The Easton Gazette.

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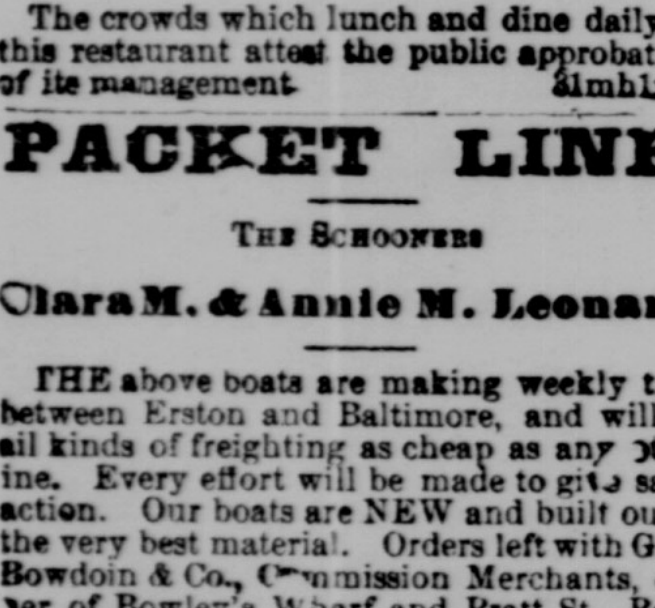
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I've written it, love, with a stiff steel pen;
For the geese, I understand,
Are so learned, now, that their quills, I trow,
Must supply their own demand.

I've secured it, love, by the aid of glue,
Instead of a strand of hair,
Which I cannot obtain, for I see, with pain,
I have really none to spare.

I send it to you by the postman, love:
For Cupid, I grieve to hear,
Is afraid of the cold, and has grown so old
That he doesn't go out this year.

But the message is ever the same, my love,
While the stars their course fulfil,
Though to me and to you it may seem quite new,
'Tis the old, old story still.
—C. W. Latimer, in Harper's Magazine.

THE PIECE OF GOLD.

BY JAMES VAUGHN.

THERE are times in every circle of story tellers, when a spirit of reverie seems to come upon every one. Thus it was when the learned judge of the court, sitting with his friends, had related an instance of one who through trying to defraud a sister of her share in the father's property, outwitted himself and came to a miserable end.

For several minutes no one spoke. At last, the lawyer said:

"Gold is worse than an enchanter; it is a demon. As you said, judge, men will sell their very souls for its possession. If any one of us could be given the power of seeing all the passions and motives of men laid bare, it would drive him crazy in a day. If what men conceal could be opened to the light, how men would recoil from their own doings! It is only by concealment that the petty, the mean, the dishonest can be satisfied with themselves."

"Very true," said the judge, still inclined to be silent.

Another spell of musing, which was broken by the lawyer. "I once had a queer experience in my own practice, in fact as odd a case as I ever knew. One of my first clients in New York was a wealthy, retired merchant, named Bertrand. He lived very simply, alone except for his housekeeper, in a retired, but very respectable part of the city. He had a nephew, Frank Bertrand, a brother's son, whom he regarded as a scapegrace, and with whom he was not at all on good terms.

"Frank seemed to me to be a modest, sensible sort of a fellow, and I wondered at the old man's feeling towards him, when he was the only relative he had in the world. My curiosity aroused, I pondered the matter somewhat, and came to the conclusion that the fault was the old man's, not Frank's. He was rather high spirited and wilful about making his own way in the world and doing as he pleased with himself, instead of allowing his rich uncle to dictate what he should do. This seemed to be the extent of his offence, so far as I could learn. The old man was testy and choleric, and childish about having his own way (a family trait, I guess), and not only forbade the nephew the house, but required me to make his will, cutting Frank off with only a very insignificant sum. All the rest of his large property he gave to his housekeeper, because, as he said, she had been kind to him, and would take care of him as long as he lived. I talked with Frank about this disposition of the property and advised him not to throw away such a chance but to attempt a reconciliation with his uncle, so he might change his will. The young fellow was obdurate and would promise nothing. He was an artist and his whole soul was in his work. This his uncle detested more than all else as a species of vagabondism he could never tolerate. No reconciliation was possible while this remained, and I could not help admiring the boy's energy and spirit when he declared he would not give up his profession for all the fortunes in New York. He said he had no ill will against his uncle, his property was his own to do with as he pleased; he spoke pleasantly of his uncle's peculiar notions, his temper and his weaknesses, and mentioned the housekeeper kindly as one who had treated him well. As he left my office I said to myself, 'Well, Frank Bertrand, you deserve a fortune if you don't get one. A man has reason to be proud of such a nephew as you.'

"Not a month after that interview word was brought me that Mr. Bertrand had been found murdered in his library. I summoned the best detective I knew of and hastened to the spot. An entrance had been made through the ordinary passages of the house, as there was no breaking. The victim had been struck from behind as he sat in his chair. The instrument used was a heavy one; the skull had been crushed and death was instantaneous. At first we thought not a thing in the room had been touched, but the housekeeper called my attention to the fact that a nugget of gold which remained attached to a piece of its quartz matrix, the single geological specimen and curio which adorned the library, was missing, as well as the little velvet lined box in which it had rested. Everything else was in its usual place as if nothing had happened there. This was our only clue, and to my astonishment and dismay it speedily led to the arrest of Frank Bertrand as the murderer.

"I had formed so good an opinion of the boy, and his manliness seemed so certain, that I found it hard to believe that he was even accused of murdering his uncle. That he was guilty was to my mind beyond the bounds of probability. I resolutely put that down for a fact. It being learned that he was seen in the vicinity of the house at the time of the murder, the detective went to his room to interview him as to his knowledge of the affair, and found him standing in the middle of the apartment in a state of excitement, and holding in his hand that same tell tale nugget of gold. So absorbed was he in it that he did not notice the quiet approach of the officer until he was close upon him. Then he made a movement as if to hide the nugget. It was a perfect case of circumstantial evidence against him. Being arrested he impetuously defied his accusers, and would have resorted to violence against them, had I not appeared on the scene and bade him desist. Seeing me he burst into a flood of tears.

"I demanded a further investigation of the case, but the detective informed me that it would be useless to look further for the murderer.

"Of course, my first move was to secure a calm, rational interview with Frank. This was in his cell. I will not repeat his indignant declarations of innocence, nor his pitiful appeal to me not to believe it of him. How came he by that piece of gold, and why was he at his uncle's house? Those were the questions to be answered.

"'I can answer the last easy enough,' he replied, 'but about the nugget I know no more than you.'

"'You were taken with it in your hands,' I said.

"'I know it; I had just taken it from my pocket.'

"'How came it in your pocket?'

"'I don't know.'

"'Well, that's singular, to say the least,' said I. 'Now, how came you there?'

"'Mrs. Bland called and said my uncle wanted to see me. I went, of course.'

"Mrs. Bland was the housekeeper. I thought I had struck a fact that would help us, and whistled softly. 'Did you see her when you got there?' I asked.

"'I saw no one there,' Frank replied. 'My ring was not answered. I tried the door and it was fast. I did not want to disappoint him after he had kindly sent for me, so I attempted to go in the back way as I had used to do, but I found that fast also. Then, as I could rouse no one, I turned and came away. When I had got back in my room somewhat nonplussed at not being admitted after my uncle had sent for me, I happened to put my hand in my pocket, and found there the nugget. I knew it was my uncle's for I had often seen it there, and how it came to be in my pocket was a mystery that excited me somewhat. It seemed like witchcraft.'

"'Devil-craft more likely,' said I who was now more mystified than ever. I did not doubt the truth of Frank's story in the least. 'Some one put it in your pocket to throw suspicion on you; but how, and when, and where? Did Mrs. Bland come close to you when she came to say your uncle wished to see you?'

"'No, she did not come in. She left word at the door. But from my window I saw her go by. I'm sure it was her, but she could not have put the nugget in my pocket.'

"I may as well say here that the housekeeper had been investigated and was conclusively proved to be elsewhere when the murder occurred. 'Was she an accomplice?' was the question I was pondering. A thought occurred to me. 'Did you find in your pocket the little velvet-lined box, that held the nugget?' I asked.

"'No, there was nothing but the piece of gold, that I saw,' Frank replied.

"I went straight to Frank's lodgings and made a careful search. I searched the Bertrand mansion for the missing box, but found nothing.

"Mrs. Bland seemed very much distressed over what had happened and was much concerned for Frank. She declared she didn't believe a word of the story that he was guilty. She said his uncle called to her from his room, as he often did, and directed her to call Frank. As she was going to a neighbor's she stopped on the way for her errand. She locked the house behind her on leaving, as was her custom, and found it locked on her return. She did not see Mr. Bertrand when he spoke to her; only heard his voice.

"I then went to my office and shut myself into my private room to quietly analyze the situation. Who, besides his housekeeper had a motive for murdering Mr. Bertrand? I pondered the question over and over again. That there was an answer to it, I was sure. But who had that motive. That once settled fairly in my own mind, I would look further for the little box. I could easily see how Frank Bertrand had a strong existing motive to keep his uncle alive until he should make a different will. In his death he lost all hope. Only sudden anger under strong provocation could have moved him to the deed. But he was already out of my suspicion.

"I am a great believer in motive as the lever that moves human beings in the commission of all deliberate crimes. That it was not mere robbery, in this case, was evident—since only the nugget of gold was taken, and that I attributed to a momentary fancy rather than to any previous intention. It could not be hatred, for the old man had not an enemy in the world that we could discover. It must then be greed of some sort, some advantage to be gained though Mr. Bertrand's death. Here was another dilemma. His housekeeper was to have all the property, and she could not have committed the murder. It must then be somebody reaching further, somebody hoping for gain through her. But the old woman had not a relative in the world that I had ever heard of. She had lived very many years in the family, and I thought her relatives would have been heard from, if there were any greedy enough to commit murder in order to give her property which they might not get after all. Had she a lover?

"The thought struck me with such a sense of its affording a solution of the mystery, that it was like an electric shock. She would not marry while Mr. Bertrand lived; his death would make her free, and besides would make her wealthy, two great points to be gained, which might have a strong influence on a weak minded man. I was sure also from the taking of the nugget, that whoever he was he would be found to have been a miner or a collector of ores or minerals. Full of my new idea, I started out to investigate.

"I had great faith in Mrs. Bland's honesty in the matter, but I did not think it prudent to go to her now for information, for I had not proved her integrity as I had Frank's, and she might, if an accomplice, give a warning that would defeat my purpose. I went to the few persons she was intimate with and made cautious inquiries about her gentlemen friends. It is almost needless to say I found one.

"He was a tall gaunt fellow, and swarthy, like those who have been much exposed to the sunlight. He had been a miner in Australia. Mrs. Bland had confided to a female friend that the man proposed, but she refused him, 'because she could not leave Mr. Bertrand.' I now decided to go straight to Mrs. Bland and ask if this man knew of the contents of the will. Tears came into her eyes as she admitted that he did. She had inclined to favor his proposal, and had agreed to marry him after Mr. Bertrand's death.

"I found where the man had his lodging, and taking an officer made all haste there. His room was shabby enough, but ah, there were the minerals, as I had surmised. We arrested him as the murderer of Henry Bertrand, and after some search among his rather mixed belongings found there the box with the velvet lining.

"When that was brought forth, his defiant manner fell away from him and he begged for mercy like a child. He confessed all, even to brushing against Frank Bertrand on his way home, to slip the nugget into his pocket. At the time of the murder he caught sight of the gold lump, and was suddenly possessed of a fancy for it. Realizing later how dangerous was its possession, he disposed of it to throw suspicion upon Frank. All my theories were thus curiously verified."

The lawyer paused, apparently at the end of his story. There was one present who had the general appearance of a detective, who had been carefully following his narrative. He asked:

"Pardon two questions, sir. How came the murderer in the house without the housekeeper's knowledge, and who was it sent for the nephew?"

"I was going to tell you that presently," said the narrator. "The fellow explained that he had been determined for some time to get Mr. Bertrand out of the way, as that meant for him both a wife and a fortune. He had been waiting for an opportunity. Going to the house that day, he found the door unfastened and slipped in and concealed himself. He heard the old man give directions to have Frank called, and heard Mrs. Bland say she was going to stop awhile with a friend. Fortune was favoring his plans. Not only that but the fear came that Bertrand was relenting towards his nephew and might spoil all his hopes unless speedily despatched. Frank Bertrand would be brought to the house just in time to be accused of the deed. It was the propitious time.

"The blow fell, the old man passed to his reward, and he fled. To his annoyance the door locked with a spring behind him, and Frank, whom he was watching as he came, could not get in. Then came the thought to fasten the crime on him more severely by putting the nugget in his pocket.

"It has been truly said that men committing great crimes always do some act or leave some act undone, despite all their precautions, that tells the tale of their wrong doing. So this man, who seemingly had all his plans perfect, in his eagerness and excitement, forgot to put on Frank's person the box as well as its contents, and now it rose up a conclusive witness against him."

"Now I've got a question," ventured another listener. "What did the old lady do with the property? Did she hunt up another husband, or, as some of them do, give it to an asylum?"

"Neither. She was a really good woman, and was struck with horror at the villainy of the man who wanted to marry her for her prospective money. I think that every day, for she is now living, she thanks the Lord that she escaped the fate of marrying him. She turned the whole property over to Frank, saying she had no doubt his uncle would have relented toward him if he had lived. She lives with him, making a home for him like a mother, and they think a great deal of each other. The piece of gold and the velvet box which played so important a part in the tragedy of their lives, still rest in their old place in the library."—Yankee Blade.

WORDS OF WISDOM.

Do not fear sin; overcome it.

A full stomach giveth courage.

Speak kindly of the rich; they need it.

The rose cannot inhale its own fragrance.

The best men never know how good they are.

Cupid doesn't hesitate to foreclose his mortgages.

It is always wise to discount the face value of a woman.

All of us know how other people should spend their money.

What a heavy burden is a name that has too soon become famous.

He that is good for making excuses is seldom good for anything else.

Don't have money transactions with your friends if you can avoid them.

Idolatry is a disease of the imagination; idealism the aspiration of the spirit.

A woman must pity the man she loves, even if she has to hurt him in order to do so consistently.

When we find a paragraph that has been shamefully plagiarized from our own work it is well to quietly compare dates.

The fatal drawback to most reforms is that their execution would be likely to entail an injustice greater than the wrong of the original conditions.

When we say that a person has good sense about most things we mean, of course, that about most things he has the good sense to agree with us.

One need never regret the time spent in dissecting the personal and private affairs of his neighbors, for he may be assured that they are doing as much for him.

It is chiefly at the mile-post of the year, when the wayfarer pauses with the circle of his friends about him, that he notes the faces missing, the new ones grown familiar by their presence, and the changes that closed in around him while he journeyed.

Extraordinary Feats of Strength.

Milo, the famous athlete of ancient Greece (born 520 B. C.) was victor at both the Olympic and Pythian games for six times in succession. On one occasion (see any good encyclopedia, title "Milo,") he ran four miles with an ox on his shoulders, killed the animal with a blow of his fist, and then ate the entire carcass in one day!

An ordinary meal for this gluttonous Titan was twenty pounds of bread, twice that much meat and fifteen pints of wines!

Polydamus of Thessalia, an old-time Samson, was almost the equal to Milo, both in prodigious feats of strength and enormous appetite. One day (so it is recorded) he seized a bull by its hind feet. The enraged animal finally managed to escape, but is said to have left both hoofs in the athlete's hands!

Maximinus, the giant Roman Emperor, could twist coins into corkscrews, powder hard rocks between his fingers and do other seeming impossible things. When angered he often broke the jaw of a horse or the skull of an ox with his fist. His wife's bracelet served him for a ring, and every day he ate sixty pounds of meat and drank an amphora of wine.

Topham, the prince of English strong men, had knots of muscles where the armpits are in the ordinary man. He could take a bar of iron 1¼ inches in diameter and five feet long, place the middle of it over back of his neck and then force the ends forward until they met before his face. On one occasion he called upon a village blacksmith and made of him an everlasting enemy by picking up a number of horseshoes and snapping them in two as easily as if they had been pine sticks.—St. Louis Republic.

Fooled the Coyote.

The other day hunters placed some decoys upon the bank of a stream east of here while going to dinner. A rancher who happened to be passing saw a coyote approach, keeping his hungry eyes on the supposed ducks. Gradually creeping upon them the coyote suddenly pounced on the decoys only to discover that all that glitters is not ducks.—Pendleton (Oregon) Tribune.

An immense walnut burl, weighing over 5000 pounds, was discovered in Grundy County, Missouri, recently. The finder expects to get a big price for it. The burls are sliced into thin sheets for veneering, the beautiful markings of the wood making it especially handsome and valuable.

CURIOUS FACTS.

Cortez took sheep to Mexico in 1530.

A San Francisco woman is the proud possessor of 200 cats.

A combined knife and fork for one-armed men is being manufactured.

The most unique citizen of New York City is Ah Goo Wah, a Chinese tramp.

Tobacco has been successfully raised on the banks of the Androscoggin River in Maine.

The Desert of Sahara has almost exactly the number of square miles that the United States has.

Shirts embroidered by hand and costing fifty dollars each came in fashion in the reign of Elizabeth.

Herrick, the poet, was fond of pigs as pets, and taught one to follow him about and to drink beer out of a mug.

Rose Brooks, a ten-year-old girl, of Memphis, Tenn., was choked to death by a glass marble the other day.

Out of one hundred and thirty-four men in the freshman class at Amherst College, only sixteen use tobacco.

Paper teeth are now manufactured by a Lubeck dentist. One set has been in use thirteen years and is as good as ever.

A goose with three wings is the choicest fowl in the flock of Mrs. Samuel Lutz, of Worcester, Montgomery County, Penn.

The staple of food for the 500,000 natives of Natal and the Zulus alone is white corn. It is ground into a coarse meal and boiled with water, making ordinary porridge.

The chips from a gallows upon which several persons had been hanged was one of the items of mediæval materia medica; these were thought to be especially valuable in treating cases of obstinate ague.

C. W. Zinn, of Ivorydale, near Cincinnati, Ohio, was afraid that people wouldn't believe him the owner of twin puppies without any forelegs, so he had an affidavit made out and five neighbors swore to it.

It is customary throughout Spain for the waiters of cafes to fill a glass of wine or liquor so that it overflows upon the saucer. This custom, in which it is desired to show an appearance of liberality, is called the "footbath."

The title of Prince is almost as common in Russia as that of Colonel in this country. A Prince Krapotkin is a cabman, a Prince Soloykoff is a market-house porter in Moscow and a Princess Galitzkin is an equestrienne in a cheap circus.

Miss Ella Hale, of Upper Sandusky, Ohio, lost her voice while coughing five years ago. The other day she experienced a similar coughing spell, and after it had subsided found that her voice had returned. Doctors are unable to explain.

Some of the costly things in the Sultan's treasure house at Constantinople are children's cradles of pure gold, inlaid with precious stones; divans covered with cloth of gold, embroidered with pearls; suits of mail, thickly incrusted with big emeralds and diamonds, and other relics of former Ottoman splendor.

"Crowd Poison."

The newest name for bad air is "crowd poison." Two medical men have been endeavoring to determine what it is that makes the air of crowded places poisonous to those who breathe it. Their object was to find out whether the effect was owing to the diminution of oxygen, as generally believed, or to the presence of deleterious organic matter in the carbonic acid expelled from the lungs, as the majority of physiologists maintain, or to the excess of carbonic-acid gas pure and simple. The conclusion arrived at is that the excess of carbonic-acid gas is alone responsible for the headache, feeling of suffication, etc., frequently experienced through the breathing of a contaminated atmosphere. Some persons yield much more readily than others to this combined exhalation from many systems, and persons are overcome by it who can withstand the air of a room vitiated from other causes. During the recent Lord Mayor's show in London the foul air of the crowded streets was noticeable. To such as sat slightly above the level of the pavement the impurity of the air was distinctly perceptible. The baneful effect of impure air was recently felt in a remarkable way in a London court room. When the judge entered his court in the morning he found the jurors and counsel already exhausted and soon began to experience a similar feeling. On ordering an investigation he was informed that "the engine was out of order, and could only pump into the court the stale air that had been used two days ago." The windows were so constructed as to prevent any proper ventilation of the premises, so that no assistance could be obtained to expel the two-days'-old atmosphere which the pumps persisted in sending into the court. The result was that when the jury list was disposed of the judge, instead of sending for more cases, sent the jurors home and quickly followed their example.—Chicago News Record.

Big Cotton Stalks.

"Yes, I have seen the big cotton stalks grown in India and the cotton plantations of the Brazos bottom in Texas," said Alonzo T. Yerger, of Waycross, Ga., at the Southern, "but down in Washington County, Mississippi, they grow cotton stalks—not stalks either, because they are trees—that beat any and all things in the cotton line that I have ever seen or heard of. Why, on a plantation belonging to one of the Wilzinky's, which firm failed the other day, I saw a field of cotton that looked like a forest of sycamore trees. The cotton plant had grown to an enormous size, almost as large as trees. Colored children had to climb them in order to pick the fleecy staple. When the crop is gathered along in February the tenants cut down the stalks and chop them up for fire-wood. The wood makes a bright and hot fire, burning as quickly as fat pine. I saw one of the stalks exhibited at Greenville a few days ago that had borne 1151 bolls, and the cotton in the seed weighed 120 pounds. According to that rate it would require only twenty stalks to make a bale. But, of course, there are but few specimens of such phenomenal growth recorded in the world's history."—St. Louis Republic.

Cultivate the Sunflower.

Among the crops that may be grown, and that may be said to be such as give returns, may be mentioned the sunflower. It is a rapid and vigorous grower and every part may be utilized; the leaves for fodder, the stalks for fuel and the seed for the manufacture of oil, the residue being valuable for food, or the seed may be used as a feed without extracting the oil.

The oil makes an especially fine lubricating fluid, and the residue of the seed is said to be a better feed than cotton-seed meal, because it does not possess that highly stimulating quality possessed by cotton-seed-oil cake. The whole seed may be used as a feed for sheep, swine, poultry, cattle, and even horses, and is devoid of the objectionable qualities attached to cotton seed as a feed.—Germantown (Penn.) Telegraph.

THE NEWS.

It is understood that the railroad workers will strike about the time of the opening of the World's Fair.——Three deputy marshals in Indian Territory were killed by an Indian desperado named Bill Pidgeon.——The Sioux Indians are preparing for a racket of some sort.——At Challeta, Mexico, Ireneo Gonzales, who created a disturbance, was lassoed and then lynched.——The sale of the Pan-American Railway did not take place, and all claims have been settled to the satisfaction of all concerned. No statement is given as to the future plans of the road, but definite information is promised soon.——H. W. Weir, chief justice of Idaho during Cleveland's administration, died at Boise, Idaho, of apoplexy, aged seventy.——Will Butler, colored, a stepson of Henry Smith, the negro who was tortured to death in Paris, Texas, was lynched near that city.——Mrs. Albrecht sixty years old, was killed by an electric car in Newark, N. J. She was crossing the street, and did not hear the warning bell. The car knocked her down, and the wheels passed over her head, nearly severing it from her body.——Four thousand people in the northern part of Louisiana are on the verge of starvation.——As a freight train was shifting cars on the Lehigh Valley Road, at the Essex Felting Mills, the brake chains on the train broke, causing the cars to run into the building, doing $3,000 damage. Two men were badly hurt, one of whom Levi Place, will likely die. Several other men had narrow escapes.

Fire caused a loss of $145,000 at the reduction works of the Commercial Mining Company, near Prescott, Ariz.——The magnificent brick country residence of Mrs. James Moore, near Milford, Mich., was totally destroyed by fire. The house contained at least $50,000 worth of beautiful furnishings, none of which was saved. The loss is about $65,000, with about $25,000 insurance.——The jury in the case of Frank Lewis, the Waverly bank robber, who murdered T. P. Ingleman, has returned a verdict of guilty of murder in the first degree. He was sentenced to the penitentiary for one year and then to be hanged.——General Juaquoin Urez, commander of the Third Federal Zone in Mexico, was shot, near Guaymas, by order of a court-martial.——Samuel L. Warner the famous lawyer, died in Middletown, Ct., aged sixty-five. He was one of the secretaries of the convention which nominated Abraham Lincoln for his second term.——Jacob Plimley, who was shot by his alleged wife, Lottie Howard Plimley, who immediately afterward committed suicide, died in Brooklyn.——A sheriff's posse arrived at Stafford's Point, Texas, in time to prevent colored men from killing Wm. Watts.——A big coal combine, embracing most of the miners in Western Pennsylvania, is being formed.

An explosion occurred in the Star Foundry, in Worcester, Mass., which injured fourteen men, one fatally.——A husband, wife and child were suffocated in a tenement-house fire in New York, others escaping with burns.——The disastrous fire which broke out in Huntsville, Ala., and which at one time threatened to destroy the business part of the city, was finally got under control with the loss of one business block, known as the Struve block. The loss is estimated at $50,000; only partly insured.——The New Washington express via the Reading and New York and New England road, eastbound, ran into the rear of the Norwich boat express in front of the station at East Douglass, Mass., on the New England road. A woman passenger on the boat train was killed and several others were injured.——The Window-glass Trust organized in Milwaukee by the election of officers.

Banker Michael Schweisthal was arrested in Chicago for accepting deposits when his bank was insolvent.——The will of millionaire John Huntingdon, which was filed in Cleveland, leaves $1,500,000 to educational and charitable purposes.——A. U. Lakey, a diamond broker of New York, was arrested at Taylor's Hotel, Jersey City, on a capias issued by Judge Lippincott, of the Hudson county (N. J.) court, as an alleged absconding debtor. It is said that Lakey had obtained credit to the amount of $25,000 from diamond dealers in Maiden Lane.——Philip Fairback called upon Bessie Pittman in Indianapolis, and, finding another man in her company, seized a revolver from the dresser and shot the woman fatally. He then shot himself through the heart, dying instantly.——By a fall of slate in Princes coal mine at Zalover, Ohio, four miles south of Zanesville four miners were crushed. George Waxler died shortly after being recovered. No hopes are entertained of the others, who are in a critical condition.——The iron roller mill belonging to Abraham and Marks Harris and Abraham Gottlan, located at Irondale, just outside of the northeast limits of Indianapolis, was totally destroyed by fire. The inventory of the entire plant placed the value at $120,000, and the insurance is $90,000. The company was working 250 men.——Fire destroyed the greater portion of a business block on the corner of Crooks avenue and Third street, in Milwaukee. The hose froze, and the firemen were powerless to stay the flames.——Six section hands on the Central Hudson were run into by a train of whom three were killed and three injured.——An electric wire electrocuted and nearly decapitated a colored man in Louisville, Ky.

Despatches from many towns in Western Pennsylvania and Eastern Ohio report high water in the creeks and rivers, and serious damage is feared at several places. At Dubois the water in the Sinnemahoning River is at flood height, and Renovo and other towns along the stream are preparing for a flood.——The captain and two men of the British schooner Annie Marie were rescued just before the vessel sank.——The car sheds of the street car syndicate in New Orleans with contents, were destroyed by fire; loss $75,000.——At Oction, La., Henry B. Thompson and Samuel Burton were assassinated by parties unknown.——The ninth annual session of the Master House Painters and Decorators' Association met in Army and Navy Hall, in Philadelphia. Nearly 150 members were present. The president's annual report was delivered, in which he explained the action taken in regard to the New Jersey association.——James C. Snell, who was chief clerk in Adjutant General Wickham's office under Gov. Francis, of Missouri, has preferred charges of misappropriation of funds against Adjutant General Wickham.——A freight ran into a passenger train on the Old Colony Road, near Leominster, Mass., injuring a number of passengers.

VICTIMS OF RABIES.

The Madstone Fails to Save—People Bitten in Chicago.

Herman Lang, a young farmer, living close to Leavenworth, Kan., died from hydrophobia, after suffering intense agony for twenty-four hours. He was bitten by a rabid dog last August, and had a madstone applied, which adhered several times, and a physician pronounced the poison eradicated from his system. On attempting to drink water Thursday night he was thrown into convulsions which occurred in rapid succession until his death. Before dying, Lang showed the worst form of rabies, and had to be restrained from biting anyone near him.

CHICAGO.—A mad dog ran amuck through the heart of the city shortly after midnight and before it was finally brought to bay and shot by the police it had bitten two persons, W. J. Lawler and Lizzie Russell, and at least three others, whose names could not be learned. After a lively chase by several officers the dog was killed.

THREE propellers have just towed seventy coal laden canal boats from Perth Amboy to Jersey City, N. J. The string was the largest yet brought through the bay.

BIG LOSS AND FATALITY.

Many Human Lives, All Domestic Animals, and Much Property.

Reports of a Flood Disaster in the North-eastern Portion of Australia.

Incessant rain for several days has caused floods throughout Queensland. Part of Brisbane is under water. People are deserting the low-lying districts, as many houses are submerged to the second floor and the water is still rising. The towns of Bundaberg, Ipswich, and Bundamba are suffering most severely and are threatened with total demolition.

The inhabitants have deserted their houses and those who have not fled to the higher land have taken refuge in trees or on the tops of the highest buildings. All domestic animals and hundreds of cattle have been drowned.

A large loss of human life is reported but nothing definite can be ascertained as to the total number. A mine near Bundamba was flooded, and seven miners were drowned.

In Ipswich many houses have collapsed. Goodna is entirely under water, and the inhabitants have taken refuge on the hills. Hundreds are homeless, without shelter, and without food. The loss of property is enormous.

Cattle have been drowned by the thousands. Railways have been washed out and telegraph lines have been broken. All regularity of travel has ceased. Most railways have stopped running trains.

Queensland comprises the whole northeastern portion of Australia. The country is mountainous, and is watered by numerous rivers and lakes. There are vast plains without trees, and the soil is a rich black, well watered, and affords the best pasturage for domestic animals. The productions of both temperate and tropical zones can be grown with success. The country is also rich in mineral resources. The estimated population in 1885 was 318,005. The colony has 2,500 miles of railroad. Brisbane is the capital of the colony, the seat of government, with a population of about 50,000. Ipswich is the fourth town in size, with 8,000 inhabitants.

DISASTERS AND CASUALTIES

THE twenty-ninth victim of the oil explosion at Alton Junction, Ill., is dead and three more of the injured are at the point of death.

A leaky service pipe caused an explosion of natural gas in Ulysses S. Brunson's house at Anderson, Indiana, and five persons were seriously injured.

WHILE Dennis Sullivan and John Fink were charging the gas plant of a parlor car in the Lake Shore Depot, at Toledo, Ohio, an explosion occurred and both men were probably fatally injured.

A FREIGHT train on the Chicago and Eastern Illinois Railroad fell through a bridge crossing Spring creek, near Atherton, Indiana. Nearly every man of the train crew was injured.

AN explosion occurred at the Deihl fireworks plant at Reading, a suburb of Cincinnati, and Henry Horne, aged 18, was killed; Gus Girwin, 24 years, fatally injured, and other employees seriously burned.

STEWART'S factory, at Pontiac, Michigan, was wrecked by the explosion of the boiler and four employees were injured. The factory had not started for the day or the loss of life would have been great.

A COLLISION between a coal train and work train on the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad, near Augusta, Kentucky, caused by an engineer falling asleep in the cab, resulted in the death of one man and serious injuries to eight others.

W. B. SMITH, bookkeeper of the St. Louis Car and Foundry Company was killed by being thrown from the driver's seat of a cab, by the sudden starting of the horses, caused by him striking them with a whip. He was drunk at the time.

A DESPATCH from Peru, Indiana, says that moving ice caused a break in the main supply pipe of the natural gas company in the middle of the Wabash river. The town has to depend on small pipes on the bridge all large consumers are cut off, and there is little prospect of the break being repaired short of 60 days.

JAS. BOYD, aged 19 years, and James Moore, aged 15, of Latrobe, Penna., were killed, and Wm. Moore was probably fatally injured by being struck by a west-bound express train on the Pennsylvania Railroad. They were walking on the track with a party on their way to a dance.

CABLE SPARKS.

THE Westminster Gazette is a new venture in London journalism.

GREAT BRITAIN'S reply in the Bering sea case has been sent to Washington.

THE bank troubles in Rome indicate that there will be startling developments.

EDWARD PARKER DEACON, it is said, has been granted a divorce from his wife.

THE Chevalier Anton von Schmerting, Austrian statesman, was stricken with paralysis.

A GREAT coal strike is impending in South Wales. Journeymen bakers are on a strike in Marseilles.

THE Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria was received with royal honors by the English in Calcutta.

THE reception given James Egan in Limerick was the most remarkable demonstration yet made in his honor.

IT is understood that arms will be shipped from New York to aid the revolutionary movement in Hayti.

DEROULEDE and Pichon, of the French Chamber of Deputies, fought a duel with swords. Pichon was wounded.

THE Parliament of Great Britain opened. The Queen's speech was read. Speeches were also made by Gladstone, Salisbury and Balfour.

VICTIMS of hunger and privation gathered on Tower Hill, London, so as to attract the attention of Parliament, but were dispersed by the police.

A SEVERE earthquake visited Stromboli, in the Mediterranean. The island of Zante was also shaken by earthquakes and a number of persons were killed.

THE French cabinet has prepared a bill providing for the punishment of persons who circulate unfounded rumors regarding the safety of financial institutions.

THE British ship Gladstone rescued twelve survivors of the crew of the German ship Felix Mendelssohn. The American ship Robert L. Belknap, from Yokohama for New York, was lost at sea, but all on board are supposed to have been saved.

FIRE IN A TENEMENT.

Husband, Wife and Child Suffocated.

Narrow Escape of Others.

By a fire of mysterious origin, which started about four o'clock, in the hallway of the six-story tenement, No. 137 Orchard street, New York, a family of three persons were wiped out of existence, and three others badly injured.

Some of the tenants say the fire was of incendiary origin.

When the fire was discovered by a policeman, smoke was pouring from the windows of the house, and the fire-escapes were already crowded with white-robed figures. There was a rush at every window. The frightened tenants had been awakened from a sound sleep, and attempted to escape by the stairway. They could get no further, however, than the second floor, where they met, and were driven back by a burst of smoke and flame. Firemen soon arrived on the scene, and helped the people down the fire-escape. Ladders were run up against the house, and the work of rescuing those who were still in their rooms began. There were about forty small children in the house, and these the firemen and policemen carried down in their arms. All the rooms that it was possible to reach were searched, and their occupants rescued.

Most of the excitement had died away, and the fire had about been placed under control when it was discovered that a sad tragedy had attended the blaze. When the firemen went through the house they found nothing, until they reached the top floor. In the rear of the apartments they came across the bodies of the Cohens—husband, wife and baby. Cohen lay toward the north window, and his wife toward the south. They had, evidently slept long after the fire had started, and were almost suffocated in their sleep. They had tried to escape, half conscious, by way of the window, but fell, overcome by the thick smoke, which must have completely filled their room at the time. On the mothers' breast, pressed tightly in the grip of death, lay the infant's body.

FIFTY-SECOND CONGRESS.

Senate.

34TH DAY.—A bill to pay the awards of the Court of Claims was placed on the calendar, when a conference was asked on the House bill to ratify the agreement with the Kickapoo Indians. Resolutions were passed and eulogies delivered to the memory of the late Senator Barbour, of Virginia.

35TH DAY.—The President's message was distributed to the various committees to which it belonged. An unusually large number of bills was taken from the calendar and eighteen were passed. Mr. Harris gave notice that he would call up the Quarantine bill and the Silver bill also went over. Memorial proceedings were held in honor of some members of the House.

36TH DAY.—Mr. Hill made the motion, of which he had given notice last Friday, to proceed to the consideration of the bill to repeal the Sherman Silver Purchase act, and in support of the motion delivered a carefully prepared speech, in which he declared himself unconditionally a friend of free bi-metallic coinage. The motion was defeated by nearly a two thirds majority. The Quarantine bill was taken up and passed without a division; also a bill for the payment out of the Treasury of local taxes on lands held by indians in severalty. The Automatic Coupler bill was taken up and discussed for a time when it went over.

37TH DAY.—In the Senate a number of House bills to which there was no objection were passed. Sixteen pension bills were passed. The motion to proceed to the bill for the consideration of the New York and New Jersey bridge was rejected. The bill requiring railroads to equip their cars with automatic brakes and couplers was debated at length.

38TH DAY.—The Senate devoted most of its time to further argument on the bill to compel railroad companies to put into use the automatic car-coupler. Mr. Gorman defended his party against the charges made against it by Senator Chandler of not keeping the promises made in the National platform.

House.

36TH DAY.—In the House the conference report on the bill establishing a Court of Appeals for the District was agreed to. The Speaker laid before the House the Anti-Option bill with amendments, and decided that they must first be referred to a committee. On Mr. Hatch's motion the bill was referred to the Committee on Agriculture. The Deficiency Appropriation bill was passed. Business was suspended and resolutions were passed. Business was suspended and resolutions were passed and eulogies delivered to the memory of the late Alex. K. Craig, of Pennsylvania.

37TH DAY.—The House passed the Diplomatic and the Military Academy Appropriation bills with little debate. The feature of the day's session was the spontaneous expression of regret manifested by his colleagues at the voluntary retirement of Mr. Blount, of Georgia, from the seat which he has filled for twenty years. Representative Bacon, of New York, introduced a bill authorizing the issue of certificates upon deposits of treasury notes of not less than $10,000.

38TH DAY.—Mr. Kilgore, of Texas, early began filibustering motions in the House to prevent the consideration of the Anti-option bill and the Bankruptcy bill. Many members who were in favor of the one were opposed to the other, and there was a third section, which, being in favor of both propositions, were opposed to the consideration of war claims measures. After the long fight, Mr. Kilgore found himself in a hopeless minority and the journal was approved. Mr. Burrows, of Michigan, led an attack against a war claims bill. Between them they succeeded in preventing action on any measure, and, at 4.40 the House adjourned.

39TH DAY.—In the House the Legislative Appropriation bill was discussed during the day by Messrs. Dingley and Dockery. A number of amendments were voted down. Mr. J. D. Taylor, of Ohio, introduced a resolution making it the duty of the Speaker on suspension days and on days fixed by the House for the consideration of special bills or resolutions to consider any motion that he would not entertain when a report of the Committee on rules is under consideration. Mr. Culberson, of Texas, introduced the bill, previously prepared and made public, repealing the Sherman Silver Purchase act and substituting the old Bland act, and providing for the coinage of bullion accumulated under the Sherman law.

40TH DAY.—In the House of Representatives in the presence of both Senate and House, the count was made of the electoral vote, and formal announcement followed of the election of Cleveland and Stevenson. The Senate amendment to the Quarantine bill was agreed to. The Legislative Appropriation bill was under consideration but no result was reached. The Committee on Appropriations of the House proposes some very decided changes on the pension policy and methods of the Government.

PEOPLE AND EVENTS.

THE cottagers at Newport have organized a golf club. But two or three such organizations exist in this county.

TOLSTOI is said to be busy upon a book which no one would have expected him to write—a book upon Japan, its people and religion.

DISTINGUISHED New York churchmen mentioned as successors to Phillips Brooks are the Rev. Dr. Huntingdon, of Grace Church, and the Rev. Dr. Satterlee, of Calvary. The latter was a candidate when Dr. Brooks was elected.

THE Virginia State Building at the World's Fair will be a copy of Washington's home at Mount Vernon. The women are trying to raise $10,000 to equip it, and hope to give a literary entertainment before long in Richmond, in which Thomas Nelson Page, Marion Harland, Amelie Rives Chanler, and other authors of Virginian birth will read.

UNITED STATES SENATOR ELECT STEPHEN M. WHITE has been appearing before the Federal Court of Appeals of California as counsel for the owners of the Itata, the Chilian vessel that was loaded with arms for the Chilian insurgents, slipped away from San Diego and was finally brought back by an American cruiser. Our Government lost in the trial of the libel case before the United States District Court of Southern California.

THE late Justice Lamar, until a year or so ago had a most remarkable memory. He could repeat word for word the speeches of the great orators which he had read and passages from authors unknown to others than students like himself. He rarely erred in a quotation and one might have said of him, as Lord Melbourne is credited with having said of Macaulay, "I wish I were as cock-sure of any one thing as he is of everything."

AN example of Mr. Blaine's habit of continued, uninterrupted labor was furnished in the early part of the Behring Sea correspondence. He became intensely absorbed in carrying on this correspondence, and would retire to his room, where he worked with law books, diplomatic correspondence and papers piled up around him. He would start in after breakfast, and sometimes would work on steadily without rest or food until 9 or 10 o'clock. Then he would be too fatigued to eat, and the next morning would make up for it. These fits of labor would use him up for a week.

SAVED BY A CAT.

A Family Escape from a Burning Building Just in Time.

At the Levy Hoagland residence, located in Pequest Valley, N. J., which was burned early Saturday morning, a cat saved the family from perishing.

The cat was heard at 3 o'clock running about and mewing wildly. Mr. and Mrs. Hoagland had barely time to seize their children and escape in their night clothing. Mr. Hoagland ran over half a mile in his stocking feet to the home of his father, the nearest dwelling. Mrs. Hoagland seized two blankets in her flight and saved the children from freezing until help came.

A few minutes after the family had escaped the walls of the house fell. Mr. Hoagland's loss is about $4000.

OUTLAW MORGAN SHOT.

He Died with a Pistol in His Hand and a Rifle Across His Knee.

Rush Morgan, a notorious outlaw of Lee County, Va., was killed while terrorizing the little town of Hubbard Springs, on the Louisville and Nashville road. While looking for a merchant named Noe, who had incurred his enmity, he was shot by some unknown citizen. He died with a cocked pistol in his hand and a Winchester rifle across his knee.

Morgan has been a fugitive, with a price on his head, ever since he committed a cold blooded murder at Jonesville last fall.

MOB LAW IN TEXAS.

Governor Hogg Declares He Will Bring the Lynchers to Justice.

Despatches Sent to the Sheriff and District Attorney.

Governor Hogg claims to have done everything in his power to prevent the torturing to death of Henry Smith, the Negro murder. at Paris, Texas. He sent this dispatch to the Sheriffs at both Paris and Texarkana:

"Use all lawful means to see that Henry Smith is protected from mob violence and brought to trial for the crime before the lawful authorities. Mobs must not be permitted to try prisoners in Texas. If you need help call for it. By all means protect the majesty of the law and the honor of Texas and your people from committing murder."

When Governor Hogg received official information of the burning he instructed the County Attorney at Paris to secure the names of all persons engaged in the affair, and sent the following instructions to the Sheriff of Lamar county, at Paris:—

"Discharge your sworn duty as an officer of the State faithfully and fearlessly. Promptly complain before the proper authorities against any person known to have engaged in the lynching of the Negro, Henry Smith, at Paris, and report the names of all witnesses to the district and county attorney, to the end that all the guilty persons may be effectually prosecuted.

"To N. B. Doak, District Attorney, Clarksville, Texas.—In the lynching of the Negro, Henry Smith, in Paris, the laws of the States have been openly defied. Every good citizen is interested in maintaining and enforcing the laws of the land. Either law and order or anarchy prevail and there can be no compromise or middle ground. Mob law in Texas must be stamped out. It is believed and expected that you will promptly, diligently and persistently inquire and ascertain who are the guilty persons, and fearlessly prosecute them. Any assistance needed will be promptly rendered.

"J. S. HOGG, Governor of Texas."

The Governor is very indignant and is emphatic in asserting that all guilty persons shall be punished.

MARYLAND STATE NEWS.

The Latest Happenings in Various Parts of the State.

THE farmers of Cecil county, are protesting against the passage of the bill recently sent to the Delaware Legislature by Col. E. L. Martin, placing more restrictions upon farmers attending the Wilmington markets with produce. While the object of the measure might be to put all the dealers in a commission business on an equal footing, farmers in Cecil county say that any bill passed in exchange for the present license law will, in their opinion, exclude many and seriously effect hotel-keepers, grocerymen, dry goods merchants, &c., of Wilmington, with whom they at present spend a share of their income.

A BOLD highway robbery was committed in broad day-light at Hagerstown. George Tolbert was attacked in an alley in the northern part of the city. He was assaulted by a man, who rifled his pockets of a silver watch and purse of money. A man, who gave the name of Samuel P. Clark, was arrested shortly afterward and taken before Justice Middlekauff, who held him for court in $500 bail, in default of which he was imprisoned in jail. Clark said he was a musician from Nashville, Tenn.

THE city council of Hagerstown has drafted a new street railway franchise and forwarded it to Messrs. Wm. C. Seddon & Co., and others, bankers, of Baltimore, for their acceptance. It is understood the Baltimore projectors have an option on the electric light plant in Hagerstown, and if they accept the new franchise and construct a street railway they will purchase the electric light plant and power will be furnished from the electric light motors. The street railway company will also light the town in connection with the operation of the road.

WORK AND WORKERS.

A large meeting of representatives of the different railway brotherhoods were held at Lehighton, Pa. The question of federation was discussed, but no action was taken.

THE Schuylkill Coal Exchange issued a circular fixing the wages of miners of that region for the last two weeks of January and first two weeks of February at five per cent. above the $2 50 basis.

THERE was no trouble at Dunkirk, New York, growing out of the strike in the Brooks Locomotive Works and no troops were sent there. It is said that the strike is broken many of the old men having returned to work.

A NEW wage scale was posted at the Edgar Thompson Steel Works, of the Carnegie Company, at Braddock, Penna. It reduces the wages of all employes in the converting and blooming department, about 500 in number.

THERE is great excitement in McKeesport, Penna., over the striking of a natural gas well in the heart of the city. The well has a steadily increasing pressure, great enough, it is calculated, to supply the entire town. The gas was struck at the depth of 2200 feet.

THE striking boiler makers in the Chicago and Alton shops at Bloomington, Ill., have surrendered unconditionally and applied individually for reinstatement. Only one-half of them obtained work, the places of the rest having been filled some time ago.

TWENTY-FIVE breaker builders employed in the construction of Otterbain & Cummings's large coal washery at Phœnix Park, near Minersville, Pa., are on strike. One of their number had been discharged for lunching between meals, and to have him reinstated all went out.

Had a Joke on the Lawyer.

When Cardinal Gibbon was bishop of Richmond, Va., he happened to be the defendant in relation to some church property. When called to the witness stand the plaintiff's lawyer, a distinguished legal luminary, after vain endeavors to involve the witness in contradictions, struck upon a plan which he thought would annoy the bishop. He thereupon questioned the right of Dr. Gibbons to the title of Bishop of Richmond, and called on him to prove his claim to the office. The defendant's counsel, of course, objected to this as irrelevant; but the bishop, with a quiet smile, said he would comply with the request if allowed half an hour to produce the necessary papers. This being allowed, the bishop left the court-room and returned in twenty minutes with a document which he proceeded to read with great solemnity, all the more solemn as the paper was in Latin. The plaintiff's lawyer pretended to take notes, industriously bowing his head once in awhile as if in acquiescence, and seeming perfectly convinced at the end.

When the reading was finished he announced that the papal bulls just read were perfectly satisfactory, at the same time apologizing for his expressed doubts. The next day, says the Halifax (N. S.) Mail, it leaked out that the bishop, unable to find the papal bull at his residence, had brought to the court and read a Latin essay on "Pope Leo the Great," written by an ecclesiastical student and forwarded by the President of the college as a specimen of the young man's skill in Latin composition. The smart lawyer never heard the last of it.

THE 300 or 400 Russian exiles whom the Baron Hirsh fund settled near Norwich, Conn., are having a pretty hard time of it as farmers. The colony's future is dark, and its members may finally drift into the cities. Their Yankee neighbors are charitably helping them out.