The Wheeling Daily Intelligencer.

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THEIR OLD TRICKS.

Mugwump and Democratic Assaults on Mr. Elkins.

NOT ONE SINGLE WORD OF TRUTH

In the Charges, Which are Made for Political Effect.

CHOICE DEMOCRATIC "HARMONY"

May be Expected in this Congress When the Factions Begin to Cut Each Other's Throats---- Speaker Crisp's Little Free Trade Scheme Runs Up Against the McKinley Bill and Gets a Beautiful Black Eye. Secretary of Agriculture Rusk has a Plan Which Will Result in Great Good to the American Farmer.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 18.—Public attention was to-day attracted to the vehement and malicious assault upon Steven B. Elkins in the Mugwump and Democratic New York City newspapers. They charge Mr. Elkins with being one of the chief conspirators in the star route business during the Dorsey-Brady days, and with being deep into the seal fisheries and Peruvian guano job. The newspapers which have attacked the character and reputation of Mr. Elkins are the same ones which pounded upon President Garfield during his stormy days in Congress and in the White House, and those which charged General Grant with all sorts of moral, social and political crimes. They are the same ones that have maligned the Sherman brothers and heaped disrepute on Gen. Sheridan and nearly all the great heroes of the war. Public and private citizens who are conversant with the careers of these newspapers have come to regard their assaults upon public men as the best possible certificate of good character. The fact is, Steven B. Elkins never had anything to do with the star route business, except to earnestly endorse and recommend the expedition of mails in New Mexico, where he was at the time.

It will be remembered by those who watched the course of the Star route trial that in every instance where Elkins had left his endorsement no question of honesty was raised. Mr. Elkins has never had anything to do with seal furs or the guano business, so far as his friends here know.

HAPPY WEST VIRGINIANS.

The West Virginians in Washington have been in high glee all day. They have hardly recovered from the surprise over the appointments of General Goff and Mr. Elkins. It is hard to tell which of the two the West Virginians fell the happiest over. There were quite a gathering in Commissioner Mason's office this morning, all discussing the prominence given their state during the past two days. The United States court people came down from Martinsburg this morning, and added to the number of visitors in town. Among them were Marshal White, District Attorney Sturgiss, ex-Representatives Smith and Atkinson, Stark Baker, of Randolph county, Sam Hooton, of Grafton, and others. They will remain here till to-morrow.

"THE HARMONY OF HELL."

Indications of the "beautiful" harmony which will exist between the two wings of the Democratic party in the house of representatives this session are already beginning to crop out. The Mills-Crisp fight will leave scars that cannot be healed in the Congress. It is the same old story, how the free trade wing in Congress, four years ago, fought Mr. Randall and his few protection friends just as bitterly and even more vindictively than they fought the Republican party. This same malice is now cropping out again, and a Missouri member a few days ago, who had supported Mills and therefore considers himself one of the "outs," said: "You will see the 'harmony of hell here' this session. We have old scores to settle and we will settle them. All we want is some of the Crisp men to show us what they most desire, and what will do them good in their districts and we will make it the business of our lives to see they don't get it. We don't bother ourselves about the few Republicans who are here, but we have sharpened our knives for certain gentlemen, who took part in the Mills-Crisp campaign, and before this Congress is over we will get even with them."

WILL RUN UP AGAINST THE M'KINLEY BILL.

There is going to be a great deal of opposition from unexpected quarters to the Crisp plan of attacking the tariff law by specific bills, and it will spring from the development of industries under the operation of the McKinley act. One of the bills Mr. Crisp has confidently expected to pass with a whirl through both houses places binding twine on the free list. The idea is that no one would dare to vote against this proposition because it is in the interest of the farmers. Senator Manderson, of Nebraska, received notice to-day from his state that an earnest protest would be made against the free binding twine bill, because factories for the manufacture of that article were being established in Nebraska and would, within a year or two, supply the entire country at a less price than is at present paid. One factory at Fremont, Neb., he was informed, would this year manufacture more than two million pounds from hemp grown in the Platte river valley.

It was proposed to establish another enormous factory at Omaha. The statistician at the capital of the state has informed Senator Manderson that but another year is necessary to not only enable the binding twine industry in this country to stand upon its feet, but to make its children walk and compete with the world. A half dozen factories are expected to spring up in Nebraska, Kansas and Minnesota next year.

This announcement will be a great surprise and disappointment to the tariff tinkerers in the house, as they fully expected the representatives from the states named to carry the free binding twine bill through the senate. It will be found, upon investigation, it is predicted, that so many industries have sprung into existence under the McKinley law that specific legislation on the tariff will be a failure from the start, as no step can be taken in any direction that does not run counter to a home industry of the most promising character.

ANOTHER FEATHER IN UNCLE JERRY'S CAP.

Secretary Rusk and Senator Paddock have agreed upon a striking plan for the introduction of American corn as a food article in Europe. They have had a conference concluded to ask the farmers of Nebraska and Kansas to contribute a train load of corn to be shipped to the suffering inhabitants of Russia. They believe this would call the attention of the civilized world to our corn and its uses and result in a very material increase of its consumption. The trouble has been and is now that Europeans cannot conceive how one could eat corn, which they regard as an animal diet only. Besides the enormous advertisement it would give our domestic corn and also the states supplying it, there would be an act of charity in it which would be a gratification to all who contribute. It is believed that the corn would be transported free to its destination, and that it would be wisdom to divert a portion of it from Russia to other countries where it is desired that our corn should be introduced. Agents should be sent along with the corn to look after its proper distribution and teach the Europeans how to cook and use it and give practical lessons in corn cooking in all of its branches. Both Secretary Rusk and Senator Paddock are enthusiastic over the project, and are inclined to take it for granted that Nebraska and Kansas farmers will gladly respond, as the contribution would work no hardship to any of them. The various local boards of trade in those states would be expected to collect the corn at railroad stations and the railroads would transport it to the seaboard where it is believed there would be no difficulty in securing free shipment to its destination.

DALZELL A CANDIDATE.

The Pittsburgh Congressman is Willing to Oppose Senator Quay.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 18.—Representative Dalzell, of Pennsylvania, was to-day asked whether or not he was a candidate for election to the United States senate. In reply he said: "I had hoped not to be pressed for an answer to that question at this time, but, since continued silence on my part seems only to be fruitful of misrepresentation, I will define my position. There is undoubtedly a widespread sentiment in Pennsylvania against the re-election of Mr. Quay. In this sentiment wholly apart from any considerations personal to myself, I sincerely concur. If that sentiment shall take form in my favor and I be elected to the highly honorable and responsible office of United States senator, I shall appreciate the honor and to the best of my ability perform its duties with fidelity and with loyality on all occasions to the declared principles of the Republican party."

Reciprocity with Germany Assured.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 18.—The ratification by the Reichstag to-day of the commercial reciprocity treaty between German and Austria-Hungary ensures the completion of the reciprocity arrangement between the United States and Germany, so far as the latter country is concerned, but its effectiveness still depends on the action of the Austria-Hungarian Reichsrath.

West Virginia Pensions.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 18.—West Virginia pensions: Original—Wm. Frynyer, Theodore C. Bennett, Benj. P. Holbert, Jno. Winemiller, Amos Marquis, Ashbel F. Hamilton, Jno. Adkins, Thos Taylor. Additional — Andrew Cecil, Chesman Haney. Renewal—Jas. C. Lovejoy. Increase—Geo. Smith, Robert H. Hebb, George W. Wolf, Samuel B. Reed, David Noland. Original widow—Mary Hammond.

BIG DAMAGE SUITS.

The Ohio River Road Gains One and Loses Another.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

CLARKSBURG, W. VA., Dec. 18.—Nine-year old Freddie Effinger's case against the Ohio River railroad came to an abrupt termination in the circuit court. He sued the company for the loss of a leg, and the case has been on trial for several days. To-day counsel for defendant made a motion to exclude the plaintiff's evidence from the jury on the ground that the allegations were not sustained. Judge Boreman sustained the motion and instructed the jury to return a verdict for the defendant, which was done.

Elis Core vs. the Ohio River railroad, in a suit for $10,000 damages, was tried. Core lost all the fingers off his right hand while coupling cars at St. Mary's, over three years ago. The jury, after a long deliberation, awarded him damages amounting to $1,600. A motion was made by defendant to have the judgment suspended, and it was therefore suspended.

Habla V. Espanol?

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

CHARLESTON, W. VA., Dec. 18.—The Spanish-American Newspaper Company, for the purpose of conducting an advertising business with and between Spanish-America, Brazil and the United States, and to enter into export trade with those countries, office at Parkersburg, W. Va., capital stock one hundred thousand dollars, fully paid up, and the privilege to increase to five hundred thousand dollars, was chartered to-day. The incorporators are E. C. White, of Cincinnati, Ohio; A. B. White, of Parkersburg, W. Va., and others.

It Has Boomed the State.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

CINCINNATI, Dec. 18.—The appointments of Messrs. Elkins and Goff were enthusiastically approved here, and have been the means of opening the eyes of outsiders to the grand resources of West Virginia, not only in great men but in other respects.

JOHN SINSELL.

Major McKinley Improving.

CLEVELAND, Dec. 18.—A special from Canton, Ohio, says that there is much improvement in the condition of Governor-elect McKinley to-day. He is not able to see callers yet, however, and will not for several days to come.

LABOR FEDERATION.

Mr. Burtt, of Wheeling, Fails to Get the Presidency,

BUT GETS A HANDSOME VOTE.

Gompers Re-elected---A Remarkable Resolution Barring from the Work of Organizing Unions Men Who Hold Political Offices Voted Down. A Warm Debate on the Subject. Woman Suffrage Endorsed.

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., Dec. 18.—The convention of the American Federation of Labor adopted a resolution recommending political action at its morning session favoring a woman suffrage amendment to the constitution. A resolution was adopted that no further subsidy be paid the Pacific Mail Steamship Company unless the company discharge all Chinese and Japanese in its service. Also a resolution, amending the shipping act of 1890, so as to make vessels liable in damages for cruelty to sailors at the hands of officers.

Delegate F. A. Kidd, from the committee on rules, reported unfavorably a resolution introduced by Delegate Strigel, of Detroit, prohibiting holders of political offices from acting as organizers, and the fact was brought out that the resolution was aimed at the inspector of sidewalks in Detroit, whom Delegate Coldwater characterized as one of the best organizers in the United States. The inspector's name is Robert Y. Ogg.

Delegate Foster thought the resolution the most remarkable that had come before the convention. The test of a man was his fidelity to trade unionism, not his connection with a political party. He pointed out delegates McNeil, August Miller, Daly and others present, all holding political office.

Delegate McBride said that in the miners' movement the miners have selected from their ranks men whom they have urged in politics. In Ohio, in 1883, they had in that state a number of laws that were a curse and oppressive to the working people. He himself was the first miner to be elected to the Ohio legislature.

An ex-speaker of the Ohio legisiature was in 1884 swinging a miner's pick in the Hocking Valley. The convention concurred in the unfavorable report of the committee, Delegates Harding, Thomas I. Kidd, Faulkner and Dodd asking to be recorded in the negative.

The convention then proceeded to elect officers. President Gompers was re-elected president, receiving 1,386 against 535 for J. H. Burtt, of Wheeling, and 130 for August DeLabor, of New York. De Labor withdrew his name before the vote.

A motion to make Gomper's election unanimous was objected to by Harding. The other officers are P. J. McGuire, of Pennsylvania, first vice president, W. A. Carney, of Pittsburgh, second vice president, Chris Evans, of New York, secretary, John B. Lennon, of New York, treasurer, all of them being re-elected. Mr. Gompers has been president since 1888.

INDIANA MINERS FIRM

In Their Demands—Only a Few Have Returned to Work.

TERRE HAUTE, IND., Dec. 18.—President Cummiskey, of the United Mine Workers, has visited the Clay county district to learn how well founded was the report from Brazil indicating that a stampede of the miners was eminent. He said that one miner had approached the operators and agreed to furnish, beside himself, six miners who would return to work at the old wages. Mr. Commisky says that fifteen men are working at shafts numbers 8 and 10 and this number includes the company bosses and other men. The fact that these mines are operating with a few men will have no bearing on the strike whatever. Said Mr. Commisky: "The men who returned to work have been weak kneed and the wonder is that they have remained with us up to this date. So far as I can learn the men in the Brazil district are firm in their purpose to remain idle until their demands are granted."

The Telegraphers' Strike.

OMAHA, NEB., Dec. 18.—Orders were sent out yesterday to the telegraph operators working for the Fremont, Elkhorn & Missouri Valley road notifying the men that they must leave the order of railway telegraphers, or leave the service of the company. This morning the superintendent of the road received replies from several of the men, refusing to obey the order, and trouble is expected. Chief Thurston, of the railway telegraphers, has been notified, and the matter will be brought before the local lodge to-night. It is said that similar orders have been sent to all the men employed on the entire Chicago and northwestern system.

CONDITION OF TRADE.

R. G. Dun & Co.'s Weekly Review of the State of Business.

NEW YORK, Dec. 18.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s weekly review for the week says:

As the end of the year approaches general trade slackens, and there is perhaps not more than the usual disposition to defer large transportations until after stock taking and the holidays. It is satisfactory to see from nearly all points that the reports which note the inactivity usual at this season, also observe a prevalent and strong belief that the business of the coming season will be unusually large and profitable. Commercial credits and confidence are in satisfactory shape for the transaction of an enormous business early next year.

At Pittsburgh iron seems a little stiffer and an advance in window glass is looked for.

The iron trade shows greater strength and larger sales of pig than for a long time.

The coal market is very irregular and output 4,039,593 tons greater than last year to date.

The business failures occurring throughout the country during the last seven days number 335, compared with 320 last week, and for the same week last year 404.

BUCKHANNON'S PROGRESS.

Meeting of the Trustees of the Land Association—Work Going Ahead on the Industrial Plants.

Special Correspondence of the Intelligencer.

BUCKHANNON, W. VA., Dec. 17.—The Trustees of the Land Trust Association met yesterday and to-day and transacted a great deal of important business. The affairs of the association are in excellent condition. Applications from persons desiring to locate new industries in Buckhannon were discussed. The association gives free site but pays no bonuses, desiring no industry that is not bona fide and does not come because of the advantages of this point for its business. The aim is to build for permanency. The tannery work is being pushed ahead, but the buildings will not be ready for occupancy as soon as was expected, owing to the damage by the late storm.

The chair factory buildings are finished and machinery is being put in as fast as it can be got here. The Buckhannon River Lumber Company is erecting the buildings for its new band mill and planing mill. It will cut up 30,000 feet of lumber a day. All its operations will be centered here, which will give Buckhannon one of the largest and probably the finest lumber plants in this or any other state. The concern will pay out in wages about $40,000 a year. The new houses erected for the tannery men and by reason of the delay not yet needed by them, have been rented to other persons. Purchasers of lots have already begun to build on them. It is expected that between 100 and 200 houses will be erected in 1892.

OHIO ADJUTANT GENERAL.

Colonel Pocock, of Columbus, Gets the Prize—His Assistant Named.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

COLUMBUS, O., Dec. 18.—Governor-elect McKinley to-day appointed Col. E. J. Pocock, of this city, adjutant general. Col. J. C. Howe, of the second regiment, Kenton, Ohio, will be assistant.

Nearing Completion.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

GRAFTON, W. VA., Dec. 18.—The connection of the West Virginia Central railroad with the Grafton and Greenbrier has been made at Belington, the last rail being laid to-day. The narrow gauge between Grafton and Belington will be made standard at an early day and before the winter is over it is expected that West Virginia Central trains will enter Grafton.

FIRE AT PITTSBURGH.

An Expensive Building Goes Up In Smoke and Others Threatened.

PITTSBURGH, PA., Dec. 18.—A disastrous fire broke out this afternoon. Porter & Donaldson's building, 820 to 824 Liberty street, was where the fire started. By the time the fire department arrived the Academy of Music, the Seventh Avenue Hotel and Arbuckles' were threatened.

At 2 o'clock the flames were still confined to Porter and Donaldson & Co's. building and the fire chief expressed hopes of saving the adjoining bnildings. The guests at the Seventh Avenue hotel, however, are removing their effects and Manager Williams is taking precautions to save the Academy. The Porter building was entirely destroyed. It was a six-story glass front brick structure, 75 feet wide by about 200 deep to Virgin Alley, and was owned by Hon. B. F. Jones. The loss will reach 150,000 of which 125,000 is on stock. The insurance on the stock is $70,000, and on the building $50,000.

A Horrible Death.

PITTSBURGH, Dec. 18.—Gertrude Kunkle, aged eighteen years, was burned to death last night and her father dangerously injured by the explosion of a lamp. Miss Kunkle and her father, William Kunkle, were reading in the parlor at their home in Knoxwill, when the lamp exploded without warning, scattering the oil over the room. Miss Kunkle was horribly burned, and died in a few minutes. Her father will recover.

Twelve Carloads of Poultry.

OTTAWA, ONT., Dec. 18.—A valuable train passed over the Canada, Atlantic railroad yesterday for Boston. It consisted of twelve carloads of poultry, the value of which at the frontier amounted to nearly $26,000. The duties on this freight amounted to $8,750. This is the annual Christmas poultry train for the American market but is somewhat smaller than in previous years.

A Crazy Man's Deed.

NEW YORK, Dec. 18.—Michael Harvey, thirty-four years old, a boarder at No. 183 Van Dyke street, South Brooklyn, became suddenly insane this afternoon and shot John Connerton, Sam Dickerson and Mamie Dickerson. Connorton and Sam Dickerson were dangerously hurt, and were taken to a hospital. They may die. Mamie Dickerson was shot in the arm.

Killed His Housekeeper.

DETROIT, Dec. 18.—J. L. Herig, sixty years old, became involved in a dispute with Mrs. Kate Freeman, his housekeeper, when the woman suddenly pulled a revolver in his face. The weapon failed to go off, whereupon Herig fired two shots into the woman's head. She was instantly killed. Herig gave himself up to the police.

Young Field Indicted.

NEW YORK, Dec. 18.—The grand jury to-day returned an indictment against Edward M. Field, of the defunct firm of Field, Lindley, Wiechers & Co., charging him with forgery in the second degree. The indictment is predicated on the statement made by the Bankers Knauth, Naibod and Kuene.

Earthquake in Pennsylvania.

HARRISBURG, PA., Dec. 18.—A very perceptible earthquake shock was felt in this city and surrounding towns at 8:30 this morning. No damage was done, but houses were shaken and many persons thought there had been an explosion.

Big Failure at Uniontown.

UNIONTOWN, PA., Dec. 18.—Judgments aggregating $12,000 were entered against Alpheus Beall, the owner of the largest flouring mill in Fayette county, and the plant is now in the hands of the sheriff. The full liabilities will not be known for several days, as claims are still coming in.

THE PEACE OF EUROPE

At an End if Russia Protests Against the Appearance

OF FRENCH WAR SHIPS AT VARNA.

Another Scandal in England Which Shows the Rottenness of Society in Great Brittain---A Wife of One Social Leader Brings Suit Against the Wife of Another for Slander---Some Racy Testimony---Other Foreign News.

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LONDON, Dec. 18.—The rupture of diplomatic relations between France and Bulgaria on the pretext of the expulsion of the French journalist Chadovine, now proves to be the initial step of a French diplomatic scheme to ask the sultan to use his suzerain right to interfere in Bulgarian and Russian interests. Advices were received at the foreign office to-night that M. Cambon, the French ambassador at Constantinople, has demanded and will obtain a formal conference on the subject with the sultan to-morrow. This development is no surprise to Lord Salisbury and his diplomatic allies in Vienna and Berlin.

The St. Petersburg weekly, the *Vedomosti*, after suggesting that it is possible that France, failing to obtain satisfaction, may blockade Bulgarian ports, says that Russia would protest against the appearance of French iron clads before Varna or Bougan. If M. Ribot's policy results thus the peace of Europe is over.

ANOTHER SOCIETY SCANDAL.

A certain stratum of British society is now considerably excited over the action for slander brought by the wife of Capt. C. A. Osborn against Major Hargreaves's wife for accusing her of stealing two pearls while visiting the Hargreaves family and selling them for £550. The interest manifested in the case centres in the mystery of who really stole and sold the jewels.

Mrs. Osborn's counsel brought out evidence suggesing that Major Hargreaves knew of the affair at the time of its occurrence. Mrs. Osborn declared that the major told her that he would commit any crime for "Oof," a slang word for money. The major says that these are the plaintiff's words; that the lady used slang. The counsel on each side are trying to show that the prominent persons in the case are impecunious and ready to lie and steal anything to get cash.

The conservative organs are trying to educate the British public into approval of parliament grant, raising the income of the recent effianced Duke of Clarence and Avondale to 25,000 pounds yearly.

THE VIRGINIA DEBT.

The London Bondholders Agree to Accept the Proposed Settlement.

LONDON, Dec. 18.—A largely attended meeting of the English holders of the Virginia debt was held to-day, and after considerable discussion, it was decided by a vote of thirty-nine to seventeen to accept the agreement effected between the Virginia state debt commission and the Olcott commission for the settlement of the Virginia State debt.

Dynamite in the Mails.

DUBLIN, Dec. 18.—The new newspaper, the *Irish Independent*, after several attempts had been made to issue it, all of which were rendered futile owing to break downs of the machinery, finally succeeded in getting everything working properly and the first issue appeared to-day. The paper asserts that a large package bearing no address was recently posted in the Dublin postoffice. The sorter of the mails noticed the absence of an address and while examining the package found a fuse protruding from it. The postal authorities were immediately notified and the package was taken to Dublin castle, where it was found to contain a quantity of dynamite.

The Case of Dr. King.

LONDON, Dec. 18.—The *Chronicle* says it learned on the best authority that the judgment of the judicial committee in the case of Dr. King, the bishop of Lincoln, who was tried for maintaining certain objectionable ritualistic forms in worship, will shortly be delivered. This judgment, the *Chronicle* avers, will practically uphold that which the archbishop of Canterbury delivered in the case.

The Treaties Adopted.

BERLIN, Dec. 18.—After a protracted debate, the German-Austrian-Hungarian treaty passed its third reading by a vote of 245 to 40. The house afterward adopted the German-Italian and the German-Belgian treaties.

After the three treaties had been finally adopted, the Reichstag adjourned. It will not reassemble again until after the Christmas holidays.

Where They Will Spend Christmas.

LONDON, Dec. 18.—The Queen, her youngest daughter, Princess Beatrice, wife of Prince Henry of Battenberg, and the children of Princess Beatrice left Windsor castle to-day and went to Osborne house on the Isle of Wight, where the Christmas holidays will be spent.

Bishop of Winchester Dead.

LONDON, Dec. 18.—The Right Reverend Edward Harold Browne, D. D., Bishop of Winchester, is dead.

It Was Only Dynamite.

HARRISBURG, PA., Dec. 18.—What was generally supposed to be an earthquake shock, but which was subsequently discovered to be an explosion of 250 pounds of dynamite at Steelton, alarmed the people of this city this morning. Nobody was hurt.

One Man Injured.

TAMANEND, PA., Dec. 18.—A railroad wreck occurred in the tunnel between Lofty and Quakake, seven miles from here last night. One man, an engineer named Fisher, was slightly injured. There were no other casualties.

THE WATER WAYS CONVENTION.

Adoption of Important Resolutions Looking to a Great Public Improvement.

DETROIT, MICH., Dec. 18.—When the deep water ways convention assembled this morning, the committee on resolutions reported a lengthy memorial to the senate and house of representatives. Among them were the following:

Resolved—That this convention does hereby respectfully and earnestly request and urge Congress to authorize the immediate commencement and speedy completion of an unobstructed channel, not less than twenty feet in depth and sufficient width through the lakes, and their connecting waters, between Chicago, Duluth and Superior and Buffalo, and that the secretary of war be authorized to make contracts for the entire work and a sufficient sum of money be appropriated therefor.

"WHEREAS, Every consideration of prosperity in time of peace and protection in time of war demands the construction of a water way of sufficient capacity to allow the free passage of vessels drawing twenty feet of water through our own territory from the great lakes to the Atlantic ocean, therefore,

"*Resolved*, That we further request Congress to authorize the secretary of war to cause to be made surveys, examinations and estimates of the cost of the various practicable routes for such water-ways with a view to determining the one which is most advantageous, and to appropriate a sufficient sum to defray the expense of such surveys and examinations."

Mr. Roberts, of Pennsylvania, called attention to the action of the Pennsylvania state legislature upon the projected ship canal from the upper Ohio to Lake Erie and offered the following resolution:

Resolved, That the bill recently introduced in the United States Senate providing for the appropriation of $10,000 to be expended by the United States engineers in the determination of the feasibility of making a ship canal connection between the waters of Lake Erie and the upper Ohio river meets the approval of this convention.

Referred to committee on legislation. The convention then adjourned *sine die*.

BOLD DIAMOND ROBBERY.

A Thief Gets Away with a Tray from a Pittsburgh Jewelry Store.

PITTSBURGH, Dec. 18.—A most daring diamond robbery was committed at William Wilson's jewelry store, in Fourth avenue, about 9:30 o'clock tonight. Mr. Wilson and his sister were preparing to close the store for the night, when an unknown man threw a coupling pin through the window. Mr. Wilson rushed to the door, but found that it had been fastened from the outside. Before he got it open the thief seized a tray of diamonds valued at $3,000 and made off with it. The street was crowded at the time, and a number of persons saw the robbery, but were unable to identify to robber.

TROUBLE SIMMERING

On the Electric Street Car Line, on Account of the Discharge of an Operator.

Some days ago Charles Stanton, an operator on the electric street car line refused to instruct in the science of operating a man whom the superintendent of the line put on. Stanton asked the man to show his permit from the union street car employes, and as he could produce none, refused to instruct him. Stanton was discharged.

The case was called to the attention of the union, and at a meeting the road committee was instructed to ask for the reinstatement of the discharged operator. This request the superintendent refused to accede to, and the road committee was then instructed to confer with the board of directors at the earliest possible moment. The committee yesterday endeavored to procure an interview with the board, but owing to the absence from the city of President Sweeney that body could not be called. The union's representatives anticipate meeting the board of directors to-day, when, it is to be hoped, the dispute will be amicably settled.

The men claim that as the situation now stands the vital principle of unionism is at stake, and that the reinstatement of Stanton is necessary to the vindication of that principle.

LAST NIGHT'S CONCERT

By the Washington-Jefferson Banjo, Mandolin and Guitar Club an Artistic Success.

The Washington and Jefferson College Banjo, Mandolin and Guitar club with the assistance of popular amateurs last night gave a very enjoyable and successful concert at the Opera House. The audience was not so large as it should have been, but it was of fair size, and exceedingly appreciative. The entertainment was a delightful one in every sense, and those who were present will long remember the evening of unalloyed pleasure they enjoyed. The following programme was rendered:

PART I.

1. W. & J. Club Galop.....Arnold
   W. P. J. Club.
2. Lullaby.....From Old Homestead
   Mandolin Club.
3. Humorous song.....Beware of the Widows
   Will B. Day.
4. Triumph March.....Armstrong
   Banjo Club.
5. Fairy Dance.....Fleming
   Mandolin Club.
6. Soprano Solo—Ever With Thee.....Raff
   Miss Cora Daugherty.

PART II.

1. Violin Solo—Scene de Ballet.....De Beriolx
   C. W. Fleming.
2. Elberson Waltzes.....Hart
   Banjo Club.
3. Song.....
   Will Day.
4. (a) Dying Poet.....Gottschalk
   (b) Rocket Galop.....Fleming
   Mandolin Club.
5. (a) The Flirtation.....Ah There
   (b) Geraldine March.....Dobson
   Banjo Club.

Miss Sarah Sweeney, Accompanist.

Of course this programme was artistically rendered. The performance was deserving of special mention of each number, but lack of space forbids that it should receive it. Suffice it to say that all of the popular performers acquitted themselves with all the credit that usually attaches to what they do.

After the concert a number of the members of the Wheeling Club with other friends and the W. & J. Banjo, Mandolin and Guitar club adjourned to Durst's parlors and had refreshments, after which they went to the club rooms. Killmyer played merry music and dancing was kept up until 2 o'clock this morning.

It Doesn't Spare Royalty.

COPENHAGEN, Dec. 18.—Both the King and Queen of Denmark are suffering from influenza.

HE MET A TARTAR.

Young James G. Blaine Tackles an Indignant Friend

OF HIS NEGLECTED WIFE, MARIE,

And is Completely "Squelched"---She Speaks Her Mind to Him Without Knowing Who He is, and When He Informs Her She Gives Him to Understand that Her Sentiments Remain Unchanged---A Dramatic Episode.

NEW YORK, Dec. 18.—A very dramatic incident enlivened the Blaine divorce proceedings which were in progress at the office of Referee Lord yesterday. Mrs. James G. Blaine, jr., arrived with her friend, Mrs. Ogden Doremus. She did not know that the law gave her husband the right to be present. When she saw him there, though she had not met him since she bade him good bye at Bar Harbor three years ago, she controlled any sign of surprise so well that her companion never suspected that the man who rose as they entered was the person in question. Mrs. Doremus had seen Mr. Blaine before, but it was years ago, and as his wife did not take the slightest notice of him she did not suspect that it was he.

During the proceedings Mrs. Doremus got into a state of mind. She looked round for some sympathetic person. To the person next her she said: "The man in this case is a scoundrel and paltroon."

"Do you know whom you are talking to?" snapped the individual addressed.

"No," she replied.

"Well, I am Mr. Blaine."

Mrs. Doremus flushed slightly, and then continued quickly and with increasing emphasis: "I did not know that you were Mr. Blaine when I spoke, but I repeat it now. A man who would abandon not only his wife, but his innocent child, at the dictates of his father and—"

"Don't mention my mother's name," burst in Mr. Blaine.

"Since you have mentioned it, calmly continued Mrs. Doremus, "I will add, or his mother, is a poltroon and a scoundrel."

Mr. Blaine had nothing handy to reply, and the passage at arms came to an end.

A CROOKED OFFICER.

Secretary of State Soper, of Michigan, Under a Serious Charge.

LANSING, MICH., Dec. 18.—Governor Winans has appointed a commission to thoroughly investigate the charges against Secretary of State Soper, who resigned night before last under pressure. Until this committee reports no further action will be taken. The deposed official in an interview enters a general denial of the charges, but would give no reason for resigning.

Within the lost two weeks contractors have delivered two carloads of paper—enough to last nearly two years. A new paper contract will take effect Saturday night. None of this paper is needed at present, and under the new contract it could have been purchased for $500 less than the state will now have to pay for it. As far as can now be ascertained the value of the books given away was about $1,200.

A DRUNKEN WOMAN

Receives Tidings That She is Heiress to an Estate in Germany.

PATERSON, N. J., Dec. 18.—Mrs. Sophie Rompt, a middle aged woman, who is at present serving about her fiftieth term in the county jail in this city for drunkenness, has just received word from her relatives in Germany that her father has died, leaving $40,000, $6,000 or more of which will come to her. Mrs. Rompt is the wife of a locksmith and her parents are said to have held a high social position in Germany.

Do Not Need Outside Help.

CITY OF MEXICO, Dec. 18.—Reports from reliable sources in every state of the republic are to the effect that the rumors of great distress caused by famine and of rioting by the impoverished people are untrue. In the states of Chihuahua, Durango, Zacatecas, Chiapas and Potosi the crops failed, causing some suffering, but measures for the relief of needy persons have already been taken. There has been no actual starvation reported in any of these states. In other states, where there was a partial loss of crops, food was supplied from the states where the crops were good. The federal and state governments and private individuals are importing sufficient provisions to supply all necessities. Not a state has asked for outside help.

Newly Appointed Bishops.

NEW YORK, Dec. 18.—A cable dispatch from the Roman correspondent of the *Catholic News* announces the appointment of Very Reverned Ignatius F. Horstman, D. D., of the Cathedral, Philadelphia, as Bishop of Cleveland, O.; Rev. Sebastian Messmer, D. D., professor of canon law in the Catholic University at Washington as Bishop of Green Bay, Wis.; and Very Reverend James Schwebach, Vicar General of La Crosse, Wis., is promoted to that vacant see.

Fighting the Lottery.

BATON ROUGE, Dec. 18.—The Adams Farmers' Alliance and Anti-lottery combine convention, holding its session at the state house last night, adopted a platform, nominated their state ticket, provided for the appointment of a new state central committee and adjourned *sine die*. The combine candidates are now in caucus mapping out a plan of campaign.

Weather Forecast for To-day.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Dec. 18.—For West Virginia and Ohio, fair Saturday and Sunday; east shifting to south winds; warmer.

For Western Pennsylvania, warmer; generally fair Saturday and Sunday; northwest winds.

TEMPERATURE YESTERDAY.

as furnished by C. SCHNEPF, druggist, Opera House corner:

7 a. m.	19	3 p. m.	32
9 a. m.	21	7 p. m.	30
12 m.	30	Weather—Clear.	