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THE TREND OF IRON PODUCTION AND MANUFACTURE.

BIRMINGHAM, ALA., May. 10.—The first shipment of iron pipe ever made in the South left for Baltimore yesterday by way of the Richmond and Danville Railroad. It was made by a Bessemer, Ala., firm. A solid train of twenty-five cars composed the shipment, and it is the first of a 5,000-ton contract.

The foregoing is an illustration of the great industrial upheaval in the Southern mineral field. Four years ago the site of Bessemer, Ala., was simply that of a virgin forest with sparse clearings. To-day it is a city of 6,000 inhabitants. Seven iron furnaces, with the capacity of a daily product of 900 tons of pigiron, are in operation. An immense rolling mill, employing 600 hands, was one of the first industries established, which has been followed by foundries, machine shops and the various concomitant factories and institutions which go to make up a prosperous manufacturing centre.

One of the latest additions to that city's complement of industries is that of the largest iron pipe works in this country, a plant established by the Howard & Harrison Iron Company, late of St. Louis, which manufactures iron piping of all sizes, as large as forty-eight to sixty inches in diameter. This plant has a capacity of 300 tons daily. The shipment mentioned in the dispatch above is from this plant.

Why this trend of iron manufacture? Simply the incomparable cheapness of iron production and unusual facilities in competing railroad transportation. The iron ore is delivered into the cupola at Bessemer at a bare cost of fifty cents a ton to the operator, while the best of coking coal is delivered at the ovens there at a cost of seventy cents per ton. Iron in the pig there costs only from $7.50 to $8 per ton.

No wonder, then, at the remarkable mineral and industrial development of that section.

THE NEW YORK *Herald* is pleased to cast a slur by innuendo upon the President because, during his trip through the South, the latter referred to the rebels of thirty years ago as "Confederates." This strikes the *Herald* as particularly mean spirited, and leads that peculiar journal to institute certain odious and inappropriate comparisons. It is a pity that the *Herald* cannot distinguish more nicely in these matters though, to be sure. We have had occasion to observe that the typical New Yorker is habitually prone to mistake politeness for servility and to look on courtesy as cowardice. The typical New Yorker makes this mistake in his clubs, in his travels, in all the relations of life; and, we regret to say, the more highly he is placed the more frequently and the more brutally he makes it. Perhaps it is only natural, therefore, that the *Herald*, which is the typical New York journal, should ape the engaging habits of its set, and look down upon Mr. HARRISON because, in traveling through the South and receiving Southern hospitality, he is groveling enough to require their cordiality with gratitude and consideration. When the average New York swell visits Washington and other provincial towns and receives with haughty complacency the attentions of the admiring rustics, he never demeans himself by thanking the latter for their efforts or even by entertaining the idea that they may be entitled to notice of any kind. The difference between Mr. HARRISON and the average New York swell is the difference between a gentleman and a cad. Mr. HARRISON does not feel called upon to snub the ex-rebels at this late day. He exhibited his opinion of rebellion by buckling on his sword and helping to crush it; but now, after a lapse of a quarter of a century, he thinks he may safely return to the amenities of peace. Pray, what would the editor of the *Herald* call the Southerners if he were visiting their country and found himself enjoying their hospitality? But perhaps he is not invited out when he travels in that section.

TA TA, ITATA! So long, Charleston! Keep cool if you *do* get Chili.

MR. PASQUALE CORTE, the inflammable gentleman who represents Italy at New Orleans, is getting himself disliked. He does not seem to have the proper estimate of his duties and privileges, and has been offensively prevalent of late. It is all very well for Mr. CORTE to make representations to his superior officer at Washington, or to answer inquiries addressed to him at New Orleans, and generally to discharge the duties of his place; but when it comes to denouncing the local officials of Louisiana, lecturing the grand jury and condemning the Mayor, it would appear that Mr. CORTE has been superserviceable to say the least. Nor is this Italian gentleman content with doing an impertinent thing; he must do it in a stupid and offensive way, forsooth. Nobody in New Orleans, or in any part of the country, for that matter, cares what Mr. CORTE thinks of the grand jury and its report. He is free to admire or to disapprove both or either of them, just as he pleases. In fact, it was expected that he would disapprove, and the country has discounted its happiness accordingly. But it is not necessary or agreeable that a foreign Consul should set himself up as a critic of our domestic affairs, and it is especially unnecessary and disagreeable that he should do so in an insolent and offensive manner. The chances are that Mr. CORTE will be asked to leave New Orleans. He has become obnoxious to the people and the authorities of the city, and his continued presence there can serve no useful purpose.

BETWEEN THE Chilians
And Sicilians,
The greedy Haytians,
And eke the Mafians,
Secretary BLAINE has his hands full, but will arrive at his destination with a satisfactory degree of total similarity.

ONE THING IS QUITE clear: The New Orleans lynching has not had the effect of discouraging Italian emigration to this country. On the contrary, it seems to have stimulated it. Not only have the children of that sunny clime crowded into the United States with extraordinary eagerness and in unprecedented numbers since last March, but this has been as noticeable at New Orleans as at any other of our seaports. It would seem, indeed, as if the average Italian were quite willing to take the chance of being lynched here, in order to escape the certainty of starving to death at home. And why shouldn't he? The chance of lynching in this country is extremely remote, even though the individual do everything to invite it, while the prospect of starvation in Italy is imminent and perpetual. Altogether, it seems a strange and grotesque situation. RUDINI scowling and gesticulating at us for alleged persecution of Italians, and the Italians themselves falling over each other in their haste to get away from RUDINI and escape to America! Wonder if the humor of the thing will ever dawn on ROOMY?

THE CRITIC-RECORD made no mistake when it said, on Saturday last, that the Government could safely be expected to do its full duty toward Chili in the matter of the Itata affair. It was hardly to be expected that the Secretary of the Navy would fall upon the neck of the first reporter he met and pour into his yawning ear the whole story of the Government's intentions; but it was not necessary, on that account, to assume that there was any doubt or mystery about the case. The United States was under a plain obligation in the premises and to apprehend any default therein would have been to cast a wicked and unfounded aspersion upon the nation's honor.

IF THE CADETS at the Naval Academy are not to be afforded an opportunity to see the White Squadron, there is yet time to enter into negotiations with the Governor of Maryland to get the State's oyster navy to evolute at the graduation exercises.

ON DIT.

Senator and Mrs. Brice go to Paris in June.

Colonel and Mrs. Whittimore sail for Europe June 24.

Mr. and Mrs. L. Lowrie Bell go to Maine for the summer.

Colonel John Hay and Senator Washburn are in Paris.

Judge and Mrs. Bancroft Davis are going abroad shortly.

Mr. and Miss Halford are expected back from Europe shortly.

Judge Denny is in Paris returning from the Consulate in Corea.

Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Endicott, jr., are visiting relatives in the city.

Senator and Mrs. Vance are making ready to go to Europe shortly.

Colonel Tyler and his family will spend the summer at Takoma Park.

Lieutenant and Mrs. R. M. G. Brown go to Deer Park for the summer.

The Spanish Minister has taken a cottage near Boston for the summer.

General and Mrs. Dana will go to the New England coast for the summer.

Rev. Dr. Douglas of St. John's Church and Mrs. Douglas will go abroad in June.

Ex-Senator A. P. Williams of California is at the Fifth Avenue Hotel, New York.

Baron and Baroness Zedwitz, after two months in Europe, will go to Newport.

Commander John Schouler, United States Navy, is at the St. James Hotel, New York.

Mr. M. A. Knapp of the Interstate Commerce Commission is at the Windsor Hotel, New York.

The Marine Band will begin to play in the grounds at the White House the first Saturday in June.

The Country Club's 5 o'clock tea on Wednesday is among the pleasant coming events of the week.

Mr. and Mrs. R. P. Porter have gone to California for a brief trip, to return in the latter part of June.

The Potomac Literary Club holds its last monthly meeting on Wednesday next at 1315 Eleventh street.

The French Minister has received no official information of his being transferred to another post of duty.

Mr. and Mrs. Henry E. Pellew sail from New York for Europe on the Trave of the North Bremen line June 14.

Miss Helen Woodbury, the sister of Mrs. Montgomery Blair, will spend the summer as usual in New England.

Senator Cullom has leased ex-Secretary Bayard's home on Highland Terrace and will occupy it in the autumn.

Paymaster C. P. Thompson, United States Navy, who has been on a brief visit to his relatives in Richmond, has returned to Washington.

Miss Ayer of Danville, Vt., who has made a lasting impression here by her brightness, cleverness and prettiness, goes home on the 20th instant.

Mrs. William Morris Hunt's reception in honor of Mrs. Whelan of Philadelphia and Mr. and Mrs. Le Breton's *musicale* are the principal social events to-night.

Mrs. Hawkins, wife of Colonel H. S. Hawkins, Twenty-first Infantry, now stationed at West Point, with her two daughters, will spend a month at the Hygeia, Old Point Comfort, Va.

Miss Virginia Peachy Wise of Williamsburg, Va., who has been visiting relatives here, goes to New York this week to visit her uncle, Hon. John S. Wise, the prominent lawyer and politician.

Miss Kate Riggs has finished a fine portrait in oil of her father, which is an admirable likeness, and a fresh proof of that young lady's decided talent as an artist and her faculty of making a speaking resemblance.

Mrs. Harrell of this city is visiting her daughter, Mrs. Slaker, at Fortress Monroe. Miss Grace Maxwell of San Francisco is visiting her aunt, Mrs. General De Russey, and Mrs. Major Parry and Miss Kate Parry are with Mrs. De Russey also, at Fortress Monroe.

The concert of the Marine Band at the Academy of Music on Friday night next, the concert of the Boston Festival Orchestra May 14 at the Academy of Music, and the concert by Gilmore's famous band on Sunday night, May 24, at Albaugh's, are the coming musical treats of the near future.

The strawberry fete in aid of the Washington Hospital for Foundlings will be given Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons from 5 to 11 o'clock at 1323 Thirteenth street. Mrs. J. Fairfield Carpenter, Mrs. George Bloomer, Miss Hetell, Miss Swan, Miss Westcott, Miss de Peyster, Miss Mattingly, Miss Kelton, Miss Scott, Miss Condit Smith, Mrs. J. A. Swope, Mrs. O. G. Staples, Mrs. Theodore Noyes, Mrs. D. A. Chambers, Mrs. Lightfoot, Mrs. DeWitt, Miss Britton, Miss Swope, Mrs. Rose Thompson, the Misses Hutchinson, Miss Riley, Miss Palmer, Miss Hatch, Miss Somers, Miss Heaven and Miss Noble are the ladies who will preside over the various booths. The object of the fete is one that appeals strongly to the philanthropic and charitable.

Among the beauties and prettiest girls of the season just over might be mentioned Miss Alice N. Parker, Miss Betty Henry, Miss Adele Cammack, Miss Rachel Cameron, Miss Jackson, Miss Effie Burritt, Miss Tiffany, Miss Kate Riggs, Miss Ayer, the Misses Darneille, Miss Gregory, Miss Tyler, Miss Sybil D'Oyly, Miss Elliot, daughter of Colonel Elliott; Miss Elise Horsey, Miss Carroll, Miss Everett, Miss Riley, Miss Letter, Miss May Cheatell, Miss Dearing, Miss Johns, Miss Elise Thompson, Miss Bessie Porter of Baltimore, Miss Edie, Miss Mabel Hunt, Miss Allderdice, Miss Ruth Kerr, Miss Ashhurst of Philadelphia, Miss Maud Davidge, Miss Scranton, Miss Van Vechten of Albany, Miss Winifred Beckham, the Misses Wandering and Miss May Cox.

PERSONAL.

Dr. S. M. Angell of New Orleans, Louisiana, is at the National.

Mr. G. W. Parker of Fort Defiance, Arizona, is at the St. James.

The Boston Festival Orchestra are stopping at the National.

Mr. R. D. Chandler and wife of San Francisco, are at Willard's.

Ex-Representative Grosvenor of Ohio, and General Groner of Virginia, are at the Ebbitt.

Messrs. E. M. Danow of Fargo and J. R. Logan of Grand Forks, N. D., are at Willard's.

Mr. G. F. Gratwicke of Exeter, England, and Mr. B. S. Coleman of Lexington, Ky., are at Welcker's.

Mr. E. A. Smith of Tuscaloosa, Ala., and Mr. Sam Jones of Knoxville, Tenn., are at the Metropolitan.

Messrs. Robert R. Symon and Hiram S. Maxem of London, and B. F. Wood of the Navy are at the Arlington.

Mr. Richard Sylvester, jr., chief clerk of the Police Department, left last night for Kansas City, where he will pay a visit of two weeks' duration to relatives. He was accompanied by his wife and child, who will remain for several months.

Metropolitan—W. H. Wilkes and wife, Waco, Tex.; William M. Spilman, Virginia; Perry de Leon, Georgia; C. R. Pickard, Huntsville, Ala.; H. M. Harris and wife, Chicago; D. Betancourt, Tampa, Fla.; Andrew West, Atlanta, Ga.

National—J. H. P. Bowman, New York; C. E. Zoes, Philadelphia; W. C. Spencer, Boston; M. Fellows, Clifton Park, N. Y.; William R. Stone, Albany, N. Y.; M. A. Drew, Lynn, Mass.

St. James—F. T. Culchion, Cincinnati; Ricardo Sarenas and P. Camsello, Philadelphia; F. O. Knophe, New York; W. C. Farbes, Norfolk; G. R. Pride, Jacksonville, Fla.; E. H. Grey, Boston, Mass.

Willard's—R. Woodburn, Pittsburg, Pa.; Mr. and Mrs. Frank Crandell and Miss Florence E. Crandall, Detroit, Mich; W. M. Eads, Los Vegas, N. M.; A. H. Potter and wife, Providence, R. I.; Frank C. Taylor and Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Scott, Philadelphia.

Arlington—William H. German and wife, Chicago; George A. Eddy, Leavenworth, Kan.; W. H. Franklin, New York; Dr. John D. Martin, Savannah, Ga.; R. W. Davenport, South Bethlehem, Pa.; H. M. Campbell and wife, Detroit, Mich.; Warren E. Hill, Brooklyn.

Welcker's—S. B. Newton, J. F. Frost and O. H. Marion, Boston.

Ebbitt—Mrs. Young, New York; H. Crawford, Chicago; C. D. Rine, Youngstown, Ohio; Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Park, New London, Conn.; R. F. James, Wilmington, Del.; C. C. Baldwin, Cleveland; J. E. Jopling, Marquette, Mich.

Hotel Johnson—James Melson, St. Louis; H. Kemp, Brooklyn; M. N. Nowles and N. Winke, Savannah, Ga.; F. F. Dewes and family, Chicago.

THE NEXT HOUSE.

AN INTERESTING ANALYSIS OF ITS POLITICAL COMPOSITION.

Chances of the Election of President Being Thrown Into the House—Part Which The Farmers' Alliance Will Play.

The printed list of the members-elect of the next House furnishes some interesting figures and deductions says Louis Garthe in the Baltimore *American*. The list is unofficial, but it is accurate. Of the 332 members there are 237 Democrats, 87 Republicans and 8 members of the Farmers' Alliance who will not go into either party caucus. There are other members in Southern States who were elected on the Alliance platform, but they will vote on party questions with the Democrats.

Glancing over the list by States it appears that there are of the 44 States no less than 16 with solid Democratic delegations, and 13 more where the majority of the delegation is Democratic. There are 10 States with solid Republican delegations, and 2 with Republican majorities. Of the remaining 3 States, 2 have Alliance majorities, while in in the 1 remaining State, Minnesota, there are 3 Democrats, 1 Republican and 1 Alliance man, so that the delegation on a vote is Democratic. Summing up, the Democrats control the vote of 30 States, the Republicans 12, the Alliance 2—total 44.

There are then 16 solid Democratic delegations and 10 Republican. The 16 solid Democratic delegations include a membership of 106; the 10 solid Republican delegations a total membership of 15. The frightful disparity lies in the fact that of the 10 solid Republican delegations, 7 of them—Colorado, Idaho, Nevada, North Dakota, Oregon, Washington and Wyoming—consist of 1 member, who is a solid Republican. There remains 3 solid States, of which 2, South Dakota and Vermont, have 2 members each, and the State of Maine, with Messrs. Reed, Boutelle, Dingley and Milliken, form a very solid delegation of 4.

The solid Democratic States are appalling. Missouri alone has 14; almost as many as the entire force of the solid Republicans. The others are Alabama 8, Arkansas 5, Georgia 10, Louisiana 6, Maryland 6, Mississippi 7, South Carolina 7, Texas 11, Virginia 10, West Virginia 4, besides such odds and ends of scraps as 2 each from Florida, New Hampshire and Rhode Island, with 1 each from Delaware and Montana, where the spirit is willing, but the flesh is evidently weak.

In the thirteen States where the Democrats have majorities in the delegations, there are in all 115 Democrats and 47 Republicans, a net majority of 68. In the two Republican States there are 22 Republicans and 12 Democrats, a net majority of 10. Here, again, the Democrats control, with the exception of Pennsylvania, all of the large delegations, the States standing: Illinois, 14 to 6; Indiana, 11 to 2; Kentucky, 10 to 1; Massachusetts, 7 to 5; Michigan, 8 to 3; New York, 23 to 11; North Carolina, 8 to 1; Ohio, 14 to 7; Tennessee, 8 to 2; Wisconsin, 8 to 1; Connecticut, 3 to 1; Iowa, 6 to 5; New Jersey, 3 to 2. The Republican delegations are Pennsylvania, 18 to 10, California, 4 to 2. Of the remaining States there are in Kansas 5 Alliance men and 2 Republicans, and in Nebraska 2 Alliance men and 1 Democrat, giving the Alliance these two States; while in Minnesota, as already stated—there being 3 Democrats, 1 Republican and 1 Alliance man—the control of the delegation is with the Democrats.

This, then, is a summary:

Democrats.	
Solid delegations	16
Majority delegations	14
Total	30
Republican.	
Solid delegation	10
Majority delegation	2
Total	12
Alliance.	
Solid delegation	0
Majority delegation	2
Total	2

On a division by States on any question, therefore, the Democrats would carry the vote by 30 to 12, or a majority of 18.

It is not out of the range of the possible that such a question may arise in the next House. That question would be the most important in the history of this country. It would be the question of the next President of the United States. It seems almost certain that the Farmers' Alliance will place a candidate for the Presidency in the field. Who that man may be no one can guess. It certainly can be Senator Stanford of California if he wants it. With the present strength of the Alliance and Senator Stanford's enormous abilities for an energetic campaign, it is not impossible that the Alliance may win electoral votes enough—not to elect Senator Stanford—but to prevent either the Democratic or Republican candidates from obtaining the majority of the Electoral College, necessary for election. In that case the Constitution, by article 12, provides that the election shall be thrown into the House of Representatives then sitting. That would mean the Fifty-second Congress.

The full importance of the fact that the Democrats control 30 delegations out of the 44, is seen when it is remembered that the Constitution provides that the vote shall be taken by States, and each State, no matter how great or how small its delegation, shall have one vote. So that if the Alliance should elect so many electors that neither the Republicans nor the Democrats could cast a majority vote of the entire college, the next President would be a Democrat. On this vote all the States would meet on a common level, and the 50,000 whites, blacks, half-breeds, mongrels, Chinese and Indians of the Nevada Mining Camp would be as powerful in electing a President as the intelligent residents of the State of New York, and Mr. Bartine would be as big a man as Mr. Flower. So big is the Democratic majority, even on the unit vote by States, that they could elect the President, even if not a single Republican was present.

The Constitution provides that there shall be present a quorum consisting of a member or members from two thirds of the States, so that with their thirty States the Democrats could legitimately elect the President without the attendance of a single Republican. The deep interest which both the Democratic and Republican parties take in the Alliance's entrance into the field of national politics can, therefore, be very readily understood.

Still another feature presents itself in case the Alliance throws the vote into the House. There would then probably be a Democratic President and a Republican Vice-President. For the same article of the Constitution which makes the House elect the President, throws the election of the Vice-President in the Senate. But here there is a difference. In the first place, the list of eligibles for the Vice Presidency is confined to the two names having received the highest numbers of votes cast in the Electoral College, instead of three, as in the case with the Presidency.

Hence in the next Senate Mr. Peffer, the Alliance Senator from Kansas, will be compelled to vote for either the Republican or Democratic candidate, and it is quite likely he will prefer the Republican. Indeed, it is the general belief that after the first year's service in the Senate has worn the exceedingly new varnish off Mr. Peffer, he will settle down in the Republican ranks on all questions. How the Rev. Mr. Kyle, the "Indocrat" from South Dakota, would vote in such an emergency might be a matter of interest to himself, but is of no importance to any one else. Mr. Irby, of South Carolina, is a Democrat, he says, and will always be found consorting with those people.

In the Circuit Court.

Judge Cox presiding—A. Hyde vs. W. H. Tuscott; judgment confessed with stay of execution. J. S. Smith vs. A. Herr; judgment by default. S. Cruikshank vs. E. C. Reid, Ellen Donohoe vs. Washington and Georgetown Railway Company; jury drawn.

CIVIL SERVICE EXAMINATION

To Be Held for Places in the Naval Observatory.

The Civil Service Commission will require, in order to fill vacancies in the Naval Observatory after July 1, a list of eligibles for the following-named places, to wit: One electrician at a compensation of $1,200 per annum, one photographer at $1,200 per annum, one assistant librarian at $1,200, and three computers at $1,200 each per annum. The examinations for the different grades will be as follows: For electrician the examination will be both theoretical and practical, covering the subjects of electric batteries, currents, resistance and measurements, together with the construction and maintenance of electric lighting plants and the methods of transmitting power by electric currents; for photographer the examination will will cover, first, the ordinary photographic manipulations, together with the different processes used in the art; second, the character of the necessary optical apparatus, together with the application of photography to astronical work. The assistant librarian examination will include the translation into English of short paragraphs of scientific German, French, Latin, Italian and Spanish writings, the bibliography of scientific, especially astronomical, literature, modern library methods and systems of classification. The examination for computers will include algebra, geometry, logarythms, trigonometry and elementary astronomy.

These examinations may be taken at any date and place named in the schedule of the Commission. A special date will be fixed at Washington as soon as a sufficient number of applications is received to justify it.

IN THE SUPREME COURT.

Mr. Clossen May Be Released on Bail—Other Cases.

The Supreme Court of the United States, in the case of Peter J. Clossen, the New York City bank president sentenced to six years in the Erie Penitentiary, today denied the motion of the defendant for leave to file a petition and mandamus, and also the motion of the United States to set aside the supersedas and stay of proceedings.

The result of this rating to-day will be to release Mr. Clossen on bail and bring his case to the Supreme Court for final adjudication at the next term.

The Supreme Court of the United States to-day affirmed the order of the New York Circuit Court denying writs of habeas corpus in the cases of the prisoners Woods and Jugiro, now in Sing Sing prison under sentence of death by electrocution.

FROM THE DISTRICT CAPITOL.

Items of Interest from the Commissioners' Office.

Captain Rossell is in favor of a license board, and says he would not listen to the stories of turned-down applicants for $10,000 a year.

Lieutenant Gessford of the Fifth precinct has requested that the police patrol box at Thirteenth and E streets southeast be removed to Fourteenth and E streets.

Wholesale liquor licenses approved—William F. and Joseph Auth, 300 Indiana avenue northwest; Patrick Connor, 334 Delaware avenue southwest; Sidney Ferguson, 345 M street southwest.

Inspector Entwisle still visits the Shoreham, and a large force of workmen are now engaged in repairing the hallways and floors. The hallways of the second and third floors have already been entirely reconstructed. It is probable that the building will be closed for the summer, though not by the order of the inspector, who believes the repairs can go on without interfering with the business of the hotel.

BUILDING PERMITS ISSUED.—James H. Grant, four two-story dwellings, 610 to 616 Ninth street southwest, cost $8,000; D. B. Groff, two-story-and-basement brick, 1713 North Capitol street extended, cost $2,500; J. Quinn, two-story-and-basement brick, 237 Third street southwest, cost $1,600; R. C. Mangum, two-story dwelling, 16 Eleventh street southeast, cost $4,000; Mrs. Dr. McKim, two two-story dwellings, 339 and 341 D street, cost $5,500; Charles W. Handy, two-story-and-attic dwelling, Columbia Heights, cost $8,000.

PARTY WALLS.—Assistant Attorney for the District Thomas has delivered an opinion in relation to the question as to whether the builder of a brick house on a lot adjacent to a lot on which there is a frame house can build so as to build a party wall. The Attorney decides that the builder of a brick house adjacent to a lot improved by a frame house has a right to cut away a frame house sufficient to place the brick partition wall equally on his own and the adjoining lot, the builder of the brick house, however, being required to repair the frame house and make good all damages by cutting it for the purpose of building the partition wall. In his opinion he says: "I have examined this question with some care and have reached the conclusion that the right of a lot owner in this city when he builds to erect one half of the wall between himself and his neighbor on the adjoining lot is an easement running with the land. The right a building owner has in this city to overreach on the adjoining lot, or in other words to avail himself of the privilege of a party-wall is denied from a clause in the conveyance from the original proprietors to Beall and Grant, the commissioners to lay off the Federal city, which declared that the lots and squares when apportioned should be subject to 'such terms and conditions as shall be thought reasonable by the President, for the time being, for regulating the materials and manner of the buildings and improvements of the lots generally in the city, or in particular streets or parts thereof for common convenience, safety and order.' Regulations were made by President Washington and continued in force until others were made by acts of Congress. In 1871 Congress conferred power upon the Commissioners in respect to building regulations of the most comprehensive character.'

Petty Larcenies Reported.

Miss Alice Spence of 512 Twelfth street, reports to the police that her watch and chain, valued at twenty dollars, was stolen from her room between noon and one o'clock this afternoon.

P. C. Merry, the furniture dealer reports that his place was entered last night and robbed of $20 worth of merchandise.

Charles Washington, a colored boy 16 years of age, was discovered this morning in the store of H. S. Waple, at the corner of Eleventh and D streets, by Officer Donovan.

The boy got out of the store and ran up the Avenue pursued by the policeman. He ran into the arms of Officer Galway before he had gone far, however, and was locked up at the First precinct station.

A thief entered the house of Rufus Printz yesterday and stole a pair of trousers and a pair of shoes.

Walter F. Reehey of 113 Pennsylvania avenue, wants the police to find the man who took a suit of clothes and a razor from his rooms.

G. D. Petters reports that his store was entered some time during the last twenty-four hours by the breaking of the window glass and forty-three pounds of tobacco stolen.

Thomas Kenney, 2000 N street, wants to know who took a set of harness from his stable on Saturday evening.

A tigress in the Nagpur district has a fondness for the employes of the Bengal-Nagpur Railway, frequents a tract of country only about nine square miles in area and is possessed of extraordinary cunning and sagacity. This year up to June she had killed seven people, besides wounding others. She lives in a rocky and precipitous spur, in which there is heavy bamboo and other jungle. Several springs of water rise at the foot of the scarps, and there is a cave which shows many signs of being used by her and her family. A big stone just outside of the entrance is scored deep and long with many scratches of their claws. In February last, in broad daylight, she carried off one of a gang of permanent-way men from under the eyes of his companions. She has been shot at many times and her cubs killed, but she has got off scratchless. Sometimes the man-eater traverses very long distances.

Highest of all in Leavening Power.—Latest U. S. Gov't Report.

Royal Baking Powder

ABSOLUTELY PURE

IMPORTANT APPOINTMENTS.

The President to Make a Distribution of Patronage.

President Harrison has many important appointments to make upon his return home, says the Baltimore *American*. He announced on his tour that one of his first acts on his return would be the appointment of the five judges of the new land court. There are many applicants for these offices, but beyond the expectation that Judge Asa B. French of Massachusetts will be chief judge of the court nothing is known.

Then there will be the commissioners of immigration to appoint, for which ex-Congressman Owens seems to be slated by general consent.

No less important an appointment will arise about the 20th of the month, when Judge Glover M. Scofield of the Court of Claims will retire under the age limit. He has already left the city, and is not expected to return. For this office there is at present but one candidate, Judge Gilberson of Pennsylvania, at present Second Comptroller of the Treasury. Mr. Gilberson will have Mr. Quay's support for the position. Mr. McComas of Maryland, while not a candidate, has been very prominently named for the position ever since it became known in March last that Judge Scofield would retire.

BYNUM ON GORMAN.

The Indiana Statesman Makes Some Complimentary Remarks.

Tap a Democratic statesman, no matter from where he hails and he will tell you that Arthur P. Gorman is either his first or second choice for President.

In a little chat with a CRITIC-RECORD reporter this afternoon Congressman William D. Bynum of Indiana said:

"Gorman is growing stronger and stronger every day. The people who used to regard the Maryland Senator as a machine politician, lacking the elements of statesmanship, are changing their minds, as they have a right to do. They are rapidly learning his true character which is that of a broad gauged, able man.

"Gorman, in my opinion, will cut a big figure in the next National Convention. Indeed, it would not surprise me if he should walk off with the nomination. He would sweep the country like a whirlwind.

"He is as strong in New York as he is in Maryland. He would carry Indiana against Harrison with ease."

Mr. Bynum said some very pleasant things about Cleveland, Hill and other Democratic statesmen, but he said he could only believe that the coming man was Arthur Pue Gorman.

THE CAPER OF MERCURY.

The Rapid Transit of a Great Planet Across the Disc of the Sun.

The lovers of astronomical science witnessed a rare and beautiful phenomenon last Saturday evening when the sun was a degree or two above the Virginia hills across the Potomac. The phenomenon in question was the transit of the planet Mercury across the disc of the sun.

The whole force of the National Observatory was on the qui vive, and several telescopes were mounted in the grounds to allow a more exact view. The big telescope in the "round house" could not be brought to bear on the sun owing to the fact that Old Sol was so near down under the horizon. Captain McNair, superintendent of the station, was ably assisted by Professors William Harkness, John R. Eastman, Edgar Frisbie and Assistant Astronomers Hall and Paul, and reliable observations were obtained.

While the transit of a planet across the sun often passes unnoticed by the masses, yet it is a most important event to the practical astronomer, for it is by this medium that these scientific men are able to determine the sun's distance from the earth. As this distance is the astronomical unit of measurement in terms of which all other distances are expressed, it can be seen how important it is to determine it with accuracy.

The physical constitution of the planet Mercury is not very well understood owing to the difficulty of observing it so near the sun. It is about one-nineteenth as large as the earth, but its density is one-fifth greater.

CRIMINAL COURT.

Edward McClelland's Trial.

Edward McClelland, indicted for causing the death of John H. Benton January 20, 1890, appeared this morning, and, through his counsel, Mr. Maurice Smith, asked for a postponement of the case, on account of ill-health. Judge Bradley held that the defendant appeared able to stand trial and directed that proceedings be commenced.

The panel sworn to try the case is composed of Patrick Mahan, Lewis Horton, O. B. Butler, J. Y. Rusk, Samuel Barnes, John J. Mohler, W. D. Barber, J. O. Viehmeyer, L. A. Littlefield, Thomas W. Wood, R. F. Luki, F. S. Vaux. The taking of testimony was then begun.

Charged With Embezzlement.

Alonzo Thomas, a messenger of the United States Express Company, running between Chicago and Grafton, W. Va., was arrested in Baltimore Saturday afternoon by Detective Carter and Marshal Middleman on a bench warrant issued by the grand jury of this city charging Thomas with stealing $1,700 in mutilated currency sent by the National Bank of Grand Rapids, Mich., to the Treasury Department for redemption. Colonel Byrne, a director of the express company, traced the missing package to Thomas, who was the last man to handle it. After his arrest Thomas, in default of bonds, was sent to jail. His house was thoroughly searched for the money abstracted, but no trace of the notes could be found.

Mrs. Burton Harrison sailed for Europe on Wednesday of last week, taking with her her youngest son. She will remain abroad the greater part of the summer. She is engaged on a new novel.

Very Important

The importance of taking a good Spring Medicine cannot be overestimated. The changing weather affects the human system in such a way that it is now in great need of and especially susceptible to the benefit to be derived from a reliable preparation like Hood's Sarsaparilla. To make your blood pure, give you a good appetite and make you strong, this spring you should take Hood's Sarsaparilla, the best

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GENERAL DE NEGRIER'S DUEL.

A Chattering Theatre Party Almost the Cause of a Brilliant Officer's Death.

Correspondence of the New York World.

PARIS, April 28.—A few days ago an incident which seemed of little importance occurred during a performance at the Theatre Francais. Two ladies and a small, dark gentleman were seated in a box. The ladies talked with animation, just as if they had been in their own drawing-room. Of course the people who had come to the theatre for the sake of listening to the play, but not to the conversation of ladies, found it unbearable. A gentleman and his wife who sat near the box in which the chattering was going on were particularly annoyed.

There came a moment when the nuisance grew so aggravating that the gentleman made a gesture of impatience and told his wife in a tone loud enough to be heard: "When people want to talk they might as well stay at home and not bore the public in the theatre." The gentleman in the box bent forward and asked the other gentleman to come out with him and give him a few words of explanation. Both got up, went out together in the passage and exchanged their cards. On the card belonging to the gentleman in the box was printed the following name: "General de Negrier." On the other card, "Gaston Legrand." The day after both opponents met in a garden at Neuilly, just outside of Paris. This garden surrounded the residence of M. Gaston Legrand.

General de Negrier's seconds were General Rothwiller and a retired officer. M. Gaston Legrand's were M. de Chabrol, a Councillor of State, and Dr. Devillers. The weapon chosen by the General (he being the offended party) was the sword. The adversaries were worthy of each other. General de Negrier is very energetic and very lithe in body; he practices all sorts of exercises for six or eight hours every day, fencing especially, while M. Gaston Legrand has the name of a first-rate swordsman in the world of fencing.

No sooner had the second appointed as the ruler of the duel spoken the traditional words, "*Allez, messieurs,*" than the General began the combat with as much fury and spirit as if he had been engaged in a match at the fencing school with mask, plastron and blunted sword. Legrand's retort was worthy of the masterly attack. Under such conditions the combat could not be long.

At one time General de Negrier, who aimed at no less than striking his opponent full in the body, thought he had hit upon the right point; he lunged. Legrand parried and thrust, while his sword touched the General full in the chest. At the same moment General de Negrier struck back with a "remise" and pierced his adversary's cheek. Legrand's sword had met one of the General's ribs, and had been bent in the blow. Had it deviated the width of a centimetre the General would have been run through and through and France would have lost one of her best generals.

General de Negrier is the youngest French general in command of an army corps.

GENERAL SPINOLA'S SUCCESSOR.

Colonel Brown Declining, the Office Will Probably Go to Mr. Quinn.

The election of a successor to the late Congressman Spinola is just now exciting considerable attention in New York City. It is well understood that State Senator and Editor William L. Brown can have the office for the asking, but his friends say he will not accept. The contest will probably narrow down to ex-Congressman Quinn and General McMahon, with the chances in favor of the former. Mr. Quinn was a very useful legislator, especially so for his State and city.

Sergeant Wall Sued.

John Shusher to-day entered suit against Edward J. Wall through his attorney, Crandall Mackey. He stated that Wall, who is a sergeant on the Metropolitan police force, did, on the 24 day of May, assault and cruelly beat him until he broke his nose and injured his left eye, and also bruised and cut him on various parts of the body. He alleges that at the time the assault was committed he was lying on the floor of the hallway in his own home, attended by his son, David Slusher, and son-in-law, Adolph Muider, while suffering with an epilectic fit. The plaintiff asks for damages in the sum of $5,000.

The Elks to Go South.

At a meeting held at Elks' Hall last night the organization decided to attend the annual reunion at Louisville on Tuesday, May 19. About thirty-five members of the lodge will attend. They will be joined here by the lodges from Boston, Philadelphia, Brooklyn, Bridgeport, Hartford, Providence and Trenton, and proceed by a special train, over the Chesapeake and Ohio Road, to Louisville. As they pass through Virginia they will be met at Clifton Forge by the lodges from Richmond, Norfolk and Roanoke, who will join them. The Louisville lodge has made extensive preparations for entertaining the visitors. The special train will leave this city at 11:15 a. m. next Sunday.

ALEXANDRIA.

The ferryboats brought crowds down from Washington yesterday, and the excursion boats were well patronized, while small boats dotted the river, creek, and coves all day long. It was an outing day.

In the afternoon the late Henry Croxen was buried. The funeral took place from St. Mary's Church, attended by the Friendship Fire Company in a body and representatives of the other companies. The Friendship Company turned out in full regulation uniform, headed by the drum corps. The casket was placed upon the reel boxes and draped and drawn by forty men, the pallbearers flanking it. The priest read mass for the repose of the soul and the interment was in the Catholic Cemetery.

It is understood that the old First Presbyterian Church will be open regularly this summer with young Mr. Griffbotzer of this city, a student at Hampden Sidney, assisting Mr. Vance. Alexandria surely ought to be able to support two Presbyterian churches. It did it successfully for fifty years. The old church is down town.

An Old Folks' concert will be given at St. Paul's lecture-room this evening.

Lee Camp, Confederate Veterans, have been invited to take part in the observation of Decoration Day at Fredericksburg, also at Norfolk, and to attend the Johnston memorial services at the Mt. Vern