A QUAINT CEREMONY.

Economites Celebrate the Anniversary of Their Organization

WITH PRAYERS AND A BANQUET.

Peculiar Social and Religious Customs of the Harmonites.

COURTSHIP AND MARRIAGE TABOOED.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

ECONOMY, February 15.—Eighty-four years ago to-day, in what was then a wild, forest region of Butler county, this State, there was solemnly and formally organized the most remarkable and unique theocratic community that the world had ever seen since the days of that famous old Grecian philosopher, Pythagoras. Its originator and founder was George Rapp, an humble German farmer, who, with some 600 of his fellow countrymen had fled thither to escape religious persecution in their "Faderland."

Absolute communism was the most important feature of their creed, and those who had wealth agreed, quite as cheerfully as those who had nothing, to throw all their possessions into a common stock. To-day, in this most quaint and curious village of Economy—a place absolutely without a parallel, and far richer in novelty and interest for the stranger than any town on the continent of Europe, or in the far Eastern orient—was witnessed the unique ceremonies with which the simple-minded communists, celibates and pietist-mystics, who comprise its sole owners and inhabitants, annually celebrate the anniversary of the founding of their community.

SOUGHT AN ABIDING PLACE.

The Harmony Society, as Father Rapp called his newly organized sect, has passed through many vicissitudes in the 84 years that have rolled away since the hour that gave it birth. Its first town in Butler county to which the Harmonists gave the name of Harmony, they abandoned after a ten years' residence because of its distance from navigation in the days when railroads were unknown. Removing to the banks of the Wabash river in Posey county, Indiana, they built a new Harmony which they again abandoned at the expiration of another ten years, driven away by the fever and ague which prevailed throughout that region. Then it was, in 1825, that they built this town of Economy, where to-day were enacted the quaint scenes described. It is one of the most picturesque villages in all the world, standing in the midst of an elevated plateau which extends some four miles up and down the Ohio river and slopes gently back to vine-clad hills which skirt it at the distance of nearly a mile.

Two church services, a procession through the principal streets and two elaborate banquets or feasts were among the chief features of to-day's celebration.

THE BANQUET HALL.

One of the first buildings erected at Economy was a large auditorium or public hall with a seating capacity of about 1,000, and there it was that the Harmonists, as they call themselves, or the Economites, as they are popularly called, solemnly feasted together. All the women and girls in the community had devoted several days to a thorough cleaning of this edifice. Many of the choicest calves and beeves had been fattened and killed expressly for this occasion. All the oldest and most experienced cooks in the community, some of whom had assisted at more than 50 previous anniversaries, were on their mettle and had fully determined to make on this occasion "the greatest effort of their lives."

Down in the great wine vaults beneath the hall went Elder Ernest Woelfel, physically the beau ideal of old Simon, the cellarer, who has entire charge of all malt, vinous and spirituous liquors in Economy, where immense quantities of all three are manufactured. All the darkest, remotest corners were thoroughly ransacked for the choicest vintages in the society's vast collection. The beautiful garden, with its extensive conservatory, attached to the "Great House," as the residence of Elders Henrici and Lenz, the leaders and chief dignitaries of the society, is called, had been denuded of its finest flowers to form bouquets and garlands for the adornment of the hall in general and the banqueting tables in particular.

UNIQUE COSTUMES.

Though the vanities of the flesh are severely frowned upon in this calm retreat, many a good old brother and sister brought forth some specially favored garment to wear upon this occasion. The dress of the Harmonists is precisely in accordance with the fashion of provincial Germany in 1805, the year of their immigration. The men all wear long-tailed blue coats and broad-brimmed stovepipe hats, while the women dress in high-waisted, plain-skirted blue gowns and high-pointed caps of blue satin. Their costume is as uniform as that of a company of soldiers, or of the inmates of a charity school.

At daybreak this morning I was awakened by strains of delicious melody, which proceeded from an altitude so great that to the half-slumbering fancy they seemed to come from heaven. Looking from the window of a room in the great rambling hotel which the society still maintains here, in the high tower of the quaint old church in which Father Rapp used to preach and pray every Sunday could be seen the members of the excellent military band which has existed ever since the society was founded, distending their cheeks as though determined to blow their clarionets and horns all to pieces. Everybody hastened to the great hall, where a procession was soon formed to march through the streets to church.

GOING TO CHURCH.

First came Elders Henrici and Lenz, both bowed by the weight of more than 83 years of life, and each with long curling locks—white as snow—hanging nearly to their shoulders and floating out upon the winter winds. They were followed by the other nine elders, who assist in governing the community, while after them came the members of the society and their work people in most quaint procession.

The streets through which they passed are 60 feet in width, crossing each other at right angles. Upon their corners and midway on the intervening sides are erected the dwellings—frame or brick, two stories high, and all of precisely the same unique, economic style of architecture, having but one door—entered from a yard at the side. Each house is surrounded by a large garden. When the procession finally terminated at the church, the scene presented within its walls was a sad one. Death—principally from old age—has reduced the membership of the Harmony Society from 1,000, which it once numbered in the days of its founder, to less than 25 very aged men and women. The society's adoption, in 1807, of the rigid practice of celibacy, which they have ever since strictly obeyed, checked its natural increase, and the accession of new members from Germany, which for a time maintained their numbers, ceased many years ago. The church was well filled, however, by some four or five hundred work people whom the Harmonists are compelled to employ to farm their 3,500 broad acres, to develope their rich oil and natural gas territory and to carry on the various handicrafts necessary to render Economy independent of the outside world as regards everything worn, eaten, drunk or wrought with here.

MARRIAGE A FAILURE.

Harmonist opposition to marriage was formerly so bitter that the society would employ no married persons, but experience has taught them that married men with wives and children are the steadiest, most industrious workmen, and they now hire families rather than any other "help." To each of these families a house and garden is assigned rent free, and the streets of this long-childless town are now overrun with children. All these hired people are "found" by the Harmonists in everything but clothes. The society's wagons go through the streets every morning gratuitously supplying each household with meat, bread, milk, vegetables and groceries of the best quality.

The government of this little kingdom is strictly patriarchal. Elder Henrici, its absolute ruler, is a kind father to all. Save in the matter of celibacy, every inhabitant of Economy must strictly conform to all the rules of the society. All are required to attend church twice each Sabbath. Anyone found out of bed after 9 o'clock on any night of the week is immediately banished from the town, and all must rise at that poetic and lyric hour, "5 o'clock in the morning." Beside three of the squarest possible meals daily, a free lunch is served to the whole community at 9 A. M. and 3 P. M., when a pint of wine is meted out to every man, woman and child.

Though the Harmonists have come to tolerate married people, they are bitterly opposed to having any courting done upon their land. They require all the fathers and mothers in their employ to keep strict watch and ward over their sons and daughters that the sexes may be kept as far apart as possible. A young man and woman seen out walking together, or jointly engaged in any harmless pastime, would be immediately required to leave Economy.

NO COURTING ALLOWED.

To render it impossible for young men and women to walk together in the evening without observation, Elder Henrici placed a lantern in every family and issued a decree that any female having occasion to go upon the street after dark should light and carry it with her. The introduction of natural gas has now rendered this unnecessary, as it burns in great jets at every corner, and transforms night into day.

Many methods are employed to keep the young folks out of mischief. All not otherwise employed are required to avail themselves of the gratuitous education furnished in German and English by competent teachers maintained by the society in its new and thoroughly modern schoolhouse. The young workmen who compose the military band, are taught twice a week by a bandmaster from Pittsburg. Father Henrici, who is an accomplished musician, teaches a singing class of 80 young pupils every evening. On certain days of each week all the women and girls assemble at an immense steam laundry and do the washing for the whole community.

Music formed the principal part of this morning's church service. The military band occupied a gallery specially constructed for it at the west end of the church and rendered a large number of classical selections of sacred character, assisted by two organs played by Mr. Henrici and Miss Gertrude Rapp, the granddaughter of the founder of the community, and still a member of it at the advanced age of 83 years. In a discourse which drew tears from all present, Father Henrici reviewed the 84 years of the society's existence, and reiterated the firm belief, which is one of the fundamental doctrines of the Harmonists, that Christ's second coming will take place before the last member of their society shall have passed away. He further stated that when that glorious event occurs all the Harmonists' vast possessions will be laid at the feet of the Master to be disposed of as He shall deem best.

A ROYAL BANQUET.

At the termination of the religious services all present repaired to the great banqueting hall, again marching in a most quaint procession through the quiet streets to the music of the band. The viands under which the festive board groaned to-day made up in substantiality and abundance what they lacked in variety and delicacy. Rice soup, made from a German formula which these good people brought with them from Wurtemberg in 1805; sauerkraut, "schnitz," or stewed dried apples, which they regard as the choicest of delicacies, as being preferable to any canned or preserved fruit; roast beef, lamb, mutton and veal, cheese and small ginger cakes, made up the bill of fare, which was washed down by copious draughts of rare old wine, much of the latter being of the vintage of 1847—the year in which Founder George Rapp died.

After the banquet came another procession and another church service, and after that again another banquet. Thus was celebrated the eighty-fourth anniversary of the founding of the Harmony Society.

It is worthy of note that this most singular people firmly believe that at His second coming Christ will establish upon Mount Sinai, in Palestine, a visible, personal kingdom, and that from His throne upon that great mountain He will judge and rule the world. They keep a complete supply of every requisite for the transportation of their community to the Holy Land when Christ shall come again.

PREPARING FOR THE WARPATH.

Half-Breed Indians About to Resist the Sheriff Who Called for Their Taxes.

WASHINGTON, February 15.—Governor Church, of Dakota, to-day informed the Secretary of the Interior by telegraph that he has been informed that there is danger of an outbreak among the half-breed Indians in Bartlett county, and that the militia company at St. Johns has been ordered out by the Sheriff. Governor Church states that he has informed the commander of the militia company that the Sheriff had no authority to order out his company, and advises him that he and his men will be held responsible for any unlawful act.

Secretary Vilas has telegraphed Governor Church approving his course. The War Department has been informed of the situation, and requested Governor Church to instruct the military to take such action as will prevent an outbreak. It is supposed that the threatened disturbance is the result of an attempt on the part of the Sheriff to collect taxes from the half-breeds who have settled upon the public lands.

St. Valentine Doomed.

The postal authorities note that St. Valentine's Day was less observed this year than ever before, and the usually burdened carriers pronounced the day a picnic.

OLIVE LOGAN *has been added to the list of contributors to the Sunday issue of* THE DISPATCH. *She has located at Washington, and her bright letters will deal with national topics. Read the first letter in to-morrow's* DISPATCH.

BY trifling with a cold, many a one allows himself to drift into a condition favorable to the development of some latent disease, which thereafter takes full possession of the system. Better cure your cold at once with Dr. Jayne's Expectorant, a good remedy for throat-ails and lung affections.

For To-Day Only.

Who ever heard of men's fine tailor-made suits selling for $6? The price is ridiculously low, and what is more remarkable the value is there too. For to day only we will sell men's fine tailor-made suits in cheviots and cassimeres, about 30 different styles, worth fully $15, for $6. The patterns are in checks, stripes, broken plaids and many neat effects, and they are rare bargains indeed. We expect a big rush, but we'll have on hand an extra force of salesmen to wait on you. This $6 suit sale for to-day only, at the P. C. C. C., cor. Grant and Diamond sts., opp. the new Court House.

Baby Clothes at Reduced Prices.

We are closing out the entire line, long and short dresses, slips, skirts, shawls and cloaks, to make room for other goods.

THS HORNE & WARD, 41 Fifth ave.

Muskets, Carbines, Swords and Sabers,

And a great lot of other goods, at almost any price to close out before April 1, when we will remove to 706 Bissel block.

J. H. JOHNSTON, 621 Smithfield st.

B. & B.

Unlaundried shirts 50c, 75c and $1 each and the best values ever offered—they fit equal to made to measure—try them.

BOGGS & BUHL, Allegheny.

YOU CAN JUST SEE IT.

Bradstreet's and R. G. Dun & Co. Find a Slight Change for the

BETTER IN GENERAL BUSINESS.

Wheat is Rather Bullish and Will Probably Go Still Higher.

IRON MARKET CONTINUES INACTIVE

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

NEW YORK, February 15.—Special telegrams to *Bradstreet's* report the movement of general merchandise, chiefly drygoods, clothing, groceries, boots and shoes and hardware, rather more active than last week; at some points, Philadelphia, Kansas City, Chicago, Boston and Cleveland, notably so. At New Orleans relatively the most active general trade is reported, chiefly in food stuffs and plantation operations in Louisiana. At most northern centers the steady colder weather is responsible for the improvement noted in business. In Southern Texas wet weather and heavy country roads continue to check trade. A San Francisco correspondent wires that the estimated California wheat export surplus on February 1 was 8,500,000 bushels.

At New York general trade is, if anything, rather quieter. In groceries trade is of lighter volume; while in seed leaf tobacco, building materials, leather, rubber and stoves trade is reported dull. In hardware, paints and drugs it is quiet to fair. Cigar manufacturing is in excess of a year ago. The furniture and upholstery trades are active. Coal is firmer with colder weather.

RAILROAD FEARS.

Fears that the Western railroad agreement might fail, and a liquidating tendency in Burlington stock held the bullish temper of the speculation in check, though there were many advances in special securities and a firm feeling at the close on better prospects for the pending arrangements. Friday's market was strong, Burlington having signed the agreement. Bonds are firm, though less active. Money at New York is easy. Call loans 1½@2 per cent.

Foreign exchange is higher on the absence of commercial bills and buying by foreign stock houses. Demand sterling, $4 88¾@4 89. The total bank clearings at 40 cities for this week aggregate $1,073,473,514, a decrease of 7.3 per cent as compared with last week, but an increase of 26.3 per cent over the like week last year. During the crop year, July 1, 1888, to date, we have exported 58,000,000 bushels of wheat (including flour), against 87,500,000 in a like portion of 1887-88, a decrease of 29,500,000 bushels, and 33¾ per cent. We have exported 24,190,000 bushels from Pacific and 33,758,000 bushels from Atlantic ports within 33 weeks ending February 14.

The total exports this week aggregated 1,270,785 bushels, less than 100,000 bushels increase over the preceding week. The evolutions of the wheat market suggest "milking" by Chicago and New York bulls. It is evident aside from direct speculative influences that apprehension also sustains prices.

HIGHER WHEAT EXPECTED.

The crops in Australia and the United States were small, and the public do not care to decide to what extent Russia and India, with stocks abroad, can make up the deficiency by selling freely for forward delivery. Northwestern millers and others are sure that wheat must go higher soon, and promise that flour will not lose sight of it.

Spring and summer wear drygoods are in increased distribution by New York and Boston jobbers. The demand in nearly all leading lines ranges at fair to fairly active. Foreign goods of similar character are also quite active. Commission men report trade only moderately active. Print cloths are 1 1-16c lower on reduced demand. Spot sell at 4c and future at 3 15-16c. Cutting of cotton goods' prices by jobbers has greatly abated. Brown cottons are rather easier with agents, but aside from this the market is generally firm. Woolen men's wear goods for the fall are selling as freely as heretofore this year.

Raw wool is dull and unchanged, the lightness of stocks constituting the only sustaining feature as regards values. Manufacturers' profits are limited at present prices of the finished products. New clip prospects continue favorable. Raw cotton is ⅛c lower on heavy crop movement, pointing to the realization of the larger estimates.

IRON IN BAD SHAPE.

The iron trade is still unsettled, and prices are much depressed. The development of the iron and steel industries of the South continues, and several new furnaces are projected. Lake ore companies have delayed business by not fixing prices for the season. The anthracite coal market promptly corroborated our report of last week by admitting growing stocks, delayed and declining orders and restricted production. The outcome was cut prices from 25@40c per ton. The mild winter has much to do with the decreased consumption.

The Louisiana refined sugar product having been about closed out, domestic refiners elsewhere have become more hopeful as to the position of and outlook for refined. A fair aggregate trade left the price steady, with some grades ⅛c under last week. Raw sugar is firmer, and has moved in larger volume. Fair refining is up 1-16c. Coffee has been irregular and dealers have moved with extreme caution in buying supplies. Notwithstanding persistent reports of a short Brazilian crop, the visible supply in that country continues to increase, and the movement from first hands is quite free. It is believed that Rio and Santo stocks have been understated.

Business failures reported to *Bradstreet's* number 311 in United States this week, against 265 last week and 243 this week last year. Canada had 46 this week, against 46 last week. The total failures in the United States from January 1 to date is 2,182, against 1,929 in 1888.

A SLIGHT IMPROVEMENT

Is Noticed by R. G. Dun & Co. in General Business Lines.

NEW YORK, February 15.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s weekly review of trade says:

Actual improvement in business continues. The upward movement in prices, which was noticed last week, has not been sustained, the general average for common being about half of 1 per cent lower than a week ago. The output of pig iron has diminished. The furnaces in blast February 1 were producing 147,111 tons weekly, against 152,270 January 1, a decline of 3½ per cent. The rail business is stagnating, only 3 mills out of 14 now running. The plate and tank iron trade is dull, and in structural iron the business is slow. There is cutting in sales of pig iron by some Northern as well as Southern furnaces, and purchases are generally confined to immediate needs. The coal trade is depressed by overproduction and cutting of rates. The copper market has been weaker abroad, and conflicting rumors about refusal of American mines to contract with the syndicate are current. Sales of lead have reached 1,400 tons, with prices declining to $3 60. The tin market is also demoralized, with quoted sales at $21 25.

Wheat has advanced 1c for the week. Atlantic exports were in five weeks ending February 2 only 242,453 bushels, against 1,764,833 bushels last year, and of flour 588,760 barrels, against 1,032,552 barrels last year. This, compared with exports of 10,115,835 bushels of corn during the same weeks, against 1,728,567 bushels last year, shows how the foreign trade has been affected by the speculation which heads prices of wheat at Chicago far above the prices at the seaboard. Corn has advanced but ⅛c, with sales of 9,000,000 bushels, and oats are unchanged. Oil speculation has lifted the price 4¼c, with sales of only 7,000,000 barrels here. Cotton, with sales of 750,000 bales, and coffee, with sales of 207,000 bags, have each declined ⅛c, and pork is 50c lower, with lard 27½c lower per 100 pounds.

The drygoods operations, as in other branches of business, are to some extent retarded by the close scrutiny of credits which the slowness of collections in many quarters naturally prompts, but the reports from the interior in that respect are this week rather more favorable than before. Clearings through banks last week were 18.4 per cent larger than a year ago outside of New York, only seven cities reporting any decrease, of which San Francisco, Minneapolis and St. Paul were the most important. The stock market has been stronger on account of the covering of short sales, but more discriminating in its temper than usual.

Most of the Granger roads are weaker, and the failure to get Presidents' agreement to be signed by all the companies had a depressing influence. Evidences that agreement is actually evaded are accumulating, and the Baltimore receipts of corn are especially noticed. The exports of merchandise have been larger and imports also show a large increase.

The money market has been easy, rates on call declining from 2½ to 1½ per cent, and the Treasury has disbursed during the week $1,200,000 more than it has taken in, but the decrease in circulation of silver continues.

The business failures number 289 as compared with 303 last week and 332 the week previous. For the corresponding week of last year the failures figured up 273.

THE UNDERTAKER'S OBSEQUIES.

The Funeral of the Late George A. Morrow To-Day at 2 P. M.

The funeral of the late Mr. George A. Morrow, who died on East street, Allegheny, last Wednesday, will be held to-day at 2 o'clock at the North Avenue M. E. Church, Rev. Dr. Leak preaching the sermon. Interment will be made at Bellevue Cemetery.

Mr. Morrow, as the gentleman in charge of the Pittsburg morgue, though he was only 30 years of age, had in his career gathered around him a host of friends, especially among the undertakers of both cities. The latter are making preparations to attend his funeral as far as possible to-day.

GETTING IN ITS WORK.

That British Brewing Syndicate Gobbles Three More Establishments.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

NEW YORK, February 15.—It was reported to-day that Mr. Luke Bishop, who represents the City of London Contract Corporation, Limited, and has bought for it an interest in the breweries in Baltimore, had succeeded in buying out also the Rochester, the Genesee, and the Bartholomy Brewing Companies, of Rochester, for the same corporation.

Mr. Bishop is at the Gilsey House, but was too busy this evening to be seen.

AN ENORMOUS NEW GUSHER.

Pittsburg Parties Have a 4,000-Barrel Well in the Ohio Field.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

FINDLAY, O., February 15.—The Sherman Oil Company, which is largely composed of Pittsburg parties, struck a well on the Shineberger farm, near Cygnet, on Saturday, which was shot last night, and responded in the most astonishing way, and has been flowing ever since at the rate of 4,000 barrels per day. The company, not being prepared for such a deluge, have not as yet been able to care for the oil, which is going to waste at a reckless rate.

HAYES A WEATHER PROPHET,

But Not an Amendment Bureau of Information, Pro or Con.

Ex-President Rutherford B. Hayes, who is in the city in attendance at the Pittsburg Teachers' Institute at the First Presbyterian Church, was met by a reporter yesterday and asked his views on the prohibition amendment.

The ex-President, though, was not inclined that way, and gave as his answer: "Um, um! is this not a beautiful day? Good morning!"

OLD SOL DEFIED.

A Local Company Formed to Manufacture Artificial Ice.

A company of local capitalists is being formed to manufacture ice by a patent process, which, it is claimed, is as good as the natural ice for nearly all purposes.

The ice can be made at any time of the the year, and will prevent a famine. The new company intends starting with a 100-ton-daily plant, to be erected in the near future.

By an Old Crusader.

The Sons of Temperance will meet as usual Sunday evening at 7:30 at 68 Ohio street, Allegheny. Mrs. M. J. Youngson will make the opening address. Subject: "The Old and the New; or the New Crusade." Mrs. Youngson is one of the old Crusaders.

Repair Shops for the P. & W. R. R.

A tract of land has been purchased from the Chessman estate, which, it is stated, will probably be used to erect repair shops on in the spring for the Pittsburg and Western Railroad.

A Judicial Hearing To-Day.

The surety of the peace case of Dr. H. B. Orr against Inspector McAleese and Assistant Superintendent Roger O'Mara will be heard before Judge Collier this morning.

THE COURT ROUTINE.

Various Items of News Found Afloat in Legal Quarters for a Day.

A COMPULSORY non suit was entered yesterday in the suit of the Oil Well Supply Company against the Exchange National Bank, an action on a note.

AN argument was held in the United States District Court, before Judge Acheson, yesterday in the suit of C. C. Marx against the steamer Mayflower for provisions furnished. The decision was reserved.

IN the suit of T. B. Dewees against John Shields and Jesse H. Dewees, comprising the Osceola Coal Company, on a judgment note for $10,600, a verdict for the plaintiff was rendered yesterday for the full amount of the note.

JAMES CARSON yesterday, before Judge Collier, entered a plea of guilty to selling oleomargarine. He was employed to deliver orders and receive the money therefrom, and the information was made against him instead of his employer.

A WRIT of habeas corpus was issued yesterday for John Walker, who was committed to the workhouse for 90 days on a charge of vagrancy by Alderman Doughty. Walker holds he is not a vagrant, and that there is no law providing for a commitment for such an offense.

A WRIT of habeas corpus was issued yesterday on Patrick and Anna O'Herron, to bring into court this morning the person of Allie Hearn. The petition was filed by Dora Hearn, the sister of Allie. Her older sisters wanted to take and keep her, but the O'Herrons refused.

A. FILMAN yesterday filed a bill of expenses in his suit as bondsman against Rose Hall, who was convicted of keeping a disorderly house in Allegheny. After she was indicted she jumped her bail and a process was issued for her by her bondsman. She was not arrested until some time afterward, when she was caught hiding in her house in Allegheny. The bill filed yesterday shows $250 for detectives' services in apprehending the woman, $200 court fees and other expenses connected with the search for her, making a total of $545 88.

To-Day's Trial List.

Criminal Court—Commonwealth vs Patrick Coughlin, Alfred P. Girard, Lorenzi Lizeum, James Niland, John McAleese and Roger O'Mara.

STRENGTH, *and how to secure it, is the burden of a bright letter from Blakely Hall in to-morrow's* DISPATCH.

D. & F. S. WELTY.

Carpets and Wall Paper, Wholesale and Retail—The Only Jobbing House in the City.

To supply our jobbing trade, we buy our carpets, wall paper, oilcloths, mattings, window shades, lace curtains, etc., from first hands in large quantities, and at lowest prices. This enables us to offer every inducement in our retail department.

Our prices are always as low, if not lower, than any other house in the city. A full stock for spring trade at 120 Federal street and 65 and 67 Park way, Allegheny, Pa.

D. & F. S. WELTY.

Established 1869. Ths

EVENING THINGS UP.

Secretary Endicott Tells Why That Famous Chief Benet Circular

WAS ISSUED AT HIS INSTIGATION.

It Was Merely Meant to Pass Around the Offices Politically.

NO UNNECESSARY REMOVALS MADE

WASHINGTON, February 15.—The Secretary of War to-day transmitted to the Senate, in response to the resolution calling for information relative to the issuing of a confidential order, January 4, 1886, by General Benet, Chief of Ordnance, instructing the commanding officers of the National armories and arsenals to favor Democrats, other things being equal, in appointments and discharges from the service—the object, as stated in the order, being to divide the force gradually between Republicans and Democrats.

Secretary Endicott says that during the year 1885 there were numerous applications made to him on behalf of mechanics, artisans and others for employment in the arsenals and armories, and that, as is well understood, these appointments do not fall within the provisions of the civil service law. These applications for employment, the Secretary says, came mainly from persons who claimed that they had been hitherto excluded from such employment because they were Democrats. He adds:

NO REMOVALS MADE.

"The reply made to such applications was that no removals would be made of deserving and efficient workmen in these shops merely on account of their political opinions, but as vacancies occurred, if the applicants were competent to perform the work required, and otherwise qualified, and their services needed, they would be received. This decision in regard to removals or discharges of such employes has been strictly adhered to, and none have been made in the ordnance bureau or in any bureau of this department since I have been Secretary of War, except for cause, such as inefficiency, misconduct, dishonesty, long-continued absence, reduction of force, and like reasons."

In conversation with the Chief of Ordnance, the Secretary suggested that as a majority of the places in the armories and arsenals were held by Republicans, in making changes preference should be given Democrats until the numbers were substantially divided between the two political parties. The Chief of Ordnance approved the suggestion and issued the order mentioned in the resolution.

ENTIRELY MISCONSTRUED.

The Secretary says he did not see the order itself until two or three months after it was issued, but that it was not intended to include the discharge of workmen on account of political opinions, and was not so construed by the officers to whom it was addressed. No removals, the Secretary continues, have been made on account of the order, and at the Springfield armory, Mass., the largest of all the armories, there have been only 64 changes of permanent workmen since January, 1886, in a force of about 480 men.

The Secretary says he had no desire to conceal the order, and does not know why it was marked confidential. He says that no measures have been taken by the War Department to learn the political opinions of the women and children in its employment, and that General Benet states that the circular was made applicable to them because it had been found by long experience that disputes over politics were as prevalent among this class as among their husbands and fathers.

The commanding officers of the Rock Island and other arsenals, the Secretary says, all report that no widow or child of a Union soldier has been discharged under the order, and that investigation by the Department of a charge to this effect, made in a letter signed B. Q. Ellery, seems to establish conclusively that the signature to the letter was false, and that the statements made therein are without any foundation whatever.

THOUSANDS OF PEOPLE *who have been to California recognize the wonderful graphic fidelity with which Jaoquin Miller portrays life and scenery there in "The Buried River," now running in Sunday's* DISPATCH. *See to-morrow's issue.*

A TEST OF POPULARITY.

Mrs. Langtry, Mrs. Potter and Others Appear at a Benefit Matinee.

[SPECIAL TELEGRAM TO THE DISPATCH.]

NEW YORK, February 15.—Mrs. Langtry and Mrs. Potter competed for the favor of an audience at Daly's Theater this afternoon. Each chose at will a piece in which to perform, and both appeared in the depiction of love for sculptors. Mrs. Langtry was the *Galatea* in one act of "Pygmalion and Galatea." Mrs. Potter was the *Faustine* in one act of "M'dlle de Bressier." There were far finer actresses than either Mrs. Langtry or Mrs. Potter on the same stage this afternoon, and they were pitted against each other, too, three against one.

Managers Palmer and Daly set comediennes in competition. The tasks were alike—burlesque comedy. Palmer selected an act of Gilbert's "Engaged." Daly preferred an act of Sheridan's "Critic." Palmer shrewdly put forward three of the most accomplished actresses known to this town in Agnes Booth, Maud Harrison and Annie Russell. Daly put his faith in Ada Rehan singly. Thus outnumbered, Miss Rehan was inevitably beaten by the combined onslaught of Mrs. Booth and Misses Harrison and Russell.

It was a matinee of good entertainment for the audience—or at least for those who took into account all of the significance of the occasion, and to such persons $2 50 a seat didn't seem too much to pay, particularly as the money went to the Actors' Fund.

They Come Up Smiling.

Notwithstanding reports to the contrary, two citizens' candidates for Select Council come up smiling and have not withdrawn. They are J. J. Stoer, Jr., in the Twenty-second ward, and George Schmidt, in the Eleventh. The former has encountered all sorts of strategy on the part of the opposition, but still holds firm. The latter, a large property owner in the Eleventh, is making a magnificent run with the Germans.

Two Counterfeiters Held for Trial.

Two alleged counterfeiters had hearings before United States Commissioner McCandless yesterday. The first was David S. Dunn, a Butler county farmer, who was accused of selling five silver dollars for $1. He denied his guilt, but was held in $1,500 bail for trial at court, and the trial will take place at Scranton next month. Thomas Stoughton, an old offender, also had hearing on a charge of counterfeiting and was held in $2,000 bail for trial.

Protracted Temperance Meetings.

Wilfred S. Bailey, the well-known temperance and prohibition advocate, will open a series of lectures in Braddock Monday night. They will be under the direction of the W. C. T. U., in conjunction with the Good Templars, and will be carried on all week.

He Will Go to Newark.

Mr. W. F. Zimmerman, who has been the mechanical engineer of the Fuel Gas and Electric Engineering Company, has accepted the position of General Superintendent of the United States Electric Company at Newark, N. J. He will leave for his new position on Monday.

LIVER complaint cured free at 1102 Carson st., Southside.

LATE NEWS IN BRIEF.

—Captain Wissman left Berlin yesterday for East Africa.

—The President yesterday signed the commission of Norman J. Colman to be Secretary of Agriculture.

—The Secretary of the Treasury yesterday afternoon accepted the following bonds: 4½s, registered, $115,000 at 109½; 4½s, coupons, $6,000 at 109½.

—Advices from Aden state that it is reported there that the Cossack expedition under M. Aschinoff has hoisted the Russian flag at Sagallo. Under an Anglo-French agreement Sagallo is French territory.

—Secretary Fairchild left Washington yesterday morning for Cazenovia, N. Y., where he was summoned by the intelligence that his venerable father has been stricken with paralysis and is in a dying condition.

—The disorders occasioned by the students of Pesth, who are opposed to the army bill, were quelled by the military last night, and at 10 o'clock the troops returned to their barracks. Forty-eight persons were arrested for taking part in the disorders. Forty of them were subsequently released.

—George Bassett, 17 years old, committed suicide by hanging himself in his father's barn, near Carthage, N. Y., yesterday. The loss of an eye a short time ago caused him to become morose, and it is supposed that the act was committed during a fit of melancholy. His body was frozen stiff when found by the youth's sister.

—The President has approved the act authorizing the Mount Carmel Development Company to draw water from the Wabash river or its tributaries; the acts for the relief of General William R. Smith and William R. Blakeslee, and the joint resolution making appropriation for payment to the legal representatives of James B. Eads.

—The Senate Committee on Territories yesterday talked over the Oklahoma bill and the arguments that had been made pro and con on the measure, without coming to a conclusion. Another meeting will be held Monday morning, at which time the arguments before the committee will be in print, and then a report will be decided upon.

—It is stated upon reliable authority that negotiations are pending between the Pope and King Humbert for the restoration of the Pope's temporal power. The regaining of this sovereignty for the head of the Roman Church, which the Italian Government has so long denied Leo and his predecessor, is the dearest wish of the Pope.

—Miss Ada Dow, whose skull was fractured by a piece of timber which fell from the scenery at the Chicago Opera House, Wednesday night, underwent a painful surgical operation yesterday, the trephine being used to remove bits of the broken bone. The surgeons says Miss Dow is not out of danger, but they have strong hopes of her recovery.

—Secretary Teller yesterday stated to an Associated Press reporter that the gossip connecting his name with a Cabinet position was entirely unfounded. He has no desire to enter the Cabinet, and so far as he knows, General Harrison has no desire that he should. On this point they understand each other, and it is not likely that the Senator will be asked, he says, to consider the question of leaving his present position.

—At 5 o'clock yesterday morning the town of Pittston was thrown into a fever of excitement over the finding of the dead body of John Gray, a citizen of that place. Three gunshots were found in him. The one that killed him went through his heart. The murder was committed by Italians for the purpose of robbery. They have made their escape, but officers are in pursuit, and there are threats of lynching the murderers if caught.

—Representative Matson, of Indiana, Chairman of the House Committee on Invalid Pensions, was yesterday the recipient of two handsome tokens of friendship and regard from his colleagues on the committee. They were a magnificent clock and a large double cigar case of solid silver. The presentation was made by Representative Gallinger, of New Hampshire, who spoke at length upon the uniform courtesy shown by Mr. Matson in his dealing with his colleagues, both Democrats and Republicans.

—The sub-committee of the Senate Committee on Finance, in charge of the sundry civil bill, is working hard to complete the measure and get it into the Senate this week, but the chances are that it will not reach the calendar before Monday. Yesterday Major J. W. Powell, Director of the Geological Survey, was heard in support of the action proposing to appropriate money for the survey and location of reservoirs for the purpose of irrigating the arid lands of the West.

—The proposed excursion through the Middle Southern and Eastern States, for the purpose of enlightening members of the Canadian Parliament as to the actual condition and resources of this country, is to be a fact and not a fancy. The matter has been much discussed in the Dominion newspapers of late. Sir John Macdonald was interrogated regarding it in Parliament last week, but replied that he had heard nothing of it officially. Nevertheless the excursion has been planned, and all the members of the Canadian Parliament will be invited.

—The crowd of legislators and lobbyists at Bismarck, Dak., was wild with delight last evening over the action of the House in agreeing to admit South Dakota at once. Interviews with the members of the Legislature elicit but one opinion, and that is that the action of Congress will give the Territory a big boom. Governor Church, the Democratic executive, who has been in a desperate fight with the Republican Legislature, was seen and expressed himself as highly pleased with the attitude toward South Dakota, and he trusts that similar steps with regard to Statehood for North Dakota will be taken at once.

Furniture.

Owing to the property that we occupy now having to be sold, we are forced to dispose of all our goods before April next. Now is your time to buy. All goods marked in plain figures. No old styles. No shoddy goods. One visit will repay you.

A. LARGER,
17 Federal st., All'y, Boyle Block.

The Best is Cheapest.

There is no doubt but that accident insurance is a good thing, and if so you should have it, and in getting it should remember that the best is the cheapest. This can be had of J. T. Cunningham, 51 Lewis block, agent for the National Benefit Association, of Indianapolis.

B. & B.

Shoppers, 28 super stockings 20c a pair; you'll buy a dozen pair at this price. See them Saturday. BOGGS & BUHL, Allegheny.

Wall Papers.

We invite an inspection of our new spring styles. CRUMRINE, BANE & BASSETT, successors to Thomas Palmer, 416 Wood st.

Sample Free.

Ask your grocer for it. Electric Paste Stove Polish; saves dust, dirt, labor, women, carpets and furniture.

MONDAY, 18th inst., we will remove to 37 Fifth avenue, room formerly occupied by Kornblum, the optician.

WATTLES & SHEAFER, Jewelers.

To neglect the hair is to lose youth and comeliness. Use Parker's Hair Balsam.

Parker's Ginger Tonic cures inward pain.

B. & B.

New handkerchiefs, fancy borders, 10c, 12½c, 15c, 20c and 25c. Best styles, best values. See them Saturday.

BOGGS & BUHL, Allegheny.

OFFICIAL—PITTSBURG.

AN ORDINANCE—AUTHORIZING THE construction of a sewer on Meyran street from crown between Louisa street and Bates street to Louisa street.

Section 1—Be it ordained and enacted by the city of Pittsburg, in Select and Common Councils assembled, and it is hereby ordained and enacted by the authority of the same, That the Chief of the Department of Public Works be and is hereby authorized and directed to advertise in accordance with the Acts of Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and the ordinances of the said city of Pittsburg relating thereto and regulating the same, for proposals for the construction of a pipe sewer 15 inches in diameter on Meyran street, from the crown between Louisa and Bates street to a connection with sewer on Louisa street, the contract therefor to be let in the manner directed by said Acts of Assembly and ordinances. The cost and expense of the same to be assessed and collected in accordance with the provisions of an Act of Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, entitled "An Act authorizing and directing Councils of cities of the second class to provide for the improvement of streets, lanes, alleys and public highways, sewers and sidewalks, requiring plans of streets, providing for the appointment of a Board of Viewers of Street Improvements, prescribing their duties, granting appeals to Councils and Court, providing for the assessment and collection of damages and benefits, authorizing the use of private property, and providing for filing liens and regulating proceedings thereon, and prohibiting the use of public streets without authority of Councils," approved the 14th day of June, A. D. 1887. fe16

AN ORDINANCE—VACATING CRAFT avenue from a point 180 feet east of Niagara street to Ward street, in the Fourteenth ward.

Section 1—Be it ordained and enacted by the city of Pittsburg in Select and Common Councils assembled, and it is hereby ordained and enacted by the authority of the same, That Craft avenue from a point 180 fe