ABOUT THE AIRBRAKE.

Several Mooted Phases of the Recent Decision.

THE ORIGINAL INVENTION.

Mr. H. H. Westinghouse Describes in Detail the Dixon Patent.

THE COMPANY NOT YET AFFECTED

The terse, modest and apparently unimportant telegraphic announcement from Washington, printed in all the morning papers, in regard to the Westinghouse-Dixon suit, has created an interest here.

The fact that the Commissioner of Patents had decided against the Westinghouse Airbrake Company and in favor of one Dixon, claiming a prior patent, was widely talked of among well informed railroad men yesterday, and some experts' opinions were given.

The engineers were interested in the decision until it was learned that the engine valves were not included in the case, but something less important to them.

THE SYSTEM EXPAINED.

The Westinghouse triple air-brake system, to explain it in a searching, scientific, technical way, is as easy as rolling off a log—when it is understood. It is based entirely upon the elastic quality of air, and most anybody could have had a fortune out of it if they had only thought of it first.

In the first place, when a train of cars is properly "hitched" together, the engineer pulls a throttle, and drives an air pressure through the pipes on every car into a regular storage battery or tank. With the pressure thus equalized, the brakes are all off. If, however, he wishes to stop, the engineer lessens the pressure from the engine, when, of course, the pressure from the storage battery in each car is the greater, and a valve is pushed back, when a vent allows the air to act upon the brakes, closing them instantly.

This is the automatic system, and without the tank it is thought to be useless, and it is this tank or storage battery fight that Dixon is said to have won.

IS IT VERY IMPORTANT?

The relative importance of this suit will be realized when it is known that the freight car airbrakes are also involved. The freight car airbrakes are an improvement on the original style only, however, in their instantaneous, or as the experts say, "gunboat action." This quick action is accomplished merely by the use of larger vents and larger supply pipes. Two years ago a sensation was felt in railroad circles when these brakes were publicly tested, and the Westinghouse freight brake pronounced the peer of all. They are now being placed on freight cars as rapidly as possible, also upon baggage and long train cars. As a railroad man said yesterday, however, the Westinghouse Company has no rivals, since it is the largest in the country, and is rapidly usurping everything in Canada, France and England.

A RAILROADER'S OPINION.

A Pennsylvania Railroad man, who talks what he knows about and knows what he talks about, was asked an opinion upon the decision, and he gave it without the slightest hesitation.

"The invention of the Westinghouse Airbrake," said he, "is a secret, dead and buried now probably, as it has been used for nearly 17 years. Its inception is shrouded in mystery, and the real name of the inventor will never be known. I am no lawyer, but consider this decision of great importance."

"I do not think much of the decision," said another railroader, when spoken to; "it will be just like all these great cases—either years of delay or a compromise, or one party will buy the other out. Why, a case like that, if well managed, could be dragged through the Supreme Court for ten years. By that time, probably, some new inventor would turn out an idea that would discount them both. I wouldn't give a penny for a decision from the Commissioner of Patents these trying times. There are too many vents both in airbrakes and courts for such a decision to be final."

H. H. WESTINGHOUSE TALKS.

George Westinghouse, Jr., left last evening for New York, and could not be interviewed, but his brother, H. H. Westinghouse, General Manager of the Westinghouse Airbrake Company, was seen at his home at Edgewood last evening by a DISPATCH representative, and when shown the telegram which had been sent from Washington said:

These are evidently sent out by parties who wish to scare the stockholders of the airbrake company. I cannot see for what motive, except, perhaps to cause a short interest in the market, by which speculators will be enabled to buy at a low figure and afterward sell at a fair, if not at an enormous profit. All these statements which you have shown me are exaggerated to the highest degree.

This man Dixon is a patent lawyer who lives in Chicago, and never invented a thing in his life that anyone knows of. If you will remember the Westinghouse Company some years ago went through the country experimenting with the airbrake, and on the trip a trial was made of it at Burlington.

That is where Dixon saw it. At that time we were trying to perfect a scheme by which the air could be emitted at each car when the brakes were applied, but even this was unsatisfactory, because the friction of the air on the pipes while passing from the engine to the rear end of a train, which perhaps was 1,000 feet long, was so great that all the force would be expended and a terrible bumping and jarring would be the result.

A SUBSEQUENT PATENT.

Subsequently we perfected a patent by which the air, instead of being emitted, was forced back into a reservoir, and could be used again. This was a great saving, and after concluding to adopt it, we secured a patent and paid no more attention to the former machinery. Dixon, however, did, and the first thing we knew he had applied for a patent for our idea which we had considered entirely secondary. We entered what is known as an interference and have fought the thing all the way through, because we were the inventors of the contrivance, and should have been given the patent.

But the Commissioner of Patents, although acknowledging that we were the originators of the idea, stated that we had been dilatory in applying for a patent, and therefore he should give the patent to Dixon. We are not through with the case yet by any means, and intend to appeal from the decision of the Commissioner of Patents.

TALK ABOUT ROYALTIES.

This talk about future royalties, and the payment of royalties for the past 17 years is all bosh. Dixon could not collect royalties for the past 17 years. All he could do would be to go into court and sue for damages, but in such an event I do not apprehend that he could give us the least trouble, because the invention on which he claims a patent is a subsidiary one to ours, and entirely supplementary.

It has no connection with the airbrake which we are now using. It is simply one of our inventions on which we neglected to take out a patent.

I am very glad you came out to see me this evening, for I can state to you positively that the company will not be affected in the least by the decision, whereas some of the stockholders might get frightened and sell out at the earliest opportunity. We will go along just the same as ever, and even if Mr. Dixon's patent holds good he cannot in any way trouble the Westinghouse Airbrake Company.

BAUMBAUGH AN OLD HAND.

A Swindler Who Has Worked a Profitable Game Before.

On Saturday evening Henry Baumbaugh, who has been for some time doing a thriving business in selling tickets for bogus charitable entertainments and projects, was arrested. On request of the police officials the fact was withheld from publication until his confederates could be secured, as they had a clear case against him, including a counterfeit seal of the Amalgamated Association of Iron and Steel Workers and rubber stamps, signatures of different first-class firms and beneficial associations.

From the records of Alderman McKenna's office it was found that Coroner McDowell, at that time constable for the Alderman, arrested three of the same gang and convicted them of the same offense, and Henry Baumbaugh figured on the indictments.

Inspector McAleese says that there is no question of his having a clear case against Baumbaugh this time and will push it to the farthest limit.

THE TITLE ALL RIGHT.

An Air of Mystery Surrounding the African Church Deal.

An air of deep mystery surrounds all the meetings of the Wylie Avenue A. M. E. Church since the publication in THE DISPATCH of the proposed sale of the church's property in Cherry alley. Last night the weekly class meeting was held. The doors were closed to all except members of the church. It was learned that nothing was done in regard to the deal.

It is said that the papers will be completed on Thursday. According to one of the members the deal almost received a death blow, owing to the charge that the title of the property which was to be given to the church was defective. The report of the Fidelity Title and Trust Company, in whose hands this matter was placed, shows that the title was perfectly clear.

MATTERS OF MOMENT.

The Chamber of Commerce Held a Most Important Meeting Yesterday—Silver Coinage and Tin Tariff Considered.

The regular meeting of the Chamber of Commerce directors yesterday was more interesting in a number of ways than usual. Mr. Scott, of the Committee on Railroads and Transportation, asked for a continuance of the matter in their committee relating to country roads. He said the subject was being considered by some of the societies, and he deemed it best to wait until they took some action.

Mr. Miller, of the Committee on Finance and Banking, had prepared an exhaustive report in relation to silver coinage. He submitted it and asked that it be placed aside until other business had been disposed of.

Mr Anderson's report on the matter of a reduction in letter postage was also temporarily laid aside.

Mr. Dravo, of the Committee on Rivers and Harbors, reported a resolution favoring the establishment of rye boats to protect property on the river, and condemning the practice of filling in the rivers beyond the low water line. It was adopted.

The firm of Black & Baird was admitted to membership, and then Mr. Miller read his report on the silver question. He was decidedly against an increase in the coinage of silver and said:

By the Windom bill the Government had to take all the silver brought to it, and in effect a new coin in the commodity could be created. The standard value of money is based on gold, and when silver is offered for sale in Europe the value of it is computed in gold. The Secretary of the Treasury has the whole matter in hand, and he makes the price and has the power to put it up or down. If there is error in this it ought to be checked. The silver dollar was refused by the United States Senators, and a riot was almost created when their pay was tendered in that coin. The old legal tender, the "promise to pay," was the better form of money. The silver piece purporting to be one dollar we know in our hearts to be a fraud on the face of it, and when we tell them in Europe that it is a dollar they look at us in a manner signifying that we are either fools or knaves.

The report of the committee is to let well enough alone. We have 389,000,000 of silver lying in the vaults of the treasury, and we are coining fast enough. We do not want to coin too much, and the credit of our people and country is too delicate a thing to tamper with.

A resolution was then submitted as follows:

We recommend to our representatives in Congress the continuance of the existing methods of coining silver, and that no change be made at this time in the laws relating to silver coinage.

On the question to adopt the report Mr. Foster arose and spoke strongly against it. He favored the coinage of all the silver produced by the country. Captain John F. Dravo also spoke against adopting the report, and made quite a speech in favor of an increase in the coinage. He believed that the country's credit would be strengthened rather than weakened by a continuance of turning out the finished product.

He offered an amendment to the resolution embodied in the report that the Chamber of Commerce recommend an increase over the present production in coinage of $2,000,000 a month. Mr. Foster seconded it. Mr. Miller then moved that the whole matter be laid on the table for the present. The motion was carried without a dissenting vote.

Mr. Anderson, of the Committee on Legislation, then made his report on a reduction of letter postage. In view of the fact that the present cost of the postal service is in excess of the revenue derived from it, and from other important reasons, the report was averse to the establishment of a reduction in the post.

Mr. Ricketson read a communication from the American Tin Plate Association asking the board to consider the matter of an increase in the tariff on tin plate. The matter, at Mr. Ricketson's suggestion, was referred to the Committee on Manufactures, of which Mr. Ricketson is chairman.

THE RIVAL MINING UNIONS

To Amalgamate and Act in Co-Operation for the Interests of the Craft.

A joint address was yesterday prepared by the officials of N. D. A. 135, and the National Progressive Miners' Union, embodying plans for the amalgamation of the two organizations, and it will be at once issued to the members of each. It is proposed to effect the consolidation without sacrificing the essential features of either. The work is to be completed at a joint convention to be held in Columbus on January 22.

The address refers to the rivalry which has existed between the two organizations; deplores the energy which has been uselessly expended in contending for supremacy; remarks on the large percentage of miners who, as a result of the disunion, remain out of both, and declares that the little interest taken in running affairs by the men most concerned and the condition to which the craft is reduced is due to the inability of the two organizations to unite for the common weal. This has led to a reduction of wages, and renders the miners and officials of both organizations powerless to resist imposition and assert their rights as workworkers. The address continues:

The writers of this met and agreed upon the following plan, which we believe, if adopted, would unite our forces upon a basis satisfactory to the members of both organizations, and bring about the beneficient results that all demand: First—To unite the two organizations under one head to govern and protect the interests of miners and mine laborers; this union to be effected without sacrificing the essential features of either organizations. Second—The organization to be divided into national, district and local divisions, the meetings of which are to be either secret or open, as the members may determine or the exigencies of the case may require; that is to say, the meaning of the terms open or secret shall be construed as applying to the meetings of the National Progressive Union or the K. of L. as the case may be. Third—Equal taxation upon affiliated members. Fourth—The staff of officers for the National Districts and local organization, in which due provisions shall be made for visiting and directing the business of both branches of the organization.

The necessity for a unification of our forces demands that all the members of both existing unions, and even those miners not connected with either, shall give these propositions their careful thought and study, in order that they may be better prepared to intelligently consider the adoption and the modification of the policy.

Signed John B. Rae, M. Workman N. T. D. 135, K. of L.; Robert Watchorn, Secretary Treasurer N. T. D. 135; John McBride, President N. P. V.; Patrick McBryde, Secretary Treasurer N. P. V.; David Ross for N. P. V.

President McBride has issued a call for the annual convention, to take place at Columbus on the 22d of January. In doing this Mr. McBride has taken advantage of a special dispensation, as the constitution provides that the annual convention shall be held in February. Tuesday, the 22d, is the day which N. T. D. 135 will hold its annual convention, and Mr. McBride's changing the date of his convention, is for the purpose of trying to effect an amalgamation with the Knights of Labor. Every mine throughout the country will send delegates, and it will be the largest convention of miners ever held in America, as well as the first time in which the two organizations sat together as one.

Robert Watchorn was in the city yesterday on his way to Courtney. He expressed the greatest hope for a successful outcome of the joint Columbus convention and said that hereafter coal operators throughout the country would not deal with conflicting officials, but with an united organization. The new union will have one set of officers and one treasury.

TO BE POSTMASTER.

A Veteran of East Liberty Who Is Well Backed for a Branch Office.

John P. Shafer, a veteran who served in the late war as a private in Company B, Eighteenth United States Infantry, has been on the track for postmaster of Station A, East Liberty, since last February. He has a formidable petition, carrying such names as General A. L. Pearson, Colonel Norman M. Smith, Nelson P. Reed, Robert Pitcairn and 1,200 or 1,500 others.

He was severely wounded at the battle of Stone River, December 31, 1862. Mr. Shafer is formally indorsed by Alex Hays' Post, G. A. R., No. 3.

NO STRIKE AT ALL.

An Authoritative Telegram Anent the Typographical Strike.

The rumored strike in the ranks of the Typographical Union which was billed to take place in Philadelphia was entirely without foundation in fact.

Jacob Glaser, President of Philadelphia Typographical Union, telegraphed last night to Mr. J. J. Jones, of Pittsburg, district organizer for nine States, that the report printed in THE DISPATCH was to be denied authoritatively. This settles the rumor of a strike.

THE OFFICERS RE-ELECTED.

Annual Meeting of the Pittsburg and Fairport Company.

The Pittsburg and Fairport Terminal Company held its annual meeting at the Baltimore and Ohio depot yesterday afternoon. No business of importance was transacted except an election of the officers of 1888 to serve for the year 1890. Fairport is situated on Lake Erie, and the Pittsburg and Western Railroad have terminal facilities at that point, which are also used by the Baltimore and Ohio.

America Leads the World

In taste and the refined customs of civilization, the evidence of which is, that of 2,454,504 cases of champagne imported into the United States during the last ten years, over 25 per cent was "G. H. Mumm's Extra Dry," whose imports were over 200,000 cases in excess of any other brand. Quality tells

THEIR NEW STATION.

Plans for the Pennsy's Freight Depot Over in Allegheny.

IT WILL ENTAIL A COST OF $24,000,

And Will be Built at the Corner of Well-Known Avenues.

THE ADDITIONAL NEW TRACKS TO IT

The Pennsylvania Company has at last decided to build a new freight station in Allegheny City. Plans have been prepared and the work of building will be begun January 1. The new station will cost $24,000 and will be built on the site of the present depot, at the corner of North and Irwin avenues.

For the past two years numerous reports have been afloat in regard to the company building the station. A number of sites had been selected. Among them was the old Pearl mill property, adjoining the Pennsylvania station on Federal street. It was also stated that the company contemplated the reconstruction of the large oil house, at the foot of Allegheny avenue, and changing it to a freight depot. The yards and platform were to be at the corner of Pennsylvania and Allegheny avenues. The plans have arrived from Philadelphia and the station is to be located at North avenue.

The present tracks used for storing cars between North and Pennsylvania avenues will be torn up about the first of next month. The work of building the platform of the new station will then be begun. The platform will be single and covered, with offices for clerks at both ends. It will be 700 feet long and 34 feet wide. One-half will be used for loading, and the other half for unloading. A wide driveway of granite, or block stone and asphalt will lead to the platform from both Irwin and Pennsylvania avenues. Instead of driving on to the platform, wagons will be backed up to it and unloaded. This will be a convenience appreciated by teamsters and horse owners. In the past, a number of accidents have occurred to horses and wagons on account of the platform giving way.

Four tracks will be constructed from Pennsylvania to Irwin avenue, to accommodate the cars. In addition to this, a number of bulk or car-load tracks will be laid along Allegheny and Pennsylvania avenues. The company will also construct another track alongside their main tracks from the end of the West Park at North avenue to the outer depot. This will give them five tracks from this point west. The two outside tracks are exclusively used for freight trains and the new tracks will enable the company to better handle the rapidly increasing business.

The office of Freight Agent W. George Gibson and his clerks will be located close to the gateman's tower, on North avenue. The office will be a two-story brick building with stone trimmings. It will be totally unlike the present office, which is nothing but a shed. The latter was erected in 1871, when the freight station was moved from Federal street to North avenue. It was intended at the time to make it but a temporary office, but nothing was ever done to replace it with a better station. Instead of moving out in six months, the company has occupied the present incommodious quarters for 18 years. The building was partially destroyed by fire about three years ago, but was rebuilt.

It is probable that the new building will cease to be the freight station within a few years. It is generally believed by the higher officials that the depot must be located at Federal street in order to be centrally located for shippers. The company owns acres of ground between their tracks and Lacock street, on the west side of Federal street, and can easily find room for it. It was intended to put the present new building on this site, but the elevated track scheme would not allow this to be done. It is only a question of time until the tracks crossing Federal and other cross streets will have to be elevated. The work will surely begin about January 2.

TO MANAGE THE LIBRARY.

Lively Discussion in Allegheny Councils as to Whether the Carnegie Library is for the Aristocrats or the People.

At a special meeting of Allegheny Council last evening, after some minor unfinished business had been taken care of, a resolution was passed commending the Chamber of Commerce's disapproval of encroachments on the river front. The ordinance authorizing the issuance of $117,000 3½ per cent bonds was repealed, and an issuance of a like amount of 4 per cent 20-year bonds substituted; also, $25,000 4 per cent 20-year park bonds.

Some discussion ensued when the question of repaving and grading portions of Federal and Diamond streets came up, but it was laid over.

Another squabble ensued over the board to be appointed to manage the Carnegie library. One member wanted to know who was the instigator of the ordinance, as he thought it was intended to give aristocrats the benefit. Another thought the people should have full control, as they were the pick of the flock, and the Board of Control was made up of what was left.

A motion to adjourn cut the discussion short, and the ordinance goes to the city Property Committee. During the evening it was announced that a second test of the new Silsby engine would be made Christmas afternoon.

DRESSED IN HIS BEST.

The Weather Clerk Makes His Usual Adjustable Statements.

"Yes," said Wiggins, "I think it will."

This profound remark was in answer to whether it would or would not rain on Christmas Day. No perfect reliance can be placed upon the ground hog's observation, as he is the same gentleman who tries to believe in his own predictions by appearing on a rainy day without an umbrella, or traveling around in the sun with a borrowed ulster or perhaps trying to mop off fancied perspiration with a thermometer 100 per cent below par.

In spite of the clerk's prediction, however, there will be weather Christmas. It will be more or less ruffled around the edges with a marked vacuum in the pockets, and a great deal of wind on the stomach in certain regions. On the whole, people in Pittsburg will find it comfortable as usual on Christmas to be clothed with righteousness and seal skin.

MAGGIE M'QUAIDE'S INQUEST.

The Coroner Says He Will Find the Man Who Pawned Her Clothes.

The Coroner yesterday adjourned the inquest on the death of Margaret McQuaide, for a day, to secure further testimony as well as to secure the man who pawned her clothes to get drink. The Coroner says he will get the man if the law will assist him, and make him regret the part which he took toward hastening the death of the poor woman.

At the inquest yesterday there were several witnesses examined, among them being Chief Elliot, of the Department of Charities. He said the application to him had been made by telephone for the relief of the McQuaide woman, and he advised the proper course.

Dr. Chessrown, the jail physician, attended the case, and said the woman appeared very ill when he left her. The other witnesses will be called this morning. Superintendent Cowan, of the West Penn Hospital, says the woman left the institution against his wishes.

TO MAKE LARGER PIPES.

Spang-Chalfant Will Manufacture Sixteen-Inch Tubes.

Spang, Chalfant & Co. are about to enlarge their lap-weld tube department with another furnace, and will put in machinery to make 16-inch wrought iron pipes, which is just double the size they have been turning out. The wrought iron pipes of such dimension have largely taken the place of cast iron ones used for gas and water mains. The firm is so pressed with orders that they cannot make enough pipe iron.

THAT COAL DEAL.

Col. Shinn is Still Negotiating With the River Men.

Colonel W. P. Shinn said yesterday that the river coal syndicate was just in the same position it was in prior to the 16th of December.

He declined to say whether the deal was on or off, and would not say what had been the outcome of his talk with a committee of river operators the other day. It could be seen, however, that the Colonel had some hopes of still carrying the negotiations through.

The Saltsburg Gas Company.

A meeting of the Saltsburg Gas Company was held at the Seventh Avenue Hotel last evening. About 20 persons were present, but they all declined to talk on the business which had been transacted. It is rumored, however, that they intend increasing the capital stock of the company and extending the line.

THE CARBON STRIKE.

Conference Yesterday Between the Company and a Committee of Organized Labor—What Was Accomplished.

A conference between the Allegheny County Light Company and a committee representing the labor organizations and the Electrical Union was held yesterday afternoon. No agreement has as yet been arrived at. There were present, on behalf of the company, Herman H. Westinghouse, Manager Blaxter, and Superintendent Naysmith, and as a committee, John E. O'Shea, Secretary Martin, of the Amalgamated Association of Iron and Steel Workers, C. P. Du Ross, John Fies, Frank Currier, Charles Fitzwilliams and James K. Millman.

Mr. O'Shea stated that the conference had been asked for to devise some means whereby the impending dispute might be settled, and suggested that a scale be drawn up under which it would be impossible for such disputes to occur in the future. Mr. O'Shea asked Mr. Westinghouse to explain the causes that led up to the difficulty of last August, and to state the arrangements that had been entered into between the company and the American Federation of Labor.

Mr. Westinghouse deputed the task to Mr. Blaxter, who said that prior to August the company had four men in its employ to whom they were not paying the regular wages, $2; they were getting only $1 75; that the committee called upon the company to pay these men the regular rate or discharge them; that the company refused to do this, and the men struck. A verbal settlement was subsequently arrived at, by which the company was to reinstate the men who had struck; that it had so done with the exception of three.

Mr. O'Shea wanted to know if these three men were not reinstated because of their connection with a union? To this Mr. Blaxter would not reply directly, but stated that there were several reasons why they should not be reemployed.

The phase of the present difficulty was then discussed, and when the matter had been referred to at some length Mr. O'Shea desired to know if the Electrical Union had intimated to the company its objection to working with the three men referred to. Mr. Blaxter denied having received official intimation of the fact, but admitted that a committee of three had called upon him and proffered a request that the three objectionable men be discharged. He said that he had asked the committee to put the request in writing, but this they refused to do for reasons best known to themselves, and the men then went out on strike.

In reply Mr. Carrier, of the Electrical Union, said that the reason they had not made the formal request in writing was because they suspected there might be some catch in the matter.

Mr. O'Shea then asked Mr. Blaxter if he had any reason to suppose that the men on strike had contemplated, or would make, any attempt on the property of the company, or in any way injure its business. To this Mr. Blaxter declined to make any reply.

Mr. Martin desired to know from Mr. Blaxter if a tacit agreement did not exist between the committee and the company, under which the three men who had been discharged during the August difficulty should be taken back, but Mr. Blaxter denied this.

Mr. O'Shea then suggested that a contract be drawn up between the committee and the company, to remain in force for one year, binding both parties to give due notice of any grievances that might exist, before any strike or lockout should mentioned. This was discussed for some time, and then Mr. Westinghouse said that for his part he had no objections to his men organizing as they might see fit, and that it was immaterial to him whether the men employed by his company were organized or not. He asked the committee to draw up a contract as suggested and submit it to the company.

This will be done and placed before the company at another meeting Thursday next.

Subsequently the committee met at Amalgamated headquarters and drew up a contract to be submitted at the Thursday meeting. It is understood that it contains a clause providing that every man in the employ of the company shall, owing to the dangerous character of his work, abstain from the use of intoxicants during his working hours.

HIS RESIGNATION ACCEPTED.

Dr. Hays' Relations With the Central Church Dissolved—Rev. Hunter to Fill the Pulpit Next Sunday.

The resignation of Dr. I. N. Hays as pastor of the Central Presbyterian Church was accepted yesterday by the Presbytery and the relations between the pastor and that congregation dissolved. Rev. W. M. Hunter will preach the sermon in the church next Sunday.

An adjourned meeting of the Presbytery was held yesterday afternoon to take action on the requested dissolution. At the last meeting the congregation of the Central Church was cited to be represented at the next meeting and show the reasons why the relations between themselves and Dr. Hays should not be dissolved. The meeting was opened by Rev. H. C. Ferguson, who acted as Moderator.

Dr. Hays stated that he asked the dissolution of the relationship because the covenant had been broken. He became pastor of the church at $2,000 per year, and was lately notified by the trustees that his salary for the next year would be only $1,500. John Ogden, George Irwin and W. C. Armstrong were present as Commissioners of the Central Church.

Mr. Irwin read the report of the meeting, which contained only the facts of the appointment of the commissioners and the concurrence of the congregation in the request of Dr. Hays. Dr. Robinson then stated that the rest of the report should be dispensed with, as it would serve only to breed ill-feeling, and was unnecessary, as both parties were willing to separate.

M. H. Tweed, a member of the Presbytery, also of the Central Church, stated that in justice to the congregation of his church, and to the trustees, the report should be read, as it cleared the action of the trustees over which a cloud of suspicion seemed to rest. The question of the dissolution was put to the vote, and unanimously carried. The commissioners then left the church.

Mr. Tweed then asked that Rev. W. M. Hunter be made moderator, and preach the sermon next Sunday at the Central Church, and also declare the pulpit vacant. The request was granted by the Presbytery.

Dr. Campbell offered a resolution which was a testimonial to the works, sincerity and high moral qualities of Dr. Hays. It was unanimously carried.

Rev. John Fox introduced the following substitute resolution which was passd.

RESOLVED, That a committee be appointed to visit the Central Church and confer with the session of the congregation so far as may be necessary to learn whether there are any circumstances connected with the dissolution of the pastoral relationship of Dr. Hays which requires the attention of the Presbytery.

MIXED IN THE MUD.

No Chance to Get Oil Well Supplies into the Territory.

There is but little chance to develop oil territory now, except close to the railways. The mud is axle deep in most places, owing to the condition of the country roads. Material cannot be transported only when the mud is in a thin fluid condition. The wind of Sunday and yesterday's sun, has for miles in the Chartiers Valley fields dried the mud to the consistency of shoemaker's wax. The withdrawal of a horse's foot is followed by a report as loud as a pistol shot, and the revolution of wheels displaces it so that it is dangerous for a horse to navigate. Many thousands of dollars were worse than wasted on these roads last year, and the same has been the case each year for three generations past. With their usual fatuity, the supervisors are dumping a few broken sandstone here and there, and the result is a mixture somewhat resembling plum pudding, and as bad for horse comfort as the pudding is for human digestion. Where the mud is still fluid vehicles thump on the bed-rocks of the roads, making driving as uncomfortable as it was on the old-time corduroy road.

In consequence of the situation but little news could be had from the fields. A commissioner was sent on Sunday evening to learn something of the operations on Montour run. As he took the overland route and was not heard of last evening apprehensions were felt that he might have been swamped, or, possibly, laid out by hard cider, the only stimulating beverage abundant in that section.

At the Pittsburg, Chartiers and Youghiogheny Railway crossing, in Chartiers, a river of mud has been pushing its way down the road for several weeks and gives employment to a squad of men, who shovel incessantly in order to prevent the trains being swamped. It might be a good idea to assist all the mud off the hill roads and use it to fill the overflow land at Chartiers. A solid hill would then be left on which a decent road might be made.

WHEN M'KEAN WILL STEP IN.

He Visits Mr. Larkin and Decides to Take Hold February 1.

James S. McKean, the newly appointed and jovial postmaster of Pittsburg, paid a visit yesterday to his predecessor, who only lacks one of these characteristics.

In a pleasant chat they discussed the probable time of turning over Uncle Sam's C. O. D. business establishment, at which goods can be bought during the holidays at as low rates as any similar shop in the country.

It was finally agreed that the official transfer would take place February 1, and that the price of stamps would remain unchanged. Both gentlemen parted with assurances of their mutual and most cordial regard.

A Regulator.

A few Hamburg figs will cure the worst cases of constipation and indigestion, and their occasional use will prevent the recurrence of these troubles. 25 cents. Dose, one fig. Mack Drug Co., N. Y. TTSu

THE CHIEFS' SAY SO.

Comment Upon the Board of Underwriters' Action.

CHIEF BROWN AND M'CANDLESS.

A Question as to a Conference Held Yesterday.

CHIEF EVANS MAKES A STATEMENT

It was rumored yesterday that Chief Brown, of the Department of Public Safety, had received a letter from the Board of Underwriters asking a conference on the subject of the Monongahela House fire, and, it was said, asking the dismissal of Chief Evans. Mr. Brown, when asked about the subject, said that no conference had been held and no committee had waited upon him on the subject.

Major W. G. McCandless, President of the Board of Underwriters, was sought several times during the day, but was away from his office each time on business, the last time having started for Nimick station and thence home. About 11 P. M. he was asked by telephone whether he had had a conference with Chief Brown, and he said he had at least a chat on the subject of the fire in question. The letter asking for the conference, he said, did not ask for, nor in the consultation was the dismissal of Chief Evans requested. He said the general talk was on the protection from fire of the property of the citizens. No conclusion was reached and no definite steps taken.

Chief Evans was seen last night, and said: "I do not want to appear as boasting, or as putting myself forward, but I will say this, that I never have seen a better managed fire, and I have seen a good many fires. I say this simply in vindication of the men, not of myself, for no man could have an eye on every side of a fire like that. Had the people who first discovered the fire reported it in time, a Babcock would have extinguished it. You can inquire for yourself from the man who gave the alarm."

John Paisley, of Engine Company No. 2, said: "A man ran over to me on the morning of the fire about 11:30, and asked me to come over as there was a blaze. I started with him, and passed through the barroom running, when the man behind the bar said: 'Don't make such a noise, you will disturb the guests.'

"Back of the bar I met Mr. Anderson, who also said, 'Hush; don't make a disturbance,' but I went through and heard the fire whooping up one elevator shaft. I didn't mind disturbing people, but rushed back, pulled the box and skipped to the hotel again to find the fire swooping up the other shaft, and no Babcock could tackle it then. We did the best we could with the blaze, and put the hose at the source of the fire, as we were there first, which accounts for the heavy engine having that work to do, while the later arrivals had to attend to the outside work."

"You can add," said Chief Evans, "to your statements that with the smallest engine in the Department we can throw water on top of that building or to any part of it, but as there is no salvage corps here we directed our engines to pump out the fire and succeeded with probably as small a loss as any hotel fire ever showed."

GUN WAH IN TROUBLE.

The Chinese Physician of Penn Avenue Immured in the Bastile.

The arrest of C. A. Bernard and the Chinese physician, Gun Wah, who have for some time been giving herbal decoctions as per advertisements in an Orientally-decorated place on Penn avenue, caused no little excitement around the Central station last evening. Gun Wah, or, as the police, who have not yet perfected the study of the signal code, called him, Gun Wad. was, divested of his Oriental robes in which he prescribes mint tea and other sovereign remedies, a very plain little Chinaman with a wise look and child-like and bland smile, the former behind a pair of smoked spectacles and the latter in front.

As he pensively watched the bars of the Central station he was consulted by a DISPATCH reporter on the state of the latter's health, and replied with the wise look and the bland smile alternately on questions touching pathological subjects. When asked where he procured his diploma as a physician, the technicalities did not seem to trouble him, and he promptly answered "China." In reply to the question to what part of China he came from, he answered: "Canton."

Mr. Barnard, who was understood to be managing the medical firm, was bailed out in $1,000 by Mr. Taylor, one of the Hamilton House proprietors, but the Barbarian, as the concern, Mr. Gun Wah, remained behind the bars at midnight. Inspector McAleese has made information against both for practicing medicine without a diploma, and various other offenses which they will have to explain before Judge McKenna to-day.

LAST DAY OF WORRY.

Anderson, Dupey & Co. Will Supply Their Own Gas After To-Day.

Anderson, Dupey & Co. are beginning to breathe more freely in prospect of getting their own gas into their works at Charliers within the next 24 hours. The finishing touches were being put to pipe laying yesterday, and Major Lyon stated there would be less trouble from this time on, at least this is the hope entertained.

To Make Fine Steel.

A new works called the Reliance Steel Casting Company has been built at Thirty-sixth street, near Liberty, by Messrs. Charles Bailey and Joseph A. Kelly. The production is fine crucible steel. The plant as yet consist of an 18-pot furnace. Mr. Bailey, who is experienced in the business, was for a number of years connected with the Pittsburg Steel and Casting Company.

An Offer From Jeannette.

The leading citizens of Jeannette have come forward with an offer of 30 acres, of which a portion is to be donated for the Pennsylvania Forge, on Second avenue, if the company will locate there.

LOOK out for counterfeits! The genuine Dr. Bull's Cough Syrup is what you want. 25c.

Pittsburg and Lake Erie Railroad.

Holiday excursion tickets will be sold to points on the P. & L. E. and principal points on the N. Y. P. & O. and Lake Shore and Michigan Southern, from Youngstown to Erie and Toledo inclusive, at excursion rates December 24, 25 and 31 and January 1, good for return until January 3. Tickets will be sold to points on the P., McK. & Y. and McK. & B. V. R. R., December 21 to 31 inclusive, and January 1, good for return until January 4, inclusive, at excursion rates.

AT Taft's Philada. dental rooms, 39 Fifth ave., you can get the best set of teeth for $8 00. A good set for $5 00.

REAL ESTATE SAVINGS BANK, LIM.,

401 Smithfield Street, cor. Fourth Avenue.

Capital, $100,000. Surplus, $50,000.

Deposits of $1 and upward received and interest allowed at 4 per cent. TTS

BLAIR'S PILLS—Great English gout and rheumatic remedy. Sure, prompt and effective. At druggists'. TTSu

Closing Out

Regardless of cost, a very fine line of art embroidered and painted plush and silk goods—lace curtains, portieres, upholstery goods, etc., at private sale every morning and evening. Auction sales every afternoon until closed out. Call early, as choice goods are going fast at our very low prices, at 514 Wood st. H. HOLTZMAN & SONS.

Dead! Dead! Dead!

McGinty and wife ate non-union bread and crackers and consequently died.

There is no doubt both would be alive today and doing well had they purchased none but union made goods.

WHEN ill with pains and exhaustion, Parker's Ginger Tonic is your surest relief.

Parker's Hair Balsam aids the hair growth.

And Down Went the Prices.

Only a few more days remain to dispose of my entire stock, which is yet quite large. The price on everything has been cut in two. Twenty styles corsets, including all the best known makes, ranging in price up to $2, now go for 75 cents. Kid gloves, pocketbooks, chatelaines, lace scarfs and fichus, and many other articles that make nice Christmas presents, at about half price.

F. SCHOENTHAL, 612 Penn avenue.

BUY fine rings at Hauch's. Lowest prices. No. 295 Fifth avenue.

AT MONT STE. URSULA.

The Annual Christmas Entertainment a Grand Success.

An admirably arranged musical and dramatic Christmas entertainment was presented to a select audience at Mont Ste. Ursula Academy yesterday afternoon. The leading feature of the programme was the presentation of the beautiful French historical drama, "Marie." Miss Blanche Ihmsen and Miss M. Bruhl showed a refined conception of the principal characters.

The Juniors' concert recitations in French and German were charmingly given. Miss Loefflers' performance on the piano proved that the young lady entered into the soul of the music; while Miss Jolly and Miss Galentine's vocal selections were sung with musical strength and feeling.

Longfellow's "Legend of the Beautiful" was artistically recited by Miss Anna Ihmsen, a talented young lady of the graduating class. At the close Father Murphy delivered an address.

THAT CHURCH TROUBLE.

The Ins Have Rested and the Outs Will Now Commence Their Story.

The Ebenezer Baptist Church controversialists, held another meeting yesterday, and more testimony was taken before the master, A. H. Clark, Esq., but it was not particularly edifying, save to the parties in interest. The attorneys, Messrs. Broe and Prescott, for the "outs," had several spirited wrangles with Mr. Young, attorney for the "ins." Rev. Pryor and Messrs. Roberts Hall, Reed and A. H. Downing continued their testimony as to cost of church.

A voluminous mass of testimony is piling up, but the "outs" say they will not occupy much time. The ins closed yesterday. The question of Baptist Church government, seems to be settled, as Hiscock and his manual were given a rest yesterday.

ENGRAVINGS for all illustrative purposes. General printing.

PITTSBURG PHOTO-ENGRAVING CO., TTSSu 75, 77, 79 Diamond st.

Gentlemen—You Can Buy Here—

Fine Alaska seal garments—finest fur capes—muffs—boas—collars and stoles—shawls—fichus—jackets—long garments—kid gloves—silk hosiery—merino hosiery—black silk dress patterns—woolen dress patterns in colors and black—handkerchiefs—laces—umbrellas—chatelaine bags—portemonnaies—card cases—fans—fancy nic-nacks in silver—now just cut this out and come in today from 8 o'clock to 9 P. M. and we will make your Christmas buying a pleasure.

JOS. HORNE & CO.'S Penn Avenue Stores.

1858. Holmes' Best. 1889.

The most approved whisky procurable anywhere. It has the indorsement of all who have used it during the past 31 years. Send for catalogue or order by telephone No. 305, if needed at once.

W. H. HOLMES & SON, 120 Water street and 158 First avenue. TTSSu

For Christmas Dinners.

With the rapid approach of Christmas comes a yearning for the good things of life. In this connection it is proper to call attention to Marvin's golden fruit cake, or plum pudding, something that should have a place on every table. It is pure, sweet and delicious. You can order it through your grocer. D

Just for To-Day—$6 00 Muffs for $3 00.

Red and gray fox, nutria, natural and dyed raccoon, real beaver and black lynx—a counter full. Don't miss this chance. Entire store open until 9 to-night.

JOS. HORNE & CO.'S Penn Avenue Stores.

Rich Cut