Iron County Register

BY ELI D. AKE.

IRONTON, - - - MISSOURI

NEWS AND NOTES.

A Summary of Important Events.

BREVET MAJOR-GENERAL MEIGS, Quartermaster General, and Brigadier General Latham M. Brown, Paymaster General, U. S. A., have been placed upon the retired list.

ELDER CANNON, of Utah, says his people will never resort to arms for redress against laws for the suppression of polygamy, but will regard themselves as martyrs. He denies the truth of the rumor that the Saints are selling guns and ammunition to the Indians.

THE House Committee on Commerce listened to a lengthy argument on the improvement of the Mississippi River by George L. Wright, of St. Louis, the other day. The committee will recommend the appropriation of about $10,000,000 for rivers and harbors, exclusive of the Father of Waters.

THE Commissioners of Grant County, Dakota, decided to remove the seat of government from Big Stone to Milbank the other day, but three hundred armed citizens of the former place threatened to kill any man attempting to remove the safe. Some Indians were recruited, pickets stationed, and barricades constructed of hay bales.

AT an enthusiastic meeting recently held in New York City, presided over by Mayor Grace and addressed by Wm. M. Evarts, Chief Justice Noah Davis, Rev. Drs. Hall, Howard Crosby, J. P. Newman and others, resolutions were adopted expressing sympathy with persecuted Hebrews in the Russian Empire, and protesting against the spirit of mediæval persecution there revived.

THE bill recently introduced in the French Chamber to rescind the decree against American pork provides that salt-hog product from foreign countries must be accompanied by a certificate, made at the place of origin, attested by the French Consular agent, that the meat has been thoroughly prepared. At the time of entry at the Custom-house inspectors must testify that the meat is healthful and in a perfect state of preservation.

GEORGE F. HANFORD, conductor, and George Mellius, brakeman, have been indicted for manslaughter by the Grand Jury investigating the Spuyten-Duyvil disaster. Superintendent Toucey and the managers of the New York Central Railroad are censured for not having the cut better guarded, and for allowing too high a rate of speed through it. The jury advocate some method for car illuminating other than mineral oil, and say heating cars by fire should be discontinued.

THE Commissioner of Pensions, replying to a House resolution calling for information as to what amount of appropriation would be required annually to pay pensions for the next twenty-five years "if all claims for pensions arising from the war in rebellion shall be adjudicated within several years, and all the surviving soldiers and sailors who served in the war with Mexico and their widows shall then be pensioned at $8 per month," estimates the amount at $1,347,651,593.

RECENT advices from Indian Territory say the Osages have ratified the new Constitution and code of laws recently adopted by the General Council of that nation. The meeting was largely attended, including the leading men of the tribe. In adopting the Constitution it is claimed that the Osages take a long stride toward enlightened civilization, as the instrument is in many respects similar to the constitutions of the different States of the Union. The Osages are also desirous of uniting with the Cherokees, and a movement with that object in view has been inaugurated. In this event the tribe will still preserve its identity and treat with the Government, though becoming a part of the Cherokee Nation.

A SPAN of Mayo's bridge across the James River, Richmond, Va., gave way the other day and precipitated the Manchester stage, filled with passengers, into the water. Several were hurt, but none fatally. All were rescued by boats from the shore. The whole span, nearly seventy-five feet in length, broke away from the two granite pillars upon which it rested as clearly as if each end had been sawed through, and sank with a crash to the rocky bed of the river beneath, a distance of nearly thirty feet. Fortunately the falling span did not tilt, and the stage remained upon the bridge in an upright position until the bottom was reached, when the vehicle was overturned and the horses thrown into the water, and became entangled in the iron work of the bridge, their exertions dragging the stage into the river. The male passengers succeeded in getting out through the broken side of the stage on the bridge span, which remained in between the pillars, having struck on the rocky bottom of the river and become fixed. They then quickly drew the females out and all remained on the half submerged debris until rescued.

MR. SCOVILLE'S motion for a new trial in the Guiteau case was overruled by Judge Cox, on the 4th. The prisoner, who was seated a few feet in front of the Judge, shouted: "I would like, your Honor, to defer passing sentence as long as you can." Without paying attention to this harangue, the Court sternly ordered the prisoner to stand up, at the same time asking him if he had anything to say why sentence should not be passed upon him. Clenching his fist and pounding vigorously on the table, Guiteau shouted that he was not responsible for his act; that he had been impelled to do it by the Deity, and other similar expressions used by him during the conduct of the case. He trembled violently, and all his bravado deserted him as he appeared to realize the danger of his position. He did not occupy more than two minutes in his speech, and Judge Cox, after pointing to the enormity of his offense, and the universal horror it had created, sentenced him to be hanged June 30, 1882. When the Judge pronounced the solemn prayer, "May God have mercy on your soul," Guiteau, with a cry of agony, said: "And yours, too; Court, jury and counsel!" then mumbled something about having a flight to glory, and repeated that he was not afraid, although he threatened the spectators that for his death the country would roll in blood.

PERSONAL AND GENERAL.

WILL OWENS, aged 45, of Louisville, Ky., was fatally shot by his brother-in-law, George Oylar, the other day. Owens was beating his wife and Oylar went to his sister's resue. The husband made at the brother with a club, but was stopped by a well-directed pistol ball.

DE KEROMAN, said to be a French Count, has been arrested at San Antonio, Texas, charged with assault with intent to murder Dr. Cupples, his wife, Miss Shean, a step-daughter, and a man named Dale, a coachman of the family.

FRANK ANDERSON, a railway employee at Kansas City, Mo., was caught between freight cars on the Santa Fe track, Feb. 1st, and crushed to death. He was a young man, recently from Illinois.

A MOB of negroes in Union Parish, La., recently took Alf Davenport, a colored man, from his home and beat him to death with clubs and stones.

SOME New York firemen at work on a Twenty-third street dwelling, Feb. 3, discovered the dead body of an old man hanging by the neck to the transom of a door, badly scorched by flames. The contents of a straw bed half burned up lay in the middle of the floor, where the carpet had been torn up, and the furniture in the room was heaped about the straw. The body proved to be that of Moses Herzog, an insane Hebrew, who had deliberately planned his own death and cremation.

SIX men were burned by flying metal in the Bessemer Steel Works at Cleveland, Ohio, on the 3d. One of the converters, manipulated by hydraulic power, was handled by a boy new at the business, and he let it tip so far that a large quantity of the melted metal poured out on the damp sand in the pit, causing an explosion which shattered many panes of glass in the mill and adjacent building.

A CRAZY fireman on a North Pacific freight train, near Olsop, recently overpowered the engineer and undertook to run the train to suit his own idea of speed, about a mile per minute. The engineer finally succeded in stopping the train, just in time to save a collision, but had his coat and vest torn off by the maniac, who, as soon as the train was stopped, started across the prairie and disappeared.

KELLOGG'S HOTEL, Nashville, Tenn., was totally destroyed by fire the other night. The thirty-five people in it escaped in their night-clothes, many of them jumping from second-story windows.

JAMES PHILLIPS, 14 years old, son of a widow living in Corwin, Ohio, deliberately killed himself with an old musket the other day. He had been reading pernicious literature.

ROSA ROSCOE, of Turner's Falls, Mass., recently attempted to kindle a fire with kerosine and was fatally burned.

THE explosion of a steam-tank in the rendering establishment at East St. Louis, Ill., on the 5th, created no little consternation in the stock yards and vicinity. Sheds were blown into splinters and heavy iron-work went into the air like tissue-paper. One workman was instantly killed and two others were seriously injured. While John Caszca, Jerome Tyler and John Meyerhoeffer were at work about a press near the boiler, the large tank connected with it shot up in the air like a rocket, crushing through the roof. In an instant the whole place was filled with steam, smoke, pieces of iron and broken timber. The tank, hurled [illegible] hundred feet in the air, fell back, a shattered, shapeless mass. Great pieces torn from it went flying in all directions, some being found at a distance of nearly 300 yards. The roof was torn off completely and fell in, strewn about like kindling wood. The explosion was terrific, and resounded for a great distance. Men at work in other portions of the establishment were almost thrown from their feet by the shock, so great was its force. John Meyerhoeffer was discovered firmly pinned to the ground by two heavy beams. He was still alive, but suffering great agony. The steam escaping from one of the tank pipes had spurted on him, scalding him almost from head to foot. He was quickly released and carried to his home near by. Tyler was found a moment later in the same condition as Meyerhoeffer. He received some severe cuts on the face and body, and his head was badly gashed. He was also horribly scalded. The body of Caszca was shockingly mangled, the top of his head having been blown off and the face crushed to a pulpy mass. The explosion is attributed to gases generated from fatty substances and too much steam.

GEORGE G. STEKETEE, Mayor of Grand Rapids, Mich., has been arrested on the charge of selling intoxicating liquors contrary to law. The Mayor, who is a druggist, has been very zealous in enforcing the liquor law, and many saloon men have been made to suffer in consequence.

HON. CHARLES MCLEAN, a Greenback member of the Massachusetts Legislature, was recently arraigned in the municipal court at Boston as a common drunkard and sentenced to imprisonment for three months.

JOSEPH MAHAN, of Cleveland, O., recently found a handsome powder-horn on the knob of his hall door, and hung it about the neck of his little son. An explosion soon took place, two children losing their eyesight. It is thought the horn was an infernal machine.

A YOUNG girl named Angelina McSweeny, who had been committed to the House of the Good Shepard, East New York, L. I., lost her life on the 4th while attempting to escape. She sprang from the fifth-story window to the roof of an adjoining building, and was so badly injured that she died in an hour.

GEORGE B. HOYT, son of a Vermont Judge, has embezzled several thousand dollars' worth of goods from a dry-goods store at Portland, Me., and made a full confession.

WILLIAM JACOBS, of Grafton, N. Y., killed his sister-in-law, from jealousy, the other day and then took his own life.

WM. WAYNE and Lloyd Hunt, aged 12 and 13 respectively, while coasting in Cincinnati the other day, ran into a pond of water forty feet deep and were drowned.

CHARLES SMITH, a New York boarding-house keeper, was fatally shot the other night by his step-father, Henry Purdy.

THREE burglars were recently killed at Tunnelton, Ind., while trying to rob a saloon.

RECENT fires: The Jefferson School-house, Washington, D. C.; loss, $135,000. The Commercial Elevator, Buffalo, N. Y.; loss, $125,000, insurance, $60,000. Jaynes & Co.'s barrel factory, Cambridge, Mass.; loss, $120,000. Three hotels and other property in Four Mile, N. Y.; loss, $100,000.

FORTY-SEVENTH CONGRESS.

WHEN the three-per-cent. bond bill was reached in the Senate, Feb. 1st, Mr. Morgan advocated, as an additional section, an amendment as follows: That the agreement made with the holders of bonds of the United States since the adjournment of the Forty-sixth Congress by which the rate of interest on such bonds is reduced to 3½ per-centum per annum is hereby fully ratified and confirmed according to the terms and intent of said agreement. The amendment was modified and adopted without vote, as also the provision offered by Mr. Davis, of West Virginia, declaring that nothing in the act shall be so construed as to authorize the increase of the public debt. The bill was then reported from Committee of the Whole, and, the question being upon agreeing to the amendments as a whole, Mr. Sherman asked for a separate vote upon Mr. Plumb's amendment applying the surplus revenues over $100,000,000 to the reduction of the public debt. He said if the proposition was not stricken out he and others who had acted with him would be compelled to vote against the bill. House concurrent resolution fixing the 27th of February as the day for the Garfield memorial services was concurred in.....The Post-office appropriation bill occupied the House, but no action was taken.

FURTHER discussion of Mr. Plumb's amendment to the three-per-cent bond bill in the Senate, Feb. 2, resulted in its rejection—yeas 25, nays 27. Debate followed on the amendment proposed by Mr. Ingalls and modified by Mr. Hoar, which was adopted—43 to 10. It inserts the words "which are hereby declared valid" in the first section, making the section read "that the Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized to receive at the Treasury and at the office of any Assistant Treasurer of the United States, and at any postal money order office, lawful money of the United States to the amount of $50, or any multiple of that sum, on any bonds of the United States bearing 3½ per cent. interest, which are hereby declared valid, and to issue in exchange therefor an equal amount of registered or coupon bonds.".....In the House, Mr. Bingham (Pa.) advocated an amendment to the Post office bill increasing by $100,000 the appropriation for expenses of the free delivery system, urging its extension and an increase of salary to letter carriers.

FEB. 3, the Senate took action on the Saunders' bill to extend the northern boundary of the State of Nebraska. Mr. Edmunds thought the act should be subject to all the limitations pertaining to the original act for the admission of Nebraska into the Union. The only point that now occurred to him was in reference to the free navigation of the Missouri River. He offered an amendment putting his suggestion into effect. Adopted. The bill then passed. Mr. Hawley's amendment to the funding bill, limiting withdrawals of bank circulation, under the fourth section of the act of 1874, to $5,000,000 per month, and requiring thirty days' previous notice thereof, was adopted, and the bill was passed by a vote of 38 to 18. The bill appropriating $200,000 for a site for a War Department building, as amended in committee, was also passed. Adjourned till Monday, 6th....The bill releasing the Philadelphia & Reading Railway Company from the tax assessed on wages certificates heretofore issued was reported back unfavorably and tabled—10 to 49. A motion to adjourn till Monday was rejected—yeas 104, nays 105.

THE Post-office appropriation bill excited sharp debate in the House on the 4th, but no action was taken on any of the pending amendments.

FEB. 6, the Senate resumed consideration of Mr. Ingalls's resolution declaring that the Pension Arrears law ought not to be repealed. Mr. Ingalls moved to modify the amendment declaring in favor of soldiers of the American war so as to limit it to needy or disabled ones. He said Senators were not aware of the proportions which the casualty list reached during the war. The grand total of pensionable cases on the rolls of the War Department was 620,545. Since 1861, 350,361 pensions had been granted by reason of death or disabilities, so there were still 233,881 pensionable cases on which no applications at all had ever been made. This was a conclusive answer to the charges that the pension list had been swollen by fraud, and we may hereafter look for very large accessions to the rolls without any presumption of fraud as to the aggregate of cases placed there. Without action the resolution was laid aside for executive session.....Representative Burrows (Mich.) moved to suspend the rules and pass a bill admitting the delegation of Territorial delegates in the House of Representatives. It provides that no person guilty of bigamy or polygamy shall be eligible to a seat in Congress as delegrate from a Territory. The House was in a very inattentive mood, and when the Speaker put the question there were few responses. He, however, declared the motion carried and the bill passed. A burst of laughter only then apprised many members of the measure which had been adopted. A motion for the appointment of a commission on the subject of alcoholic liquor traffic failed to receive the necessary two thirds.

LATE NEWS ITEMS.

THE bill authorizing the delivery of condemned cannon for a statue of Garfield in Washington passed the Senate on the 7th. The Nicaragua claims bill was reported adversely in the House.

THE prize-fight between Ryan and Sullivan at Mississippi City, on the 7th, lasted 26 minutes, the former failing to come to time in the ninth round.

AT Dayton, Ohio, on the 6th, a ten-year-old boy named Wyatt accidentally discharged the contents of a musket into the breast of a playmate named Wm. Murphy, wounding him so severely it was thought he would die.

FIRE originating in C. B. Brock & Co.'s barrel factory, Jersey City, N. J., on the 5th, caused a loss of $200,000. A fireman was seriously injured.

THE British steamer Cosmo recently foundered in the Black Sea. Ten bodies were recovered.

JOSEPH ZIMMERMAN, a prominent and wealthy young farmer, shot himself through the heart with a thirty-two caliber revolver at Allentown, Pa., the other day. Cause, insanity superinduced by religious excitement. He leaves a wife and three children.

Two men were fatally injured by a falling elevator in Weigley's factory, Newark, N. J., on the 6th. Two others were badly hurt.

S. W. JACKSON, a brakeman on the Louisville & Chicago Railway, was instantly killed at Bloomington, Ind., Feb. 6th. His head came in contact with a bridge.

THE British authorities in the Northwest have ordered thirty mounted police from Fort Walsh to Fort McLeod, to quiet trouble between the ranchmen and Blackfeet. The Indians are gathering about Fort Walsh to demand more food.

JOSEPH HURTADO, of Sacramento, Cal., was recently cited to appear in court for an assault upon Jose A. Estuardo. When the case was continued, Hurtado immediately left the court-room, proceeded across the street, and secreted himself in a doorway, and when Estuardo came along shot him four times. He fell, and evidently received a mortal wound at the first fire. The murdered man was unarmed, and has always borne the reputation of a peaceable citizen. Hurtado, on the contrary, has been in many shooting scrapes, and killed a man some three years ago.

THE military commander at Limerick, Ireland, recently notified the magistrates that his men could not walk the streets at night without being stoned, and gave warning that in self-defense they may be compelled to fire upon citizens. Extraordinary precautions were being taken to preserve the peace.

MISSOURI STATE NEWS.

Collector Green Indicted.

The excitement in Jackson County consequent upon the discovery of irregularities in the office of Tax-Collector Green culminated on the 3d by the announcement that the Grand Jury had found fifty-one indictments against him. The Collector announced to Judge White, of Kansas City, that he could not find the missing cash book. His counsel, Mr. Karnes, said that while the book was one of a purely private character, Green did not propose to urge that. The Court stated that it had received advices from the Grand Jury to the effect that the book was of the greatest importance in the investigation, and demanded such information as would lead to its discovery. Mr. Karnes said that Mr. Green desired to be examined under oath by the Court or Prosecuting Attorney regarding the loss of the book and the inability to discover its whereabouts. Mr. Wallace stated that he understood the book was the only source of information regarding the amount of money turned over to Green by Jackson, who collected the merchants' tax. The Court then ordered Green to make a full and complete affidavit, covering all the facts concerning the loss of the cash-book. At 4 o'clock in the afternoon the Grand Jury announced fifty-one indictments against Green, fifty for misdemeanors and one for felony. The foreman and Prosecuting Attorney said they had not yet had time to write up these indictments and return them into Court, and requested that a bench warrant be issued for the arrest of Green, and that he be put under bond by the court to appear and answer such indictments as might be brought against him. Green and his attorney were in the court-room at the time. Wishing to do away with the formality of a warrant, Judge White ordered the Marshal to take Green into custody. Marshal Murphy immediately took charge of Mr. Green, who was given a seat within the bar, and there was great commotion in the court-room. Mr. Karnes held a short consultation with the prisoner, and moved that he be admitted to bail. Judge White at first was inclined to fix the amount of bail at $25,000, to which Mr. Karnes demurred, and the Judge replied that if Mr. Green was sentenced on each of the indictments he would get at least fifty years in the Penitentiary. The bond was finally fixed at $15,000, which was deemed ample. Opportunity was given to the prisoner to procure bondsmen. After several trips to and fro from Mr. Karnes' office, Mr. J. Mercer, Green's brother-in-law, and Beal Green, his father, entered the court-room with him, and the Court approved the bond, with Green as principal and Joseph W. Mercer and Beal Green as securities. The sudden finding of the Grand Jury was evidently a surprise and somewhat of a crusher to a Green, and fell like a thunderbolt among his friends. In a few moments it was whispered on the streets and talked of on the corner in conversation. On the 6th, Governor Crittenden accepted Green's resignation and immediately appointed Charles A. Chase to fill the vacancy. The resignation was drawn up by Mr. Karnes, Green's attorney, and was very short, containing simply the statement that Joseph M. Green desired to tender to the Governor his resignation from the office of Collector of the Revenue in Jackson County.

Miscellaneous Items.

Mr. John Clark, chief clerk in the State Auditor's office, recently informed a Jefferson City newspaper correspondent that there would be no meeting of the State Board of Equalization this year. The Revenue law of 1872 provided that the State Board should meet during the session of the Legislature in 1873 and every two years after that. Under that bill the board held meetings regularly every two years, meeting last in 1881. In 1877 the Revenue law was amended as regards personal property, and the Supreme Court decided that assessments under the law were to be made annually. The Legislature in 1881 changed the time of assessment from August 1 to June 1, and substituted the biennial assessment, but failed to state when the State Board of Equalization should meet. The board does not meet until next year, when they will be required to adjust an assessment two years old.

A five-year-old colored boy named John Elder, residing in St. Louis, found a pistol in a washstand drawer the other day, pointed it at his breast, and pulled the trigger. The attention of Philma Brunson, who was making a bed in the room, was attracted by the report. She says she saw the boy place the pistol carefully in its place, push back the drawer and then fall to the floor. The bullet entered his left breast, just below the nipple, and probably pierced the heart, for he died a moment after receiving the wound.

The committee recently appointed to examine and report as to the best location for the future Kansas City Fair grounds unanimously decided in favor of the Allen McGee tract, south of the city, provided all the ground necessary and the right of way for side tracks and roads can be had on satisfactory terms.

The town of Lee's Summit has entered suit against County Assessor Noland, and petitioned the County Court to remove him from office. The grounds of the petition are that Noland has failed to discharge his duty as required by law by refusing to furnish the said town with a list of taxable property for 1881, as provided for by the State Statutes. Noland admits the charge, and says his reason for not furnishing the list was that the Town Council had refused to pay him for the lists furnished in 1879 and 1880. The case is occasioning considerable interest.

The latest confidence game was played at the Fulton Female College. A man professing to have a daughter to place in that institution presented in payment of board and tuition in advance a draft for $200, for which he received change to the amount of $30. The money or the man have not since been heard from.

The Craig Rifle Club, of Kansas City, have elected the following officers: President, John Conover; Vice-President, Theo. Winningham; Secretary and Treasurer, George W. Warden; Surgeon, M. A. Bogie; Chaplain, Rev. Cameron Main; Captain, John Conover; First Lieutenant, John A. Duncan; Second Lieutenant, Wm. Pease.

Mary E. Landrum, formerly of New York, was recently killed near Boonville. She was caught on a trestle-work.

St. Joseph molders want more pay.

The trade unionists at St. Joseph have elected the following officers to serve for two years: President, James L. Aubrey; Vice President, J. J. Curley; Secretary, George W. Hendley; Treasurer, James Barrett; Sergeant-at-Arms, J. W. Sparks. Trustees, Thomas Vereus, M. M. Baker and John Sandusky.

In a drunken quarrel at St. Joseph, the other day, James Lenox was struck on the head with a poker by Night Watchman Cohen, and received injuries from which he died next morning. Lenox was a bricklayer. Cohen escaped.

Land sells readily at $30 per acre in Clinton County.

The Three-per-cent. Funding Bill.

WASHINGTON, February 3.

Following is the full text of the Three-per-cent. Funding bill as passed by the Senate to-day:

Be it enacted, etc., That the Secretary of the Treasury is hereby authorized to receive at the Treasury and at the office of any Assistant Treasurer of the United States, and at any postal money-order office, lawful money of the United States to the amount of $50, or any multiple of that sum, or any bonds of the United States bearing three and a half per centum interest, which are hereby declared valid, and to issue in exchange therefor an equal amount of registered or coupon bonds of the United States of the denominations of $50, $100, $500, $1,000 and $10,000, of such form as he may prescribe, bearing interest at the rate of three per cent. per annum, payable either quarterly or semi-annually, at the Treasury of the United States. Such bonds shall be exempt from all taxation by or under State authority, and be payable at the pleasure of the United States; provided that the bonds herein authorized shall not be called in and paid so long as any bonds of the United States heretofore issued bearing a higher rate of interest than three per cent. and which shall be redeemable at the pleasure of the United States, shall be outstanding and uncalled. The last of said bonds originally issued and their substitutes, under this act, shall be the first called in, and this order of payment shall be followed until all shall have been paid. Money deposited under this act shall be promptly applied solely to the redemption of the bonds of the United States bearing three and a-half per cent. interest, and the aggregate amount of deposits made and bonds issued under this act shall not exceed the sum of $200,000,000. The amount of lawful money so received on deposit, as aforesaid, shall not exceed at any time the sum of $25,000,000. Before any deposits are received at any postal money-order office under this act, the Postmaster at such office shall file with the Secretary of the Treasury his bond, with satisfactory security, conditioned that he will promptly transmit to the Treasury of the United States the money received by him in conformity with the regulations to be prescribed by such Secretary, and the deposit with any Postmaster shall not at any time exceed the amount of his bond.

SEC. 2. Any National banking association now organized or hereafter organized desiring to withdraw its circulating notes, upon a deposit of lawful money with the Treasurer of the United States, as provided in section 4 of the act of June 20, 1874, entitled "An act fixing the amount of United States notes, providing for a redistribution of National Bank currency, and for other purposes," shall be required to give thirty days' notice to the Comptroller of the Currency of its intention to deposit lawful money and withdraw its circulating notes; provided, that not more than $5,000,000 of lawful money shall be deposited during any calendar month for this purpose; and provided, further, that the provisions of this section shall not apply to bonds called for redemption by the Secretary of the Treasury.

SEC. 3. That nothing in this act shall be so construed as to authorize an increase of the public debt.

Baby Bride and Groom.

It is not often the usually quiet village of Mallory has a sensation, and when anything out of the usual does occur it puts the place in a flutter of excitement. Mallory is in this last-named state at present, and the cause may be briefly set forth as follows: For a long time past it has been observed by the friends of both parties that Louie Badgley and Josephine Howard, aged respectively fifteen and fourteen years, have been what may be termed "spoony." That is to say, they had all the symptoms that are common to people in love. So apparent and deep did the attachment appear that the parents separated the youthful lovers. Whether spanking or solitary confinement on bread and water was tried as a remedy is not known, but it does appear that their love was of the kind that "laughs at locksmiths" and "hard-hearted" parents, and that they oft contrived to meet and commune. The result of this entirely reprehensible but general practice in cases of the kind was the formation of a plan to elope. The lovers hadn't even recourse to that dubious vehicle, the hack, to aid them in their flight, so they concluded to walk. Under the pretense of visiting a neighbor, the pair took their way to the residence of Mr. Sidney Roberts, who lent a friendly ear to their schemes. Mr. Roberts' son Charles was let into the affair and dispatched three miles for a neighboring clergyman to perform the ceremony. The minister was found, and was soon on his way to make two hearts happy, and get his welcome fee. On arriving at the place the youth of the candidates took even the dominie back. The qualms of conscience were soon quieted, however, by the prospective "sugar," and the children were in the most approved form made man and wife. After the ceremony was performed the bridegroom went down into his pinafore for the needful, and produced a punched trade dollar, which he tendered to "his reverence." This was not a munificent remuneration for a six-mile ride on a cold winter's night, and the dominie made no bones of saying so. A call of the house was rewarded by the production of another fifty cents, and with this fee the minister departed.

The "funny" part of the proceeding ends here. The absence of the girl from home occasioned her parents uneasiness, and Mr. Howard instituted a search, which led to the discovery of his daughter. He was informed that it was "all over;" that his little girl was a wife. His grief may be imagined when the terrible news was broken to him. What course he will take is not known at present. If the courts can help him, he will probably resort to them. It is a great pity, though, that the law does not place some restraint in matters of this kind on the men upon whom it has conferred the power to make people very miserable or very happy. Any clergyman who will unite in marriage two people who are manifestly too young to understand the solemnity of the obligations they assume should be deposed from his office, not only by the law of the church, but by the statutes of the State of New York.—*Oswego (N. Y.) Times.*

Engineer Irving's Heroism.

Now and then, in quiet times of peace, emergencies spring up which demand the highest order of heroism. One of those emergencies occurred at Waynesboro on Wednesday of last week. Trains Nos. 22 and 14 and 12 and 16 on the Chesapeake & Ohio Road, going east, had orders to meet and pass four sections of extra trains coming west at Blue Ridge. The extras were late, and as a consequence eleven trains were blocked on the main track above Waynesboro awaiting their arrival. After three of the extra trains had passed, the first section of No. 14 started out and commenced ascending the heavy grade to the tunnel. Rain and sleet were falling, and the engine of No. 14 being unable to draw its cars the engineer of the train immediately following it, Mr. R. P. Irving, detached his engine from his own train, and, coupling on the rear car of No. 14, aided the ascent. After pushing the first train nearly a half mile, and giving it a good start, Mr. Irving reversed his engine and started to return to his own train, but ere he had reached it he saw a detachment of the train he had left coming down the mountain at a rapid rate, it having become uncoupled from the engine. In an instant the intrepid engineer realized the peril of the situation. Thirteen heavily loaded cars were coming down a seventy-five-foot grade, and each revolution of the wheels was adding velocity to its speed. With rare presence of mind and an iron nerve that few men possess, Irving started his engine to meet the descending mass and break the force of the collision. He ran up to within a short distance of the cars, and then reversing to lighten the shock, clutched the lever in his firm grasp, and bracing every nerve in his body, awaited the catastrophe. A moment and the crash came. The shock of an avalanche could scarcely have been greater. One of the cars climbed up on the boiler of the engine and another was wrecked. But the brave man accomplished his purpose. The wild train was stopped, and the engineer had saved many precious lives and thousands of dollars' worth of property.—*Staunton Valley Virginian.*

—Eighty-one new Post-offices were established in Pennsylvania last year.

Terrible Coal-Mine Disaster.

RICHMOND, Va., February 4.

Particulars of the terrible coal-mine disaster (caused by a gas explosion) at the Grove Shaft, at Coalfield, in Chesterfield County, yesterday, were received here to-day, and indicate that the disaster was even more horrible than at first reported. Coalfield is a little hamlet in the midst of the great coal-beds of Chesterfield County, and the mine in which the disaster took place is about two miles distant.

The scenes and incidents about the mouth of the pit this morning were heart-rending. Nearly every family in the place has lost a relative by the disaster, and, despite the terrible snow-storm of last night, a crowd of men, women and children were crouched about the mouth of the fatal shaft, shivering from cold and calling piteously for their loved ones, and begging that aid should be sent them. All the morning crowds of miners from the surrounding country have been pouring into the place, and all seemed intent upon penetrating the awful pit and learning definitely the fate of those who are entombed. Experienced miners say that the thirty-two men in the pit are undoubtedly dead, but the wives and children do not give up hope, and there are not to be found those who can break the terrible truth to them yet.

This morning at eleven o'clock the first attempt to reach the bottom of the shaft was made. A large number of miners volunteered to go down in the bucket. Most of them were young and hardy men, and were prepared to take their lives in their hands. The older miners told them that the terrible carbonic gas still lingered in the pit, and they realized the dangers of the undertaking, especially as no connection had yet been made with the bottom of the shaft. Three stepped from the crowd and insisted upon going down in the bucket. Mr. Dodds, the Superintendent of the pit, was one of them. They were let down carefully, and, after going down 100 feet, gave the signal to be pulled up. The result of their investigation shewed that at least forty feet of the brattice-work in the mine was torn up. They discovered no gas.

Like many similar horrors, this one has served to bring forward another striking evidence of the devotion of woman. A young woman, just nineteen years of age, living in Manchester, was betrothed to one of the victims of this disaster. This morning, when the intelligence reached Manchester of the explosion, she at once started to walk to the scene, a distance of thirteen miles from Manchester, the ground being covered with six inches of snow and the wind blowing blinding drifts.

FEBRUARY 5.

Ex-Secretary Blaine and the President.

As a matter of general interest we give the following salient points in the recent letter of ex-Secretary Blaine to the President:

Mr. Blaine starts out with the statement that the suggestion of a Congress of all American nations to assemble in the City of Washington for the purpose of agreeing on such a basis of arbitration for international troubles as would remove all possibility of war on the Western Hemisphere was warmly approved by President Garfield, and that the late President's assassination prevented his issuing the invitation to the American States. The ex-Secretary adds that President Arthur, after his accession, received the suggestion with most appreciative consideration, and, after carefully examining the form of invitation, directed it to be sent. Mr. Blaine says he was greatly surprised at the proposition looking to the annullment of such invitation, and at the reasons assigned—which he interprets to mean that we might offend some European Powers if we should hold in the United States a Congress of "selected nationalities" of America. Mr. Blaine expresses the opinion that, "If that movement is now to be arrested for fear it may give offense in Europe, the voluntary humiliation of this Government could not be more complete, unless we should petition European Governments for the privilege of holding the Congress." He says he cannot see how European Governments should feel "jealousy and ill-will" toward the United States because of an effort on our part to assure lasting peace between the nations of America, unless indeed it be to the interest of the European Powers that the American nations should at intervals fall into war, and bring reproach on republican governments. He adds the assertion that the invitation was not his, but President Arthur's, who spoke in the name of the United States to each of the independent nations of America, and that "to revoke that invitation for any cause would be embarrassing; to revoke it for avowed fear of 'jealousy and ill-will' on the part of European Powers would appeal as little to American pride as to American hospitality." Mr. Blaine concludes as follows:

"Beyond the philanthropic and Christian ends to be obtained by the American Conference, devoted to peace and good-will among men, we might well hope for material advantages as a result of a better understanding and closer friendship with the nations of America. At present the condition of trade between the United States and its American neighbors is unsatisfactory to us, and even deplorable. According to the official statistics of our own Treasury Department, the balance against us in that trade last year was $120,000,000—a sum greater than the yearly product of the gold and silver mines in the United States. This vast balance was paid by us in foreign exchange, and a very large proportion of it went to England, where shipments of cotton, provisions and breadstuffs supplied the money. If anything should change or check the balance in our favor in European trade, our commercial exchanges with Spanish America would drain us of our reserve of gold coin at a rate exceeding $100,000,000 per annum, and would probably precipitate the suspension of specie payment in this country. Such a result at home might be worse than a little 'jealousy and ill-will' abroad. I do not say, Mr. President, that the holding of a Peace Congress will necessarily change the currents of trade, but it will bring us into kindly relations with all the American nations; it will promote the reign of peace, and law, and order; it will increase production and consumption, and will stimulate the demand for articles which American manufacturers can furnish with profit. It will, at all events, be a friendly and auspicious beginning in the direction of American influence and American trade in a large field which we have hitherto greatly neglected, and which has been practically monopolized by our commercial rivals in Europe."

THE PRESIDENT'S POSITION.

A Washington dispatch of the 3d says:

"It is understood that after the circular invitation for an International Congress was issued, another set of instructions was given Trescott, authorizing him, when he left Chili, to return by Buenos Ayres and Rio de Janeiro. The date of meeting, as the circular stated, was put at a remote day, in hopes that the existing differences in South America might at that time be arranged, and all take a peaceable part in a general Congress. When the President's attention was first called to this second instruction to Trescott to visit Brazil and the Argentine Republic with express reference to this International Congress, thus precipitating the whole matter, he simply directed that Trescott should not go on that mission, and the President has not revoked the invitation to an International Congress; but it has been understood that, as Congress is now assembled, it is proposed to submit the whole subject to it, and that he will be controlled in his action by its will. The instructions do not refer to Europe, or to any other friendly Powers than those which were to be reached by invitation to the International Congress. Whether Mr. Frelinghuysen's phraseology admits of a broader construction is not the question which concerns the President. What he directed simply was that Trescott should not have a consultation and negotiation with two out of all the friendly Powers on this continent."

—Jeff Davis, long blind in one eye, has nearly lost the sight of the other.