By Mr. Christy: Q. How long was Mr. Quimby in your employ? A. I think probably about three years, in all, in our employ, but not steady, along from time to time.

Q. He was an honest gentleman, was he not; and so regarded by you? A. Well, sir, we looked upon him as a man who would work for our interest.

Q. Did he not do so? A. I do not think he did.

Q. Why did you retain him in your employ three years if you did not think he was honest? A. We did not know these things until lately, sir.

Q. Did he do you any injury whatever during the time he was in your employ? A. Yes, sir; I have found out lately that he has been talking about our work in different places, the humbug of our pavement—that it was a humbug practiced on the public, and that he felt conscientious about it and that he was not going to have the public use any more of it.

Q. Do not you yourself deem the "ironizing" process to be injurious to the wood? A. I am not able to say, so far. I am watching it closely to see how it is going to turn out.

Q. Has not the Board of Public Works in Chicago pronounced against it? A. No, sir; they have a man under them by the name of Watson, who has pronounced against it. He has written a letter, may be two or three letters to that effect, and Mr. Quimby has taken the pains to send these letters to the different places he wished.

Q. Have you laid any pavement, whatever, treated in this manner, since Mr. Watson pronounced against it in the city of Chicago? A. No, sir; because they have not been laying any pavements until last summer, since the fire. The pavement that Mr. Quimby particularly speaks of was on Lake street, a place where the fire had burnt it up, where the house had tumbled on it, red brick, iron, and everything else had fallen over the pavement, and had charred it very much indeed.

Q. Can you get a contract in Chicago for laying a pavement thus treated? A. I do not think we can now.

Q. Would you as an honest gentleman ask any city to allow you to lay it? A. Yes, sir. From my knowledge of it to-day I would ask that, for I think the treatment, if it is properly made, and the ingredients—I have great faith in the ingredients as used for the purpose of curing wood, but I have made up my mind not to ask any city or individual to use it until I am positive that it can do what I claim for it.

Q. Then it is simply an untried experiment? A. It is being tried, sir; and, so far as Chicago is concerned, which is the first place where I know of anything being put down, the streets are now in a very good condition.

Q. So your only ground of accusation against Mr. Quimby is that he has said that the ironing process is injurious to the wood? A. And the DeGolyer No. 2 a humbug.

Q. When did you first begin to speak of Mr. Quimby as your foreman in charge of a gang of hands? A. When ever I had any occasion to speak of him. That is my answer.

Q. During all this time? A. He was one time a traveling agent for us, representing this pavement.

Q. Then he was not a foreman in charge of a gang of hands? A. Not then, he was not; but he was in the city of Washington and the city of Chicago.

Q. Did Mr. Cook superintend the laying of this pavement here? A. He was a good deal on the street.

Q. Was he not your bookkeeper? A. He was our bookkeeper and financial man, and was on the street, I presume, whenever it was necessary.

Q. I am not speaking of presumptions; was it any part of his duty to superintend the laying of this pavement? A. Yes, sir; it was a part of his duty to see to it all.

Q. What wages did you pay to Mr. Quimby? A. I think it was $125 a month.

Q. Is it usual to pay to a man who is not an expert, but simply a driver of hands, $125 per month? A. We have paid $300 per month. We found them the cheapest men, too.

Q. Inexperienced men, knowing nothing about the art of laying pavement of this high-priced character? A. We have paid men $300 a month in Milwaukee and other places.

Q. Were common laborers? A. I mean men capable of taking charge of men and returning their time correctly during the month they were at work.

Q. Then you have paid $300 a month to timekeepers merely? A. I paid $300 to a gentleman in Milwaukee the summer before last and part of last summer for superintending men, and he quit me at that and went and got a better job.

Q. Did you ever use that expression in regard to Mr. Quimby until you heard that he had pronounced your pavement a humbug? A. Well, sir, I have spoken of Quimby—

Q. No, sir. I am speaking of the expression "foreman of a gang of hands?" A. Yes, sir; I have, whenever I have had occasion to speak of him.

By Mr. Harrington: Q. Who is this Mr. Watson on the Board of Public Works of Chicago? A. He is a man put over—what we call a sidewalk inspector.

Q. A special policeman is he not? A. I suppose he acts in that capacity occasionally when he is called on.

Q. Is there any such officer in Chicago as he gets himself? A. I do not know what he styles himself. I would merely say that he was a bailiff, to be sent out with messages, and things of that kind, and sent to look at certain work that was going on, and make report to the board.

By Mr. Christy: Q. Who came with you from Chicago? A. Mr. Cook, my bookkeeper.

Q. Did you bring any one from Chicago for the purpose of using his influence in this city?

The Witness. At this time?

Mr. Christy. Q. At any time? A. I never brought a man from Chicago, to my knowledge, for the purpose of using influence.

Q. Did anybody go on and render you service in that direction? A. I do not know, sir, unless it is George R. Chittenden. I asked him to come.

Q. He came of his own motion, you say? A. He came to assist me in helping me to collect the money on the certificates of the Board of Public Works.

Q. Did you bring no other person here? A. Not at all, sir; I have never brought any person here.

By Mr. Mattingly: Q. Did you ever see that letter before? [Handing document to the witness.] A. I did not, sir; I do not remember of ever seeing that letter before.

The witness was here notified to bring before the committee his entire books and correspondence relating to the subject-matter of his examination.

Mr. Christy stated that he wished the witness also to bring his correspondence with Mr. Chittenden.

The Witness. That I cannot do, because it is not in my possession.

By Mr. Christy: Q. In whose possession is that correspondence? A. When Mr. Charles E. Jenkins became my partner by purchasing the interest of Mr. DeGolyer, deceased, he, of course, had a right to look over all the papers, and therefore place himself in the same position that Mr. DeGolyer was in. He took all the dispatches, letters and communications between George R. Chitterden and DeGolyer & McClellan. I do not think he left anything in the office of the correspondence between them.

Q. And has never, in fact, returned them? A. I have never known of their being returned.

Mr. Christy. I desire to offer in evidence the letter of George R. Chittenden. This has never formally gone in. I regard its materiality as established. This witness admits that he requested Mr. Huntington, by direction of Mr. Chittenden, to aid in this matter.

The Chairman. Do you consider that material?

Mr. Christy. Yes, sir.

The Chairman. We will examine it, and see whether it ought to go in evidence.

Henry D. Cooke, having been called in behalf of the memorialists, was duly sworn, and examined by the chairman upon the subject, as stated by Mr. Christy, of his interest, as beneficiary, in the real estate pool spoken of by Mr Kilbourn and others.

Q. There has been some testimony here in relation to what is called a real estate pool. I do not know whether you have ever heard of that testimony or not. A. I have, sir.

Q. State to the committee what you know in relation to the whole subject. A. I have simply to state in that connection that I was informed by Mr. Kilbourn, of the firm of Kilbourn & Latta, that he was intending to make some purchases on the part of some of their customers in real estate, and he invited our firm to join in the arrangement, which we did to the extent of $25,000. There was no understanding as to the precise location of these purchases, and I am not definitely aware even now of the specific location of the different lots purchased. There has been no settlement of this matter, as there probably might have been but for the suspension of the firm with which I am connected.

By Mr. Merrick: Q. Who were the other persons connected with that real estate pool? A. I do not know.

Q. Do you know none of them? A. No, sir.

Q. Was there anything said about the purchase of real estate to be made in connection with the progress of public improvements that were in contemplation? A. No, sir. I can say that I had unbounded faith in the future of Washington, and in its growth, and I purchased as any other person would have done; that is, my firm did. I believe these improvements have been so equally and impartially distributed throughout this District that one could hardly have gone amiss in making purchases. I believe that the advance of property has been almost universal throughout the District, justifying my anticipations at the time I agreed to make the purchase.

Q. You do not remember the name of any other member of the pool? A. No, sir.

Q. You have never been informed who were the parties? A. I never have, sir.

Q. Was there any statements as to what was to be the amount of the entire pool? A. No definite statement. The understanding I got was that it was to be some $50,000 or $60,000 at the time.

Q. Of which you were to contribute $25,000? A. Yes, sir.

By the Chairman: Q. What interest were you to have? A. Merely to the extent I put in—the *pro-rata* interest—or that the firm put in, I should say.

By Mr. Harrington: Q. What was your personal interest in the $25,000 the firm advanced? A. Between three and four thousand dollars; about three thousand dollars.

Q. Do you know, or have you ever known, the location of the property that was bought by Mr. Kilbourn? A. No, sir; not specifically.

Q. Could you point out any of the lots? A. No, sir.

Q. Had you any arrangement with Mr. Kilbourn where he should purchase, or did you leave it entirely to his discretion? A. I left it entirely to Mr. Kilbourn's discretion.

By Mr. Christy: Q. When was it that this arrangement was entered into? A. I think in 1872.

Q. At what time in 1872? A. I think during the summer of 1872; I could not say positively.

Q. Did you have a series of conversations relative to this subject with Mr. Kilbourn? A. Not particularly with reference to this subject. I have had a great many conversations with him on various subjects.

Q. Did you invest this sum of money simply on the suggestion of Mr. Kilbourn that he would invest it in real property within the city of Washington? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Without the place being designated at all, or part of the city? A. I was perfectly willing to leave that to his own judgment and discretion in the matter.

Q. To what extent did he propose to purchase property? A. My impression is, as I have stated before, that in this arrangement he had parties who proposed to go into it to the extent of forty, fifty, or sixty thousand dollars.

Q. In addition to what you put in. A. Yes, sir.

Q. Did he speak of the number of parties? A. No, sir; I did not ask him.

Q. Did you see no one else during these negotiations except Mr. Kilbourn? A. I met people there every day.

Q. I am asking as regards this subject. A. No, sir.

Q. Did you talk with James M. Latta? A. Not at that time, I don't think.

Q. Did not James M. Latta know the fact that you had an interest at beneficiary in these purchases? A. I can not say positively.

Q. Was he not present during your conversations with Mr. Kilbourn when you agreed to make the advance? A. My impression is he was not present.

The Chairman. Do you want to impeach Mr. Latta's testimony?

Mr. Christy. If we can, if it be necessary.

By Mr. Wilson: Q. Was there any writings of any kind between you and Mr. Kilbourn in regard to this matter? A. My impression and recollection is, of course, that there was to be.

Q. Was there ever any? A. No, sir: that is, I do not think there was. I think the matter was left open until the purchases were completed.

Q. Did you take from him any evidence that he had received this $25,000 in money from your bank? A. We have the evidence in his checks that were drawn from time to time. This money was drawn from time to time as purchases were made.

Q. Did he simply check on your bank? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Were they ordinary checks? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Was there anything in them specifying for what purpose these checks were drawn? A. They were signed "Hallet Kilbourn, trustee."

Q. Were you cognizant of the fact that other persons were interested in this matter? A. Yes, sir; but I did not inquire who they were.

Q. Were you cognizant of the fact that Hallet Kilbourn was taking all the conveyances of this property in his own name as trustee? A. I supposed that he was.

Q. And yet you have no writing whatever to show in regard to it? A. On that point I would say that the execution of a writing declaring the trust was postponed until the purchases were made, in the meanwhile these checks serving as memoranda of the transaction. My impression is that a declaration of trust was made afterward, but it was on account of some additional purchases, and possibly the sale of some of the property, that it was given back to Mr. Kilbourn, and thus the matter was overlooked instead of having the preparation of a new declaration of trust. But I cannot be positive on that point whether there is any declaration or not.

Q. Why was it that you never made any inquiry as to who it was that was associated with you in these purchases? A. Because I did not consider that that concerned me at all. It was my own transaction with Mr. Kilbourn.

Q. Who, among the other persons, were to be jointly interested with you in this property? A. I had every confidence in Mr. Kilbourn's faithful execution of the trust.

Q. Did you know the money was to be thrown in what was called a "pool," and purchases made by persons contributing to this "pool?" A. I knew that our *pro rata* interest—I felt it would be perfectly safe in Mr. Kilbourn's hands without reference to who the other parties were.

Q. You knew your money was to go into the hands of Mr. Kilbourn, along with the money of other persons, and that money was to be put in a common fund, and that with that common fund property was to be purchased and held by Mr. Kilbourn as trustee in common for all the parties contributing to the fund *pro rata?* A. Yes, sir.

Q. And yet you never made any inquiry as to who were your associates in that transaction? A. Never.

Q. And do not know anything about who any of them were? A. No, sir.

Q. And no writings ever were drawn with a view of showing the purpose for which Kilbourn held this, or the parties for whom he held it? A. I have already explained that point.

Q. There were no writings? A. No, sir; I say I do not know absolutely that we have any now. My impression is, the writings were prepared, and given back to be changed on account of the change in the property. There had been additional purchases of property, and some sales, and the matter was overlooked probably.

Q. Are you going away from the city, Governor? A. Yes, sir.

Q. Do you expect to remain here several days? A. Yes, sir.

Mr. Wilson. There are other matters I wish to ask you about, and I suppose we will all want to ask you something about it. I do not care to go into that matter now, as it will be rather lengthy.

The Chairman. Matters affecting this particular transaction?

Mr. Wilson. No, sir.

The Witness. I expect to go away Friday or Saturday, and expect to be gone two or three days; but I am at the service of the committee at any time.

The Chairman. We will try and accommodate our examination to your convenience.

Mr. Cooke. I will be here at any time.

By Mr. Bass: Q. Did you ever have any account of sales or purchases rendered to you? A. No, sir. I saw a statement some nine or ten months ago, but I do not recollect now precisely the localities. I merely glanced at it.

Q. I speak of the amount of the investment. A. My impression was that there were some sixty or seventy thousand dollars.

Q. Of the investment or capital? A. Capital.

Q. How much was the investment? A. Of course the capital—

Q. Beyond that. I mean, were the purchases made for cash or on credit? A. Partly for cash and partly for credit.

Q. And the cash capital was some fifty or sixty thousand dollars? Do you recollect the amount of purchases? A. No, sir; I want to say, in this connection, that at that time I was exceedingly oppressed with business; exceedingly occupied in my double duties as Governor of the District, as a member of the firm of Jay Cooke & Co., and my other business engagements. I gave what care and attention I could to these things, but, in the multiplicity of these matters, my memory is not quite as distinct as it would be had I had less to occupy my mind.

Q. In comparison with your other adventures, this was not regarded as a very heavy one at the time? A. No, sir; I hardly gave it a second thought.

O. H. QUINBY, RECALLED.

The Witness. I simply want to make amendment to some of my statements yesterday. On page 943, I should have stated that in the No. 1 we used tar, instead of in the No. 2. Then, on page 945, where I used the language "50,000 feet," in speaking of the lumber brought from Chicago, I should have said "500,000 feet." If the committee will allow me, in justice to myself, I would like to make one explanation with reference to Mr. McClellan's testimony regarding me.

The Chairman. That is proper. Go on.

The Witness. He stated that I said to him I had money in my pocket which I received to break up Ray & Whitney. He said that I said to him that, if they did not give me money, I would use my influence to burst them up. To the committee I wish to say I never received an offer of a single dollar. No man ever paid me a single dollar; nor did I ever tell Mr. McClellan any such thing, in his office or any other place. I unqualifiedly pronounce the whole statement to be false.

Gentlemen, on account of sickness in my family, I would like to be discharged and go home, if I am not wanted.

Mr. Christy. We have done with the witness; he can be discharged.

[The witness was thereupon discharged.]

The Chairman. Mr. Christy, Governor Shepherd has handed me a full statement of this matter of pipe, which I call your attention to. May I now repeat the question that I put to counsel yesterday? I inquired of counsel in reference to their witness, to see if we could not close up the testimony on the part of the memorialists without waiting for the final disposition of the DeGolyer & McClellan matter.

Mr. Christy. I think so. We will go on steadily now.

The committee thereupon adjourned until to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock.

THE DISTRICT IN CONGRESS.

At the meeting of the House Committee on the District Messrs. E. F. Simpson and B. H. Stinemetz, a committee from the Foundry M. E. church, appeared in the interest of a bill giving the trustees of that church the power to sell a parcel of ground now in its possession. The bill was subsequently referred to Messrs. Henderson, Pelham and Clark. It is understood that they will amend it so as to establish all the safeguards necessary, and then report it favorably to the whole committee. The bill in relation to the National Gas and Iron Company was referred to a sub-committee consisting of Messrs. Harmer, Cotton, Eldredge and Leach. The bill to incorporate the Washington City and Atlantic Coast railroad, and several other bills and memorials, were referred to sub-committees for examination. The bill authorizing the Baltimore and Ohio railroad to construct a lateral branch road from the Washington line of the main road to the Metropolitan branch was laid aside for the present, as the sub-committee, with the exception of Judge Rice, had not fully examined its provisions. The gentleman named however, stated that the bill should pass.

Mr. Pelham, from the sub-committee to whom was referred the bill providing for the purchase of the Industrial Home School buildings in Georgetown, gave notice that they were opposed to its passage. But, as Mr. Barnum had suggested that provision be made for the purchase of a farm near Washington, the matter was again recommitted.

The sub-committee, designated to hear the gentlemen interested in the bill forbidding the sale of liquors in the District, have appointed to-morrow as the day for arguments. It was desired that the full committee be present; but as the "District day" in the House occurs next Friday, it was not possible to use the session next Thursday for this purpose. The clergy interested were averse to a day so far distant as the Thursday following, and in consequence Saturday was agreed upon. The members of the sub-committee agreed to be present if other public duties did not compel their absence.

THE COLOSSEUM.

A correspondent writes from Rome: "The excavations at the Colosseum are still continued, but a stream of water which has been found there seriously interrupts the labors of the workmen. The Roman Catholics are still indignant at the recent profanation of the Colosseum in the removal of the Via Crucis. They held a triduo, or three days' prayer of reparation in the Church of the Minerva, and another in that of Saint Andrea della Valle. Opposite the organ in the latter church, in an improvised altar surrounded by a dozen wax lights, was the crucifix which was formerly under the arch leading to the Lateran. Notwithstanding the invitation of the Cardinal Vicar, the number of the faithful was small, and a great contrast to the throng which assisted at the triduo three years ago."

THE FACTS OF THE CASE.

THE BUILDING ASSOCIATION INJUNCTIONS.

Very many erroneous ideas and much needless anxiety on the part of stockholders in building associations in the District have prevailed for some days past. It has been stated that Mr. Justice Wylie, holding the Equity Court, had decided that in no case were the trustees of building associations entitled to sell under the deeds of trust given to secure advances made by the associations. This is incorrect. Judge Wylie has given no such judgment, and the whole question remains yet undecided before the general term, when the case of Pabst vs. The Economical Building Association, which was appealed from Judge Humphrey and was argued at the last general term, and held under advisement. It has frequently, since its argument, formed the subject of conference among the five judges who made up the full bench, and it is understood that the court has not agreed upon the precise judgment to be rendered in the case.

Meanwhile of course all cases having a general similarity to that of Pabst—which has been twice reported in these columns—must be entitled to at least a temporary injunction until the Pabst case is decided. Hence in the case of Welch vs. The Washington Building Association a few days since Judge Wylie refused to dissolve an injunction which stopped a sale under a deed of trust given to a building association. It is not, however, to be inferred that in no case will the trustee of a building association be allowed to sell. If the case does not come within the grounds on which the Pabst case is contested, it is obvious that a sale will be allowed or refused on the merits of each case, whether a building association be concerned or not.

WASHINGTON AND GEORGETOWN RAILROAD COMPANY.

MEETING OF THE DIRECTORS.

The directors of the Washington and Georgetown Railroad Company held a meeting on Wednesday, at which the introduction of the bell-punch and its success was fully discussed. The report presented showed that the receipts of the company have increased considerably, which was claimed to be the result of the introduction of the bell-punch. The directors decided to continue the punch, and authorized a contract to be made for their use for one year, and further to economize, decided to procure and place on the Seventh-street line one-horse cars, similar to those on the Metropolitan and Columbia roads, with a receptacle for fares. The reforms inaugurated by the president, Mr. S. L. Phillips, were indorsed. Mr. Phillips was elected president, and he agreed to serve in that capacity until October.

THE MARTHA WASHINGTON TEA PARTY.

This entertainment, which takes place on the 15th and 16th of this month, at Masonic Temple, promises more than an ordinary entertainment for the liberal and social gathering members of our community. It is given in behalf of an institution established by the kind ladies and gentlemen of Epiphany church, who, moved to sympathy by the great number of meritorious but indigent poor women within its knowledge, organized the Home as a resting-place and friendly harbor for their comfortable reception. Forty aged women are gathered here, and among them the sister of Edgar A. Poe, and if the undertaking were to fail to-day, these worn and decrepid forms would be cast out upon a cold world for a place to sleep, a place to eat and a place wherewithal to be clothed. A debt is on the Home, and therefore this effort. Who can resist the appeal? Tickets will be for sale at Ellis's music store or at the door.

HOUSE THIEVES ARRESTED.

Yesterday afternoon Mr. D. D. Russell, rooming at No. 505 Ninth street northwest, reported at police headquarters that his room had been entered by thieves and robbed of a quantity of wearing apparel. Detectives Miller and McDevitt were assigned the case, and proceeded at once to the apartments of the gentleman, where they found that the thieves had made a pretty thorough haul, leaving behind an old hat and pair of boots, which had been exchanged. The detectives thought they recognized the hat as one that had been worn by one of a couple of well-known sneak and house thieves who had been only half an hour previous on Pennsylvania avenue.

They started out in search of the men, and soon accosted them, one having the hat and boots of the gentleman upon him at the time. They were taken to headquarters and gave their names as Charles Lee, alias Robert E. Lee, and John Farrell, alias Dick Turpin. There was also found on the person of one of them a letter showing he was in communication with a clique of thieves outside of the city, and only desired to make a good stake before joining with them.

They will be taken into Police Court to-day.

BUILDING ASSOCIATIONS.

At the 78th meeting of the Washington Co-operative Association three shares ($3,000) were sold at an average of 109½ per cent.

At the 45th meeting of the Capitol Hill Building Association No. 2 20 shares were sold at an average premium of 81 per cent., and 20 shares were withdrawn at an accrued interest of $3.50 per share.

At the 23d monthly meeting of the North Washington Building Association, on Tuesday night, 24 shares were advanced on at an average of 53 per cent. premium.

GOOD ARRANGEMENTS.

The arrangement of the hacks last night at the National Theatre, under the direction of Sergeant Acton, with Officers Miller and Moore, was complete. Different from the usual custom, there were no delays, and, as each name or number was announced, the carriage was promptly in front of the theatre. It would be well for ladies to defer their "How do you do," etc., until some more favorable occasion than the close of an opera, and especially at the theatre door, when hundreds are anxious to get to their homes, as was the case last night.

METROPOLITAN POLICE COMMISSIONERS.

The Board of Metropolitan Police Commissioners, at their meeting yesterday, appointed Chas. H. Marshall an additional private, to do duty at the Columbia building, and Thos. J. Clark a private on the force.

The application of Christopher Governiator for a liquor license was refused.

THE CHAIN BRIDGE.

This structure has been completed by the contractors, Messrs. Clark, Reeves & Co., and will be turned over to Gen. Babcock to-day. Under the terms of the contract it was not to have been completed until the 1st of May, but as the company have got through sooner than was anticipated, it will be opened for public travel as soon as it is inspected by the engineer and accepted by Gen. Babcock.

ARREST OF A SUSPICIOUS CHARACTER.

Detectives Sargent and McElfresh last night arrested a man by the name of A. W. McCarter on the suspicion of being a confidence man, and, on reaching headquarters, after plying a few questions, were fully satisfied that their suspicions were correct. He will be sent out of the city to-day.

FIRE.

Last night about 10 o'clock an alarm was turned in from the Seventh precinct station, caused by fire being discovered in a two-story frame house on F, between First and North Capitol streets, owned by Andrew Gleason. It was extinguished after causing a loss of about $50.

LOCAL MISCELLANY.

Fire was discovered Wednesday evening in the provision store of Mr. Shoemaker, No. 193, High street, which was extinguished with but slight loss.

Two thousand tailors and 1,500 herring were received at the Georgetown fish wharf yesterday, which sold at $1.10 to $1.50 per hundred for tailors, and $10 per thousand for herring.

Twenty-eight hundred bushels of wheat and 2,600 bushels of corn were received in Georgetown yesterday.

Messrs. R. A. Golden & Brother sold yesterday 14,000 shad at from $12 to $15 per hundred; 2,500 herring at $8 to $9 per thousand; 2,000 bunches of rock and perch at 12 to 25 cents per bunch; 100 large single rock at $2 each.

A stereopantascope exhibition will be given at the Congregational church this evening, consisting of views of Palestine, Syria, Egypt, Yosemite valley, Mormon country, etc., by Professor Worcester for the benefit of the Sabbath-School Library.

The Philharmonic Society, Professor Colliere and Miss Goodall sing to-night at the last grand reception of the Young Men's Christian Association.

AERIAL MICROSCOPY.

A British microscopist has recently published the results of extensive experiments in this novel but intensely interesting domain of science. The microscopic examination of air, it has long been promised, would afford many clues to the origin of the great epidemics, and also solve many interesting points of medical and agricultural climatology. A great physician has shown that we take into our lungs daily from one thousand to two thousand gallons of air. The detection of impurities in the air, and the discovery of their sanitary effect, is of the utmost practical moment. —*New York Herald.*

THE ENGLISH AND THE CENTENNIAL.

There is a strong disposition among the manufacturers of England to be represented. They understand exactly the value that such a display would be to them. They laugh at the sickly sentimentality which has opposed the international exhibition because it is feared that Englishmen of the present day would feel offended at a celebration commemorating events which happened a hundred years ago. Englishmen are not fools, particularly in regard to matters a hundred years old.—*Philadelphia Inquirer.*

CIPHER WRITING.

A secret message, says the "Cornhill Magazine," ought, like a telegram, to be composed in as few words as possible, nay, in as few letters, like shorthand, since this will save trouble to the writer and to the reader, and will, moreover, render less likely the danger of detection, for the more of a secret writing that a decipherer obtains the greater is his chance of deciphering it. But in a very short message, where letters do not recur, it is of little moment what method of secret writing we use, since the first and most important rule of deciphering, "observe repetitions," is here of none avail. Without this, their polar star, such men even as Wallis and Viete would wander through the sea of doubt in vain. Secondly, all spaces or breaks between words should be carefully avoided, or, if used, used to mislead; and if it is desired to render a writing particularly difficult, at the cost of greater trouble, let the secret writing be expressed in another, like a wheel within a wheel, or the skins of an onion. Any one interpreting such doubly-masked letters might well be accused, like poor Trithemius, of profiting by the assistance of the devil, or his dull representative of the present day, a spiritual medium. Thirdly, non-significants should be used often, and our alphabets always arbitrarily arranged. Lastly, the difficulty of a secret writing may also be much increased by writing in the Oriental fashion, from right to left, or, better still, from right to left and left to right alternately, ploughing letters after the fashion of the Japanese or the Greeks.

It is possible that Jacob—we speak with reverence—first introduced the art of deciphering when he explained to the King of Babylon that sad and mystic writing on the wall. That scripture may have been explained by the Cabalistic method to which we have before alluded, and in which in all probability Jeremiah learned from Daniel as his cotemporary and friend. Indeed the art of deciphering must have been very feeble formerly, or the Lacedæmonian scytals could scarcely have remained a difficulty; and yet it may have been as good for their age as it is bad for ours. Gorgo's advice was more a piece of feminine cunning than artistic skill. A good decipherer must be a man of many parts. Such a Mercury is not made out of every wood. He must be of lively imagination, good judgment, and retentive memory; he should be well acquainted with many languages, for though the strange assertion is true that a man skilled in deciphering and not knowing German or Spanish, may yet explain a mystic writing in those tongues; though this is true, it is nevertheless of great use to the explorer to be well versed in them. The necessity of patient perseverance it is needless to insist on. Bruce and the spider should be continually before his mind's eye. Practice alone here, as elsewhere, leads to perfection. The decipherer should first aid himself as much as possible by collateral evidence as to the remitter and receiver, and the date and subject of the missive.

He should then consider it under the light of certain linguistic criteria, in which he should be well skilled, in order to determine the language in which it is written. He should observe, if possible, monosyllables, bigrams, trigrams, &c., always beginning his investigation with the shortest words. He should set down on a table the order of recurrences of each sign or letter. Those most frequent are probably vowels, where there are only two letters, one is necessarily a vowel. He should know the comparative frequency of recurrence of all letters in all languages in which the missive may be written. For instance, that "e" is the most frequently repeated letter in French, English, and German—"o" in Italian and Spanish. That in the latter, "o" is frequently followed by "s," and "u" by "s." That the English tongue abounds in monosyllables. That the only monogram in German is "o," and monosyllables very rare. The presence of such combinations as "sch," "ich," should, of course, be looked for here. In our own language "i" and "a" are the solo monograms. Many other lights of this kind the attentive decipherer will soon kindle for himself. We have already said that for deciphering patience and sagacity are both desirable; but patience is yet more desirable than sagacity.

VENUS AND THE MOON.

I pass from the planets Mercury and Venus rapidly, because we have so little telescopic information of the them. It will probably dispose us to regard them as intended to be the abode of life, but not so yet. Only when the sun has lost the fourth part of his heat in the case of Mercury, and in the case of Venus one half, will they be inhabitable. When the sun has lost half of his heat, the time will come when Venus will be inhabitable. It will then be with her as with us now. So we look forward for millions of years when she will be inhabited as this earth is. It may be that the planets are inhabited only for a short period, and not necessarily cotemporaneously. Here is Venus. You will see that there are certain markings. I would call your attention to the great benefit of the clear atmosphere of America in observing these marks. In England they say they can watch them and see them in the periods of the rotation. The large telescope at Harvard and the other fine ones of Alvin Clark and others fail to show them. The subject seems to me very much as if it were an optical delusion; that she shines with so much light that the eye is deceived. Three other pictures of Venus will be shown, indicating on a more correct plan the delicacy of these markings. We see some signs here of an atmosphere, which is necessary to life. There you see the twilight circle. Here it becomes more marked, and you see there is a possibility of life, as it depends upon the existence of an atmosphere.—*Prof. Proctor.*

JOURNALISTS, AUTHORS AND ARTISTS

A correspondent, writing of New York society, says: "The pleasantest and least formal circle is made up of journalists, authors and artists. Very few if any of them are rich, and as they are unable to deceive anybody, were they so inclined, by pretending to do what they have not done, they are not tempted to talk of money, or, to indulge in shams. Each man or woman comes on his or her own merit, regardless of who his father or his grandfather may have been. As times there is a good deal of official talk; but as journalism, literature and art have a wide bearing and a large amount of interest, the talk is not as prosy as it would be if it concerned stocks, dry goods or any purely commercial transactions. Such companies as these are likely to be favored with ideas and intellectual conversation, to take the place of meaningless small talk and personal gossip. Persons of artistic taste and calling have been more brought together in this city within two or three years than ever before. At least a dozen houses are points of reunion, and parties and receptions are regularly given there every season. The effect has been very good, and altogether pleasant; and the probability is that from this time forth now entertainments to culture and thought will be given by this means."

SENATOR SUMNER'S SPEECH.

The publication in a New York newspaper of Senator Sumner's speech, criticising the action of the State Department with regard to the removal of Motley, and the personal relations between the President, Secretary Fish and Mr. Sumner, is regarded with surprise by the late Senator's friends. The speech was prepared under great provocation, and upon sober second thought Mr. Sumner concluded not to deliver it. Several attempts were made by injudicious friends, during his life to secure the great Senator's consent to make it public, but he invariably refused. It is held by his best and most intimate friends that were he now living he would have withheld his consent to its publication.—*Washington dispatch to the Philadelphia Press.*

A CAT'S TAIL ON A ROOSTER.

[From Dr. Brown-Sequard's last lecture.]

Other facts prove also this power of attraction of blood. If we put an organ taken from a living animal inside of another animal, very frequently this organ will be engrafted there. The infused serum becomes the object of chemical changes, the blood is attracted and the organ receives circulation. I once engrafted the tail of a cat on a cock's comb. A few days after it was evident by pricking the tail that blood was circulating in it, and it certainly would have said there had not the cock had a fight and lost its tail. [Laughter.] Other cases of grafting leave no doubt in this respect. It is shown by the fact that ova in animals when they are implanted on a mucuous membrane take hold of it, blood is attracted there and circulation takes place.

SWALLOWING A LIZARD.

The Worcester (Mass.) *Daily Press* says: "A very remarkable instance of the ills which flesh can be made heir to, has recently come to light in this city. A young lady, now about eighteen years old, and a resident of Worcester, made a trip to Florida some four years ago. While there she is supposed to have swallowed a living lizard which had found its way into the water she drank. The reptile was then very small, and, although the girl was conscious of the act of swallowing it, no particular alarm was felt at the time. Shortly afterward she returned to this city. Her life since then has been one of torture, her sufferings something past conception. The creature, which has grown with the growth of the girl, is supposed now to measure nine inches in length. It feeds upon the food taken into the stomach of the sufferer, and has long rendered her existence miserable.

A BROOKLYN PLUMBER tells this story: Friday I was sent to fix a pipe in Beecher's house. He came in and got boozing around just as I was making a soft joint. It made me mad, and I said: "Who is doing this job?" He said: "You," and he smiled so good that I felt as if I had known him all my life. So I made bold to say to him: "Mr. Beecher, what do you think of the council?" And he began to laugh, and then he said: "There was an old Scotch minister who had been paying attentions to a young woman for four years, and one night he said: 'Mary, I has been coomin' here four years, and I ha never had a kiss yit.' And Mary said: 'I don't mind, providing it's done in the right way.' 'Of course'—and they kneit and asked a blessing. Then he solemnly kissed her, and he said: 'Oh, lass! but that was good. Let us return thanks.'" My solder was cold when he got through, and I felt like talking, so I says: "Mr. Beecher, what do you think of Budington?" And he says: "You fix that pipe!" I guess he knows what he is about.

MISCELLANEOUS ITEMS.

The last smart old man lives in Augusta county, Va. He is 91 years of age, and made his own coffin the other day.

A Western clergyman recently described the Syrians who were commanded by Naaman as a band of ruffians and blacklegs.

The University of Oxford is about to confer the honorary degree of D. C. L. upon Prof. Reinhold Pauli, of Gottingen, Germany.

One of the New York spring bonnets has a ball of lace hanging at the back. The milliner said that she couldn't find any other place for it.

St. Augustine, Florida, claims to be the winter Newport, though its only resemblance to Newport consists in price of board at the hotels.

Mills, the pianist, is a standing proof that it doesn't take ten mills to make a cent. As things look, he has a fair chance to become a millionaire.

"Bob, how is your sweetheart getting along?" "Pretty well, I guess. She says I needn't call any more."

An English wag asserts that machinery is the most modest of all things, since it almost always travels in cog.

A young lady of Cincinnati, who dotes on Dumas, is anxious to get married and go abroad, as she says she can't be romantic in her native city during the pig-sticking season.

Pitt, when dying, is said to have exclaimed, "Save my country, Heaven!" but the last words of another great man, who died in Jamaica last week, were, "Bury me with my wig on."

Several ladies, prominent in literary circles in Chicago, have formed an association which they have named the "Cary Club," in honor of the Cary sisters.

A Detroit paper noting the fact that a man fell down dead while combing his hair, says: "And yet there are people who will persist in that dangerous habit."

Another triumph for scientific farming: President Clark, of the Agricultural college at Amherst, has just completed the tapping of a maple tree at an expense of $100.

An exchange asks: "Is there anything that man cannot do?" To which Dr. Wood, of the Glasgow (Ky.) *Times*, replies: "Yes, sir; we have never known one suckle a baby."

A gentleman has a dog—a pointer. He ran up the steps of a house, did this canine, and refused to come down. His master followed, and found "A. Partridge" on the doorplate. This illustrates the force of instinct.

Do bats ever fly in the daytime?" asked a teacher of his class in natural history. "Yes, sir," said the boy confidently. "What kind of bats?" exclaimed the astonished teacher. "Brickbats!" yelled the triumphant boys.

During a recent freshet in Connecticut an editor telegraphed another at the scene of action: "Send me full particulars of the flood." The answer came, "You will find them in Genesis."

"If a man bequeathed you a hundred pounds, would you pray for him?" said a Sunday-school teacher to a pupil. "No," said he, "I would pray for another like him."

One of the most delicate compliments ever paid to a man was that which spoke of the late Jonas Chickering, founder of the Chickering house, as being, like his pianos, grand, square and upright."

The remark of a severe lady, who says that male is only mule spelled wrong, is supplemented by the New Orleans *Picayune* with the declaration that, according to Latin authorities, a woman is *mulier*.

"One of the peculiar effects of hasheesh in acute mania," according to Naquet, "is a singular inclination to make puns and plays upon words." The mania has broken out with virulence on the inside of American journals. Do our editors all indulge in hashoesh?

If the last census is good authority farmers don't make much money. There are exceptions, however, in the great West. A lawyer bought 2,000 acres of land near Webster, Iowa, for $24,000, and sowed 1,700 acres in wheat. In two years he has netted $30,000 from his crops. What a chance for hundreds of half-starved attorneys in New York who are trying to reap a livelihood by sowing discord between families.

Here is a bit of conversation lately overheard in a street in Providence between a young lady and gentleman: "Charley, did you ever hear it said that if a person found a four-leafed clover and put it in their shoe the first gentleman or lady the person walked with would be their husband or wife?" "No, never heard of it before." "Well, I found one and put it in my shoe this morning, and you are the first one I have walked with. I wonder if it is true."

The successful effort of a lady to "break up" a sitting hen is thus recorded in *Moore's Rural*: "Picking some splinters from the chip-yard (some four or five inches long) she bound them firmly to the hen's legs, leaving only the hip joints in working order. Biddie was outwitted. Like the old bachelor's hen, she would have to sit standing up."

There was a young man in Chicago,
And he said: "O may I to your pa go,
And ask for your hand
And your houses and land?"—
This timid young man of Chicago.

There was a young girl in Chicago,
And she said: "If you don't let my paw go
Your eyes I will scratch
And your hair I will snatch,
And swiftly I'll make every claw go."

The other night, says the New Orleans *Picayune*, a weak-eyed youth was sitting in Ames church wholly forgetful of his surroundings and lost in beatific contemplation of a certain young woman, touching whom he cherished violent designs, when suddenly a hand was laid upon his shoulder and a deep contralto voice thundered in his ear: "Young man, you look as if you wanted to go to Jesus! won't you come to Jesus?" Whereupon he