THE DAILY CRITIC

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WASHINGTON, D. C., DEC. 9, 1890.

IS THERE NO ONE in all this hallaballoo over the pension business to say one word for the agents? The country has grown alarmed at the magnitude of the pension appropriation, as well it may; but isn't it a little unfair to blame the agents on that account? They didn't pass the bills and they are not responsible for their passage. Neither does their existence and their industry add a cent to the appropriation. Yet, to read the ebullitions of the esteemed *New York Herald*, an unsuspecting person might be led to suppose that the pension agents had done it all and that their suppression would prevent a deficit in the national finances. There is a vast amount of nonsense about all this talk. If we really want to pay the money out to those who are entitled to pensions, the agents are the surest and most expeditious means through which we can achieve that end. It is the most transparent nonsense to say that the pensioners will get their dues just as soon and just as certainly without the help of an agent. There are thousands of instances which show that this is the wildest absurdity. We venture to say that every agent in Washington can produce a cartload of testimony from his clients to the contrary. We go further; we make the assertion that the United States Government has never been known to look up a creditor or to make a single overture toward paying even the most sacred of its debts. We assert that out of every hundred pensioners entitled to an increase or to any additional stipend, ninety would die of old age without hearing of it if they had to depend on the Government's notifying them. And, finally, we make bold to say that, whatever may be the motive, the effect of destroying the pension agents' business will be to deprive the pensioners of milk.

MR. HOAR WANTS a vote on the Elections bill, but the lot of mice is disappointment.

WHATEVER MAY BE the merits of the various subsidy bills now before Congress, and having for their object the resurrection of our merchant marine, we think Mr. BLAINE's plan the only one that will give anything like permanent relief. The moment we establish a healthy commerce with the markets of the world the shipping needed to transact that commerce will follow as a mathematical consequence. We may appropriate money to secure certain adventurous ship-owners and thereby prop up some very deserving industries, but we shall create no commerce except through the medium of intelligent commercial relations with foreign countries. What we want much more than bonuses to empty vessels is legislation that will make markets for our meat and breadstuffs and other products. Mr. BLAINE has given us the controversy in a nutshell.

THE ALLIANCE PEOPLE down at Ocala appear to be having as much fun with their convention as either of the old parties could.

MR. ROUTKOWSKY, the technical attache of the Russian legation here, is having an opulent time on his visit to Louisiana. The *Times-Democrat* of the 6th contains the report of an excursion to the Teche country tendered Mr. ROUTKOWSKY by State Senators CAMPBELL and GOLDTHWAITE, Mr. WILLIAM MERLE, Mr. GEORGE SCHRIEVER and the Baron NATHI. The party went in President HUTCHINSON's private car, over the Southern Pacific Railway and on the trip, which takes about four hours, Mr. ROUTKOWSKY must have imbibed a great deal of valuable and curious scientific information at the hands of such savants as Senator CAMPBELL and Mr. MERLE. The party visited two of the most luxuriously equipped country homes in Louisiana and looked into the manufacture of SHINE in what is perhaps the most productive plantation in the State—that of Mr. J. W. FARRATT, formerly of Springfield, Ohio. Mr. BARNETT showed Mr. ROUTKOWSKY where they were cutting as high as forty tons of sugar cane from the single acre, and then, by reference to his saccharometer and other instruments ascertained that this cane was yielding an average of 176 pounds of sugar to the ton. From all of which it appears that a carpet-bagger Yankee has invaded the fastest region of the intolerant South, and is insulting her proud and haughty people by making nearly 7,000 pounds of sugar to the acre. Mr. ROUTKOWSKY, however, is in good hands, and, provided it be possible to collect scientific knowledge under unusually luxurious circumstances, he ought to return fairly gorged with points.

IT IS SAID THE Indian war may be transferred to Washington. If it should be it will give the cigar store Indian a chance.

THE PROPOSITION by Senator HOAR to take a vote on the Force bill next Friday was received by the Democratic Senators in the same spirit that the men of Jericho heard of Joshua's proposition to storm the city by blowing trumpets of ram's horns under the walls. The Republicans seem to rely upon a change of the rules of the Senate to enable them to force a vote. But the rules of the Senate can only be changed by passing a resolution. It will be just as difficult to pass that resolution as it will be to pass the bill itself. Under the present rules of the Senate, there are four motions always in order, and the roll-call can be demanded on these alternately until the crack of doom. It will then become a mere matter of physical endurance, and, since "local option" has prevailed on the Senate side, endurance does not endure as long as it used to. The only way in which a vote on the Force bill can possibly be reached is for the Presiding Officer to evidently refuse to recognize a Democratic Senator when he makes his motion. In a quiet body like the Senate that proceeding is more difficult than in the House.

It is not believed that either Vice-President MORTON or Senator INGALLS would sacrifice his well earned character for fairness by lending himself to such a performance.

We shall see.

THE NEW YORK failures in hops have no reference to election bets.

THAT SNEEZY AND playful young thing, the *Post*, says in its morning's issue that "Hon. J. H. WALKER of Massachusetts and Hon. SAMUEL DINEEN of South Carolina have run over to New York for short stays." But we should like to know why. Messrs. WALKER and DINEEN couldn't get all the short stays they wanted right here in Washington. Our leading merchants carry just as large and complete stocks in this line as any New York dealers do, and they sell just as cheap.

PERSONAL.

Mr. and Mrs. Kendal's engagement, which closed on Saturday night, resulted in gross receipts of over $80,000 for their eight weeks' engagement in New York.

Mrs. Butler (Fanny Kemble) is living with her daughter, Mrs. Leigh, in Surrey, England. She is quite feeble, having completed her 81st year last month.

The music room in Chief Justice Fuller's Washington home is to be decorated by Mrs. Ida J. Bergen, who it is said is the first American woman employed on mural adornment.

Patrick Calhoun, whom Governor Gordon recently defeated in the contest for a seat in the United States Senate, has a good portion of the ability that made his grandfather famous in the early days of Congress. In his youth young Calhoun was shy and diffident and somewhat of a recluse, but, after he blossomed out as a lawyer, he began to show aptitude for society. Of late years he has become quite wealthy from investments in real estate and railroads.

Mrs. Harrison has joined but two of the various societies that have solicited her co-operation. Her alliance with these two consists of the honorary president of the Johns Hopkins Society, and of a membership in the Daughters of the Revolution. For eligibility to the latter you must have had an ancestor who took part in the war of the Revolution. Mrs. Harrison's great-grandfather was a commander of Militia in Pennsylvania. The society is formed for the purpose of raising funds to mark the places of the Revolutionary war and to revive history, and also to restore some of the historical places. The first thing the society intends to do is to restore the Mary Washington tomb.

Mr. Frederic Remington, the artist, has gone to the Fork with General Miles to be ready for the settlement of the Indian trouble either with powder or peaceful means. The artistic is a gentle profession, but war lends itself especially to pictures, and there are many artists who are ready at a moment's notice to go to the ends of the earth to see a war.

The Comtesse de Mirandà (Christine Nilsson) is still in Paris, where she has been laid up owing to an accident which happened to her as she was getting into a railway carriage at the Gare de Lyon, some weeks ago to start for Switzerland.

William Walter Phelps, the United States Minister to Germany, has been spending a brief vacation at his home and has sailed for his post of duty on the North German Lloyd steamer Werra.

HOTEL ARRIVALS.

Metropolitan—Dr. E. H. Bartlett, Oakland, Md.; W. F. Eyster, Chambersburg, Pa.; S. Towson Augustus Freeund, New York; Benjamin S. Ewell, Williamsburg, Va.; S. Alling, Brooklyn, N. Y.

National—Preston Kenyon and M. Laufer, New York; J. N. Casanova, Pennsylvania; George F. Bird, Liberty, Mo.; C. F. Tuner, Philippi, W. Va.

St. James—Thomas Wentberg and L. C. Kerr, New York; J. A. Chambers, Detroit, Mich.; John E. Hagerty, jr., St. Louis, Mo.; John M. Yarnhill, Monmouth, Ill.; A. C. Thomas, Fredericksburg, Va.; J. W. Snelling, Danville, Va.

Willard's—H. S. Dassie and John A. Powell, California, Pa.; Don Palmer and wife, St. Louis; M. M. Cochran and son, Uniontown, Pa.; S. M. Cooper, Cincinnati; D. B. Rutan, Newark, N. J.; P. Coltrane, Scotland Neck, N. C.; Hon. J. S. Reilly, Pennsylvania; D. V. Bieger, Kansas City, Mo.; C. M. Magee and wife, Easton, Pa.

Ebbitt—J. M. Moore, Little Rock, Ark.; J. D. Rosenberg, Washington, Ark.; E. A. Packard, Brooklyn; Miss Magruder, New York.

Wolcott's—E. N. Whitehouse, New York; E. E. Keller, Chicago; Mr. and Mrs. R. W. Gifford, New York.

Riggs's—A. H. Hibbard and C. E. Russell, New York.

Shoreham—Dudley Vinton and wife, New York; Dr. E. Bowlby, Baltimore; Mr. and Mrs. Stobbell, England; A. C. Edwards, India.

Arlington—Gilbert Ferrar and Thomas Jenning, New Orleans; E. Bettinger and daughter, New York; Cephas Taylor, Pittsburg; Sir Thomas Herbert, England; John P. Wilson, Chicago.

Normandie—W. W. Temple and W. J. Curtis, New York; James Martin, Philadelphia.

Ebbitt—V. B. Gibson, Virginia; George W. Atherton, State College, Pa.; M. W. Belger, Mishawaka, Ind.; T. M. Miller, Mississippi; W. P. Stone, C. S. A.; Thomas Settle, North Carolina; J. E. Siggeb, St. Louis; William Allen and G. G. Halliday, New York.

Hotel Johnson—E. R. Fletcher and wife, St. Albans, Vt.; C. B. Stevenson and wife, Chicago; E. V. Scullett, San Francisco; W. C. Black, Trenton, N. J.; A. S. Reinhart, Baltimore.

Owens House—J. C. Miller, Baltimore; R. A. Nesmith, New York; R. S. Wilson, Illinois; S. A. Simpson, Chester Pa.; D. W. Rupert, New York; John T. Hanson, Westernport, Md.; L. de Barth Gardner, Baltimore, Md.

Supporting the Administration.

From the Chicago News.

Three of the few remaining Republican papers of prominence which still advocate the McKinley law are the New York *Tribune*, the New York *Press* and the Indianapolis *Journal*. Mr. Reid, editor of the *Tribune*, is Minister to France; Mr. Potter, editor of the *Press* is at the head of the Census Bureau; Mr. J. C. New of the *Journal* is the United States Consul in London. Could these men be expected to do other than support the Administration? And could there be a more effective argument against this method of gagging the press, the instrument of the masses?

Tea Lessons in Shorthand.

THE CRITIC'S tea lessons in shorthand will fit you to write the words of the fastest speaker.

IN THE SWIM.

The question has been warmly discussed in some of the West End drawing rooms as to what element will rule Washington society—the old residents, the politicians and, last, the diplomatic officials—for wealthy and well-good people who have built town houses and come during the season. In other capital society is so composed that it is necessary that not the particular element dominates, although the stamp is given by the minor to the acknowledged great salons of the so-called nobility and gentry. As a rule, in Washington, people take their position in society, according to their rank where they come from, and more long residence, apart from fitness and right, or more military, naval or official position, doesn't necessarily bring with it an equal salon. If the individual is not beyond social criticism. Among the several elements which go to make up society in this capital there are, and always will be, those whose last wedding and multiplied reputations, backed by long-established position and patriotic service, will force them to the front in the world of fashion and society. It is hardly possible, however, that society here will ever be reduced to the alternative of submitting to being directed by any one self-constituted arbiter elegantiarum as is the painful case in New York. There is too much individuality and too strong a sense of personality to submit to being rated by the head of any social firm after the manner of a mercantile agency.

***

Over the nuts and wine.—"What's the matter, Algie, old man? You look rattled."

Algie—Don't mention it, but my collar-button has gone on a raid down my back.

***

At the President's reception, English tourist to his wife—There is that impertinent minx, your maid Prettle, here, my dear.

"Yes, dear, and with one of my gowns on!"

***

Hon. J. W. Foster, ex-Minister to Russia, Spain and Mexico, is spending a few days in New York, accompanied by Mrs. Foster, so our house is the favorite resort on Mondays of the most agreeable members of the Diplomatic Corps, as well as the most sought after in general society.

***

Mrs. Senator Hearst has shown a very refined and cultivated taste in the arrangements and decoration of her beautiful new mansion. There is an entire absence of the usual overwhelming lot of *bric-a-brac*, but what there is is so very rare and priceless. The trail of the decorating fond is not visible. The house is at once homelike and a marvel of elegant simplicity.

***

The marriage at an early day of Lieutenant Lemley of the Navy removes from the list of bachelors a familiar figure and leaves a vacancy in the number of those who were always welcomed as good, "all around" society men.

***

Mr. Read, who married a daughter of the late Senator Yulee of Florida, and formerly resided here, is now living in Richmond, Va. Mr. Read often runs up to Washington, where his reputation as a talented architect is only equaled by his fame as an amateur singer and social qualities of the highest kind.

***

Society will be astonished and delighted with the extraordinary and wonderfully artistic skill of Miss Mabel Hunt as a performer on the violin. Miss Hunt has been highly educated abroad and achieved a great art triumph in Berlin society, where the standard of excellence is exceedingly high, and to be listened to at all is a great compliment.

***

Lieutenants Mason and Buckingham of the Navy, having covered themselves with glory in doing the official honors to the Brazilians, are now resting on their laurels and refreshing themselves after their labors by an occasional plunge into the surf of society.

***

Two of the most attractive houses of the Senators' wives this winter will be those of Senator Butler and Senator Call. Mrs. Call and the Misses Butler are extremely popular, and their receptions will be always attended by those who know where to go to find the brains and beauty of the throng.

***

Mr. and Mrs. Outerbridge Horsey, No. 1313 New Hampshire avenue, have not yet selected a day upon which to receive, and probably will not until after the holidays. Miss Horsey is visiting friends in New York.

***

Mrs. John Nicholas Norton and Miss Norton, No. 1722 H street, receive on Saturdays, that being the day generally chosen by the residents of H street.

***

Mrs. Cammack and Miss Cammack, No. 1306 Nineteenth street, receive on Saturdays.

***

Mrs. Roosevelt has selected Saturday to receive her friends, at No. 2820 Jefferson Place.

RIGOLETTOS.

The front stares of a clubhouse are generally to be found at the windows.—*Boston Commercial.*

Pretty girls do not usually make the best wives, but they make the best dancers.—*Somerville Journal.*

"We have sent our pastor his resignation," remarked a prominent officer of a church recently. Quite a neat and suggestive way of putting it.

When a Georgia editor decides to say a bonnetsome thing, he says it very thoroughly. The other day an editor in that State wrote the following paragraph about a local young lady who had just finished a crazy quilt: "Miss Marietta Armstrong is one of those rich, rare ripe beauties in face, form, mind and soul that by their virtues, powers and worth pave to the South a race of heroes that has never been approached in manly manhood by any land or any clime."—*New York Tribune.*

Skinner is certainly the meanest man extant. He has a trick of leaving the door open when he enters a crowded car of a cold winter morning. The passengers growl and look daggers at Skinner, but Skinner doesn't mind it. Presently one of the passengers gets up to go and close the door and Skinner drops into the vacant seat. In his line Skinner is a genius.—*Boston Transcript.*

Rector's Wife—You ought to avoid even the appearance of evil. Do you yourself think the girls who dance are right?

Belle of the Parish—They must be. I know the girls who don't dance are always off.—*Life.*

"This is the autograph of Poe, the writer."

"What is that piece of cast iron over there with the dent in it?"

"That is a section of a boiler that was kicked in for me by Poe, the football player."—*N. Y. Sun.*

"How did Joseph come to be a great ruler in the land?" asked the superintendent.

"Please, sir," said the boy, "because he wore a coat of many colors."—*N. Y. Sun.*

Ethel—What do you suppose man fed in me to nourish? Do you think it is my cerebrum?

Maud—I guess they are better pleased with your tongue.—*N. Y. Herald.*

He—I love you as I love my life.

She—Then you don't love me much, for you are constantly risking your life by leaving here where papa might find you.—*N. Y. Herald.*

A strikingly charming young damsel named Belle
Was gallantly wooed by a gay, heavy swellie.
When her ringing refused
She was billed as a hatred,
But her leg was most bled, for the stag
had to kellie.—*N. Y. Herald.*

It is at once a vastly humorous circumstance and an unpleasant omen that for first night between the Nationalist majority and the Parnellite minority should be appointed at Kilkenny. Of course, there must be some fun in the contest, or a leading trait of the Irish character must be disregarded, and it is the contention that John Dillon fled at Kilkenny do not match so did the Irish celebrities of that place, then most of the traditions of Irish politics will have been violated.—*New York Times.*

AMUSEMENTS.

Shenandoah at the National.

Mr. Bronson Howard easily stands in the front rank, if not indeed in the first place, among American dramatists. From his "Saratoga" to his "Shenandoah," the output of his literary workshop has been characterized by a skill of construction, a sense of dramatic effect, a felicity of portraiture, and, above all, an exceptional gress and lightness of touch in the dialogue, peculiarly his own. Working hitherto mainly in the line of the society drama, he has now recognized the fact that, after a quarter of a century, the proper perspective has at last been attained for the projection on the theatrical canvas of the drama of the late war. The great success of Mr. Gillette's "Held by the Enemy," hitherto the best, as well as of many inferior productions of this class, convinced Mr. Howard that "the (war) play was the thing" with which to catch the dramatic conscience of the public, and "Shenandoah" is the gratifying result.

A large audience, one of the largest of the season, was at the National last night to witness the much-talked-of and advertised theatrical success. The first act drags somewhat interminably through an unusually dreary labyrinth of explanation and preliminary, but is redeemed by a cleverly painted colonial interior with a glimpse of Charleston Harbor for background. The scene of the next two acts, Three Top Mountain, with the Shenandoah winding at its foot, was greeted with applause at the rising of the curtain, and as the stirring music of the military bands and the old time war songs of the marching regiments were heard from behind the scenes, as the well remembered uniforms, faded by sun and storm, stained, splashed and tattered, the bronzed faces of the men, the ragged battle flags, the litters with the wounded, the dead and the dying deployed upon the stage, the realism of it all became more and more intense, till the climax of Sheridan's dash upon the field of Cedar Creek roused the house to such a pitch of enthusiasm as is rately seen in a Washington theatre.

It was all very well done—so well, in fact, that one almost ceased to think of it as a play at all, and quite lost sight of the individual players. It is so little advantage in a play of this sort that the cast is of such even, if inconspicuous, merit that the illusion of the scene suffers no impairment by the usual disparities of talent.

Mr. Francis Carlyle as *Colonel Kerchival West*, though a trifle stagey at times, was a fairly satisfactory exponent of what was doubtless intended to be the central heroic figure of the play, and Miss Nellie Guion gave a very spirited and vigorous portrayal of the imperious and fiery little Southern beauty, his sweetheart. It was in some of the less prominent roles however, that a delightful naturalness and directness of treatment most admirably relieved out the realistic end, aim and prevailing tone of the drama. Nothing could well have been more lively, spontaneous and possibly more than the *Major General Buckthorn* of Mr. Harry Harwood, the *Captain Hawtrey* of Mr. Lohman, the funny Irish sergeant of Mr. Burrows, and above all the *Jessie Buckthorn* of Miss Nannette Comstock, a charming little lady whose breezy fascination of presence and manner are as indescribable as irresistible.

What with the demonstrations in force of the Columbia Athletic Club, the Mystic Shrine, the Elks and other organizations innumerable in honor of their favorite plays or actors, Washington will soon come to have a national reputation for such theatrical welcomes *en masse*. Last night the entire front of the orchestra was a gorgeous flower bed of blue and yellow, due to the presence of the handsome cavalrymen of Troop A of the District National Guard and buttons and shoulder straps were rife and resplendent throughout the house.

"Shenandoah" will continue to run through the week.

"The Henrietta" at Albaugh's.

There is no more amusing personality on the boards of to-day than that of Stuart Robson. When that tolerably persistent personality has been exactly fitted with a part like that of the guileless *Bertie* in "The Henrietta," the humorous result cannot long remain in doubt.

The play is one of the very funniest, in extraneous absurdity and complication of situation, in the snap and sparkle of its talk, and the limitless dash and "go" of its movement, which has enlivened the American stage in many years. Now, in its third season it is as bright and amusing as ever, and the audiences which crowd to see it show no sign either of diminution or fatigue. The funny squeak and lisp and grimace of Mr. Robson are, if anything, funnier than ever in the dire dilemma which beset "The Lamb" among the ravenous wolves of Wall street. His attitudes are as marvellous, his talent as wholly marvelous and miraculous.

The admirable company includes many of the familiar names and faces which contributed to make the play the phenomenal success we found it on our first introduction to its diverting surprises. If any one could acceptably succeed Mr. Crane as old *Nick in the Woods* is that sterling actor Mr. George S. Woodward, who, with his accomplished wife, Eugenia Dickinson, are always most welcome figures before Washington footlights. Miss May Waldron was statuesquely charming as ever in the role of the fascinating widow, and Mr. Ratcliffe, Mr. Easton and the support in general so well cast in their respective assignments that "The Henrietta" runs start to finish moves with all the speed and smoothness of one of its numerous aliases.

The play will be continued at night and matinee until Saturday evening when "She Stoops to Conquer," with Mr. Robson in his inimitable impersonation of *Tony Lumpkin*, will be presented.

"One of the Finest" at Harris'.

A breezy whirl of hilarity swept down upon Harris' Bijou Theatre last night when the comedy drama, "One of the Finest," was presented by Elward Hasson's company. The play is one of the most popular task dramas on the stage and is full of dramatic climaxes and ludicrous scenes. The role of *John Mulder*, the Dutch policeman, is portrayed by Edwin M. Ryan in a perfectly irresistible manner. The versatile genius, Daniel J. Hart, amused the audience with a clever exhibition of his musical talents in the part of *Mort Devine*. The heavy villain was delineated by Harry S. Duffield in a powerful manner and he filled all the requirements of his part very able. Miss Flora McAllister, as *Ruth Hackman*, exhibited great emotional powers, and Miss Emma Hasson, who is a pretty and vivacious young actress, was particularly well received. Miss Martha Gray-Hasson gave an interesting personaline of metropolitan life as *Dick Rice*, the news boy.

The scenery of the play is magnificent, and is placed on the stage with a special attention to every detail. The Fall River dock in New York is represented in a most vivid manner, but owing to a miscarriage of the scenery the swimming races between the wharf rats had to be abandoned last evening.

"One of the Finest" has undergone many improving alterations since last seen here, and will doubtless prove one of the most popular attractions of the season.

Vaudeville at Kernan's.

It was a large crowd which filled Kernan's Theatre last evening to witness the initial performance of H. W. Williams' Specialty Company which will hold the boards at that house throughout the week. Mr. Williams has gathered together a number of first class variety artists and as a result the performance last night was a most enjoyable one. Among the artists who contributed to its success were J. and Hoyne Dyines, Mathew, a clever juggler, Dagmar, a pretty Dane whose singing scored a hit; Napier and Mazzello, Billy Carter, the Coleman sisters, George E. Austin, one of the finest sleek wire artists ever seen here; Meeson, who excels as a concertina soloist; Larry and Lizzie Smith, Van Goffre, Pallas and Cusick, and J. W. Kelly. The entertainment was concluded with a catchy acrobatic comedy by the three Byrne Bros. entitled "A carriage ride and its mishaps." The same company every night this week. Matinees to-day, Thursday and Saturday.

LOST IN A MINE.

Terrible Experience of a Little Pittston Lad.

PITTSTON, Dec. 9.—Little Tommy Gately, a Pittston lad, who for years has been employed in the coal mines, has given up his position as door boy in Shaft No. 5 of the Pennsylvania Coal Company and declares that he will never again enter a coal mine.

This determination was arrived at owing to a rather unusual experience which the lad underwent a few days ago. He had finished his work, and, with a number of door boy companions, had boarded a trip of cars to go to the foot of the shaft, whence he would be hoisted to the surface. When he had ridden some little distance he remembered that he had left his dinner can behind and at once started back alone through the dark passages to get it. He had not proceeded far when a draught extinguished his light and he was left in darkness. There was no one near and the situation was a desperate one for the unfortunate lad, who knew not which way to turn for aid.

After thinking over his case for some little time he determined to try and feel his way out to the mouth of the mine along the car rails. But, unfortunately, instead of going in the right direction, he wandered miles further into the workings until, exhausted and frightened, he sank down and sleep came to his relief.

Meanwhile the little fellow's absence had been noted at home, and a party of men started in search of him. At 10 o'clock the next day they came across the lad in the old workings and restored him to his folks but little the worse for his novel adventure.

DEATH MET IN A LOVERS' STROLL.

Mr. Muldowney Killed and Mrs. Elliott Mangled on the Railroad.

MINERSVILLE, PA., Dec. 9.—Edward Muldowney, for two years past a widower, has recently been paying his addresses to the widow of Patrick Elliott, who resides at Greensburg, near here, and on Saturday evening the couple were strolling along the west bound tracks of the Mine Hill Division of the Reading road, watching a train going up the opposite road. A train was approaching them on the down track, but it was unnoticed by them. They were struck by the tender of the engine, and Muldowney's body was doubled under the heavy locomotive and rolled along the roadbed for some distance.

Mrs. Elliott was hurled from the track with terrible force, her upper jaw badly fractured and several of her ribs broken. Her upper lip was almost torn away, and her teeth were knocked out. She staggered to her feet in a bewildered state and dragged herself to the house of Thomas Evans, three or four hundred yards up the railroad. She could only tell an incoherent story, and Mr. Evans and some friends started out to clear up the seeming mystery. The blood spots on the snow quickly led them to the place where Muldowney's body lay, when the horrible accident was explained.

STOPPED ON THE BRINK.

Miraculous Escape of Passengers from a Frightful Death.

PHILADELPHIA, Dec. 9.—The 7:40 train last night for Bethlehem, on the Reading Railroad, was thrown from the track just after leaving Green Mount and ran about 100 feet over the ties, stopping at the very brink of the trestle over Wingohocking Creek, fifty feet high. None of the passengers were injured. A switch had been tampered with and this caused the derailment.

Idaho's First Legislature.

BOISE, IDAHO, Dec. 9.—Yesterday the first Legislature of Idaho convened. H. Z. Burkhart, ex-clerk, read the proclamation convening the special Legislature. The thirty-six representatives were then sworn in. Permanent Speaker Frank A. Tenn then took the oath of office, it being administered by Judge Morgan. Charles Reed of Ada County was elected clerk.

To Guide the New Legislature.

TOPEKA, KAN., Dec. 9.—The Farmers' Alliance State Committee has instructed the county alliances to take a vote on their choice for United States Senator, such vote to the aggregate to guide the new Legislature in the election of a Senator. This canvass is to be made and reported at headquarters not later than January 1.

Museum of Confederate War Relics.

RICHMOND, VA., Dec. 9.—The Board of Aldermen last night, by a two thirds vote, decided to give the Confederate Memorial Literary Society the use of the Jeff Davis mansion for a museum for war relics. This was the executive mansion of the Confederacy, and was occupied by President Jefferson Davis during his residence in Richmond.

To Harvest the Ice Crop.

AUGUSTA, ME., Dec. 9.—Many of the ice companies on the Kennebec River have begun scraping their ice fields preparatory to cutting their winter crop. The ice is from six to eight inches thick and the fields are in excellent shape. It is estimated there are not over 50,000 or 75,000 tons of old ice on hand.

Poor Collections Lead to Failure.

EVANSVILLE, IND., Dec. 9.—Thomas Scattile & Son, leading foundrymen, failed here yesterday for $100,000, the assets being in excess of that amount. Poor collections and endorsements some years ago are the causes assigned.

Ulsters with broad collars, ulsters with capes, ulsters with hoods, ulsters with fur trimmings at the American clothiers, Kettlewell, Parker & Co., southeast corner Seventh and D streets northwest.

RESORTED TO FORGERY.

A Well-Known Young Business Man Raises Two Drafts.

SAGINAW, MICH., Dec. 9.—It was discovered yesterday that two drafts for $800 drawn by Lewis D. Sanborn had been raised to $8,500 and $4,500, respectively. Subsequently it was discovered that over $3,000 in raised paper was afloat, and that Sanborn's hand had illegally increased its value. Then it was learned that Sanborn had fled from the city late on Saturday night, and his whereabouts are unknown. Previous to going he made an assignment to his mother, and it is reported made a confession to his lawyers.

He is 30 years of age and the son of George C. Sanborn, formerly one of the most prominent business men in this section. At his death Lewis inherited a large amount of money. He finally became engulfed in the machination of connecture, and this led to the commission of the crime now charged to him. His liabilities will exceed $100,000 and his assets are meagre.

SPINNERS STRIKE.

One of Their Co-Laborers Was Discharged and They Quit.

NEW YORK, Dec. 9.—The long anticipated strike in the spinning department of the Clark Thread Mills at Newark and Kearney began at noon yesterday. The immediate cause was the discharge of a spinner by Superintendent Walmsley, whom the men have detested since he was imported and placed in charge more than two years ago. Immediately following the discharge a shop committee called upon Mr. Walmsley and asked that the man be reinstated. Mr. Walmsley told the men if they did not like his action they could put on their coats and leave.

All the spinners in mill 2 then decided to strike, and the word passed to mill 3, where the men followed suit. Mill 1 was also notified and the men there also struck. The strike involves one hundred and twenty spinners and their helpers, in all more than one hundred and fifty persons. The National Spinners' Association of America was at once notified. The Clark Mills employ more than 3,000 persons, but just how many of them this strike will affect cannot be stated now.

ODD DEEDS TO IRWIN'S ESTATE.

Complications That May Leave His Fair Fiancee in the Cold.

MEDIA, PA., Dec. 9.—The Lillian Warren case develops this legal complication: The handsome estate which Inventor John H. Irwin left to her as his fiancee may go to the collateral heirs of Rebecca J. Elder Irwin, his second wife. They have commenced suit for it on the ground that certain fully executed deeds which have turned up among some loose papers since Irwin's death, transferring to Irwin's second wife, in 1885, as a wedding present, the thirty four acres on which are located all his valuable machine shops, are still valid, though Irwin, subsequently to the execution of the deeds, privately drew his pen across the signatures thereto, as if to cancel them.

The issue will be tried at the present term of court before Judge Clayton, and interesting points of law will have to be decided.

"IT'S NOBODY'S BUSINESS."

The Reply a New York Central Superintendent Made About Discharges.

BUFFALO, N. Y., Dec. 9.—The New York Central Railroad yesterday discharged thirty four men, most of them employes at the Ohio street freight house, the reason given being that on account of the close of navigation they were not needed. The reduction in force led to sensational reports that the company had begun a crusade against its employes who are identified with certain labor organizations. Superintendent Burrows said he had no knowledge of any dismissals except at the freight house, but it was possible that the train master had discharged some new men who were members of labor unions. In such an event Superintendent Burrows said that the train master was doing the proper thing and it was nobody's business but that of the company.

THE RAILS SPREAD.

The Train Left the Track, But No One Was Killed.

DENISON, TEX., Dec. 9.—The Missouri, Kansas and Texas express train, which left here at 7 a. m. yesterday, was ditched between stations Ray and Aikine. The mail, express, and baggage cars and two passenger coaches were derailed. The cars turned over on their sides and caught fire, but the flames were soon extinguished. The passengers broke through the windows and escaped. W. Whiteridge of Fort Scott, Kans.; W. D. Heggerson of San Saba County, Express Messenger James Caldwell, Baggage Master W. J. Hanly, and Porter Lee Caldwell were severely but not dangerously injured. The accident was caused by spreading rails.

Parnell Indorsed.

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., Dec. 9.—Fifty of the leading Irishmen in Indianapolis have given their indorsement to an address to the public in defense of Parnell, in which, after ridiculing the shocked morality of Gladstone and the followers of McCarthy, they say:

"The Irish members seem to have been hypnotized. They have completely lost their balance, and in this crisis the only man who really holds to the sensible course is Parnell. He is, in point of fact, the only real leader in the Irish Parliamentary party. His followers are fairly good as rank and file, but as leaders, individually and collectively, they are simply nowhere."

Sale of Thoroughbreds.

LEXINGTON, KY., Dec. 9.—A good attendance of turfmen at the thoroughbred sale of Colonel S. D. Bruce yesterday made bidding lively. Sixty head of animals brought $40,180, an average of $668 per head. The best prices were for the following:

Princess Bowling, to H. P. Headley, Lexington, $3,400; Prince Fonso, to J. F. Twiman, Lexington, $2,800; Balgowan, to J. E. Dougherty, Philadelphia, $5,000; Tete a Tete, to E. Riley, New York, $1,200; Kashaska, to M. Young, Lexington, $1,225; Kate Bowling, to H. P. Headly, $2,750; Long Leaf, to H. B. McClelland, $2,000; Ann Gilchrist, to C. H. Hughes, Louisville, $2,000.

Captured Ghost Dancers.

MASON CITY, IOWA, Dec. 9.—Seventeen Sioux ghost dancers, including one Sioux chief, passed through this city yesterday en route for Fort Snelling, Minn., to which place they were being taken by a detachment of United States troops. They had been captured last Friday while on the way from Pine Ridge Agency to that of Lower Brule.

Started for the Fighting Grounds.

SAN FRANCISCO, Dec. 9.—Jack Dempsey, the pugilist, left here last night for New Orleans, where he will fight Robert Fitzsimmons on January 14.

STEEPLE CHARLIE'S GREAT FALL.

Down From a Tall Spire—He Makes a Lucky Turn.

SOUTH NORWALK, CONN., Dec. 9.—Charles Taylor of Leominster, Mass., widely known as "Steeple Charlie," who has been in this town for three weeks repairing the damages done by lightning to the tall spire of St. Mary's Catholic Church, has met with a mishap that nearly cost him his life. An immense copper cross, fifteen feet high, is to be placed at the top of the spire, and "Steeple Charlie climbed to the lofty height in the morning to make the final preparation for the cross. He was just about to step from his little swing, such as sailors use when scraping a ship's mast, when a rope which supported one end of the seat became loosened and the daring climber dashed downward at the rate of fifteen feet a second.

A crowd of people who had been watching his movements sent up a cry of horror and turned their heads that they might not see him when he struck the ground 200 feet below.

"Steeple Charlie," by a lucky turn in the air as he fell through space, caught hold of one of the ballards suspended from above, and in this way broke the force of his fall as he swung himself on to a narrow shelf over a small diamond shaped window half way down the spire. There he remained until his nerves had become quieted, and then proceeded to his dangerous labors up at the steeple top.

INOCULATED WITH LYMPH.

New Haven Consumptive Patients Treated With Koch's Remedy.

NEW HAVEN, CONN., Dec. 9.—A second supply of the Koch lymph was received in this city yesterday by Professor Russell H. Crittenden. The amount is about equal to that received last week. Another inoculation was made to-day. Professor Crittenden is making very exhaustive experiments, and will prepare a most elaborate treatise upon the use of the lymph upon the New Haven patients. Dr. Foster, who is conducting the inoculations, says that the patients are all doing quite well, but he states that it will be several days yet before the real workings of the lymph will be discerned.

WRATH OF THE CYCLONE.

A Space Several Miles Long Cleared and Three Persons Killed.

ATLANTA, GA., Dec. 9.—Yesterday, near Monroe, Walton County, a cyclone cleared a space several miles long and about 100 yards wide, blowing down houses and killing several people. Jack Henderson and his wife were buried beneath the ruins of their home. Henderson was killed, but his wife was not badly hurt. Their baby was carried 300 yards, and was so badly injured that it died shortly after being found. A family of negroes named Jackson were buried in the ruins of their cabin and two of them were killed. Another house, containing seven negroes, was blown down, but all the occupants escaped unhurt.

GEN. MILES' BOOM.

Clarkson Thinks He Would Make an Excellent Presidential Candidate.

Mr. Clarkson, the able Republican politician and late First Assistant Postmaster General, thinks that Gen. Miles would be a mighty good Republican candidate for the Presidency, and so the Miles boom has spread from the Army to the outside politicians. For, be it known, there has been a Miles boom in the Army for the past three years. Its existence has been often denied, but it is on tap all the same. Gen. Miles is a Presidential candidate and is a very active one at that. In addition to the Army influence he has the Sherman support. Senator Sherman is for him for family reasons. Gen. Sherman is for him, too. It is no mere surmise, either, that the prevalent Indian scare in the Northwest is by no means unconnected with the Miles Presidential boom. Army officers who are not in the Miles hurrah will tell you these things if you ask them.

Scarcity of Natural Gas.

SPRINGFIELD, OHIO, Dec. 9.—A large amount of money has been spent in building natural gas pipe lines to Columbus, Dayton, Springfield, Troy, Sidney, Piqua and other manufacturing centres in Central Ohio. The owners of factories in all these cities have just been notified that the natural gas companies can no longer supply them with gas, and will only fulfill private contracts. It is feared the supply will be inadequate even for private consumers.

Federation of Labor.

DETROIT, MICH., Dec. 9.—The convention of American Federation of Labor, after a lengthy discussion yesterday afternoon, referred the question of admitting Lucien Sanial and his six New York colleagues to a committee of five. Pending the report of this committee, the unseated delegates are given the privileges of the floor.

Country Residence Destroyed.

URBANA, OHIO, Dec. 9.—Lemuel E. Marshall's residence at Addison, which was destroyed by fire Sunday night was the finest country residence in the county, valued at $35,000; insurance, $10,000, divided equally between the Home of New York and the Ohio Farmers'.

Murder and Suicide.

WILMINGTON, OHIO, Dec. 9.—During a quarrel yesterday about a woman, David Hoke, an