The Evening Times

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Circulation Statement.

The circulation of The Times for the week ended June 29, 1901, was as follows:

Sunday, June 23	19,481
Monday, June 24	39,334
Tuesday, June 25	39,046
Wednesday, June 26	40,294
Thursday, June 27	39,283
Friday, June 28	39,658
Saturday, June 29	39,474
Total	257,080
Daily average (Sunday, 19,481, excepted)	39,593

Porto Rico's Plea.

The Porto Rican Legislature celebrated the anniversary of American Independence by passing a resolution urging President McKinley to proclaim free trade between the island and the mainland to become operative on July 25, on which date in 1898 the Stars and Stripes made their local appearance. Governor Allen signed the resolution and it will be at once transmitted to Washington for Executive action.

According to the showing made by the insular treasury, no excuse appears to be left for continuing the Dingley oppression of the Territory. Probably Mr. McKinley is agreeable to the proposition to abolish it. "Our plain duty to Porto Rico" was ignored in the first instance only because its performance would have established a precedent applicable to trade with the Philippines. Now that Congress and the Supreme Court have agreed that the Constitution does not extend beyond the limits of the constituent States of the Union, and that its provisions, immunities, and prohibitions only apply to the Territories as Congress may grant them by affirmative legislation, all present danger to trust and monopoly interests from free trade with our great sugar, tobacco, rice, and hemp producing possession in the Far East has been removed, and the motive which led to the imposition of an unconstitutional customs tax upon Porto Rican commerce no longer exists in any force. So it is likely that the petition of the Territorial Legislature will be granted. If so, a new era of prosperity will dawn upon Porto Rico and her people will again become as prosperous as they were under the tyranny of Spain, which is all they seem to ask or expect.

Trade With China.

A reader of The Times asks us to explain what commodities will constitute our future trade with China, and how the Chinese will be able to buy and pay for them after being educated to need and desire the same.

The question may be answered generally in a convincing manner, though not perhaps in detail from our stock of knowledge on the subject. We have no reason to doubt that were Mr. Rockhill here, he could furnish a long list of American productions which under reasonably favorable conditions, such as would be supplied by an open-door policy, could be marketed to advantage in the Celestial Kingdom.

Before the Boxer outbreak our trade in kerosene, flour, and cheap cotton cloths already had reached important proportions. China is a country of little wood. There is no reason why our cheap furniture and other lumber products should not go there profitably. Then, the Empire possesses a vast field of superior coal, which no doubt is destined to fully supply the needs of the military and merchant navies resorting to Chinese waters. This coal field will demand American mining machinery and equipment, and so will the extensive Chinese iron deposits and so on.

Left to themselves and in their present condition, it is indeed possible that the Chinamen might not be able to secure the means and facilities for development. But it is to be remembered that the coal, iron, and other mines of the region are not to be exploited by natives, but by European experts and capitalists. The results in taxable values and revenue to the Chinese Government will constitute the first advantage to the State from the new order of things. Similarly, England, Brussels, Hamburg, Frankfort, and Vienna came over here and built railways for us in the seventies. The foreigners owned the lines for a time, but the American people had them, have them, and have and do profit from their construction in one way or another. The Chinese unquestionably also will profit by the enterprise of foreign investors. It is true that the country has a large population, and one which under current conditions is moving ominously toward the point at which the pressure upon food resources is too great for the local supply to furnish. Only by the most painstaking and rigid economies are the Chinese masses able to find sustenance, and even at that whole viceroyalties are decimated frequently by famine.

The introduction of Western enterprise and methods will furnish the natives with new opportunities for employment, and hence with the means to buy food. The future of American foodstuffs in Asia is bright, unless they should be shut out by a tariff as wrong in economy and as oppressive as ours is to the masses of America.

Depew Still at It.

In a very mild way the press cablegram from Paris informs the American public that Chauncey M. Depew has been making a fool of himself again—which surprises no one on this side of the water.

The gentleman who, nominally, in part, represents New York in the United States Senate, made a speech at a meeting of the French Chamber of Commerce. The report states that he began with jokes and spread-eagleism, but finally he became serious. A professional and official clown is never so utterly ridiculous as when he attempts to become serious, and evidently Mr. Depew furnished a perfect example of the truth of this statement. It seemed that in his "third term" talk he had reached the acme of his capacity for blundering when he attempted to become grave, but that effort was fairly outdone by his effort in Paris.

Mr. Depew declared that it was not Krupp, Creuzot, or Armstrong that would hereafter rule the world, but the industrial trusts would do it. "Americans," he said, "could form trusts against the world, but the world was unable to respond against America. Ergo America would soon rule the world." In other words, the American Senator stood there in the presence of the French Chamber of Commerce and in effect declared that America was a commercial pirate, whose highest ambition it was to take advantage of her position and by the formation of giant trusts literally to strangle the industries of the rest of the world. What an elaborate Fourth of July sentiment that was, to be sure! And this speech closely followed that of Mr. Millerand in which the Frenchman had uttered not a narrow or selfish thought, but had spoken of America in the most beautiful and affectionate terms. Further comment is superfluous.

"Oom Paul's" Defiance.

Presumably, when General Lord Kitchener permitted the Boer Commandant General Botha to exchange cipher cable messages with President Kruger, he thought that the correspondence would result in a movement favorable to peace. If so, he and the British Government have been badly disappointed.

What Botha may have said in his communication is unknown to the public, but it is announced that the hard-headed old chief of the South African Republic promptly replied in terms indicated by a proclamation to the burghers, issued immediately after receipt of his message, declaring that nothing short of independence would satisfy Mr. Kruger, and that fighting must continue until that should be accomplished.

In view of this fresh defiance it is not surprising that Mr. St. John Brodrick, Under Secretary of State for War, should say in the House of Commons yesterday that the Government could entertain no policy or purpose but that of carrying on the war to the bitter end. He asserted that it would be foolish for anybody to expect Great Britain now to offer terms which it would not have granted six months ago, and notified the country that the ministry was prepared to see the South African struggle through to a victorious conclusion, no matter how much time or treasure might be consumed in the operation.

The South African situation thus takes on a new phase. Heretofore there has seemed to be some chance that even President Kruger would realize the hopelessness of continuing the war and consent to peace on the best conditions obtainable from Lord Salisbury's Government. It has been thought, also, that should he prove obdurate, the Boer leaders in the field might take the game in their own hands and make terms of surrender. Both ideas now appear to be exploded. Kruger is desperately determined upon resistance to "the last man, the last dollar, and the last ditch," and Botha and his colleagues in command of the South African and Free State forces seem to be entirely willing to abide by his views and advice. So the uncomfortable prospect for Great Britain is that the contest will continue indefinitely.

The opinion of several intelligent military observers who recently have left the theatre of war in South Africa is that there is still plenty of opportunity for the Boers to inflict disasters upon the British arms. Lord Kitchener to be sure has an army of two hundred thousand or more at his call, while the other side cannot have more than twelve or fifteen thousand effective fighting men. Such a disparity would easily settle the matter, but for the fact that with thousands of miles of territory to cover, much of it occupied by a population inimical to the invaders, the British lines are so long and attenuated, and the difficulties of transport so great, especially during the South African winter months, that a comparatively small body of Boers can strike almost any point on the line, central depots with large garrisons excepted, with excellent chances of success.

This consideration is neither unknown to the British war authorities, nor to the cabinets and war offices of Europe, and the general conditions must be recognized as extremely unfavorable to British prestige and to the promotion of imperial interests in many parts of the world. The longer the preoccupation shall last, the greater will become the danger of complications which might seriously affect Great Britain's position in Egypt, her policy with respect to the near Eastern question, and even the safety of her Indian Empire, in view of the steady approach of Russia to the frontiers of that great possession. To the outside world it would seem that almost any concession in South Africa would be preferable to the perpetuation of dangers which appear to menace the Anglo-Saxon power in Europe and Asia. But the Tory Government has accepted the gauntlet thrown down by "Oom Paul" and doubtless will fight to a finish, if a finish can be regarded as probable to arrive within the next year.

Of course, in a military sense it would be theoretically possible to put a period upon the war by the employment of enough troops to swamp opposition all over the field of operations. But that would require an additional force of one or two hundred thousand men, which it is not believed the British authorities could raise even were the question of expense eliminated, which it cannot be. Already the war is costing a million dollars a day. It is hardly probable that the British taxpayer would consent to see that expense doubled, for the sake of extinguishing the light of liberty in two little South African States. England's position today on the whole is the reverse of enviable.

The Bulls Were Not Killed.

Full reports of the Omaha bullfights show them to have been of such a character as to leave the Nebraska Humane Society in a curious and even absurd position. The officers of the society protested against the exhibition, but were induced, so it was reported, to withdraw their protest by representations that the final blow killed the bull so quickly that he really suffered no pain.

Well, the fights came off, and the bulls were not killed at all. The matadors carried huge swords but they were mere dummies covered with tinfoil, and not calculated to do any harm. They were for show only. The bulls and the toreadors met, and lo! the bulls did not receive the stroke of mercy. They were not killed—they were simply tortured with darts and worried until they were exhausted. A nice exhibition, that! And there sat the solemn-visaged representatives of the Humane Society viewing the chaste performance and probably enjoying the "fun." Possibly they were instrumental in having the programme changed so that the lives of the animals might be spared. At any rate, their ideas of humanity seemed to be fully met by having the bulls leave the arena alive.

According to this notion, there is nothing cruel in torture. The use of the rack, the thumbscrew, the iron boot, etc., is merely amusement, so long as the victim is not killed. These bulls suffered a hundredfold more than they would in the ordinary process of slaughter—nay, they suffered more than they would if at reasonably early stages of the encounters, the matadors, caught in dangerous straits, had struck the fatal blows.

All in all, it was a curious affair. In popular belief humane societies are designed not merely to prevent the killing of dumb animals, but cruelty to them. If it is not cruelty to turn a bull into an arena and then pierce him with darts and worry him until he is exhausted, the President of the Nebraska Society should deliver a public lecture explaining exactly what in his pious and merciful judgment would be cruelty.

Mr. Choate's London Address.

It is probable that in addressing the Anglo-American company which celebrated the Fourth of July in London, Ambassador Choate spoke eloquently and entertainingly. He nearly always does. It is to be regretted, though, that his speech was not a little more distinctly American, rather than of a mixed type. Mr. Choate has aimed to make himself popular in British society, and he appears to have succeeded. This is perfectly proper save to the extent that his popularity has been won by anything like an abandonment of purely American ideals.

The American Minister began his speech by congratulating the company on the unexampled prosperity of the United States, which he ascribed to Providence, to the wise fathers who devised our system of government, and, in brief, to the hard work of the people. This is altogether true, but it hardly squares with the partisan claim that it is all owing to the Dingley tariff. It would not have done in that assemblage for Mr. Choate to have laid our prosperity at the door of a measure which the British contingent regards as the height of political unwisdom, and which, in fact, is to them, as a red flag flaunted into the face of a bull. That stock Republican argument was discreetly and properly omitted.

Mr. Choate's reference to rich men devoting their superfluous wealth to libraries, universities, and hospitals, was very well so far as it went; but he left it in such shape that the reader might be led to suppose that rich men generally were doing that identical thing, when in truth none of them are devoting anywhere near all of their surplus in that way, and very many are giving nothing at all for the purposes indicated. Nor did Mr. Choate touch upon the evils of a system by which a single individual, of no extraordinary genius, can amass two or three hundred millions of dollars, mainly through the operation of unjust and unequal laws. But then it was the glorious Fourth, and of course it was not necessary for him to say unpleasant things.

The really objectionable part of his discourse was that in which he expressed a desire for the creation of a class of young men who would not need to work for a livelihood, but who would devote themselves to the public service without hope of reward except such good as they would do their fellowmen. This is a distinctly English idea, and it is suggestive of the building up of an American aristocracy. Of course he couples it with the far-fetched qualification that they should be disinterested and bent wholly upon doing good. There is nothing observable in the present character of rich young men generally in this country to justify the hope that they could ever be induced to go into the governing business in a thoroughly disinterested spirit. They may be less ambitious and less energetic than their poorer fellow-citizens, but they have yet to furnish evidence of their disinterestedness.

The lack of superior fitness in America's gilded youth is also painfully manifest, and if Mr. Choate is desirous of setting up a governing class of rich young men he should be prepared to devise some system of early education and discipline that would give a guarantee of both capacity and character. Rich young men are sometimes of very feeble intellect, and if the government of the country is to be turned over to the wealthy there should be competitive examinations of the most rigid sort.

But the whole idea is un-American. It would virtually exclude ninety-nine one-hundredths of our young men from any potential voice in the Government and, in nearly the same proportion, reduce the chances of the best intellect reaching the highest and most important stations. We may be sure that this great thought, uttered for the edification of an Anglo-American assemblage in London, will not very soon be accepted by the people of the Republic which Mr. Choate represents.

Baron von Call, Austrian Minister of Commerce, in a recent interview is quoted as saying that his country does not desire an economic war with the United States, and would like to deal with us on terms of fair reciprocity. Among other matters referred to the Baron said that Austria would feel compelled to protect home manufacturers of certain classes of machinery from American competition, but would be willing to except other classes not produced but largely used in the Empire. He thought that if the Washington Government would meet him half way, an arrangement satisfactory to both sides could be reached. The Minister may not be aware that a strong and perhaps dominant party in our Congress is bitterly hostile to reciprocity of any sort, and much prefers a general tariff war with all Europe—which will certainly occur if they have their way at the next session.

Morgan, Widener, and the other multimillionaire missionaries have returned home across the herring pond, and Europe no doubt is breathing more freely in consequence. The head of the delegation, and also of the Steel Trust, denies that he bought Windsor Castle. Probably he found the plumbing defective. Relieved from the fear of being bought out and turned out of business our English cousins may now address themselves to the tasks of losing supply trains and garrisons in South Africa, and making King Edward Emperor of Canada, Australia, and Jamaica. As a matter of fact one more title will not matter much to him one way or another. He has a large and varied assortment of them already; but the powers and prerogatives they nominally represent are held and exercised not by him, but by his loyal Commons.

Dr. Warmann, our Consul at Munich, who has just arrived in the United States on leave, states that if legitimate American physicians, surgeons, and dentists are not to be excluded from the practice of their professions in Germany, this Government will have to take steps to prevent the introduction into the Empire of Americans armed with bogus diplomas, who are giving the German authorities a great deal of annoyance. The abuse is certain not to be long tolerated and unless prevented will soon lead to a general order of exclusion. The warning is timely and should be heeded.

Among other notables brought over by the steamer Deutschland on the glorious Fourth, there arrived a new Turkish Minister, whose name is Chekib Bey. He is represented as an accomplished diplomat, and is credited with the mission of settling differences between this country and the Sublime Porte. Let us hope for his success. There may be a little trouble about the matter, however, on account of his imperial master's indisposition to settle anything involving cash payments.

DEATH OF JOHN FISKE.

The Historian Expires From the Effects of the Heat.

GLOUCESTER, Mass., July 5.—Prof. John Fiske, of Cambridge, the distinguished lecturer, historian, and student who died at the Hawthorne Inn, East Gloucester, yesterday, was born in Hartford, Conn., on March 30, 1842, being the only child of Edmund Brewster Green, of Smyrna, Del., who married Mary Fiske Bound, of Middletown, Conn. His father was the edeitor of newspapers in Hartford, New York, and Panama, where he died in 1852.

In 1855, when her son was thirteen years old, the widow married the Hon. Edwin W. Stoughton, once United States Minister to Russia. Up to this time the lad's name had been Edmund Fiske Green, but now he took the name of his maternal great-grandfather, John Fiske.

From his earliest childhood until 1869 young Fiske divided his time between his mother's home in New York and his grandmother's in Middletown. Up to the time of his death he felt more at home in New York than in Boston, which he saw for the first time in 1869, when he entered the sophomore class at Harvard College. His strong taste for the sciences and the languages had long since made itself manifest. Before he was eight years old he had read all of Shakspeare's plays. At eighteen, besides his Greek and Latin, he could read fluently French, Spanish, Portuguese, Italian, and German, and had gained a fair command of Dutch, Danish, Swedish, and Anglo-Saxon, besides making a beginning in Icelandic, Gothic, Hebrew, and Sanskrit. In college the studies of which he was especially fond were history, philosophy, and comparative philology. He was graduated from the college in 1863 and from the Harvard law school two years later.

Mr. Fiske opened a law office in Boston, and found it a convenient place for studying history. His first book, which was preceded by many essays in reviews, magazines, and newspapers, was "Myths and Myth-Makers," published in 1872. This was followed in 1874 by a work which immediately attracted the notice of many of the keenest minds in England and the United States, "Outlines of Cosmic Philosophy." This work was based upon a series of lectures which Mr. Fiske had delivered at Harvard in 1869 and 1871, and which he repeated in Boston, New York, and London.

Other volumes of essays on philosophical, historical, religious, artistic, scientific, and literary topics, followed—"The Unseen World and Other Essays," "Darwinism and Other Essays," and "Excursions of an Evolutionist."

During the last twenty years Mr. Fiske devoted his time almost exclusively to American history.

His historical works include "American Political Ideas," "The Critical Period of American History, 1783-1789," "The Beginnings of New England," and in the Riverside Library for Young People "The War of Independence," "The American Revolution (two volumes), and "Discovery of America" (two volumes).

Since 1879 he had been a member of the board of overseers of Harvard University.

A Windy Platform.

(From the Omaha World Herald.)

The Ohio Republican convention declared in favor of a revision of the revenue laws of the State so that all classes of property will bear their just burdens of taxation. As the Republicans have had control of the legislative and executive branches of the State Government for several consecutive years, one is impelled to wonder why they have not long since accomplished the revision. But does anyone believe that the Republican managers of Ohio mean what they say in that resolution? Does any one imagine for a moment that the managers would enact and enforce a law compelling the Standard Oil Company to bear its share of the burden?

A Good Argument.

(From the Boston Herald.)

Mr. Herbert makes the point that the Southern people, in preventing the negroes from participating in the suffrage, are doing exactly what the Republicans of the nation are saying it is necessary to public safety should be done in the Philippine Islands. The Southerners are recognizing that there is an inferior race in the Southern States as there is in the Eastern islands, and that it is not safe to permit either of these to participate in the Government of this country. In what may be termed the strictly logical view of the case, the argument is unassailable.

General Gomez.

(From the Chicago Chronicle.)

General Gomez will learn a great deal in the United States. He may study the example of our greatest revolutionist, who became the father of his country and its most revered citizen. Gomez is at a disadvantage, as he is not a native of Cuba. But he is honored by its people and may acquire their confidence. With universal suffrage, which the convention has adopted, he may reach any office in the new republic.

Made in America.

(From the Boston Bulletin.)

Among the gold medalists and honorary mentions at the International Exhibition in Paris were the Arlington Mills of Lawrence, the Hockanum Company of Rockville, Conn., and the Botany Mills of Passaic, N. J. When American worsteds and woolens take away the palm for design, make and finish from European goods in a European exposition it really does seem as if tailors might cease advertising "Genuine Imported Goods."

Divine Purposes.

(From the Indianapolis News.)

A woman living in Sullivan, Ind., declares she has received a divine command to secure a divorce from her husband. This is about the worst since our annexationists claimed to have a call from providence to develop the Philippine Islands. Wonderful how close our intimacy with divine purposes is getting to be!

Ingrates.

(From the Galveston News.)

This country might have been indifferent to the ingratitude of the Cubans when it relieved them of Spanish rule, but when it has rid them of the mosquito pest, and they are still ungrateful, surely it has a right to complain.

General Sickles' Reputation.

(From the Philadelphia Times.)

General Sickles has injured his reputation by becoming the champion of the cormorants and sharks who are seeking to raid the Treasury.

Beyond Him.

(From the Chicago Tribune.)

The billionaire sighed dismally.

"What is the trouble now?" asked his confidential man of business.

"Alas!" he said, "at the rate at which I have accumulated the paltry sum I am now worth I find I shall have to live 25,000 years longer in order to be a trillionaire! And that, you know, is absurd!"

Whereat he sighed still more dismally.

SENATOR KYLE'S SUCCESSOR.

Mr. Penrose Spoken of for Chairman of the Industrial Commission.

Considerable interest is displayed in the selection of a successor to the late Senator Kyle on the Industrial Commission. Mr. Kyle was Chairman of the Commission, and, while he did not attend all of its sessions, he was more regular in his attendance than any other of the Congressional members. He had given the subject much attention, and as Chairman of the Commission and a member of the Senate he would have had a great deal to do with shaping its recommendations to Congress. The summer is to be devoted to this work and the whole subject presented to Congress in December.

Now that Senator Kyle is dead the Commission is temporarily without a head, although ex-Representative Phillips, who has been vice chairman and acting chairman for a greater part of the time, will doubtless act in that capacity until Mr. Kyle's successor is selected. The act creating the Commission provides that it shall consist of five members of the Senate, five of the House and nine Commissioners from civil life. It also stipulates that should any of the Congressional contingent be so unfortunate as to lose his seat in Congress while serving as a member of the Industrial Commission he shall continue as civilian member and draw $3,600 per annum. Senator Kyle, however, died while in the Senate, so that it is expected his successor will be appointed from the Senate by Vice President Roosevelt. The position will be largely an honorary one, as it is scarcely probable that a Senator appointed at this late day would have the opportunity to do more than play a passive part.

The Commission, however, must choose a new chairman, and it is probable, should the choice fall on one of the Senatorial members, that the new chairman will be Senator Penrose of Pennsylvania. He and Senator Bard of California are the remaining Republican Senators on the Commission, and Senator Bard's financial interests in California are such that it is scarcely probable he would care to act as chairman of the Commission. On the other hand, although Mr. Penrose has not been assiduous in his attention to the work, he has been present at a number of meetings and has taken more than a desultory interest in the subject. As Pennsylvania furnished more corporations for investigation than any other State, Mr. Penrose's constituents are deeply interested in the subject, especially in the investigation of the relation between the trusts and the tariff.

Should Mr. Penrose be passed over or decline to serve the choice will most likely fall on Mr. Phillips, vice chairman of the Commission. It was largely due to his efforts that the bill creating the Commission became a law. He has taken the deepest interest in the work and has been a constant attendant on the sessions of the Commission. He was chairman of the House Committee on Labor and has always been interested in labor matters.

As a preliminary to the work of drafting the final recommendations to Congress a subcommittee will go over all the testimony taken by the Commission, as well as the immense amount of additional data at hand, and compile it in such a shape that the final recommendations may be made from it. The review itself will not contain any recommendations. The subjects will be treated under ten heads: Summary of, progress of, and conditions of industry generally, agriculture, mining, manufacture and general business, industrial combinations, transportation, labor, immigration, the negro problem and taxation.

DEAL OF THE PENNSYLVANIA.

The Railroad Company Secures an Immense Abattoir Plant.

PHILADELPHIA, July 5.—The Pennsylvania Railroad Company has concluded a deal through Robert Pitcairn, superintendent of the Pittsburg division of the railroad, for the purchase of the abattoir, stockyards, and business of the Pittsburg Provision Company for a sum between $600,000 and $700,000. The property will be transferred to the Pennsylvania Railroad. An arrangement was also made by Mr. Pitcairn for the leasing of the new yards and abattoir to Samuel W. Allerton, of Chicago, probably the largest cattle owner and feeder in America.

The East Liberty stockyards will be abandoned and extensions will at once be made on the Herrs Island property that will make them the finest yards east of Chicago. Between $1,500,000 and $2,000,000 will be spent. A new passenger station for East Liberty will probably result. One of the most pleasing features of the transfer will be the removal of the stockyards from the East Liberty residence section and the stoppage of the live stock traffic through the city on the main line of the Pennsylvania. The deal is one of the most important of its kind ever concluded.

Arrangements have already been made for the formation of the Pittsburg Provision and Packing Company, and it is expected that next Wednesday the company will be formally organized by the election of Mr. Allerton president and Mr. O'Donnell general manager.

It is probable that the yard will be made 50 per cent larger than the present yards at East Liberty, and the arrangement will be such as to give every facility for handling cars and feeding and watering animals in transit with the greatest economy.

The stock yards at East Liberty are now capable of handling between 250 and 300 cars of cattle each market day, about 10,000 sheep, and about 15,000 hogs. It will probably have a capacity for from 300 to 400 cars of cattle each week, about 15,000 sheep, and about 20,000 hogs. The new yard may be finished within six or eight months.

It is also the purpose to double the capacity of the abattoir of the Pittsburg Provision Company on Herrs Island so that it will have facilities for the killing of more than 1,000 or 1,200 cattle weekly and from 6,000 to 7,000 sheep and hogs. It is expected that the improvements contemplated will cost between $1,500,000 and $2,000,000, and possibly more.

The new yards will have the advantage of being not only on the Pennsylvania but also on the Pittsburg and Western and on the Pittsburg Junction Railroad, which gives connection with the Baltimore and Ohio. The yard will be a union yard in every respect, whereas the East Liberty yard has been merely a one-line affair.

It is the intention, as soon as the Union Depot and the passenger terminal work in the city are completed, to build a splendid new passenger depot in East Liberty. This has been badly needed for years, but the difficulty of obtaining ground has prevented any plans from being placed in execution. The remainder of the ground will be utilized in the storage of passenger cars. The Pennsylvania has been in need of such facilities for years. The transfer will not only remove what has been a nuisance to the residence district of Point Breeze, but will remove all obstacles for the improvement of East Liberty passenger facilities.

Then He Fainted.

(From the Memphis Scimitar.)

The man who knew many things was instructing the new and verdant stenographer as to the use of the various office appliances, and finally introduced her to the speaking tube.

"Now, see," said the man; "you put one tube to your ear and the other to your mouth, then whistle."

"Into which one do I whistle?" asked the guileless stenographer.

"Heavens," cried the man, "which one do you suppose you whistle in, the one at your ear or the one at your mouth?"

"That was what I wanted to know," said the stenographer, "for I whistle as I sing, entirely by ear."

THE VIRGINIA CONVENTION.

A Highly Interesting Discussion Promised on the Bill of Rights.

RICHMOND, Va., July 5.—It is doubtful whether the Constitutional Convention when it reassembles Tuesday, will have a quorum. As soon as it does, the report of the Committee on Bill of Rights will be submitted and the question of changing that section in the bill setting forth the supremacy of the Federal Constitution will bring on a highly interesting debate. This subject has already attracted considerable attention among the leading members of the body. These, when the report comes up, will take a conspicuous part in presenting their views on the report of the committee. The plain, practical business men, those without sentiment, are opposed to making any changes along the line proposed. They think it may hurt business, and if it does not they hardly see that anything substantial is to be accomplished by adopting the views of the Committee on the Bill of Rights.

Senator Daniel, however, said about another matter which touched the people equally close that the whole lives of the nation and the people are made up of "sentiment."

It seems to be pretty well settled that nothing definite is likely to be done along the line of franchise changes for some little time. Many of the southwestern members obtained leaves of absence extending beyond Tuesday. This will enable them to have a good opportunity of talking with their constituents over the different plans of disfranchisement proposed. There are about twenty now pending before Senator Daniel's committee. When these southwestern members come back they will be better able to vote both on the question of proclaiming the suffrage clause and as to how far disfranchisement may go, so far as the whites are concerned. Indeed, this latter is the only phase of the subject that is giving the leaders in the convention any trouble. There is a strong disposition to oppose a poll tax or property qualifications to the right of exercise of suffrage, unless the whites are exempted by the military or some other provision.

A MOST UNIQUE CELEBRATION.

Woodstock, Va., Inaugurates a Water System on the Fourth.

WOODSTOCK, Va., July 5.—Fully 8,000 persons were here yesterday and participated in the Fourth of July celebration and opening of Woodstock's new water system. All of the excursion and regular trains were crowded. Hose Companies Nos. 1 and 4, of Harrisonburg; the Relief Hose Company, of Front Royal; the Sarah Zane and Friendship Hose Companies and Rouss Hook and Ladder Company, of Winchester, were present. The parade was a fine one, including the above, with the Cavalry Cornet Band, of near Woodstock; Shenandoah Fire Company and Hose Company No. 1, of Woodstock, and Sarah Zane steamer, of Winchester.

Four companies contested for the reel prizes of $150. The first was won by Hose Company No. 4, of Harrisonburg; Friendship, of Winchester, second, and Hose Company No. 1, of Harrisonburg, third.

The water supply is furnished by three springs which rise in the Massanutton Mountain, south of the town. They flow from 150,000 to 200,000 gallons of pure freestone water every twenty-four hours, which is conveyed to the reservoir. A test shows that the water from the fire plugs can be thrown much higher than the highest house in town. The reservoir, built on the most substantial plan, holds 1,000,000 gallons of water.

Two hose companies have been organized by the citizens, and are equipped with reels and 500 feet of hose and all appurtenances necessary for fire fighting.

A CORNER IN BROOM CORN.

The Trust Succeeds in Buying Up a Short Crop.

CHICAGO, July 5.—During the thirty-six years that central Illinois has been the headquarters of the broom-corn industry, the market position of crop has not been as disturbed, unsettled, and uncertain as at the present time.

The principal cause is that the yield of 1899 and 1900 has practically gone into consumption and the acreage of the present crop is some 11,000 acres less than last year. A recent farm-to-farm canvass of the district devoted to broom corn shows an average decrease in acreage of 60 per cent. Panic prices are therefore again likely to prevail.

Advices from Mattoon, Ill., state that the Union Broom Supply Company has raised the price to $120 a ton. Three hundred tons in a warehouse at Paris has been sold to Eastern manufacturers for $110 a ton. This corn was cornered for $50 and $60 a ton.

This week nearly 2,000 tons has been purchased by the trust in Mattoon, Humboldt, Arcola, and Tuscola for $100 and more in an effort to score exclusive control. Fifteen Eastern manufacturers are in the combine. Price will be raised to $150 to outsiders. The trust is buying up the Kansas crop and offering $90 a ton for the crop now being raised.

CURRENT HUMOR.

Not the Eggs.

(From the Philadelphia Press.)

Mrs. Housekeep—Jane, are the eggs boiling?

Cook (formerly of Boston)—Most assuredly not, madame. Albeit, I believe I may safely say the water is in which they have been immersed.

Not Sport.

(From the Cleveland Plain Dealer.)

"I see that the cup defender Constitution takes trial trips on Sunday. Is it right to indulge in sport on the day of rest?"

"Trips in a cup defender don't come under the head of sport. They are classed as dangerous scientific experiments!"

Eggsactly.

(From the Philadelphia Press.)

"What are you doing there?" cried the farm dog as he observed the hen in the coal bin.

"Oh, I thought this was a good time to lay in coal," cackled the hen.

An Exception.

(From the Philadelphia Record.)

"Here's a woman," said the query editor, "who asks: 'Should a married woman in writing a letter sign herself "Mrs. John Smith?"'"

"Certainly," replied the snake editor, "unless her name happened to be 'Mrs. William Jones.'"

It Was the Wrong Foot.

(From the Chicago News.)

It was a Pullman sleeper, and just across from the bachelor's berth was a handsome little woman and her three-year-old boy. Early in the morning the two were laughing and playing together and the good-natured bachelor smiled to himself as he arose to dress. Suddenly a little foot peeped out from the curtains of the opposite berth, and, with a twinkle in his eye, the bachelor grabbed the plump toe and began: "This little pig went to market, this little——"

"That is my foot, sir," said the indignant voice of a woman.

The silence that followed could be heard above the roar of the train.

Adjourned Unanimously.

(From the Boston Courier.)

Correspondent (approaching Irish sergeant)—I am told, sergeant, that you had a skirmish with the enemy this morning.

Sergeant—We did that, sor.

Correspondent—And did you come off with flying colors?

Sergeant—Flovin' colors, is it? Bedad, it wasn't ownly the colors that was flovin', but ivery mother's son of us in the bargain.

A Slander.

(From the Boston Transcript.)

Green—They say that Senator Keener is on the make. They even go so far as to say that that new house of his was given him in payment for his vote.

Gray—It puts me all out of temper to hear such slanders! It is as far as possible from the truth! I know all about it. It was this way: Some people who were interested in a certain bill bet him that house that he would vote against the bill, and he didn't and won the house. That was all there was about. The idea of Keener being open to bribery!

NOTES OF THE DAY.

One hundred and fifty cubic feet of cork go to the ton, and only two cubic feet of gold.

The world raised 277,000,000 tons of coal in 1800, against 4,020,000,000 tons last year.

Canada has the largest forest in the world. It is in the Labrador and Hudson Bay district, and is roughly, 1,000 by 1,700 miles.

One thousand and forty million gallons of beer brewed yearly in the United Kingdom equals the total amount brewed by America, France, and Austria.

Competition of electric tramways is alluded to in many of the half-yearly reports of English railways as affecting short-distance passenger movement.

The eucalyptus trees on the Island of Tasmania sometimes attain great size. One that has been measured is 330 feet high, and some are said to attain a height of 400 feet.

The Rogues' Album (seventeen volumes) of the Berlin police contained in 1899 the photographs of 17,980 criminals. In 1898 the number of criminals captured with the aid of these photographs was 180.

In celebrating Arbor Day at Gaylord, Kan., the exercises consisted of thirty-one pieces, spoken by children, and a lot of songs, and when the programme was finished it was too late to plant any trees.

The dean and chapter of Westminster are entitled to claim as "perquisites" every article which is taken into the Abbey for the purpose of the coronation, and that reverend body reaped rich harvests in 1821, 1831, and 1838.

The police authorities always look for an epidemic of crime as soon as the hot weather sets in. Statistics prove that the taking of human life, either by murder or suicide, is nearly 50 per cent higher in summer than in winter.

Although the diameter of the earth has been roughly known for many years it has only lately been acurately ascertained, after thirty years' labor and at a cost of $500,000. It is 7,926 miles at the equator, and 7,899 from pole to pole.

Milwaukee has twice as many saloons as Detroit, though the population of the two cities is almost exactly the same, but in Milwaukee, a beer-drinking city, the number of arrests for drunkenness is considerably less than in Detroit.

A man in Ray county, Mo., became convinced recently that he had incipient consumption. Every time he drew a full breath he heard a crackling sound. The doctor discovered the crackling sound was made by a small buckle on his suspenders.

New York has in a year about 45,000 arrests for drunkenness, or at the rate of about 125 a day. The population of Chicago is one-half that of New York, and at the same ratio the number of arrests in Chicago should be 24,000 a year. Actually it is 40,000.

One of the curiosities of the Bank of England is to be seen in the printing room. A man sits at a desk, and every three seconds a machine delivers to him two complete £5 notes. If he sits there six hours he receives over $850,000, and in 300 days over $300,000,000.

A secret service fund is voted yearly by Parliament for the purpose of defeating conspiracies against the State. Last year £13,000 was paid to spies who were employed for this purpose. For a copy of a treaty between France and Russia, known as the treaty of Tilsit, Great Britain once paid £40,000.

Hawaii when annexed to the United States was in debt nearly $5,000,000, not including about $750,000 due on account of the postal savings system of the islands. Under the terms of the resolution of annexation $4,000,000 of the debt and the postal system accounts are to be paid by the United States, and the Treasury Department has already set about the task.

Theoretically there are no slaves in Hongkong, as it is British territory, but in reality the city is full of them. They are the maid servants and nurses of the Chinese. Every small-footed lady needs slaves to help her about, and in the houses of the rich, where there are many daughters, it is not uncommon to find from twenty to thirty slaves in a single family.

"Scot," the Chicago collie dog that in the past five years has saved a dozen lives along the lake shore was shot on Tuesday by a policeman on the complaint of the mother of a boy whom the dog has rescued from drowning. In pulling the boy to shore "Scot" happened to bite him on the leg, and the boy fearing he might be punished by his mother for bathing in the lake, told her that he had been attacked by the dog in the park and bitten.

Sign painting is added to the list of trades practiced by women in Berlin. Women sign painters undergo a regular apprenticeship; they are taught how to use the brush and to mix paints. Gymnastic training is carefully gone into before they are allowed to ascend a scaffolding, so that they may not lose their nerve when standing on a ladder. They were the grey linen frock and cap which are the house painters' badge, as well as his defence against paint.

For seven years a unique pigeon post has been in operation between Avalon, on Santa Catalina Island, and Los Angeles, in California, a distance of about fifty miles. Over tweny miles of this distance is across the Pacific Ocean. In the ordinary course five hours are required between the two towns, but the pigeons often cover the distance in less than an hour. Private messages, business orders, etc., are forwarded at prices varying from 50 to 75 cents per message.

In locating the Virginia and Southwestern Railroad through the Alleghenies from Virginia into Tennessee advantage was taken of a natural tunnel which is one of the wonders of the world. The distance through the tunnel is about 1,000 feet, and so nearly perfect is the tunnel that only 60 feet of blasting was necessary. The region is of limestone formation, as always where there are extensive caves. The cliffs at each end of the tunnel are 400 feet high, and the scenery in the locality is remarkably fine.

At a recent meeting of the Paris Academy of Sciences M. Berthelot discussed Egyptian metals and the presence of platinum among the characters of a hieroglyphic inscription. A metallic box covered with inscriptions, and dating from about 700 B. C., had a portion of one of its characters made of an alloy of platinum. The specimen was too small for a complete analysis, but from its behavior toward aqua regia it appeared to be a native platinum, possibly obtained from the alluvial deposits of Nubia or the upper regions of the Nile Valley.

In Belgium a new method of propelling cars is being experimented with. The tracks are made powerful magnets which pull the car forward. As there are no moving parts on the car or tracks the troublesome motor is got rid of. The tracks are supplied by current from the power station in the ordinary way; there are field coils along the tracks, and the car also carries coils, the arrangement being such that the current is kept constantly circulating in the