theaters, the opera and the café, and possesses an ample fortune. He passed me in a ghostlike manner one night in Delmonico's as I stood by the side of one of those agreeable young society men who know everybody on earth. My companion stared after the melancholy arrival, and said shortly:

"That's Thompson's brother—Thompson, of the Union Club, you know. He's always alone. He's so infernally blasé that all his friends have shaken him, and now I rather fancy he's trying to shake himself. At least he wanders up and down with the expression of a man who would give everything on earth if he could only get away from himself, if only for half an hour."

A BLASE HERMIT.

Thompson's beard is trimmed to a sharp point, his mustache is waxed upward, and he wears a large single glass without any string. I have sometimes thought that it would be impossible to dislodge the glass with a hammer. He stares with wearied melancholy at every face he meets, and steals along with a stealthy and limping gait. His attire is invariably of the most fashionable cut, and his horses, traps and grooms unexceptionally correct. He is a member of six clubs, but never enters any of them.

Another solitary who has attracted my attention at various periods during the past fifteen years has no other aim in life than the care of his nails, as far as I can see. I have known him to spend three hours over an elaborate dinner at Delmonico's and then, after pulling his chair under a particularly bright light, labor with gentle assiduity at his nails with a jeweled knife until 1 o'clock in the morning. Then with an approving glance, he would give the waiter a liberal tip, pour down a stunning slug of whisky and wander sedately home. He walks like a drum major, is perhaps fifty years of age, and is a model of courtesy and propriety in public places, but he never by any chance speaks to a man or acknowledges the salutation of waiter, policeman, clerk or passer-by.

A SOLEMN BROKER.

Another man who is apparently too weary of the world to take the slightest interest in anything that is going on around him is a heavy, broad, and solemn broker—if one can fancy a solemn broker, who hedges himself about with the most extraordinary barriers to prevent people approaching him. It is said that no man has ever gained access to his inner office in Wall street, and the junior members of the firm transact all the necessary public business. At a stated hour he drives down in a closed brougham, enters by a side door, and drives up town again when his work for the day is finished. At 5 o'clock precisely he "tools" a magnificently appointed tandem through the park, with only a morose groom for a companion. He has twelve or fourteen horses in his stable, and at least two of them are famous. He is, besides this, a man of large property, and yet he never in his daily drives salutes a friend or foe. I have seen him enter his box at the opera and sit alone in solemn magnificence, with an unmoved face and lusterless eye, while 5,000 people were shouting themselves hoarse over the singing of a great prima donna on the stage below him. He invariably left after the principal solo, to avoid the crowd.

It would be interesting to know the causes that have led such men as these to isolate themselves so thoroughly from the rest of mankind, for they are absolute hermits in the midst of the busiest hive of men in America. I know a dozen by sight and name who are well connected and well known, but who are absolute strangers to all other men in New York. They surround themselves with an icy reserve that nothing ever melts, and pass through life the millionaire hermits of a crowded metropolis.

BLAKELY HALL.

II.

NOISES OF THE CITY.

A fortune awaits the man who will make for New York a practicable noiseless cart. The street-cleaning department is now attempting to gather the ashes and garbage of the city at night. Over 450 carts are used in the service, and the noise, as they rumble over the pavements in the dead of night, is exasperating to a nervous person. Victims of insomnia gradually became used to the thunder of trains on the elevated railways, but a new noise disturbs them as much as it would persons from the quiet rural districts. A gentleman with waxed mustache and the courtly manners of the typical French count stands in an office on Park row, hears their complaints, and assures them that the street-cleaning department, which he represents, is endeavoring to secure carts with rubber tires that will make no noise. Every twenty-four hours over 2,312 loads of ashes and garbage are collected in the city, and hereafter it is to be gathered at night. The ash-cans will be set out in the evening, and the morning spectacle of the collectors of rags exploring ash barrels with iron hooks will be no longer witnessed. The innovation means a fortune to

THE ENTERPRISING ITALIAN

who assorts the contents of these ash carts on the dumps, and illustrates the tendencies of the time toward monopolies. When the garbage and ashes have been collected the carts drive to one of the seventeen docks on the water front of the city known as dumping boards. They are bridge-like structures, extending out over the river, and under them lie the scows, into which the contents of the carts are dumped. Italians, covered with dirt, swarm over the scows and trim the load, so the vessel will ride properly. Formerly these trimmers were paid by the city, and their services cost the taxpayers thousands of dollars a year. An Italian contractor agreed to do the work for nothing if allowed to collect the rags and bones found in the refuse matter. He hired scores of Italian laborers at $1.25 a day, and made a small fortune the first year. A brisk competition for the privilege of doing the unsavory work sprang up, but the Italian outbid all competitors, and astonished even the city authorities by agreeing to pay $326 a week for the privilege of doing the trimming of the scows. He hires a great force of men, and every Monday morning he pays into the city treasury $326. Although his employes must work night or day at a low rate of wages, the supply of laborers far exceeds the demand. There is to them a fascination about the work akin to the excitement of digging for gold, for at every one of the seventeen dumping-boards in the city some trimmer is sure to find a coin or some article of value each day in the year. It is an unwritten but rigidly regarded law that the trimmer owns all the money or plate that he finds. The trimmers tell of one of their number who found a $10,000 negotiable bond in one of the dumps. He ceased work on the scows, invested in real estate, and is now rich and well dressed, and moves in the upper tendom of Italian society.

THE ITALIAN TRIMMERS

regard with suspicion a structure of corrugated iron that has been built on the end of a dump at the foot of East Seventeenth street. It is a crematory, and its inventor claims that it will sort the contents of the carts as well as the laborers now do and consume the garbage without giving off unpleasant smoke. Even the most perfect crematories will not, however, dispose of ashes and street sweepings. Five and a half million tons of ashes are made every year in New York, and 278,928 loads of street sweepings were gathered last year. Formerly the city was paid $2,000 a year for its sweepings, but now they are, with the ashes and garbage, dumped in the sea about eighteen miles out. The dumping grounds are in the direction of Coney Island, and during the bathing season the scows are towed farther out than the distance required. An inspector superintends the dumping and sees that the scows are unloaded only at the times when the outgoing tide will take the refuse out to sea. If the sea is rough the scows lie in Gravesend Bay until it is safe to go out. Not long ago a fleet of 30 of these scows was anchored in the bay two days. Men employed at unloading the scows are occasionally lost overboard and drowned in rough weather, but the spirit of invention has invaded their domain also, and self-dumping scows, whose loads one man can dump in the sea, are taking the places of the old boats.

MONEY IN BONES.

Bones found in ash barrels are the source of great profit to the contractor, and it is said that he makes nearly enough from the sale of them to pay the city its royalty of $326 a week. They are cleansed and used in the big sugar refineries of Brooklyn as bone black. After the rags have been collected from the dumps they are put in iron cages and submerged in the river several hours. They are then sold to paper dealers, and the citizen reading his paper and sugaring his coffee at the breakfast table may be indebted to the ash barrel for the sheet on which his paper is printed and for the whiteness of his sugar.

AMOS J. CUMMINGS.

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

THE POETIC AND DRAMATIC WORKS OF ROBERT BROWNING. In Six Volumes. Riverside Edition. Volume III—The Ring and the Book. Volume IV—Christmas Eve and Easter Day; Men and Women; In a Balcony; Dramatis Personæ; Balaustion's Adventure; Prince Hohenstiel-Schwangau; Fifine at the Fair. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. Washington: Robert Beall.

THE STORY OF ALEXANDER'S EMPIRE. By Professor JOHN PENTLAND MAHAFFY, D.D., author of "Greek Classical Literature," "Rambles and Studies in Greece," etc., etc. With the collaboration of ARTHUR GILMAN, author "The Story of Rome," "A History of the American People," etc. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. Washington: Brentano's.

HOW TO TRAVEL: Hints, Advice, and Suggestions to Travelers by Land and Sea, all over the Globe. By THOMAS W. KNOX, author of "Overland Through Asia," etc., etc. Revised Edition. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. Washington: Brentano's.

7 TO 12. A Detective Story. By ANNA KATHARINE GREEN, author of "The Leavenworth Case," "The Mill Mystery," etc. New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons. Washington: Brentano's.

PLEADING FOR PRAYER, and Other Sermons, Preached in 1886. By C. H. SPURGEON, of London. New York: Robert Carter & Brothers. Washington: Wm. Ballantyne & Son.

THE CENTURY: ILLUSTRATED MONTHLY MAGAZINE. November, 1886, to April, 1887. New York: The Century Co. Washington: Robert Beall.

THE HANDLING OF RAILWAY SUPPLIES: Their Purchase and Disposition. By MARSHALL M. KIRKMAN. New York: The Railroad Gazette.

MISS BAYLE'S ROMANCE. A Story of To-day. [Leisure Moment Series.] New York: Henry Holt & Co. Washington: Brentano's.

THE STORY OF MARGARET KENT. A Novel. By HENRY HAYES. Tenth Edition. Boston: Ticknor & Co.