

KNIGHTS OF THE KEY

Tournament of Fast Telegraphers at New York.

CONTESTS OF SPEED AND SKILL

The Men Who Manipulate Chained Lightning Show the World What They Can Do—B. R. Pollock Wins the Competition of Cracks—A. S. Ayres the Champion "Old Timer."

NEW YORK, April 11.—The national fast sending tournament which took place yesterday afternoon and evening in Hardman Hall, Fifth avenue and Nineteenth street, was the most interesting event of the kind in the history of telegraphy. The hall was crowded, the audience including not only telegraphers, but a surprisingly large number of people not familiar with the art, but who had been attracted by the novelty of the contest.

Among those competing for the various prizes were the very cream of the telegraphic fraternity, the experts both in speed and excellence of transmission. The hall was fitted up with telegraph wires, batteries and sending and receiving apparatus, and the matter transmitted could be heard all over the room.

Five Minute Contests.—Each contestant was given five minutes in which to send as many words as possible from a printed form. Prizes were awarded both for the highest number of words transmitted and for the perfection with which the Morse characters were made. A prize was also given to the operator making the best copy in receiving the matter as sent.

The afternoon was devoted to the ladies class and the "old timers" class, the latter being open only to those who have been operating for twenty-five years or over. Each contestant had his or her partisans among the auditors and was warmly applauded on taking the platform. A large delegation of newspaper men was present, many of the reporters being old telegraphers themselves, and they declared that the public interest in the affair was something remarkable and in fact exceeded that taken in the recent billiard tournament.

Promoters of the Tourney.

Mr. Fred Catlin, a veteran telegrapher, was manager of the tournament and the judges were Walter Phillips, general manager of the United Press; Thomas R. Tait, editor of The Electric Age; George H. Usher, manager of the Postal Telegraph-Cable company; E. F. Howell, tester of the Western Union office, New York, and George E. Hallbrook, of the New York World. The starter and W. G. Johnson, of the Electrical World, was timer. The contestants of the \$250 prize were Andrew Carnegie, Gen. Thomas T. Eckert, Thom. Chandler, the United Press, the Associated Press, The Electrical World, The Electrical Review, The Electric Age, the E. S. G. Co., the Electric Age, the E. S. G. Co., the Western Electric company, J. H. Bunnell & Co., New Haven Clock company and E. H. Johnson.

The ladies and the "old timers."—The first contest in the afternoon was in the ladies class, free to all. Prizes: \$50; second, \$10; third, \$20. Miss K. Stephens, of New York, won the first prize, sending 217 words. Miss E. M. Dennis, of New York, second, 212 words; Miss E. R. Vanselow, of New York, third prize, 210 words. Miss Tillie M. Froehel, of New York, won the special prize of \$50 offered by the United Press for excellence combined with speed. Mr. Fred Catlin, of New York, won the second prize, sending 217 words. The contestants were G. M. Estermiller, Pittsburg, 197 words, and J. H. Dwight, New York, 188 words.

The Crack Competition.—The next competition was in class A, open to all operators. First prize, \$50; second, \$10; third, \$20. Special prize of \$25 offered by the United Press for excellence combined with speed. Mr. Fred Catlin, of New York, won the first prize, sending 217 words. The contestants were G. M. Estermiller, Pittsburg, 197 words, and J. H. Dwight, New York, 188 words.

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Class B.—The next and last contest was in Class B, open to all except those who have a record of sending 500 words inside of eleven minutes. The first prize of \$85 was won by Frank L. Catlin, New York, who sent 251 words in the allotted time of five minutes. The second prize of \$85 was won by W. L. Vaughn, the United Press, New York, 229 words, and the third, \$80, by Frank English, New York, 225 words.

The special prize offered by the United Press for excellence combined with speed was won by James P. Bradt, of the United Press.

The Vienna Riot.

LONDON, April 11.—The utter inability of the Vienna police to cope with the rioters has called for a general howl of indignation from the respectable classes whose hopeless situation against the fury of the mob is thus revealed. Count Von Tiedke, the president of the ministerial council and ministers of the interior, also comes in for a liberal share of public execration and censure for not calling out the military and promptly suppressing the riot.

The Tariff Bill Delayed.

WASHINGTON, April 11.—Maj. McKinley has decided not to report his revised tariff bill until Monday. The plan of putting it into the house yesterday afternoon was abandoned in deference to the wishes of the Democratic members of the committee, who want to accompany the majority report with one of their own on the other side, which they have not yet had time to prepare.

An Experimental Murderer.

CHICAGO, April 11.—Minnie Starr, arrested for poisoning Mr. Newland's family in Englewood last week, has made a full confession. She says she put the poison in the corn to see what effect it would produce on others, so she could be sure of success in an effort to commit suicide.

Preparing for a Boom.

PLAINFIELD, N. J., April 11.—South Plainfield and New Market are to be boomed by the Lehigh Valley Railroad company as places of suburban residence. Numerous stations, surrounded by attractive grounds, are to be built, and fast train service with low fares is to be provided.

Daily Wins Two Games.

CHICAGO, April 11.—In the billiard tournament Catton played 250 to Daly's 200. The score resulted: Catton, 250; Daly, 250. Averages—Catton, 8.19-30; Daly, 8.21-20. In the second afternoon game the score was: Daly, 297; Heiser, 300. Averages—Daly, 7.24-39; Heiser, 6.4.

Victory for Bishop Bowman.

ACKLEY, Ia., April 11.—When Bishop Bowman took the chair to open the Iowa conference of the German Evangelical association an effort was made to prevent his presiding, but out of thirty ministers in attendance only seven voted against him.

GRAY & BOSWELL

WE CAN SELL YOU PROPERTY IN ANY PART OF OUR CITY.

Roanoke City is located in the Iron belt district of Virginia 1,000 feet above sea level, between the Blue Ridge range on the East, and the Alleghany range on the West. Roanoke has a history that reads like a romance.

American enterprise has no brighter gem in its diadem of achievements than bustling and picturesque Roanoke. The growth of Roanoke is upon a solid basis as evidenced by the thrift and prosperity of its citizens. Roanoke is a city of 18,000 busy souls today. February, 1890, when only a few years ago she was a small village of 400 people who were tilling the land upon which is now built magnificent structures, classical and prepossessing in appearance. We will name some of the principal industries now in operation and doing a successful business: First, the Roanoke Machine Works, that gives employment to 1,200 experienced mechanics, and to these works will be added additional improvements that will give employment for 600 more men. Next comes the American Bridge Works that employ a large number of skilled workmen and this industry will also add to their present larger plant, finding it necessary, in order to supply the demand made upon them for work in their line. Next comes the Roanoke

Rolling Mill, that has been steadily at work since their organization one year ago. The incorporators of this valuable adjunct to our city find it absolutely necessary to enlarge their plant and have so ordered it. Then comes the Crozier twin furnace with an output of 250 tons of pig iron per day. The Roanoke Iron company are building and will soon go into blast with a heavy 125 ton furnace. A large force of hands are employed at these last-mentioned enterprises. Next in order is the Norfolk and Western and Shenandoah Valley railroad repair shops; these shops give employment to a large number of workmen. This is the end of the division for the Norfolk and Western and the terminus of the Shenandoah, and the employees of both roads are paid off here, making a total of \$100,000 per month paid out here from the few enterprises mentioned. In addition to these industries is a number of smaller enterprises, such as will be found in the subjoined list: Gas Company, capital \$120,000. Electric light, both arc and incandescent. Water works, the finest in the state, cost \$250,000. Virginia Steel Company, capital \$5,000,000.

Diamond Ice Company, \$25,000. Six planing mills, capital, \$50,000. Virginia Packing Company, capital \$25,000. Virginia Brewing Company, capital \$50,000. Has six banks, aggregate surplus, \$1,000,000. Headquarters of the Pocahontas Coal Company, the largest coal operators in the world. Headquarters of the Norfolk and Western railroad which employs 300 clerks, also the Shenandoah Valley railroad which employs 75 clerks. Headquarters of the Washington and Western Railroad Company. Headquarters of the Virginia Mineral Railroad Company. Headquarters of the Roanoke and Southern railroad. Tubbs Engine Company, capital \$100,000. Rife's Hydraulic Engine Company, capital \$25,000. Has ten hotels accommodating 1,000 guests. Has nine building and loan associations, capital stock combined \$1,000,000. Opera house, 75x170 feet. Public buildings—three school houses aggregate cost \$30,000; Court-

house and jail cost \$35,000; Market house cost \$10,000; has twelve churches representing nearly every denomination. Has a large wholesale trade embracing sixteen of the most productive counties in the Old Dominion. This trade also extends into West Virginia, Tennessee and North Carolina. The only city of any consequence within two hundred miles of Roanoke, is the city of Lynchburg by the James. Roanoke is the headquarters of nearly all the mining companies operating in the Southwest. Has the Roanoke river passing along its border, furnishing unsurpassed water power for manufacturing purposes. Has Masonic Temple building, cost 25,000. One thousand miles of railroad now in operation focus at Roanoke. Roanoke street railway and transportation is now in full operation. The bonded debt of Roanoke is less than that of any city of equal size in the South, being less than \$200,000. The city tax is \$1.25 cts. lighter than that of any city in the South and under the charter can not be increased. The railroads and various manufacturing enterprises of Roanoke have monthly pay rolls aggregating \$200,000

all of which is paid to the citizens of Roanoke. Has an excellent fire department. The Roanoke Carriage Company is erecting an extensive establishment and have a large field in which they will operate, extending into North Carolina and West Virginia. Roanoke has two large flour mills, the largest of which has elevators with a capacity to store \$75,000 worth of grain. So much for the different industries already established and now doing a flourishing business. We will mention some few industries that are in process of organization: The Steel Plant, Cotton Mill, Hardware Forge, West End Yards, and Stationary Agricultural Implement Factory, Boot and Shoe factory, and a number of smaller enterprises, all these together with the completion of the Roanoke and Southern railroad which is being pushed rapidly towards our city and is now completed to Martinsville, the county seat of Henry, will add fifty per cent to our present population. We will also mention some improvements that will be made here by the Norfolk and Western railroad and their associates (sub-ros). First, the main

office building will be increased to double its present confine, then belgian block the streets around and about their freehold, including Hotel Roanoke to which well-known hostelry will be added 125 rooms, which addition is now under construction, the material used in this improvement is stone and frame; all of which will be executed in the best workmanship manner. The double tracking of the Norfolk and Western will add largely to the population of Roanoke. This work has been let and the contractors are now preparing to begin their work. The Roanoke and Southern railroad with its terminus and headquarters at Roanoke is now building rapidly towards Roanoke, and this road will begin work at this end within ninety days from the 18th day of February, 1890. This will assure for Roanoke an increase over her present population of twenty to thirty thousand people. That you may understand what Roanoke is doing we will give you the amount expended on improvements in our city from February 1886, to February 1889, as compiled by the Herald: The building of business houses amount to \$1,913,100, amount spent upon residences \$681,470, making a grand total of \$2,594,570. This does

not include industrial investment of joint stock companies. Notwithstanding the vast amount of money spent in so large a number of houses, today it is almost impossible to find a vacant house. As a field for investment you could not find a better place in the South or North. It has been said and justly too, that no man has ever invested in Roanoke real estate who has lost money; yet you must not infer from this that you can realize upon all property alike. If you will call upon us we are satisfied we can place you where you are most likely to realize quickly; you must remember and bear this in mind we can sell you property in any addition to the city of Roanoke. We have been in the business here for a number of years and are personally acquainted with the dimensions of every lot upon the market, and we respectfully invite "all strangers within our gates" to make themselves at home with us; we have ample room to make you comfortable and our conveyances are at your disposal. Trusting we may merit your favors, we are respectfully,

REAL ESTATE BROKERS

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MEMBER OF THE REAL ESTATE EXCHANGE
ROANOKE, VIRGINIA: