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The Intelligencer.

Office: Nos. 25 and 27 Fourteenth Street.

Merry Christmas to All, and a Happy New Year.

It isn't a white Christmas, but shall it not be a bright Christmas?

MR. ALEXANDER is beginning his campaign with a good deal of quiet energy.

THE Democratic idea of civil service reform—turn on the hose and drown out all Republicans!

MR. ROBESON is said to be on guard for a *foreign mission*. He has missed his immediate opportunity for a seat in the Senate.

"CHRISTMAS comes but once a year." Give the youngsters full swing. Let them be the tyrants of the house for this one day if they want to be.

SENATOR BROWN can't hand over a hundred thousand offices to the hungry Democracy for a Christmas gift. Some other Christmas, perhaps.

IT is to be hoped that the Republicans of the Seventeenth Ohio District intend to come out considerably stronger on election day than they did at the primaries. A stay-at-home party doesn't knock the most persimmons.

AT the recent election in North Carolina the Republicans polled 111,320 votes, the Democrats 111,763. If the other 444 Republicans had gone to the polls they would have tipped the beam. North Carolina, we are looking at you for 1884!

AN ESTEEMED cotemporary—which knew better, but didn't stop to think—notes premonitory symptoms of a coming Presidential boom for Senator Beck. Carlyle would have thought it no misfortune, but for Presidential purposes it does stand in the way to have beck born in the Land o' Cakes.

A REPORT has been put in circulation to the effect that the Southern Pennsylvania Railroad company seems to have abandoned the project of coming to Wheeling. There is no foundation in fact for this statement. There has been no change of programme. It was the original intention to go to Pittsburgh for the purpose of reaching the traffic of that important point and to make northwestern connections. It was at the same time proposed, but never positively determined, to come to Wheeling for the purpose of securing a share of its considerable business and to make western and southwestern connections. And so the general scheme stands to-day. The line has been located to Wheeling; that is no proof that the rails will ever reach here. The engineers are in winter quarters working up their field notes under the original instructions; there is no indication here of an abandonment of the Wheeling route. President Sayre, of the Southern Pennsylvania, on the occasion of his recent visit here, stated very frankly to the gentlemen whom he met that the question of coming to Wheeling had not been finally determined, and that the company would be influenced by the facilities offered for reaching the industrial establishments. This being the state of the case it is not for the people of Wheeling to waste time imagining vain things or giving heed to unfounded rumors set afloat for selfish purposes. Let us do what we can to throw open our gates to any railroad that desires to come in. That will admit the Southern Pennsylvania if it desires to come; if it does not so decide the way will be open for all time to all comers. It is possible that the Southern Pennsylvania has reasons why it can not at once conclude or reveal its plans. The proposed building of a great trunk line is a move which sets in motion the whole railroad chess board.

THE tariff-for-revenue-only reformers are gradually "exfoliating," as Mr. Voorhees would say. The Tariff Commission report is bringing them out. Being a definite thing they must talk business when they gather around it, or move out and make room for men who have views. Mr. Springer, of Illinois, is a man of views, and he is frank enough to express them. It has been urged, as we think with reason, that a tariff of $28 a ton on steel rails is too high. It may have been necessary when it was laid—certainly a great industry has grown up under it, but it is not required now to enable the American manufacturer to hold his own. The Tariff Commission recognized this, and recommended that the duty be reduced to $17 60 a ton. But this does not satisfy these Democrats for whom Mr. Springer speaks, and for a reason which might readily have been suspected, but which more prudent people playing a part would have been slow to avow. Mr. Springer dissents from this recommendation of the committee because it means, at the present cost of production, that English rails can not be sold in New York for less than $28 per ton and the proposed duty, and they must sell for $45 60 per ton, while American rails are offered at $40. Mr. Springer would have strengthened his argument by a dollar a ton if he had said that orders had been taken for American rails at $39 per ton. If his argument is a good one there would have to be a sliding scale of duties to go up or down as the selling price of American manufactures should advance or decline. But his main point is clear. He favors no tariff which will not admit the foreign manufacturer on equal terms with the American manufacturer; and he would lay no customs dues not required for revenue purposes. This is precisely where the Republican party and the Democratic party divide on the issue of protection. The Republican party is for a tariff *protection*—a tariff fairly and equitably laid, but still to protect American capital and American labor. The Democratic party forms a tariff for as much revenue as the Government may need, and no more—and the logical conclusion of this reasoning is, that it is no part of the duty of the Government to protect home industries.

A SUNDAY TRAGEDY.

THAT CREATED QUITE A SENSATION

Among the People of Uniontown, Pa.—A State Officer Shot by a Prominent Attorney—A Philadelphia Manufacturing Firm Fails for Half a Million—General News.

PITTSBURGH, PA., December 24.—The *Commercial Gazette's* Uniontown, Pa., special says. Shortly before 10 o'clock this morning, when the people were on their way to church, the town was thrown into a state of intense excitement by a report that Captain A. C. Nutt, Cashier of the Pennsylvania State Treasury, had been shot and killed in a room in Jenning's Hotel by N. L. Dukes, a well known member of the Fayette county bar, and a member-elect of the State Legislature. The high standing of both men gave prominence to the affair and and the hotel was soon surrounded with excited citizens.

Captain Nutt had just returned from Harrisburg to spend the holidays with his family, and left home with his nephew, Breckenridge, stating he had some business with Dukes. On the way he told Breckenridge he had received some infamous letters from Dukes, and wanted to have an understanding with him. They went to a hotel and Nutt started up to the room. Breckenridge following but stopped on the stairs to speak to the hotel proprietor's son, named Feathers. While conversing, scuffling was heard in the room and both ran up to separate them. They were found on the floor clenched in a struggle. They succeeded in parting them, when Dukes drew a revolver and said, "you come in here to whip me, and so I shoot," at the same time firing. The ball took effect just below Nutt's left eye, penetrating the brain and killing him instantly. Dukes then walked down stairs, where he was arrested.

What was in the letters or the motive which led to the murder is still a mystery.

FAILED FOR $500,000.

A Philadelphia Manufacturing Firm's Paper Goes to Protest.

PHILADELPHIA, PA., December 25.—James Smythe & Co., who have been running two large Mills in this city, announced their paper had gone to protest. The announcement causes quite a stir among textile manufacturers. Liabilities $400,000 to $500,000. It is understood the firm will make an assignment to William Arrott. Speaking of their financial troubles Smythe said it was due to the unfortunate extension of their business incurring liabilities which the stringency of the money market and the depressed condition of the cotton trade prevented them meeting. They felt warranted in taking the Frankford mill property, in which they spent thousands of dollars. To do this they negotiated loans, and as they fell due they had met them by securing other loans. Then money grew tight, making their responsibilities burdensome. Finally, to make things worse, they found their income for the past nine months had been cut down some $85,000 below what it should have been. Mr. Smythe thinks the creditors will allow them to continue business. The property is valuable. It represents a business system which if detached is quite certain to be sold at a sacrifice. Smythe says the firm will hold itself morally responsible to pay every dollar of its indebtedness if able. The creditors are nearly all in Philadelphia, but it is not likely anyone will be seriously involved. The firm employed over nine hundred hands, and running a capacity of 10,000 looms and 18,000 spindles. They did a business of $800,000 a year until the present. Until this year Smythe & Co. always had orders ahead, but at present they have about three weeks' stock on hand. There will be a meeting of the creditors Thursday.

THE RIVER RAILROAD.

Organization of the Construction Company to Build the Road.

PARKERSBURG, December 23.—The gentlemen who are to furnish the money to the Wheeling, Parkersburg & Charleston railroad, met at Belpre, Ohio, to-day and effected an organization under the name of the Ohio Valley Construction Company. It was necessary to organize under Ohio laws owing to certain laws of this State bearing on incorporated companies. Messrs. C. H. Payne, H. M. Hanna, W. P. Thompson, Wm. Armstrong and George Dana, of Ohio; E. W. Clark, of Pennsylvania; Abram S. Hewitt, of New York; J. N. Camden and Samuel Stewart, of West Virginia.

Senator Camden was elected President *pro tem.* Of the capital stock 10 per cent. was subscribed and paid in.

Poor Chances for the Tobacco Men.

WASHINGTON, December 23.—Representative Carliste, of the Ways and Means Committee, said to-night that after a careful canvass of the two Houses, he had come to the conclusion that nothing would be done this session for the relief of the tobacco trade, with the possible exception of the passage of the amended rebate resolution. He said he thought the Finance Committee might, if pressure was brought to bear, agree to a bill cutting down the tax on tobacco twelve cents a pound, and on cigars four dollars a thousand, but that it was scarcely probable that if the bill was reported it would pass both Houses. Representative Carliste made this canvass with a view of obtaining information which would tend to settle the present agitation in the trade by an assurance either of the probable action or probable non-action. He is quite confident that his conclusions are correct, and that the sooner the tobacco trade accepts them as such the better it will be for the trade. Mr. Carliste's opinion is that of all well-informed Congressmen.

Loss by Ice and Flood.

PITTSBURGH, PA., December 24.—Three gorges on the Allegheny river, between this city and Parker's, Pa., broke, to-day and an immense volume of water back of them caused a flood which swept nearly 65,000 feet of lumber away from moorings, a few miles above the city. The lumber was the property of Joseph Couch, who estimates his loss at $16,000. No other damage was reported.

Fire Record.

CLAREMONT, N. H., December 23.—The main building of Clark & Freeman's novelty wood establishment, burned. Fifty men are thrown out of employment and lose their tools, some of which cannot be duplicated in this country. Loss $20,000; insurance $12,000.

SAVANNAH, GA., December 23.—A fire in the Southern cotton warehouse, contain- about 1,400 bales, caused a slight damage. Insured for $68,000.

As to What Dickson Did.

WASHINGTON, December 22.—There were many stormy passages between the counsel in the Dickson case to-day, brought on by the cross-examination of a witness. The general tendency of the cross-examination was to strengthen the testimony already given by Dickson. The Court intimated that he would confine his decision to simply a question of whether or not Dickson read an improper paper in the jury room.

COUNTERFEITERS CAGED.

A Notorious Gang of Coiners and Shovers of the Queer Broken Up and the Members Arrested.

From Our Special Correspondent.

PARKERSBURG, December 24.—Secret service officers have made a descent on a company of counterfeiters who have been "shoving the queer" industriously in this city, and the bold operators are now locked up in the Wood county jail. The secret service men got wind of the work and were trying to trace it when a lucky chance placed them in a way that led straight to the bogus money makers. The evidence is complete, and nothing is wanting but the forms of law to put the criminals in the penitentiary.

In last September the Brothers Alkire of this State, were arrested at Pittsburgh for passing counterfeit money, and later Jacob Hashman, who the Alkires said had furnished the coin, was arrested. James H. Miller, (*alias* Hamilton Jones) was also arrested by that time, but escaped from the officers. These arrests alarmed the gang, and they scattered. They were traced up however, and Jas. H. Fagan first caught. He was working at Marietta. He was quietly jailed at Parkersburg that his arrest might not again warn his confederates. Fagan is a notorious character, having before been arrested on the same charge.

Another famous member of the lot was J. F. Marion, a Baptist minister. Miller, *alias* Henderson, had already completed a three years' sentence for the same crime, having been arrested at Pittsburgh. Fagan was an Irishman, formerly living at Washington, Pa. His indiscretion led to the arrest of the men, as he told Capt. Perkins all about their operations. Coin was purchased from them at various times through Fagan's agency.

In Pleasants county they were unknown, and were enabled to secure a standing among the people they could not have attained where known. It was conjectured they plied their nefarious trade at this point. Last night all plans for the capture were perfected. Chief Perkins and Deputy Marshal Gibbons and Remby repaired to Marion's residence at midnight, and by a neat stratagem were admitted. The two men were arrested, handcuffed and brought to this city and imprisoned.

The apprehension of the two men was kept secret, for fear the rest of the gang would put to flight. Miller was engaged to Marion's daughter and was to have been married in a short while.

J. R. Mehen, chief of police, arrested F. D. Liets near Greenwood, Doddridge county, on whose property the service had located the mint and battery, also the paraphernalia of the same. A quantity of the "spurious" was obtained and brought in with the other staff. Wm. Slater, of Yeaters Mills, was arrested by Deputy Marshal Remeley. At Owls Head, in Wetzel county, Chief Perkins, with Marshal Gibbons, arrested Dan Hickman, a member of the nest. He has been a husband but a week and his wife carried on bad, when he was taken from her. These gentlemen also proceeded to Marions, where they found James Cunningham, of Grangeville, who is a member of a prominent Marion county family.

John Stern is the only one not secured and he will soon be nabbed for the officers are hot on his track. The State is rid of one of the worst gangs of counterfeiters ever known, and the work that did it was one of the most admirable and best planned pieces of detecting ever done in the State.

"WOMAN, GOD BLESS HER."

A Characteristic Speech by Mark Twain, on Woman.

NEW YORK, December 23.—The seventy-seventh annual dinner of the New England Society took place at Delmonico's last evening. Josiah M. Fiske presided. Among those on the platform were General Grant, Mayor Grace, Judge Abraham R. Lawrence, Rev. Arthur Brooks, Chauncey M. Depew and Governor Bigelow, of Connecticut. Robert L. McCurdy, Colonel Vilas, Rev. Dr. Upshur, Mark Twain, General Horace Porter, and Senator Miller, of California, were among the guests.

Mark Twain made one of his characteristic after-dinner speeches, taking for his subject "Women." He described the matter of dress, comparing the daughter of savagery and the daughter of civilization, and said the daughter of savagery when she went to church wore nothing but her complexion. He described it as the neatest and most graceful costume now in fashion. It wears well, is a fast color, it doesn't show the dirt, in fact it is the handiest dress in the whole realm of fashion. One don't have to wait for three quarters of an hour in the parlor before she is dressed. The daughters of savagery do not go to church to see what their neighbors have on; and don't return to describe and slander it. A large part of the daughter of civilization is her dress. Some civilized woman lose half their charms without dress and some would lose all. The modern daughter of civilization is a marvel of exquisite art and expense. He didn't know where her hair was from. He could never find out—that is, the hair that she did not go to bed with. He described a switch as a thing which she twists and then coils round and round her head, bee hive fashion, and then tucks the end under the hive and harpoons it with a hairpin. He gave a very graphic description of his hunt for an owner of a hair-pin in a Pullman car and his disgust at not being able to succeed. He closed his speech by uttering, with sincerity: "Woman, God bless her."

A DESERTED CAPITAL.

The Exodus of Members of Congress for their Homes.

From Our Special Correspondent.

WASHINGTON, December 24.—Congress having practically taken a recess until after New Year's, most of the members and Senators have left for their homes. Of the West Virginia delegation Senator Davis will remain here and meet with the Senate Appropriation Committee, which will hold daily sessions after to-morrow.

Senator Camden has gone to New York on private business, Representative Kenna left for Kanawha county Friday evening, and Colonel Ben Wilson left for Clarksburg this morning. Representative Hoge, who has his wife with him at Willard's Hotel, will spend the week here and in Baltimore visiting friends.

The Appropriation Bills.

WASHINGTON, December 23.—The Department estimates for the appropriation bills in course of preparation by the House of Representatives are in amount as follows:

For pensions, $101,575,000; fortifications, $1,000,000; navy, $23,481,078; legislative, executive and judicial expenses, $21,840,170; sundry civil expenditures, $34,181,576; District of Columbia, $775,149.

The pensions, fortifications and navy bills will be ready to report to the House immediately after New Year's day. There remains for preparation the general deficiency bill, and, it is possible, the river and harbor bill.

"Sand-Bagging" in Chicago.

CHICAGO, December 23.—So general is the complaint of sand-bagging and robbery in the streets at nights, and so fast is the crime growing that the Lumbermen's Exchange, aroused by the fact that one of their members had been attacked, robbed and left senseless on the street, offer $5,000 reward for the perpetrator of the crime in a document which sharply criticises the city government for its slackness. Since December 1st seventeen cases of this sort are on record, and probably many have been missed.

A BAD BAND BROKEN UP

TRIAL OF RED MEN AT CLARKSBURG

Price Convicted and Sentenced to Ten Years' Imprisonment—A Combination of Nonmental Liars and Marauders—Kettle Confesses All—Arrests for Perjury—Notes.

United States Marshal Atkinson returned from Clarksburg yesterday evening, where he has been for the past two weeks attending the special term of a Federal Court, for the trial of those noted mail robbers, Price, Kittle and Hoffmann. From him the INTELLIGENCER has received a number of facts connected with the trial, which are given below.

As hitherto stated in these columns, the mail was robbed September 12th, last near Belington, Barbour county. One of the defendants; Albert Price, was riding with the mail carrier in a thick wood, when two men, Noah Kittle and Jacob T. Hoffman, jumped into the road, drew their pistols, not upon Price, but upon the boy—made him dismount, took the mail bag, rifled it, and made their escape. Price stood quietly by, and offered no resistance. He was handed the bridle of the horse while the robbery was going on, and held it till the carrier was set free. This was substantially the

BOY'S STORY

as given before the Court.

It was also stated by other witnesses, that the three parties named, were seen together shortly before the robbery; that they were all members of the Order of Red Men; that they had been heard to say that they wanted to perfect a Jesse James gang for maurauding purposes; that they meant at some time to rob the mails; that they were all known as bad men generally; that they had plotted the assassination of Prosecuting Attorney Brown of Barbour county, because of his open hostility to the Red Men; that they had also threatened the lives of Hon. Samuel Woods, Deputy United States Marshal W. W. Teter, also other prominent citizens; that they with others, had frequently, in the dead hours of the night, gone to the homes of different citizens and had

HORSE WHIPPED

them unmercifully; that they had been arrested and tried for various offenses by the authorities of Barbour county, and had all "come clear," because all honest citizens were afraid to testify against them.

All these things were in testimony against them. They resisted valiantly—died game. Until a verdict of guilty was announced against Price, no weakening on the part of any of them was shown.

The verdict in Albert Price's case was "guilty." Before Judge Jackson passed sentence upon him he said he had a few words to say. He arose, and in an unwavering voice, held up his hand and declared before High Heaven, and the God before whom he expected to render a final account, that

HE WAS INNOCENT.

His speech was so apparently heartless that every one present believed him to be lying. The Judge, who had given very close attention to all of the testimony, was satisfied that he was not telling the truth. When Price took his seat, Judge Jackson reviewed, in a brief manner, the principal points in the testimony; spoke earnestly of the terrible state of affairs that had, for several years, existed in Barbour, as the result of the operations of Price and his followers; asserted that it even rivaled the operations, in lawlessness, of Robin Hood and Dick Turpin; declared that so far as their conduct touched Federal violations he meant to break them down; talked squarely at Price, and the two hundred, or more, Barbour county citizens who were present, and told him (Price) that notwithstanding his denial, he was surely guilty; and closed by the statement that he sentenced him to

TEN YEARS'

imprisonment at hard labor in the penitentiary at Buffalo, N. Y. Price took it all without even closing his eyes. He was remanded to jail, and will be taken by the marshal to the prison named in a few days. At the request of his attorneys he was allowed to remain a short time, so he could have his wife and seven little children brought to the jail at Clarksburg and spend a short time with him before his departure.

As soon as Kittle, one of the other defendants, heard of Price's conviction, he sent word to the Judge that if he would let him off with a ten years' sentence he would come before the Court and make a full

CONFESSION.

The District Attorney agreed to his proposition and Kittle was brought into Court. He was sworn, and began by admitting that he, Hoffman and Price were the real robbers of the mail, but declared that F. M. Howes and Albert England were also parties to the robbery, and helped to arrange and carry it out, though they were not present at the robbery.

The Judge ordered the Clerk to reduce his confession to writing. He went on to say that quite a number of citizens of Barbour county had, with him, Price and others, plotted the assassination of several prominent citizens, and he had been offered a considerable sum of money if he would do

THE KILLING.

He declined, and no one was assassinated. His revelation was lengthy and was unusually interesting.

The Judge did not pass sentence upon Kittle, for the reason that he would likely need him as a witness against other parties who will probably have a trial in Uncle Sam's Court.

Hoffman who is a very stubborn man, stated that he would stay in jail till he rotted, before he admitted anything. The case against him is a very plain one, and when his trial comes off at the April term of Court, he will undoubtedly be imprisoned for life.

Mr. Atkinson declares that this has been one of the largest and most interesting cases

EVER TRIED

in West Virginia. There were about two hundred witnesses, all told, in attendance. The case had been thoroughly studied by the attorneys on both sides, before it went into court, and was undoubtedly managed in a very able manner by both prosecution and defense. Every inch of ground was contested from beginning to end, and the arguments were all able. General Goff, in closing the case for the Government, spoke all day. He handled his points in a masterful manner. When he throws all his energies into a case, as a prosecutor,

HE ALWAYS WINS.

Somehow he always gets clean around a jury and gradually brings the jurymen to him. He, though quite young, has had so much experience in addressing juries, that he can tell exactly when he gets every man with him. He is one of the best criminal lawyers of his age in any State.

All through the trial, Mr. Atkinson says that the court house was literally jammed with people. One thing, he thinks, is settled: Red Menism in Barbour county is a thing of the past.

Just before Court adjourned, Judge Jackson ordered the arrest of Lafayette Keller and John R. England for perjury. They gave bond in the sum of $1,000 each to answer to an indictment for false swearing in order to clear a brother Red Man.

THE PASSION PLAY.

The Arguments Against Its Production in New York City.

NEW YORK, December 23.—A number of well known persons, representing the clergy, the law and business appeared to-day before Mayor Grace in opposition to the granting a theatrical license to Salem A. Morse to produce the "Passion Play" in his hall in West Twenty-third street.

Among those present were the Rev. Dr. Howard Crosby, Howard Potter, William Dodge, D. Willis James, George W. Dane, Elbridge T. Gerry, James M. Brown, E. Randall, H. Robinson, Edward Patterson, Lewis L. Delafield, Stephen P. Nash, Edward Dwight and Henry E. Pellew. Mr. Morse appeared in his own behalf. He was asked by Mr. Delafield to describe the play, and scenes and the tableaux.

Mr. Morse said that all of the most striking scenes in the life of Jesus would be represented. All these would be purely historical. The representation would include a chorus of several hundred voices, and a considerable number of men and women to represent the multitude. All who had been engaged to aid in the representation of the play, from the leading characters to those who compose the multitude, had been selected with regard to their moral character. There would be none of the characteristics of a regular theatrical performance. There was no gallery and no proscenium boxes. These scenes included the ark of the Covenant, the burning altar, the garden of Gethsemane, and other familiar places and things.

"Who will represent Christ?" asked Mr. Delafield.

"A Baptist minister, an American of German descent, whose name I do not remember," replied Mr. Morse.

Mr. Delafield wished to know if he had been regularly ordained, and Mr. Morse replied that he could not tell.

"Who will personate the Virgin Mary?" asked Mr. Delafield.

"A comely young Jewess, a very excellent young lady, who is admirably fitted for the part," replied Mr. Morse. He was questioned further by Mr. Delafield, and said that the play had been successfully produced in San Francisco and had there received the approval of a large number of the best citizens. The Rev. Dr. Crosby addressing the Mayor, said he did not question the sincerity of Mr. Morse's motives. The result of the play was what was to be considered. The question was whether anything that was abhorrent to public sentiment, and calculated to shock the better feelings of the community, should be made public in this city. For one, he thought it should not be allowed. If the play in question was produced under the protection of clergymen, and in houses dedicated to religious worship, it would be altogether a different thing. Its production would be calculated to excite feelings of piety and devotion. But the production of this play in an unconsecrated hall, and before a promiscuous audience, would have a pernicious effect and tend to excite contempt. The Mayor said he would give the gentlemen another hearing.

A CENSUS WAR.

Revision of the Returns of Philadelphia's Various Industries.

PHILADELPHIA, December 23.—The industrial census of the city, as taken by the Police Department, under the direction of Lorin Blodget, is substantially complete, and the returns are so fully compiled as to show a large difference as compared with the census of 1880. From the figures already computed over 10,000 establishments are shown, with 226,652 operatives. This is an increase of 2000 establishments and 50,000 persons employed. Mr. Blodget calculates that the entire completion of the revision will show 12,000 establishments with 240,000 persons employed.

Mr. Blodget yesterday received a letter from the State Department of Internal Affairs asking the privilege of printing the revised census in the annual report of the Department for the current year, and a compensation was offered for the statistical information. Mr. Blodget is confident that the authorities at Washington will also put the seal of commendation on the revised returns as authentic and reliable.

The iron industries, according to the revised census, show 376 establishments, as against 306 returned in 1880, while the number of persons employed is shown to be 24,887, as against 16,000. In the textile interests the police return 703 establishments, as against 584 returned by Mr. Arrett. The number of persons employed is shown to be 55,944, as against 37,014, an increase of 18,930. The revised census shows 212 carpet manufacturing establishments, with 12,406 persons employed, as against 170 establishments, 8,813 persons employed, as was returned by Mr. Arrett. An increase of 319 boot and shoe establishments and of 2,662 hands in this industry is also shown. The same ratio of increase is shown in nearly every department of manufacturing. According to the new returns there are 170 printers, employing 3,700 persons; 92 book publishers, employing 2,800 persons, and 86 newspapers, employing 2,200 persons; making in all 348 establishments, employing 8,700 persons, as compared with 181 establishments, employing 5,387 persons, a difference of 167 establishments and of 3,313 persons. From ten of the leading establishments, including the Baldwin Locomotive Works, Allison's Car Works, Cramp's shipyards, Dolan's mills and others, the returns foot up a total of 15,000 persons employed, an average of 1,500 to each establishment.

Harper's Ferry Property in Demand.

WASHINGTON, December 23.—The question of disposing of the Government property at Harper's Ferry has again been revived. The solicitor of the treasury recently received an offer from ex-Secretary Belknap, representing certain capitalists in Pennsylvania, who promise to make a bid of $25,000 if the property is put up at auction. Mr. Belknap was informed that his request would be complied with, provided the proper guarantee was given and $1,000 was deposited to pay for the advertising. The solicitor is waiting to hear further from Mr. Belknap.

GENERAL NEWS PARAGRAPHS.

At Dallas, Texas, yesterday, B. Elam quarreled with Henry Daniels about the payment for some drinks, and stabbed him to death.

In a collision on the Wabash road near Carpenter, Ill., last night, two trainmen were killed, and a number of employes and passengers injured.

George Demster and Jerry B. McCarty, convicts in the Missouri Penitentiary, quarreled yesterday, and before the guards could interfere Demster was stabbed to death.

Through an error of a telegraph operator two freight trains collided last night on the New York, Pennsylvania & Ohio Railroad near Meadville, Pa., wrecking a dozen cars and killing conductor York.

Patsy Donnelly walked into a saloon, in Peru, Ill., yesterday, and fired at a crowd at the bar, fatally wounding Michael McDermott. He then stepped out, and being met by a policeman fired at him, but missed. The officer sent a bullet into his brain.

A Brooking, Dakota dispatch says: During the absence of Mr. Baker from home his wife left three children aged six months, three years, and five years in the house while she did some work at the barn. When she returned two of them were corpses, and in rescuing the baby from the flames, which afterwards died in her arms, the mother received burns which place her in danger.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS!

PASTORS' CHRISTMAS SENTIMENTS.

Eloquent Short Sermons from the "Intelligencer" Pulpit—How the Anniversary is Observed in the City Churches—Some Beautiful and Appropriate Thoughts.

In response to the request of the INTELLIGENCER, forwarded to pastors of churches in Wheeling and vicinity, the following Christmas sentiments have very kindly been furnished:

Christmas day belongs to the time of Christ's nativity. The birth of Jesus is presented as a miraculous event, as such predicted, as such recorded. It is presented as the most wonderful event in its own nature. The incarnation is the grandest truth in the universe, the union of the divine and human natures in the one person of the Redeemer, heaven and earth are brightened with its glory. All before and after the birth of Jesus, takes its color from that event. As the tree, rising from a small root or seed, spreads its branches, and with them its leaves, its blossoms, its fruit, its shade, north, south, east and west; so has this obscure birth influenced all history, sacred and secular, before and behind. That history is an infinite web of events, interwoven in endless intricacies, apparently with a thousand broken threads; now upward, now downward, now backward, now forward; but the magnificent web is one, and its centre is Bethlehem. "Christ is all and in all;" and as such, from the manger to the cross, and from the cross to the throne. He is the incarnation of Jehovah's purposes, the interpretation of the divine actions, and the revelation of the heavenly mysteries. He is the only hope of a lost and sinful world. Therefore, let every heart, every home, every land; let old and young, parents and children, brothers and sisters, husbands and wives, rejoice with joy unspeakable and full of glory.

D. A. CUNNINGHAM,
Pastor First Presbyterian Church.

Christianity is of God. Nearly two thousand years ago, under mean and obscure circumstances, its Founder was born. When He began His career as a public teacher He drew the common people to Him, but his doctrine, His Messianic claims, arrayed the whole Jewish hierarchy against Him. The priesthood was greatly troubled, "What shall we do with this Jesus which is called the Christ?" was the great question with them. A wise and tolerant Rabbi gave this answer,—"If this Counsel or this work be of men, it will come to naught, but if it be of God ye cannot overthrow it." Of all the great religions of the earth Christianity only has demonstrated its power to sooth, sustain, deliver and regenerate the world. When will it fail? When men shall cease to feel the need of sympathy in their sorrow, help in their trials and forgiveness for their sins.

In the future as in the past men will assault our holy religion, but will never conquer it. Come back again to us, O compassionate Redeemer, and we will make room for Thee in Bethlehem. We will not allow rude men to insult and strike Thee—Thou shalt not be betrayed into the hands of Thine enemies—Thou shalt not stand in Pilate's court—We will not crucify Thee,—but we will crown Thee and worship Thee, and call Thee Jesus, for Thou shalt save Thy people.

GEORGE E. HITE,
Pastor Chapline street, M. E. Church.

What a good thing it is that we have one day in the year during which every one feels impelled to be happy! True, the joy to-day is not universal, and many will seek the hilarity which dissipation gives—a selfish pleasure which robs the sober friends of the possibility of enjoyment, and ends in their own misery; still the sum of human happiness will be so generally and greatly increased that we may fancy the face of Christendom illuminated with a brighter light than appears upon it on any other day of the year. And the beneficial effects of this joy will abide many days, for its principal causes are the blessedness of receiving and the greater blessedness of giving. We give expression to our affections and kindly feelings and so develop them. We make the world better by trying to make it happier. Why should this excellent plan be restricted to the efforts of one day?

J. D. MOFFAT,
President Washington and Jefferson College.

Immanuel—God with us. This name indicates the incarnation of Christ, by whom we know God; for he who hath seen Christ hath seen the Father. Through the Word made flesh we know of our own great human need according to the Divine opinion. For the Master came for us men and our salvation. This truth shows us man's dignity, for He took upon Him our nature, that we might be partakers of His.

The angels could not hold their peace; the Jewish shepherds glorified and praised God; the Gentile Magi did homage with gifts, and worshipped Him.

What will we do to-day?

WM. H. COOKE,
Pastor Second Presbyterian Church.

Hail, thou long expected Messiah! Hail, thou Son of God and Child of Mary! Hail, thou Redeemer of the human race! With the pious shepherds, we draw near thy crib, to welcome, to adore, to thank and to love Thee. Through Thee, we give glory to God. Through Thee, we pray peace to men. May all hearts share the joy of this festive time! May every home be enriched by the gifts and brightened and gladdened by the Divine Babe of Bethlehem! Christian soul, go, seek your Saviour-God, and you will surely find the Child with Mary his Mother.

JOHN J. KAIN,
Bishop of Wheeling.

Christmas—The very word causes the years of the past to come trooping up to us freighted with precious memories. Gazing steadily we see the very heavens yielding under an unwonted influence. Commissioned angels sweep down from the skies, and bring the glad news to earth that God incarnate comes to dwell with man. "His name shall be called Jesus, for he shall save his people from their sins." Then let our hands be given to deeds of kindness. "Happy Christmas" dwell on every tongue. "Peace on earth good will to men."

E. W. RYAN,
Presiding Elder Wheeling District M. E. Church.

"If places are consecrated in the eyes of whole generations by having been the birthplaces of great men, or the spots where they have produced immortal works of genius, what shall we say of the spot where the Incarnate God was born? Surely, it must be a place of pilgrimage to the end of time. Those who cannot visit it in body must make their pilgrimage to it in spirit." This the faithful are led to do by the solemn service of Christmas Day.

JOHN T. SULLIVAN,
Rector of St. Joseph's Cathedral.

It is pleasant to think how the Christmas joy, like a wave from tropical seas, is encompassing the world. For all this flow of charm and good will, song and gift—taking thought to make others happy, came into the world with the birth of the Babe of Bethlehem. It is the Christ in the world who has given to it the light and hope of eternal life, and every Christmas finds the earth, in spite of all opposition, nearer the time when it shall sit in gladness at the feet of its King.

J. G. LYLE,
Pastor Third Presbyterian Church.

Every event and change in the entire circle of the year should suggest thoughts of Christ, but especially the anniversary of His advent into this world. It is a call to devout gratitude, an inspiration to holy joy. Let it be to us the purest, brightest and gladdest of all the days, and may Heaven save the wayward and worldly from making it a carnival of Satan.

M. W. RIDER,
Pastor Thompson M. E. Church.

Every Christmas does the joyous song of the angels ring anew in our ears. Yea, though years may creep over us, and life, with its sins and sorrows, its disappointments, its temptations and its weariness, may somewhat deaden the fresher feelings of our younger days, yet cold and deadened indeed must that heart be which even in saddest sorrow has no welcome left for Christmas. Rejoice, but rejoice in the Lord; this is true Christian rejoicing. Let our joy be the true joy, the joy of the angels, who sang of the Saviour born into the world, and there is no fear that we shall not keep Christmas aright. What would be the world, the history, the sciences and arts, even the life of men, without Bethlehem? Christmas is the germ of all other Christian holidays; for without Christmas, no Good Friday; without Good Friday, no Easter; without Easter, no Salvation!

A. SCHAFFRANEK,
Pastor of the Evangelical Protestant St. John's Church.

The Note of Joy—"Fear not, for I bring you glad tiding of great joy."

A Glad Refrain—"Glory to God in the highest."

Why such rejoicing among the heavenly host? They saw the need of the fallen race. They knew the power of the Savior born, whose heralds they were. They realized the bliss in store for the redeemed when welcomed into the presence of God where is fullness of joy. They rejoiced as interested witnesses of the marvelous grace. How much more should we, the partakers of His favor, "rejoice in it and be glad."

W. B. THOMSON,
Pastor Disciples Church.

"On earth peace, good will."

We do hail with all gladness the day commemorative of the birth of the Prince of Peace. May we contemplate this wonderful event with all those views and affections which its importance demands. Let us not disgrace the season by convivial usage of society, by reviving the works of the devil. But let us inquire for what end He was born and for what cause He came into the world.

B. WHEELER,
Pastor A. M. E. Church.

Eighteen hundred and eighty-two year ago this morning, in Bethlehem, in a manger, was found the cross, the death, the resurrection, the ascension, and the everlasting mediatorship—all were wrapped in the swaddling bands, with which Mary bound the child Jesus. All hope was there; eternal life was there; without it, eternal death had been.

J. W. GRIFFITTS,
Pastor of Wesley M. E. Chapel.

Christ, the Son of God is born unto us, God's gift of Life." Christ, the Savior of the world, is living Christ, the King of the Kingdom of God in Heaven and Earth is reigning, and is the same yesterday, to-day and forever! To the song of the Angels we say: "Amen!"

J. C. WEIDMANN,
Pastor German M. E. Church.

May the principles and spirit of the "Incarnate Christ" pervade the Church with greater power, be adopted by the State and society in all inter-relations, as the only cure of existing evils, the only basis of substantial progress and the only preventive of future distress, decay and destruction.

J. J. M'CARRELL,
Pastor Presbyterian Church, Martin's Ferry.

Offer your fealty to your New Born King: make friends with your enemies; pay your debts; be kind to the poor, and remember the orphan—a practical *Gloria in Excelsis Deo, et in terra pax hominibus bonæ voluntatis.*

D. B. CULL,
Pastor St. John's Catholic Church, Bellaire.

There in the manger. There in the presence of the Babe, we reach the sovereignty of love over the dominion of power, and behold the everlasting kingdom of peace in the affections of the new heart of humanity.

J. B. MULFORD,
Pastor First Baptist Church.

A ST. LOUIS COURT INCIDENT.

Two Lawyers Fail to Fighting Despite the Entreaties of the Judge.

ST. LOUIS, December 23.—Another disgraceful exhibition in a St. Louis Court-room occurred this afternoon, when two litigants, egged on by their lawyers, indulged in a rough-and-tumble fight, which the court proved powerless to prevent. The combatants were B. H. Engelke, a lawyer, and J. R. Livingstone, claimants in law of the Windsor Hotel, in Washington avenue. A criminal action growing out of the affair, brought against Engelke, had been dismissed and he and Livingstone met in the court-room just after this action was taken. Vulgar epithets were exchanged, when the two men sprang at each other. By-standers attempted to separate them and the court ordered their arrest. But an ex-judge of the Criminal Court and several lawyers interfered in the interest of a fair fight, and the men rolled over the floor, banging one another about in fine style. The court besought them to stop fighting, and finally one of the lawyers proposed an adjournment to the office of the Clerk of the Court. This was agreed to, and the fight was resumed there and lasted fully five minutes. They pulled hair, scratched, gouged and bit, and finally Engelke got Livingstone down and throttled him until his tongue protruded. The fight was assuming serious aspects when officers who had been tardilly summoned from the office of the Chief of Police appeared upon the scene and rescued Livingstone, who was black in the face, and for several minutes was not able to walk. No arrests were made.

Conkling and the President.

WASHINGTON, December 23.—Ex-Senator Conkling has been about town a great deal this week on business in behalf of a Supreme Court client. He looks as if he was working hard. Considerable comment has been caused by the apparent coolness existing between the ex-Senator and the President. On a former visit here Mr. Conkling called at the White House for a moment, but the President was at the Soldiers' Home. Subsequently the President intimated to the ex-Senator that he would be glad to have him dine with him. But Mr. Conkling declined, and this time, though he has been several days in the city and has found time for frequent visits to the Departments, he has not seen the President or communicated with him. In view of the strong personal friendship which so long existed between the two, such neglect is considered as at least worthy of comment.

Embezzlement in